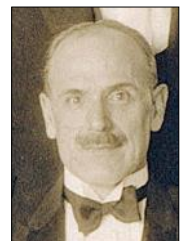
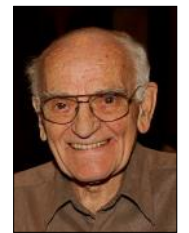
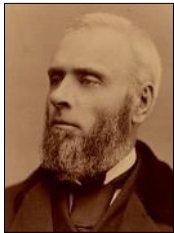
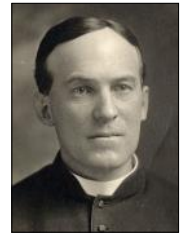


Winter 2023-2024 Special Edition 10

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach

Witness to Kirouac Activities since 1983



Kirouac
Kirouack



Kérouac
Kérouack



Keroac
Keroack



Kéroack
Kyrouac



Breton
Burton



Curwack
Curwick



Presentation of The 10th Special Edition

In this tenth issue of Special Edition of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, please find short biographies of various public personalities who share a common characteristic: all being descendants of our ancestor Alexandre de Kervoach through a female link. For some years now, we have been looking into what has been for too long a forgotten side of genealogy, the link through women. It certainly enables us to know many more members of our family and add branches to our genealogical tree.

Many texts were the fruits of patient research done by André St-Arnaud, General Director of the *Cercles des Jeunes Naturalistes* (CJN). André St-Arnaud is a great admirer of Brother Marie-Victorin, born Conrad Kirouac, and regularly contributes articles to our family bulletin *Le Trésor des Kirouac*.

Similarly, I researched and wrote some texts as well as Pia Karrer O'Leary, Bernard Hurtubise, Christine Brouillet and Marie Lussier Timperley.

We hope you will enjoy and appreciate this Special Edition and if you know other persons who have a Kirouac connection among their ancestors, please let us know.

François Kirouac, President, Kirouac Family Association

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Special Edition Number 10 (Electronic Edition Only) ISSN 0833-1685

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Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Maxime Bernier

by André St-Arnaud

Maxime Bernier was born on 18 January 1963 in Saint-Georges-de-Beauce, Quebec. He has two daughters, Charlotte and Megan, by his first wife, Caroline Chauvin. Maxime is the son of Doris (née Rodrigue) and Gilles Bernier, who was a well-known and popular radio commentator and also Deputy of the Beauce county in the Canadian Parliament from 1984 to 1997. Maxime is the second of four children; his siblings are Brigitte, Caroline and Gilles Junior. As a teenager, Maxime played football for the Condors, the Saint-Georges-de-Beauce's College football team.

In 1985, Maxime Bernier received a BCom from the UQAM (University of Quebec at Montreal) and went on to study law at Ottawa University. In 1990 he was admitted to the Quebec Bar. At the end of the Nineties, while working for the Quebec Department of Finance under Bernard Landry, a future Quebec Premier, he was responsible of reforms to financial rules. From 2003 to 2005, he was communications vice-president for the Standard Life Canada insurance company, and project manager of international relations for the Quebec Securities Commission. In 2005 he became vice-president of the Montreal Economic Institute.

In 2006, he joined the Conservative Party of Canada; was elected in the Beauce district with the largest majority ever in Quebec. On 6 February 2006, he was named Canadian Minister for Industry; then on 14 August 2007 until 26 May 2008, he was Foreign Affairs Minister. On 14 October 2008, he was re-elected Deputy for the riding of Beauce again with the largest majority in Quebec. Re-elected on 2 May 2011, he became Minister for Small Enterprises and Tourism in the Cabinet of Conservative Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

After the Conservative party was defeated in April 2016, he submitted his candidacy to become the new chief, but lost to Andrew Sheer. In August 2018, he quit the party, and a month later, in September 2018, he created his own Party, and is the current leader of the People's Party of Canada.

On 27 June 2019 on Captiva Island, Florida, he married Catherine Letarte, MBA. Catherine is the daughter of the late Adrien Letarte (owner of Plastic DCN in Warwick, Quebec) and the late Denise Croteau. Catherine, MBA from Montreal University business school, was director of a refuge for women victims of domestic violence, then became general director of Omega Community Resources, a Montreal West-Island non-profit community organization providing support to adults with mental health problems.



Maxime Bernier (Photo: Wikimedia commons, Conservative Party of Quebec [CC BY 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)])

On 21 October 2019, the federal elections were disastrous for Maxime Bernier, not only he lost his bet but also his position as Deputy of Beauce, to Richard Lehoux, the Conservative candidate. However, he is not giving up politics.



Sources: Wikipedia, and four websites: People's Party of Canada, TVA news, *Huffington Post* and *L'Actualité*, a Quebec weekly.

Ancestry of Maxime Bernier

Generation 1

Alexandre de Kervoach
dit le Breton
Circa 1702 - 1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712 - 1802)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Genevieve Caron)

Generation 2

Simon-Alexandre Keroack
dit le Breton
(1732 - 1812)

L'Islet (Quebec)
15 June 1758

Élisabeth Chalifour
(1739 - 1814)
(François and
Élisabeth Gamache)

Generation 3

Simon-Alexandre Keroack
dit le Breton
(1760 - 1823)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
18 November 1782

Marie-Ursule Guimont
(1765 - 1820)
(Jean-Gabriel and
Reine-Ursule Lemieux)

Generation 4

Julienne Kurovach
(1788 - 1841)

L'Islet (Quebec)
15 July 1806

Joseph Cloutier
(1786 - 1870)
(Chrysostome and
Françoise Hubut)

Generation 5

Marguerite Cloutier
(1813 - 1891)

L'Islet (Quebec)
23 November 1841

Pierre Normand
(1813 - 1859)
(Pierre and
Marie-Roger LeFebvre)

Generation 6

Hélène Normand
(1848 - 1899)

L'Islet (Quebec)
19 January 1869

Frédéric Bernier
(1841 - 1904)
(Louis and Julie St-Jubin)

Generation 7

Amédée Bernier
(1878 - 1960)

Montréal (Quebec)
24 November 1903

Emma Nicolas
(1880 - 1922)
(Joseph and Philomène Stibitz)

Generation 8

Amédée Bernier
(1904 - 1976)

Montréal (Quebec)
14 July 1933

Annette Létoirneau
(1907 - 1995)
(Joseph and Virginie Turcotte)

Generation 9

Gilles Bernier

Saint-Georges-de-Beauce (Quebec)
1st July 1957

Doris Rodrigue
(Gérard and
Blanche-Irène Thibodeau)

Generation 10

Maxime Bernier

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Pascal Bérubé

by André St-Arnaud

Pascal Bérubé, born on 16 February 1975 in Matane (on the Gaspé Peninsula, Saint-Lawrence south-shore), is a Quebec politician. First elected in 2007, as PQ (Parti québécois) deputy for Matane in the provincial government he was re-elected in 2008. In 2012, he was elected deputy for the new Matane-Matapédia constituency, and again in 2014 and 2018.

In 1998, Pascal Bérubé received his Bachelor's degree in Education from the Quebec University at Rimouski. While studying there he was president of the Student Association. In 1998, he was also vice-president of the Quebec Federation of University Students. He started his professional life as development director of the Student Association at UQAM Management Science School at Quebec University at Montreal (2001-2002), was coordinator of Carrefour Jeunesse-Emploi (Youth Employment Centre) at Matane (2002-2003), coordinator Training Partners Round Table (Table des partenaires en formation) for the Matane region (2003-2006) and project coordinator for the fight against poverty and social exclusion for the Upper-Gaspé region (2006-2007).

A militant separatist, Pascal Bérubé was political attaché in the cabinet of Education and Youth minister, François Legault, and Regions' minister, Jean-Pierre Jolivet, in Lucien Bouchard's government from 1996 to 2001. He was also president of the PQ national committee youth section.

Deputy and Minister

Pascal Bérubé lost the 2003 election by only 33 votes out of 18,613, to Liberal candidate Nancy Charest in the Matane constituency. On 26 March 2007, he won that same constituency by a small margin of 213 votes over Nancy Charest; he was only 32 at the time. He was re-elected in 2008, this time with a comfortable majority. In 2012 and 2014, he was re-elected in the new Matane-Matapédia constituency, each time with some 60% of the vote, the largest majority within the PQ.

On 19 September 2012, he was named delegate minister for tourism and minister responsible for the Lower-Saint-Lawrence region. At 38, he became the second youngest minister in Pauline Marois' (provincial) government.



Deputy of the Parti Québécois, Pascal Bérubé, standing beside the monument to his ancestors at the entrance of the cemetery at Rivière-Ouelle on Saint-Lawrence south-shore. This monument was unveiled in 1988 by the Bérubé Family Association to mark the 300th anniversary of the death of their ancestor, Damien born in Normandy. (Photo: Courtesy of the Bérubé Family Association)

From 2014 to 2016, he was vice-president of the Transports Commission, and from 2014-2018, Environment Minister, besides being the official opposition spokesperson on Public Security.

In 2017, the Quebec National Assembly parliamentarians named him **Parliamentarian of the Year**, and he was chosen **Personality of the Year** by the Montreal daily *La Presse*.

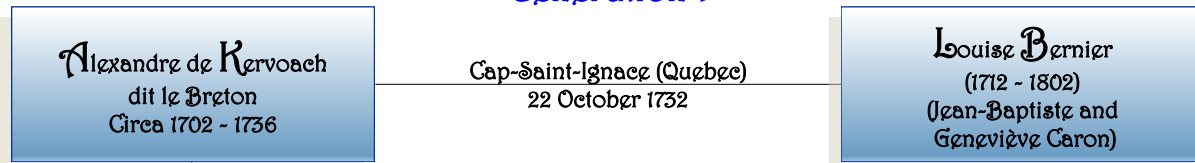
At the last provincial election, on 1st October 2018, Pascal Bérubé was re-elected for the fifth time in the Matane-Matapédia constituency with 48.68% of the votes. After that election, his colleagues in the caucus chose him to be the PQ parliamentarian chief. At 44, he was the youngest person ever to become chief of a Quebec political party.

SOURCE: Wikipedia and PQ (Parti Québécois) web site. (translated by MALT for Le Trésor)

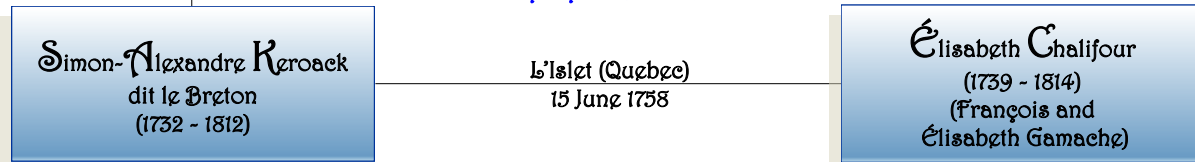


Ancestry of Pascal Bérubé

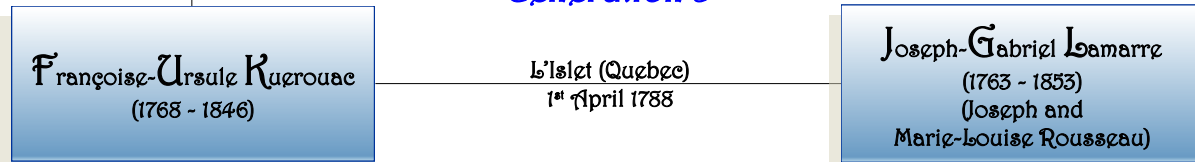
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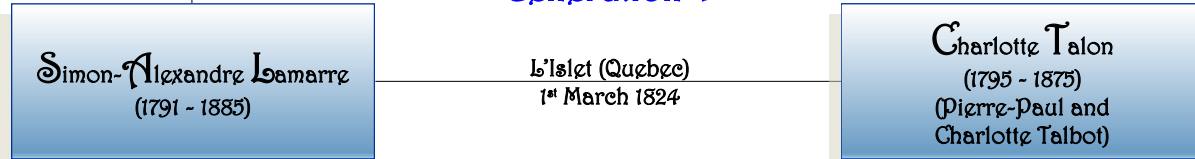
Generation 2



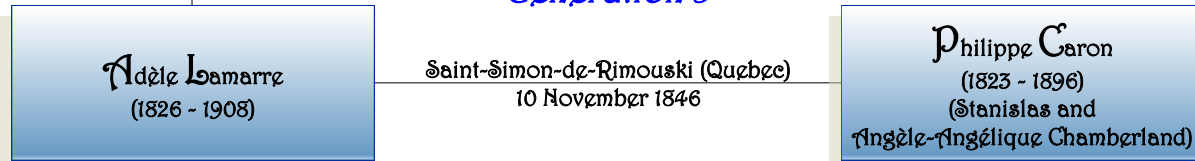
Generation 3



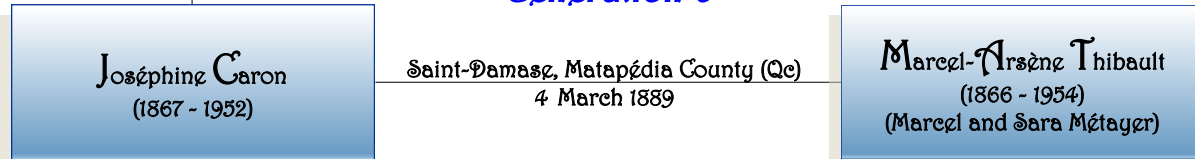
Generation 4



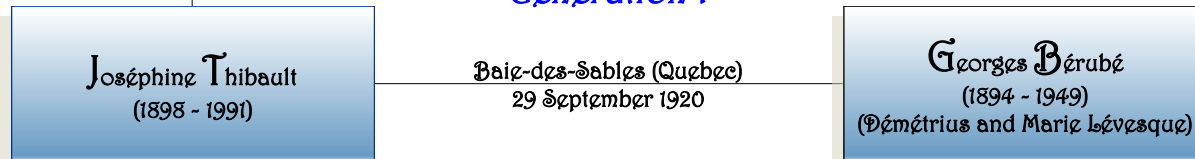
Generation 5



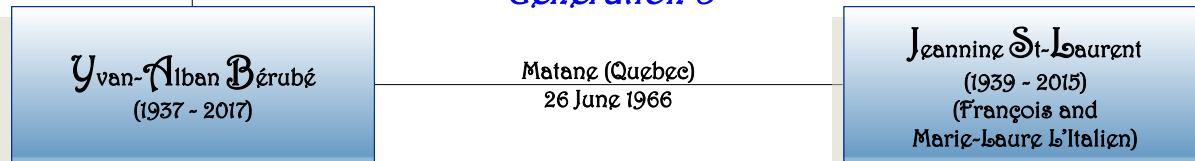
Generation 6



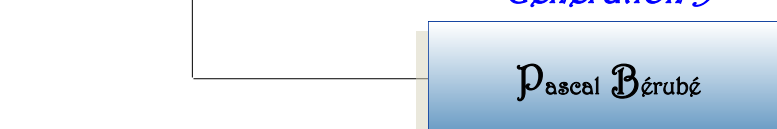
Generation 7



Generation 8



Generation 9



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Jacques Blanchet

by François Kirouac

Jacques Blanchet was born on 14 April 1931 in Montreal. He was the youngest of twelve children, the eldest called Mozart, was born in 1911. Their mother, Rosa Kirouac, was born in 1888 at Kingsey Falls, Quebec, where her distant cousin, Conrad, the future Brother Marie-Victorin, was born three years earlier. Jacques' father, Emmanuel, was born in 1883, in Saint-Georges-de-Windsor, Quebec. Rosa and Emmanuel were married at Warwick on 24 October 1910. In the church register the parish priest wrote that the groom's father lived in Saint-Georges Parish at Manchester, New-Hampshire, and that his mother was deceased. At the time, Emmanuel was a pointer for a railway company that later became part of the Canadian National Railway (CNR).

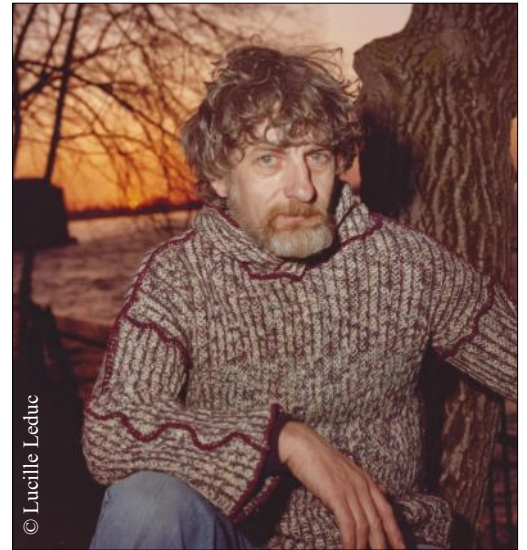
The Canadian Encyclopedia published a biography of Jacques Blanchet: One of the first singer-songwriters in Quebec in the 1950s, with Raymond Lévesque and Félix Leclerc, Blanchet was first noticed as a composer of popular songs, whose first performers (1949-50) in Montreal, included Raymond Lévesque, Estelle Caron (who recorded *Le Train miniature*), Lucille Dumont (*Je veux le bonheur*) and others. Blanchet studied music with Louise Darios (singing) and Madeleine Provost (musical theory). He started performing in the early 1950s on radio and TV, Radio Canada (French CBC), CKAC, a popular French-language radio station, and toured in the province of Quebec.

After his first stay in Paris in 1955-56, he came back to Canada and won the *Concours de la chanson canadienne* (French Canadian singing contest) in 1957 for *Le Ciel se marie avec la mer*, interpreted by Lucille Dumont (1919-2016), singer and radio-TV host. It was Blanchet's greatest success. He was one of the founding members of the group Les Bozos in 1959 performing in Quebec and France. In the mid-sixties, as sentimental ballads lost some popularity in favour of the upcoming generation of singer-songwriters, his success waned. [...] His compositions were recorded by Lucille Dumont (his most successful interpreter), Aglaé, Guylaine Guy, Robert L'Herbier, Muriel Millard, Paolo Noël and many others. Among other popular songs written by Blanchet, let's mention *Le Parc Lafontaine*, *L'Île Sainte-Hélène* (co-written with Lucien Hétu), *Marie Madeleine*, *Dans nos campagnes*, *Le Petit jardinier*, *Tête heureuse*, and *Si tu as la peau noire*.

La Médaille Jacques Blanchet, a medal created in 1983 by his estate to reward singer-songwriters, was awarded to Sylvain Lelièvre (1943-2002), and Michel Rivard, among others.

In *Le Trésor des Kirouac* 43, March 1996, his niece, Marie-José Thériault, and Clément Kirouac added more information about Jacques Blanchet. (translation of article)

In 1959, Jacques Blanchet recorded his first 45 rpm record; he was a member of the group Les Bozos with Clémence Desrochers, Raymond Lévesque, Jean-Pierre Ferland, Hervé Brousseau and Claude Léveillé. Besides Montrealers the Bozos also attracted to their pub French



Jacques Blanchet en 1981
(Photo : courtoisie de Jacques Blanchet
à sa cousine, Marie Kirouac)

celebrities like Édith Piaf, Simone Signoret, Yves Montand and Mouloudji, among others.

In 1969, Blanchet went to the U.S.S.R. for the first time giving 38 recitals; the following year he gave 25 recitals in his second tour. In 1969, of his songs 139 were published by Leméac, Montreal Editor.

Jacques Blanchet died in Montreal on 9 May 1981. He was interred at the Montreal East Cemetery.

In 1975, Radio-Canada (French CBC) paid homage to Blanchet for his thirty-year career during one of the shows of *Les Coqueluches*; a few months after his death in 1981 they aired a special television show as part of the *Beaux dimanches* series (Sunday favourite evening programme). There was also a wonderful show aired by Radio-Quebec in the series *Visage*.



Ancestry of Jacques Blanchet

Generation 1

Alexandr de Kervoach
dit le Bréton
Circa 1702 - 1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Québec)
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712 - 1802)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Geneviève Caron)

Generation 2

Louis Kéroack
dit le Bréton
(1735 - 1779)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Québec)
11 January 1737

Catherine Méthot
(1739 - 1813)
(Joseph and
Hélène le Normand dit Jorign)

Generation 3

Pierre Kéroack
(1777 - 1866)

Montmagny (Québec)
17 October 1797

Marie-Anne Jones
(1775 - 1816)
(Charles and
Marie-Magdeleine Baillargon)

Generation 4

Louis-Grégoire Kirouac
(1801 - 1890)

St-Pierre-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud (Québec)
10 January 1825

Catherine Picard
(1803 - 1878)
(Louis and Françoise Harnois)

Generation 5

Pierre-Amédée Kirouac
(1837 - 1932)

Warwick (Québec)
28 June 1886

Marie-Alice Beaudet
(1851 - 1929)
(Liboire and Henriette Gagné)

Generation 6

Rosa Kirouac
(1888 - 1957)

Warwick (Québec)
24 October 1910

Emmanuel Blanchet
(1883 - 1963)
(Zoé and Georgina Boudreau)

Generation 7

Jacques Blanchet
(1931 - 1981)

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Étienne Boulay

by André St-Arnaud

Etienne Trépanier-Boulay was born on 10 March 1983 in Montreal's Ahuntsic district. He completed high-school at Collège Jean-Eudes in Montreal's Rosemont district where he excelled at football, which won him a football scholarship at the famous *Kent School* in Kent, Conn. In 2001, he led Kent School to the New England Class A Championship in football as a running back, defensive back, and team captain. Following that season, Etienne was voted the New England Class A Player of the Year for 2001. After two years he won a four-year full scholarship to New Hampshire University and played for the New Hampshire Wildcats from 2002 to 2005.

In April 2006, he was drafted by the **Montreal Alouettes** in the second round (16th pick) in the Canadian Football League (CFL) Draft. That season, he finished fifth in the CFL with 20 special teams tackles and won the East Division Most Outstanding Rookie for 2006 and the **Alouettes** Most Outstanding Rookie, 2006 awards.

On January 18, 2008, he signed a contract with the **New York Jets**. He was waived on July 24. In August 2008, he returned to Montreal to play with the **Alouettes**, and won the Grey Cup with his team on November 29, 2009, and again on November 28, 2010, both against the **Saskatchewan Roughriders**. On June 15, 2012, Boulay was released by the **Alouettes** and on July 15, 2012, Boulay signed a one-year contract with the **Toronto Argonauts**, later winning the 100th Grey Cup against the **Calgary Stampeders**. He was released on December 19, 2012.

A New Career

Since retiring in summer of 2013, Etienne has been hosting various television shows at VRAK TV, Canal-Vie, Moi & Cie and Canal D. He also collaborated with Radio Rouge FM. On Radio Canada TV, French-speaking CBC, he hosts a programme encouraging people to do more physical exercise in a happy way. In October 2018, he published his autobiography written with Marc-André Chabot, entitled: **Étienne Boulay, le parcours d'un battant, i.e. A Fighter's**



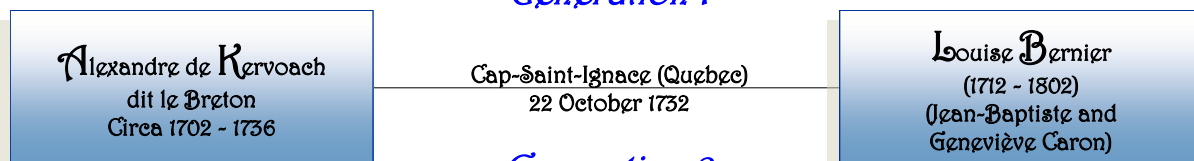
Étienne Boulay, professional athlete,
retired football star,
motivational lecturer and TV commentator
(Photo: Courtesy Gabrielle Lafond-Joyal, Multiple-Media)

Road. He is much loved as a motivating speaker. On 9 May 2020, when his 102-year old grandfather died, Etienne Boulay shared a very moving message on social media to pay homage to the man who had been a great source of inspiration to him. Follow him online.

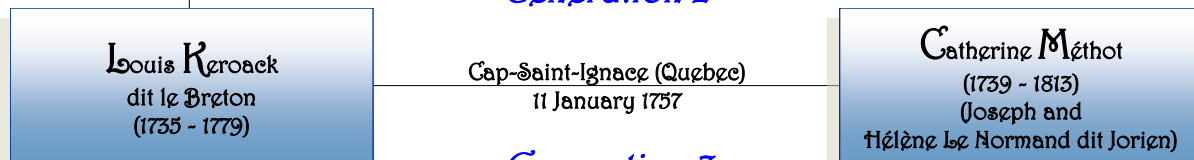


Ancestry of Étienne Boulay

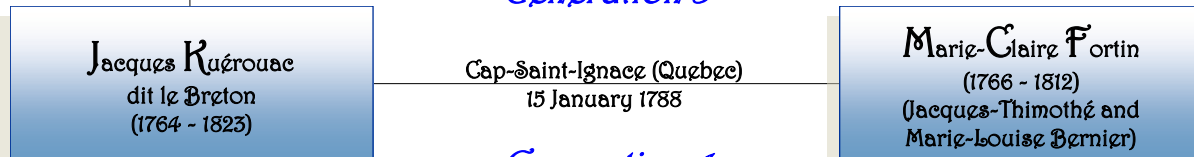
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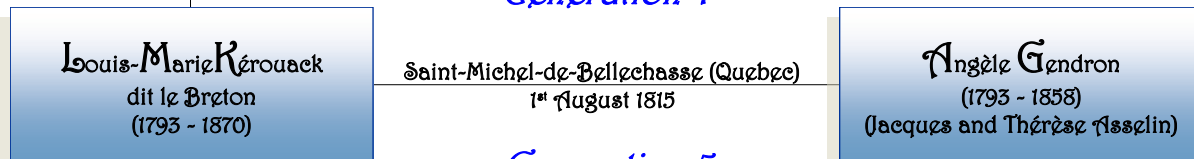
Generation 2



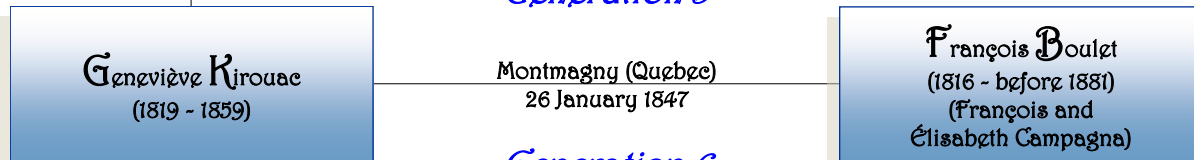
Generation 3



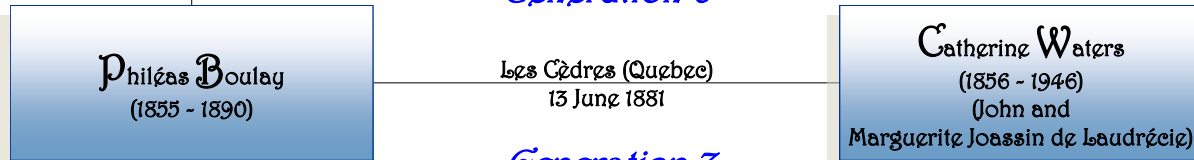
Generation 4



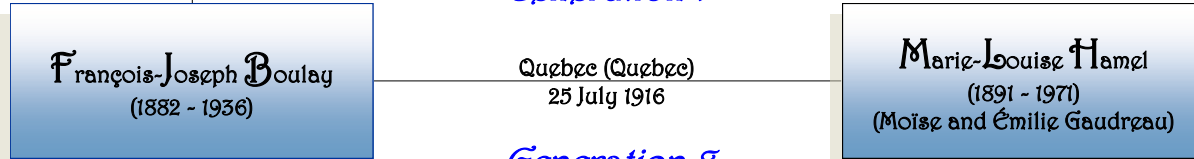
Generation 5



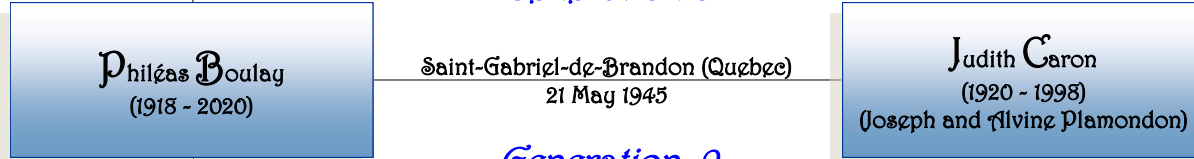
Generation 6



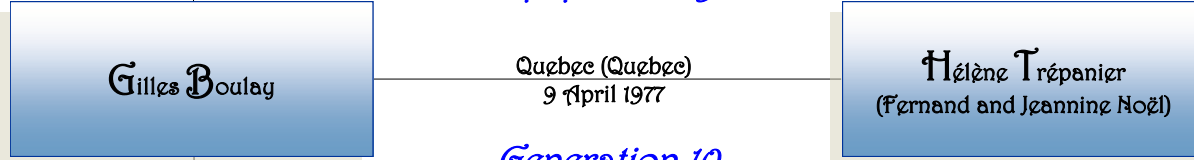
Generation 7



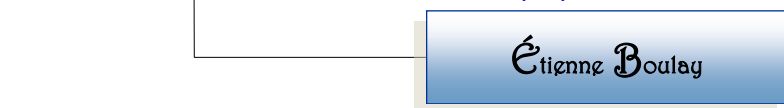
Generation 8



Generation 9



Generation 10



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Irene Carbonneau, First Lady of New Hampshire

by François Kirouac

Irene Carbonneau (1926-1993) is a de Kervoach descendant through the female line, she was the daughter of William Carbonneau and Alice Rousseau, born in Warwick (Quebec). Her mother, Alice, born on 28 September 1899, was the daughter of Mathias Rousseau and **Rose-de-Lima Kirouac (GFK 00777)**. When Irene married Hugh Gallen on 16 October 1948, she could never have imagined that thirty years later she would become the *First Lady* of a New England State when her husband would be elected the 74th New Hampshire Governor in November 1978.

Thanks to her husband's important position we were able to find out more about Irene as various American newspapers at the time wrote about her. We are quoting from one article published when her husband was campaigning for the Democrats and another one after he was elected New Hampshire's governor.

Irene Carbonneau Gallen's family origin

Irene Carbonneau belongs to the younger branch of the Kirouac family, that of Conrad Kirouac, Brother Marie-Victorin. Her great-great grandparents, Louis-Grégoire Kirouac and Catherine Des-Trois-Maisons dit* Picard, were also the great-great-grandparents of Marie-Victorin, that makes them third degree cousins plus one generation. (*known as).

Louis-Grégoire and Catherine, were pioneers of the village of Warwick when they settled there in 1858. They brought up their family on a farm and nine of their eleven children reached adulthood, four sons and five daughters. So far we have found over 1,850 of their descendants spread over all North America and our search is far from ended. Not only some of them settled in New Hampshire, like Irene's grandfather, but many other Kirouac families went to Michigan, in the Detroit area.

In this family branch, there are many important persons who left their mark in various fields. To start with, let us mention the eldest son of Louis-Grégoire and Catherine, Chevalier (Knight) François Kirouac (1826-1896), a very prosperous merchant in Quebec City; Brother Marie-Victorin (f.é.c., De La Salle congregation), born Conrad Kirouac (1885-1944), famous, among other things, as founder of the Montreal Botanical Garden; Agésilas Kirouac (1887-1951), one of the pioneers of the Caisses populaires Desjardins (banking institution) in the Centre-of-Quebec region; Onésime Kirouac (1876-1954), industrial, founder of the Warwick Woolen Mills, one of the most prosperous industries in Warwick during the 20th century. Among many others, let us mention some artists, singer-songwriter Jacques Blanchet (1931-1981) and singer Anne-Renée Kirouac whose career spanned the 1960s and 1970s.



Photo : Courtoisie Littleton Area Historical Museum

Hugh Gallen, 74th Governor of New Hampshire and his wife, Irene Carbonneau, granddaughter of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac-Rousseau from Warwick, Quebec.

Irene's grandmother, Rose-de-Lima Kirouac, was born at Warwick (Quebec) on 3 June 1867. She married Mathias Rousseau¹ on 20 October 1896 in Warwick's parish church Saint-Médard. She died very young, aged only 38, on 26 October 1905 and was buried two days later in the parish cemetery. She brought into the world five children, one son who died very young and four daughters, the twins: Marie-Ange (1898-1899) and Marie-Rose (1898-1953), Alice (1899-1980) the only one who will give her descendants, Alphonse (1901-1918) and another Marie-Ange (1903-1904).

¹ Born in Warwick on 17 October 1875, he died in Littleton, Vermont, in 1948, where he is buried.

After Rose-de-Lima's death, Mathias Rousseau took a second wife, Laudia Montambeau, daughter of David Montambeau and Sophronie Drapeau. They were married on 7 May 1906 in the church of Saint-Patrice at Tingwick (Quebec). They immigrated to the USA; hence the children grew up in New England, settled there and one day, one granddaughter became First Lady of New Hampshire. Mathias Rousseau and his family arrived by train at Newport, Vermont, on 10 November 1908. Mathias and Laudia had a daughter, Aurore, born on 8 September 1912 at Berlin, New Hampshire.

Ten years later, on 12 September 1918, Irene's grandfather, Mathias, was drafted into the American army because of the First World War. On his application form, it says he is a machinist for Pike Mfg. on Highland Street in Littleton. The family then lived at number 149 Union Street in Littleton. When living in Warwick, Mathias was first a farmer, then a merchant. On 11 June 1919, he signed a letter of intent to become an American citizen, therefore definitely cutting links with his homeland, Canada.

Mathias and Rose-de-Lima's daughter, Alice Rousseau, married William Carbonneau on 16 February 1920 at St. Rose-of-Lima Catholic Church in Littleton². William Carbonneau, born in Worcester, Massachusetts, was the son of William Carbonneau, senior, and Léda Poiré. William, junior was born on 7 April 1898 and died in a car accident at 3:30 p.m., on 28 March 1964 on Oregon Road at Concord, Vermont. His wife, Alice Rousseau, died at Littleton on 2 March 1980. Alice and William are the parents of Irene, the future First Lady of New Hampshire³.

**Irene Carbonneau's husband:
Hugh Gallen, 78th Governor of New Hampshire**

Irene Carbonneau, the granddaughter of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac, married Hugh Gallen in 1948. Hugh born on 30 July 1924 at Portland, Oregon, was the son of Hugh Gallen and Mary O'Kane. In 1930, the family moved to Medford, Mass. After graduation from Medford High School, he studied diesel engine repair under the federally sponsored National Youth Administration. Gallen entered the Civilian Conservation Corps, building roads and campsites on Mount Kearsarge in Warner, N.H. He also worked in the Littleton area as a truck driver, paper mill laborer and carpenter. A good athlete, Gallen at one point had a successful tryout with the Washington Senators and played a year in the minor leagues before his baseball career was cut short by arm trouble.

From 1948 to 1958, he worked for a Buick dealer in Littleton. Then he joined Northern Garage Inc. as a salesman. In 1960, Gallen purchased 25 percent ownership of the garage and assumed full control in 1964. The business prospered, becoming one of the largest General Motors dealerships in northern New Hampshire.



Alice Rousseau-Carbonneau et sa petite-fille, Kathleen Gallen-Ross. (Photo : courtoisie Kathleen Gallen-Ross)

From 1962 to 1965, he served on the Littleton, New Hampshire, Planning Board. In 1967, he was a member of the Small Business Administration's New Hampshire Advisory Council and the National Advisory Council. He served as director and chair of the New Hampshire-Vermont Development Council from 1969 to 1972, and from 1967 to 1970 as the director of White Mountain Community Services, a nonprofit agency established to provide mental health care. From 1971 to 1972, Gallen was Democratic state chairman, and he was a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention. In 1973 Gallen became the first Democrat to serve as a state representative for Littleton since 1932.

He entered the 1978 Democratic Party primary for governor, won, and then won the general election because of a split in the Republican Party. ... In 1979 Governor Gallen called out the National Guard to protect Seabrook Power against anti-nuclear demonstrators. Gallen's strong action won him reelection against Thomson in 1980, but a year later 9,200 state employees struck for higher wages. In

² What a coincidence, Alice was married in the church of St. Rose-of-Lima; her mother's name was Rose-de-Lima Kirouac.

³ She was New Hampshire's First Lady from 1978 to the end of 1982.

negotiations Gallen agreed to a 9 percent raise; the Republican-controlled legislature would only agree to 6 percent. Gallen vetoed the state budget prepared by the Republicans, but he would not support a state sales tax or income tax to help pay for the contract he had negotiated with state workers.

He had no way to pay for the state employees' contract. In 1982 Gallen ran unopposed in the Democratic primary, while John Sununu won the Republican primary for governor. During the campaign Gallen refused to pledge that he would not introduce a new sales tax or income tax to pay for the employees' contract; this cost Gallen the election. Shortly after the election Gallen contracted a rare blood infection and died of it December 29, 1982, eight days before the end of his term⁴.

Irene Carbonneau-Gallen

The Woman Behind The Man: Irene Gallen Discusses Role

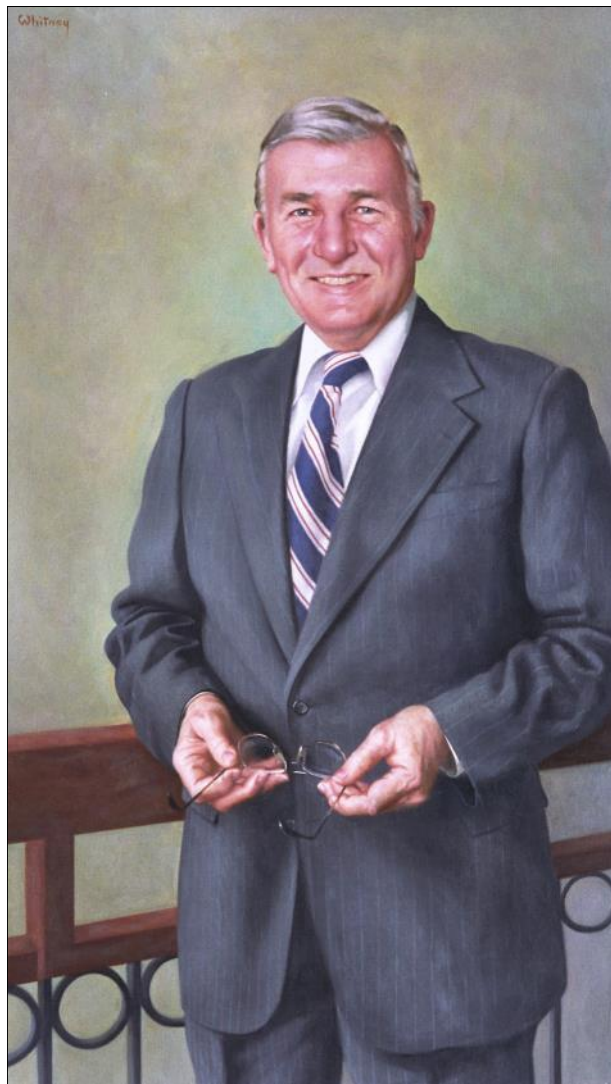
On 14 August 1976, in the *Nashua Telegraph*, Cynthia Jones writes that Hugh Gallen, Democratic candidate for governor, has a great asset in his wife, Irene. A slender woman with an unassuming manner, Mrs. Gallen has a warm smile and pleasant demeanor, and it is a genuine treat to meet and talk with her. She is in perfect accord with her husband's political ideologies. "I hate to sound like a bore," she said, "but because of our backgrounds, our philosophies are the same."

This is Gallen's second bid for the Democratic nomination for governor of New Hampshire. In 1974, Gallen lost by 3,000 votes in a three-way race for the nomination. Mrs. Gallen is far more actively involved in this campaign than in the first one and she finds it at once both tiring and exciting.

⁴ Source: <https://www.nga.org/governor/hugh-j-gallen>



Wedding photo of Irene Carbonneau and Hugh Gallen, who were married at St. Rose of Lima Catholic church in Littleton, New Hampshire on 16 October 1948. From left to right: William Carbonneau, the bride's brother; Kelly Carbonneau-Eaton, the bride's of the bride; the newlyweds; Raymond Carbonneau, the bride's brother of and a non-identified gentleman. (Photo: courtesy Kathleen Gallen-Ross)



Hugh Gallen, 74th Governor of New Hampshire. (Source: Richard Whitney/CC BY-SA (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>))

"It is tiring because campaigning means beginning the day before 6 a.m. and continuing until midnight." Mrs. Gallen said it is also exciting because the recognition factor is so much better this time around, and further, she is getting to know the state and its industries. "It is interesting to me to find out how the various industries are operated and how products are manufactured," she said.

Because her husband has to be a dynamic and energetic man, she was asked if she had any difficulty keeping up with his activities. He has continued to be active in community politics in Littleton where they live and served for one session in the legislature. It would appear that

stability in the home ranks high in Irene (Carbonneau) Gallen's life, but she has other interests. She likes to sew, and she plays golf and skis Cannon Mountain in the winter.

An interest to which she has devoted a major portion of her time in the past seven years has been the public health agency in Littleton. The agency was a one-nurse operation when she first became a board member, but in the following years, the agency merged with 14 other communities. It now is able to offer more services and programs of preventative medicine, clinics and homemaker home health aids. *"It was hard, frustrating work with many problems, but we are in great shape now and Concord looks on us as a very successful agency"* she said.

Mrs. Gallen is enthusiastic about the homemaker health aids and the clinics and said there is a great need for these services in the north country. She said the agency is a tremendous asset to the area. Mrs. Gallen resigned from the board so she could help in her husband's campaign. She explained that both of them have always been involved in community services to people. Since the "system" has been good to Gallen, he believes he should reciprocate in kind, according to his wife. She described her husband as a compassionate person and the frustration of trying to accomplish his endeavors for other people led him to run for governor. Placing the emphasis on the affirmative, Mrs. Gallen said when, not if, her husband becomes governor, she does not expect it will make that much of a change in their personal lives. *"I want to make a*

comfortable home for him. I know he will be busy and I will fill in whenever there is need, but we are not social-minded and only want the simple things in life" she explained. Mrs. Gallen also has concern for her invalid mother⁵ and considers her responsibilities in this area when discussing the future.

In the *Boston Sunday Globe*, 25 March 1979, Christopher Lindsay writes that Irene *still fixes lunch at home for her husband almost every day, although "home" these days is owned by the state and her husband is now the governor.*

Lifestyle has changed for Hugh Gallen since he was elected governor last November. But he can still slip away from the State House at lunchtime and make the three-mile ride home, as he did during the 20 years he was running his Littleton General Motors dealership. Irene Gallen usually has soup, a sandwich and a cup of tea waiting for him.

In a recent interview, a relaxed Mrs. Gallen smiled and laughed easily as she spoke of the changes in their lives. Soft-spoken and expressive, she seems fully at ease in her role, although the crush of appointments make evenings at home together rare. Even dinner with friends is now booked by an assistant at the State House.

But the Gallens still find time for 2½-year-old granddaughter Stephanie, whose life also has been changed by the election. "Abraham (the family dog) goes 'meow, meow', right Stephanie?" the 54-year-old governor teases.

"No, grandpa. Dogs don't say that",

answers Stephanie. "Yes, that's what they say", insists the governor. "Then: "Grandma, grandpa's wrong about Abraham . . . but that's all right, 'cause he's the governor."

Stephanie, perched on her grandmother's shoulder, also gets to visit her grandfather in the capital. She loves it, and it is obvious Irene Gallen enjoys being the wife of the governor after two unsuccessful campaigns for the office. She was confident her husband would win on his third try - *"I would have been shocked if he didn't."* But it still was an electrifying, once-in-a-lifetime thrill when he did win, and she and her husband and family were escorted into Representatives Hall at the State House January 4, to face a thundering reception by the Legislature. *"I felt like Cinderella",* she recalled. *"It was like a dream."* It still is. Although she and the governor have tried to retain some of their Littleton lifestyle, changes were unavoidable.

An accommodating wife, she often accompanies her husband on his appearances around the state. But one day she was driving home to Littleton in her station wagon, following her husband in the chauffeur-driven black sedan that goes with being governor. *"We were going 55 or 60 or so",* she says, and frequently other cars would speed by her but then discreetly pull in behind the black Chevrolet ahead, its license plate clearly stamped GOVERNOR. It wasn't until Mrs. Gallen pulled out

⁵ Editor's Note: This is Alice Rousseau, who died in 1980, daughter of Rose-Délina Kirouac, four years after the publication of this article. Alice thus lived through the electoral victory of her son-in-law in 1978.

and drove by, waving to her husband, that other cars passed him too, she said. Thomson had a penchant for stopping motorists who had the audacity to pass his sleek green Lincoln Continental.

While Irene Gallen is enjoying her life as the governor's wife, she knows someday the chauffeur, the state residence and the recognition will be gone. She and her husband will return to Littleton, her home town and the place where they were married in 1948. The town of 5300 had been their home until her husband was inaugurated in January (1978). Their children grew up there – Kathleen, 26, married to Ralph Ross, and parents of Stephanie; Michael Gallen, 24; and

Sheila Gallen Derosier, 22. Ross and Michael work for the Gallen car dealership in Littleton and Sheila and husband Duane, live in St. Johnsbury, Vt. "Littleton is a good place to bring up a family. There's a lot of room up there," Mrs. Gallen says.

Conclusion by François Kirouac

As previously mentioned, since 2013, I have been researching, almost on a full-time basis, the family genealogy in order to revise the accumulated data published in 1991 and add as much as possible to the *Genealogy of the descendants of Alexandre Le Brice de Keroac'h*.

In the 1991 K dictionary, female lines were frankly non-existent, but now they are very important. So, what a surprise when I came across Irene Carbonneau, a granddaughter of the youngest sister of my great-grandfather, Joseph Kirouac (GFK 00690). Irene's father, Mathias Rousseau, after losing his first wife, Rose-de-Lima Kirouac in 1905, remarried and immigrated to the States with his second wife. Thus the links between Warwick and the Franco-American cousins were lost. It was wonderful to discover this distant cousin of my father, Bruno Kirouac (1926-2019).

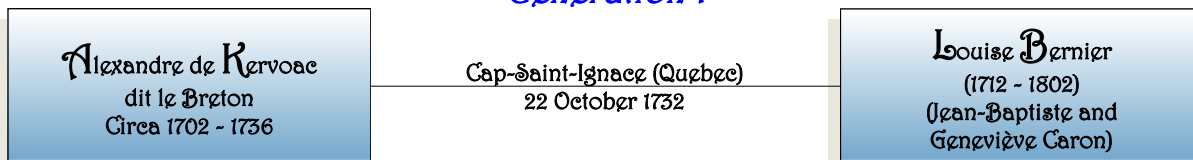


Kirouac family home in Warwick (Quebec) in 1898. Rose-de-Lima Kirouac was born in this house on 3 June 1867. She will become Alice Rousseau's mother, so the grandmother of Irene Carbonneau who, in 1978, will become the First Lady of New Hampshire. Rose-de-Lima Kirouac-Rousseau is also the mother of Marie-Rose Rousseau, Sister Marie-Paul, whose biography you can read from next page on.

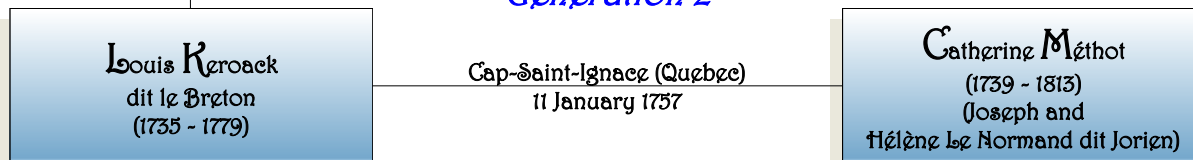
Standing on the balcony: left, Adélaïde Gingras and her husband, Louis Kirouac. At right, stands Émile Kirouac, nephew of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac and a first cousin of Alice Rousseau. In 1905, Émile inherited the house and family land at the age of 17, when his father Joseph died. (Photo: Bruno Kirouac collection)

Ancestry of Irène Carbonneau

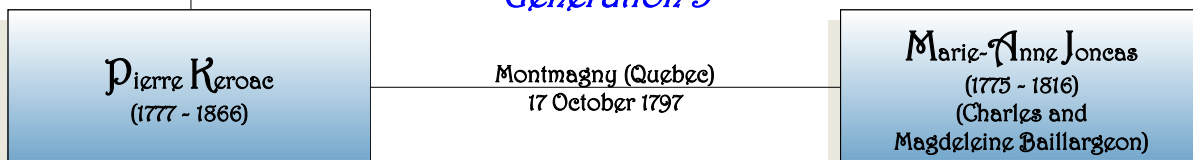
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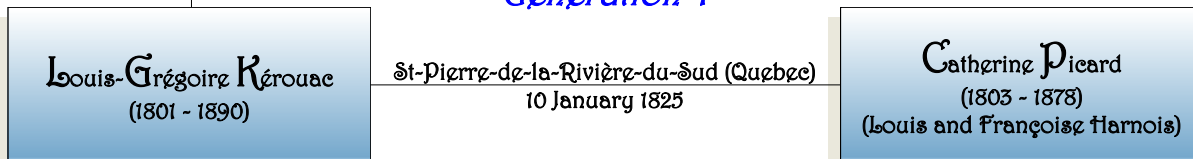
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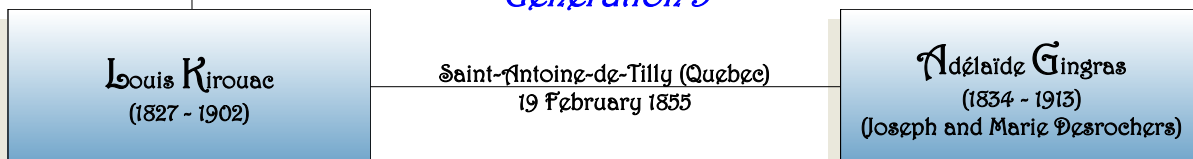
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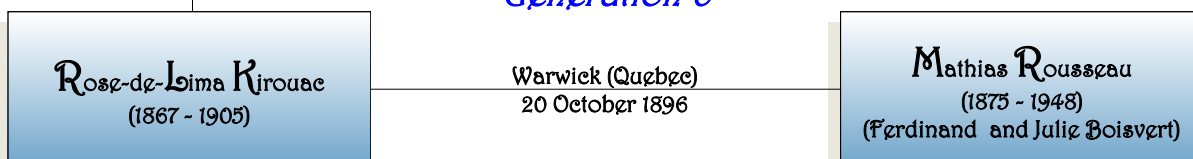
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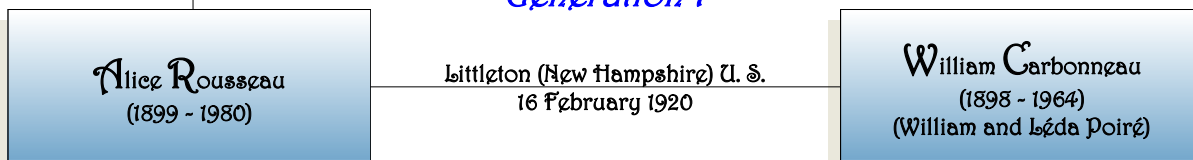
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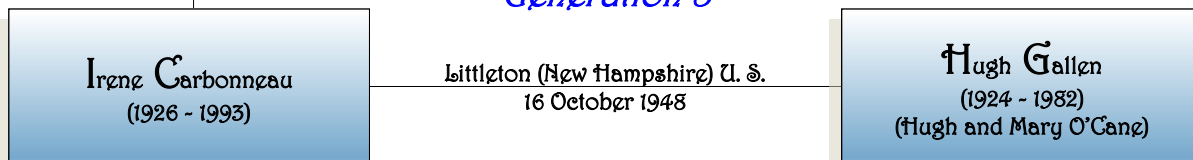
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Generation 7



Generation 8



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Abbe Ivanhoé Caron

by Marie Lussier Timperley

*In this series of articles started by André St-Arnaud, we must add one about Abbe Ivanhoé Caron, whom you read about in **Le Trésor** number 136, page 18, as a complement to the story of Alfred Grégoire told on pages 9 to 17. Not only was Abbe Ivanhoé Caron an extremely important character in the history of the colonisation of the Abitibi region, but he is also a Kirouac on his mother's side and was the uncle of one of the founders of the Kirouac Family Association and its first treasurer, Sarto Kirouac (1918-2008).*

Ivanhoé Caron, born on 12 October 1875 at L'Islet-sur-Mer, was the son of William Caron, sea captain and of Apolline Withburge Gagné. His sister, Marie-Anna Caron (1880-1955) married Wilfrid Kirouac (1876-1952) and they had a son, Sarto (1918-2008) therefore Sarto was Ivanhoé Caron's nephew.

After studying at the Grand Séminaire in Quebec City, Ivanhoé taught history in this superior college while pursuing his theological studies. He was ordained to the priesthood in Saint-Ferdinand Parish on 25 July 1900. He was posted as a Catholic Vicar at Saint-Joseph-de-Lévis Parish in 1901, but was soon sent to Rome and lived at the Canadian College from 1901 until 1904 to study philosophy and theology, also enabling him to travel in Europe.

Once back in Canada, he was named Vicar at Saint-Jean-Baptiste Parish in Quebec City. From 1909 to 1911, he worked as immigration officer for the Canadian government. From 1912 to 1926, he was a missionary colonizer. During those years, he proved to be an indefatigable traveler covering long distances by train, by canoe and even on foot. Being a master communicator, he gave talks, lectures, published brochures, pamphlets, and organized dozens of group tours of Abitibi for future settlers as well as for religious and political personalities so they get to know and appreciate the region. After 1924, he kept on writing, publishing and travelling abroad.

Much has been written about him and how he promoted the agricultural merits of Abitibi. It is said that within ten years he helped some 12,000 people settle in Abitibi. He published ninety works and 313 articles written in both official languages, and over 1000 newspaper articles on a multitude of subjects.

As early as 1921, he was a historian and archivist for the Province of Quebec. He wrote and published many books about Abitibi; in particular: *Le Témiscamingue, l'Abitibi: section desservie par le chemin de fer GrandTronc Pacifique* (1912); how the development of the railroad opened up Abitibi-Témiscamingue region; *La colonisation de la province de Quebec* (1923-1927), two volumes about the rural development of the province of Quebec. He died at Quebec City in 1941.

*In 2014, to mark the centennial of the City of Amos, the local historical society mounted an important exhibition especially underlining the major contribution of Abbe Ivanhoé Caron, Catholic priest, missionnary, colonizer, historian and archivist. The project came to be when the researchers found so many invaluable documents in Ivanhoé Caron's Fonds d'Archives at the Quebec Library & National Archives (BanQ). It was such a treasure trove of information about the development of the Abitibi region clearly showing the challenges, the strategic issues and the balance of power at play when opening up Abitibi to colonisation. Abbe Ivanhoé Caron was one of the main actors and a direct witness of the events. (Notes taken from an article published in September 2014, in a magazine entitled *L'Indice bohémien, journal culturel de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue*.)*



Abbe Ivanhoé Caron (1875-1941)

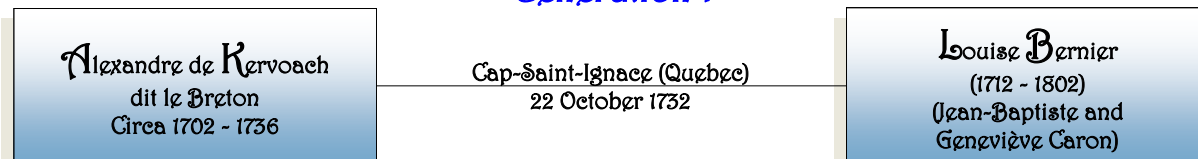


Sarto Kirouac (1918-2008)
Treasurer of the KFA from 1978 to 1990.

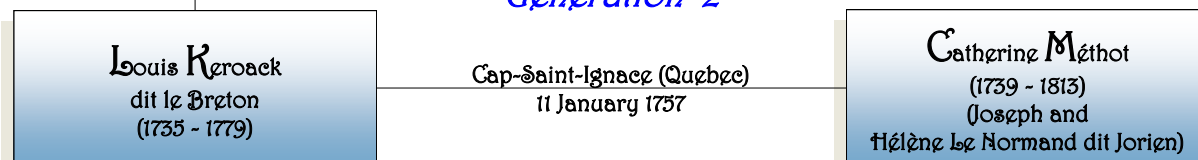
Sources : Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Quebec et plusieurs sites web.

Ancestry of Abbe Ivanhoé Caron

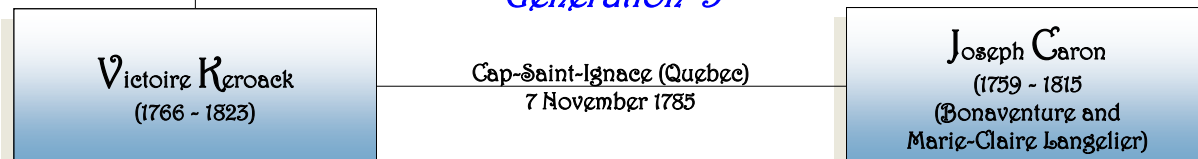
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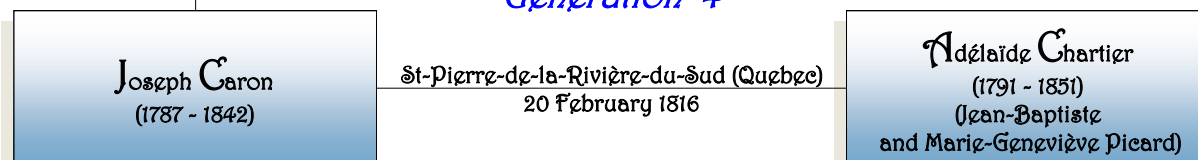
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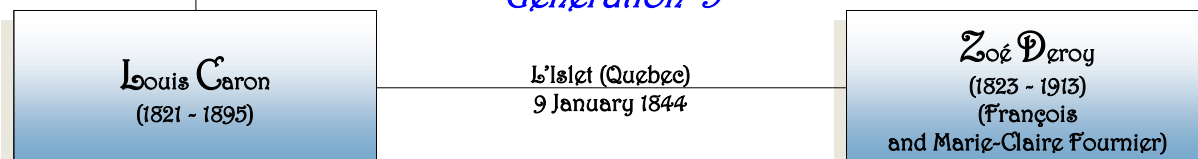
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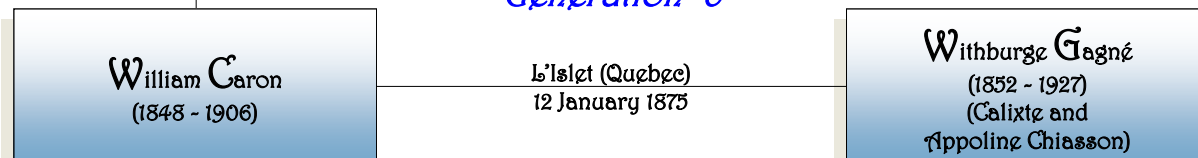
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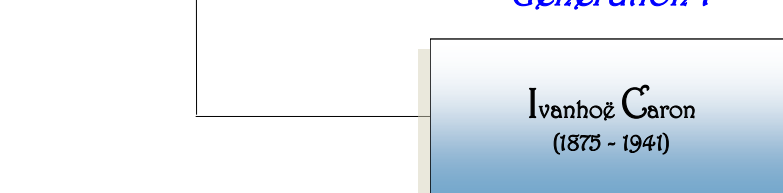
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Generation 6



Génération 7



*Kervoach Descendants
Through the Female Line:
Louis-Bonaventure Caron*

by André St-Arnaud



Louis-Bonaventure Caron (circa 1890)

In 2018, this photo was registered in The UNESCO Memory of the World Programme; CCUNESCO administers the Canada Memory of world heritage safeguarding documentary heritage).

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L'Islet and justice of the peace, was also appointed commissioner for the trial of small causes and president of the Literary Institute at Saint-Jean-Port-Joli. On 6 May 1847, at a partial election, he was elected member of parliament for L'Islet. He was re-elected in 1848, 1851 and 1854. On 7 June 1858, he was declared elected instead of Louis-Bonaventure Caron; and was re-elected in 1861. He was a member of the French-Canadian Group, later of the Reform Group and the "blue", i.e., conservative. In 1863, he was defeated by Louis-Bonaventure Caron. (Source: Quebec National Assembly web site)

Louis-Bonaventure Caron was born in L'Islet-sur-Mer, Quebec, on 16 November 1828, and baptized on 18 November in Notre-Dame-de-Bonsecours parish, he was the son of Bonaventure Caron, farmer, and Rosalie Martineau.

He was educated at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière College, from November 1842 to February 1846. Then at the Séminaire in Nicolet, 1846-1847, and the Séminaire in Saint-Hyacinthe. Caron was admitted to the bar in 1855.

Only two years later he was elected in L'Islet in 1858 but his election was overturned on 7 June in favour of Charles-François Fournier. He ran again in L'Islet in 1861 but lost. He was elected on 22 June 1863; "red" (liberal), he was one of the staunchest opponents of the Canadian Confederation and voted against it.

On 6 June 1866, in the parish of Saint-Christophe at Arthabaska, Louis-Bonaventure Caron married Angélique-Élisabeth-Hermine Pacaud, the daughter of Édouard-Louis Pacaud, lawyer, and his first wife, Anne-Françoise-Hermine Dumoulin.

On the First of July 1867 with the advent of the Canadian Confederation, his mandate ended. Caron was an unsuccessful candidate for a seat in the Canadian House of Commons in 1867 and again in 1869.

On 4 November 1874, he was named to the Quebec Superior Court for the Gaspé district. Three years later, on 26 January 1877, he was named to the Quebec district. He retired from the bench on 12 November 1903. On 28 May 1915, L. B. Caron died in L'Islet-sur-Mer at the age of 86 years and six months. Three days later, he was interred in the parish cemetery at L'Islet-sur-Mer.

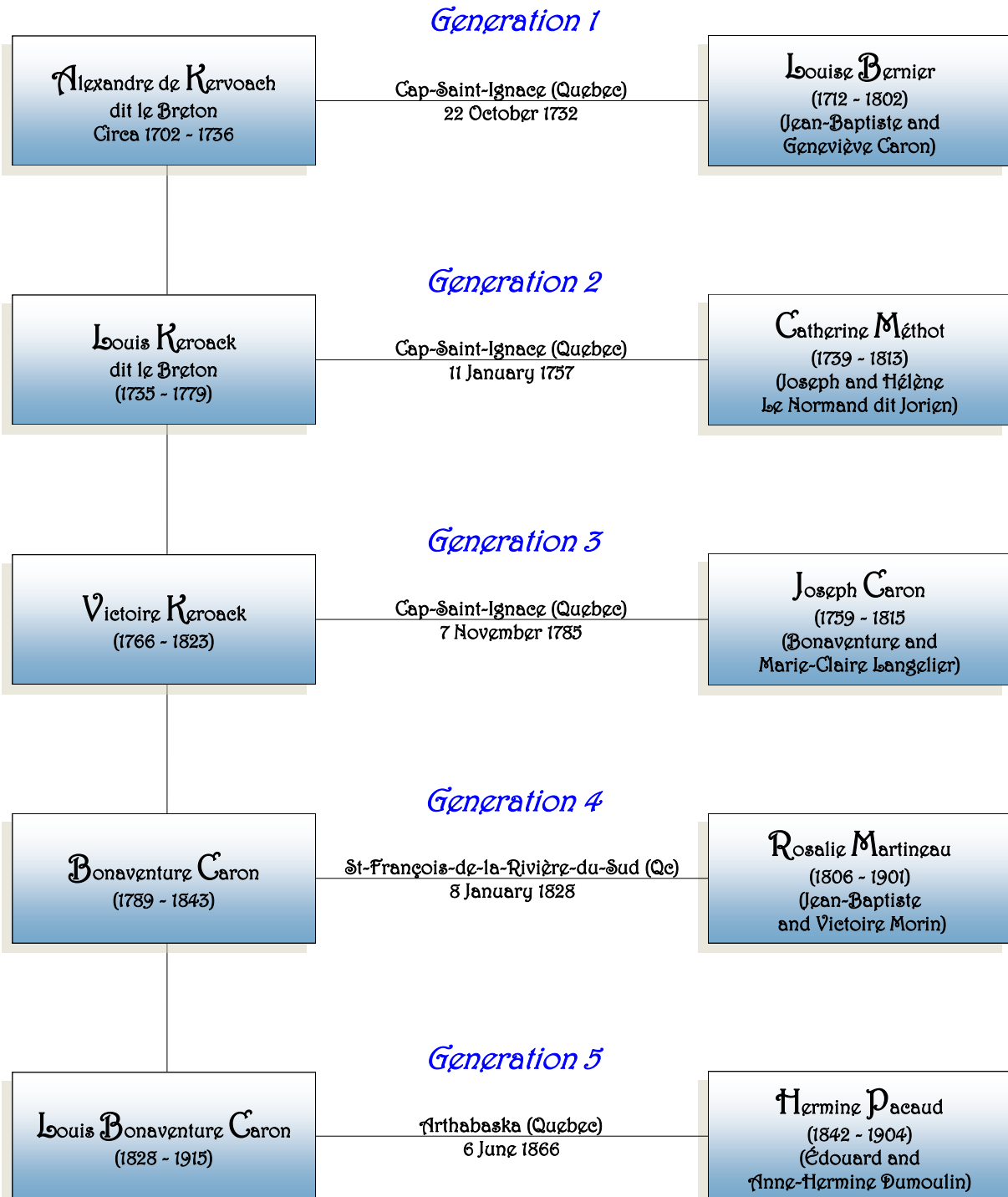
¹About his election, *Le Courrier, Saint-Hyacinthe's newspaper, on Friday, 5 July 1935, wrote: Perhaps his partisans or his agents showed too much zeal, because, at the very first government session, his election was invalidated. A committee of the House was in charge of looking into contested elections and where things went dealt with more smoothly than nowadays, particularly when the provincial deputy, whose election was contested, unfortunately belonged to the opposition or the minority.*

²Charles-François Fournier was born in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli on 15 May 1805 and baptized in the local parish church. He was the son of François Fournier, land surveyor, and Catherine Miville-Deschênes. He received his surveyor commission on 25 July 1826, and practised thereon. He was Lieutenant-colonel commanding the first militia battalion at

Sources:

- Pierre-Georges Roy, "Les juges de la province de Quebec", 1933. (Quebec provincial judges).
- Quebec National Assembly website.

Ancēstry of Louis-Bonaventure Caron



André St-Jrmaud June 2021

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Gaston Deschênes

by François Kirouac

Gaston Deschênes is a Quebec historian born at Saint-Jean-Port-Joli in 1948. He is one of six siblings, four boys and two daughters, the children of Antonio Deschênes and Simonne Caron. He studied at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière College and at Laval University, Ste-Foy, Quebec, where he earned a master's degree in history.

For thirty years he was the Quebec National Assembly's official historian, leading research teams. Until 2001, he was the co-owner of **Les Éditions du Septentrion**, publishing house specialising in history, with Denis Vaugeois.

He wrote many acclaimed books about his native region. He is one of the most knowledgeable historians of the Côte-du-Sud, Quebec south-shore region. For anyone interested in the history of this area where our ancestor, Alexandre de Kervoach, settled, G. Deschênes is a 'must' read. Among his many books about the area: *L'Année des Anglais (i.e. 1759)*; *Les Origines littéraires de la Côte-du-Sud*: French-Canadian literature's origin); *Les Voyageurs d'autrefois sur la Côte-du-Sud* (First traveller); and *Le Mouvement patriote sur la Côte-du-Sud* (the patriots 1837-1838)

From his prolific contribution to history, let's mention that he co-authored 100 articles for the *Bulletin de la Bibliothèque de l'Assemblée nationale (The National Assembly's Library Bulletin)*; *Bulletin de l'Amicale des anciens parlementaires du Québec (Former Quebec Parliamentarians' bulletin)*; *Bulletin d'histoire politique (political history bulletin)*, *Revue parlementaire canadienne (Canadian parliamentary bulletin)*, and *Revue Desjardins Bank Bulletin*.

He produced promotional works, brochures and audio-visual. He directed and edited books, including the *Dictionnaire des parlementaires du Québec de 1792 à nos jours (Quebec parliamentary dictionary from 1792 to the present)*.

Deschênes also wrote numerous articles published in important historical periodicals: *Revue d'histoire du Bas-Saint-Laurent (Lower-Saint-Lawrence historical bulletin)*, *Cap-aux-Diamants* (Quebec historical magazine) and *Le Javelier*, the Côte-du-Sud Historical Society Bulletin. He lectured regularly about special events and important personalities from the Côte-du-Sud.

He was an active member of many organizations including the *Comité des usagers des archives nationales* (Quebec national archives' users' committee), *Groupe de recherche sur l'histoire de la Côte-du-Sud* (Côte-du-Sud's history research group), a board member of the *Côte-du-Sud Historical Society*, the Côte-du-Sud's Heritage Foundation, Advisory Committee for the commemoration of Quebec's Capital Commission and board member of the Quebec City Historical Society.

His career was celebrated by many awards: Regional Historical Merit certificate from the Côte-du-Sud Historical Society in 2005; Honorary Mention from Quebec's *Action nationale*; Merit certificate for regional history from the *Canadian Historical Society* in 1989; the *Philippe-Aubert de*



Gaston Deschênes, historian
(Source : Asclepias, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

Gaspé Literary Award from the Côte-du-Sud Book Fair in 2007; The *Monique Miville-Deschênes Cultural Award* in 2008 and the *Zenith Award* in the category: *Prestigious Publication* for a volume entitled *L'Hôtel du Parlement, mémoire du Québec*, co-authored with Francesco Bellomo; published by Éditions Stromboli, Saint-Lambert, Quebec, in 2007.

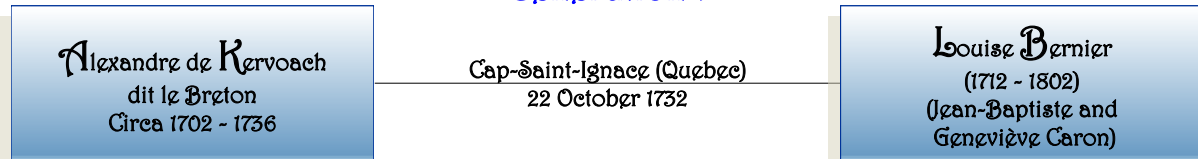
Sources: Wikipedia and Ouellet, J. (2012). **Confidences d'un historien**: Gaston Deschênes, un historien, de la recherche à l'édition. i.e., Quebec History. Gaston Deschênes: a historian's career from researching to publishing. Reference: article published in French in 2012 in *Histoire Québec*, volume 17, number 3, pp. 5-9.

<https://www.erudit.org/fr/revues/hq/2012-v17-n3-hq079/66379ac/>

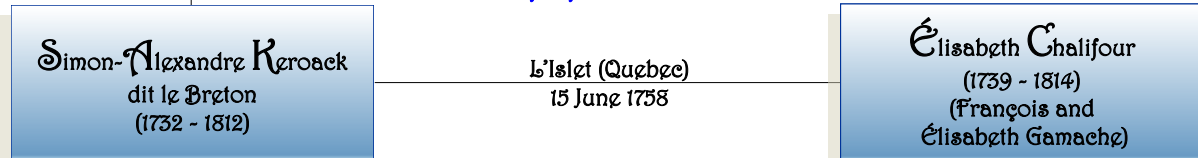
¹ Denis Vaugeois, (born in 1935 in St-Tite, Quebec) historian, professor, editor/publisher, Quebec politician. He was a minister in René Lévesque's government.

Ancestry of Gaston Deschênes

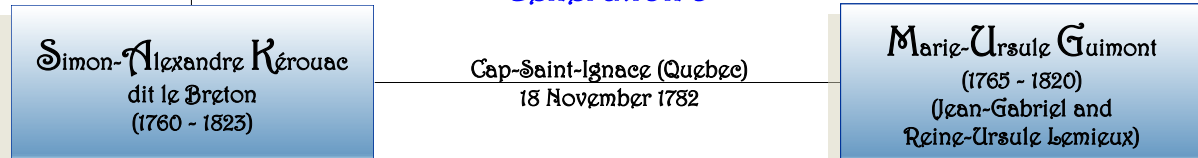
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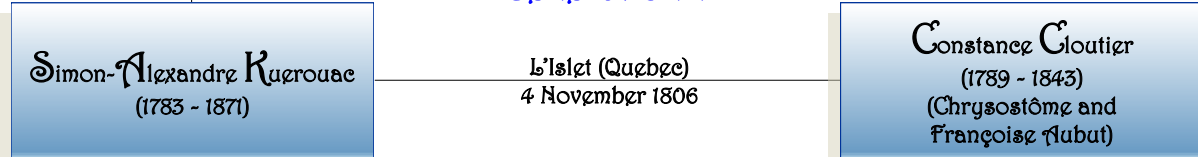
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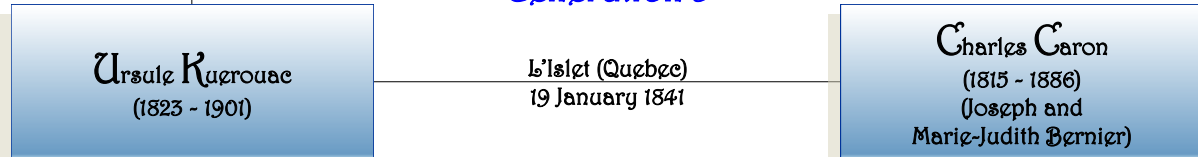
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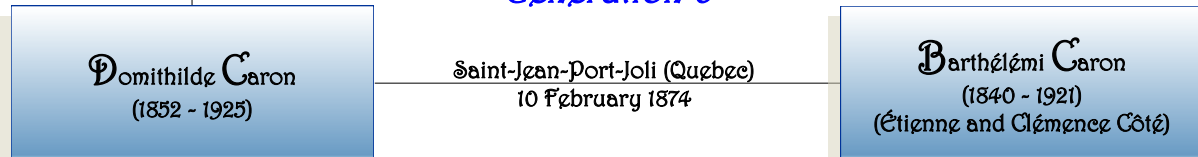
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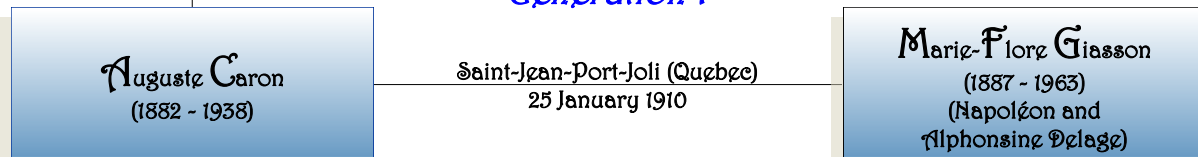
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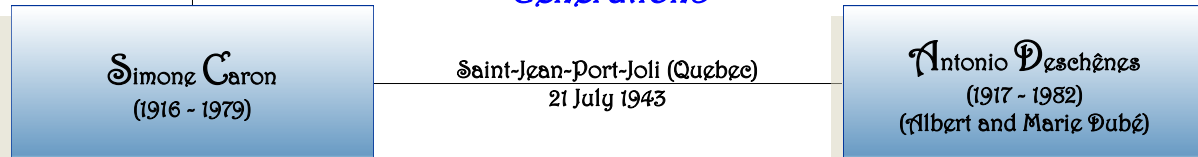
Generation 6



Generation 7



Generation 8



Generation 9



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line: Blanche Lacombe, alias Aline Duval

by André St-Arnaud

Marie-Lorenza-Blanche Lacombe was born on 22 November 1903 at L'Islet-sur-Mer and baptized the next day. Her godparents were Jean-Baptiste and Philomène Labrie. Her parents were Joseph Lacombe (1872-1918) and Georgiana Bernier (1874-1945).

On 5 January 1921 at Sainte-Brigide Church in Montreal, she married Léopold-Gaspard (Léo) Lacasse (son of Joseph Lacasse and Marie-Anna Bruyère). They had a son, André Lacasse (1921-2007). It was a very short-lived marriage, only two years, so, there is little to say about it. She was barely eighteen, it was a youthful passion and, being frequently absent for work, the relationship did not last.

In 1929, burlesque was the popular attraction then at the **Gayety**¹, (a theatre located at 86, Ste-Catherine Street West, in Montreal), the show was *Get Hot* with Al Hiller and his associate Joe Forte (1893-1967). Joe would ask funny questions and Al answered to make the public laugh. Among the main comedians in the cast, for the first time, we note Aline Duval. There is also Gladys McCormick, Billy Soslow, the dancers, Vic Hallen, Aline Rogers, and May Maiben plus a chorus.

In the Thirties, Blanche is a new face in the artistic world; she performs in theatres and on radio. With various plays, she tours the Province of Quebec and New England under the direction of Mr. Jean Grimaldi (1898-1996). Around 1929, she meets her new lover and future husband, comedian Paul Desmarceaux.

In the Forties, she is one of the many artists applauded every Sunday evenings in the variety show presented at the Montcalm Theatre at the corner of DeLorimier and St-Zotique Streets in Montreal as well as at the Roxy Theatre.

In 1946, the Crystal Palace's management, always eager to please its large clientele, hires for the season a new troupe led by Tizoune senior (1893-1954). Tizoune is surrounded by many well-known artists including Aline Duval, Effie Mack (1888-1969), Colette Ferrier, Paul Desmarceaux (1905-1974), Charles Lorrain, etc. This new company offered many important comedies at the theatre.

At the beginning of the Fifties, for only twenty cents, the Théâtre National offered its clients tickets to see two French



Aline Duval, born Blanche Lacombe (1903-1967), married Paul Desmarceaux who played the famous "Curé Labelle" in Claude-Henri Grignon's book *Les belles histoires des Pays-d'en-Haut*, e.g., the development of the Laurentian region, north of Montreal, spearheaded by the famous Parish priest Labelle. The series ran on Radio-Canada TV from 1956 to 1970

(Photo: Gaby photo-archives, 1609-1)

¹ In 1912, a 1,650-seat theatre was built at the corner of Ste-Catherine and St-Urbain Streets in downtown Montreal. Called the **Gayety** it was very successful presenting vaudeville and varieties. From 1930 to 1932, it is a movie theatre called: **Théâtre des Arts**; then **Mayfair**. In 1941, the **Gayety** comes back with burlesque; the famous American Lili St. Cyr was one of its stars. In 1953, the **Gayety** closes down but, almost immediately, is resurrected as **Radio-City** by Jean Grimaldi. In 1956, famous comedian and author, Gratien Gélinas (1909-1999), buys and renovates the building and creates the **Comédie-Canadienne**. In 1972, a theatre company created in 1951, the **Théâtre du Nouveau-Monde**, buys the building. It becomes one of the top-ranking theatres in Canada to this day.

Source: <https://journalmetro.com/actualites/montreal/657631/capsule-historique-du-gayety-au-theatre-du-nouveau-monde/> (in French)

² La Poune was born Rose Ouellette (1903-1996) in Montreal.

Ancestry of Blanche Lacombe



André St-Arnaud, March 2022

feature films from France-Film, plus the news and a cartoon reel. Then came the stage show: La Poutine & Her Company², including about fifteen comedians, plus five musicians and some other invited artists. Of course, there was Juliette Pétrie (1900-1995) who, besides dancing, singing and acting, was a great seamstress and created dazzling costumes for the company. The public loved her. Aline Duval always accompanied her beau, Paul Desmarteaux, to the theatre, eventually becoming a full member of the company.

Some people denounced the kind of shows put on at the National. However, it was a natural outcome of a long tradition always loved by the public because it made everybody LAUGH and making people LAUGH was the aim.

In 1951, back from a very successful U.S. tour, the company was invited to Saint-André-Avellin, by the local council of the Knights of Columbus to present an evening of music and sketches with Willie Lamothe (1920-1992), Gratia-Fernande Dalcourt (1922-1998), Aline Duval, Rita Germain (1924-1996), Paul Desmarteaux and Jean Grimaldi.

In 1953, Jean Grimaldi presented the biggest show in town at Radio-City, a huge musical production entitled MOULIN ROUGE by Reynolds, with thirty artists on stage and the Howard Geager orchestra. The story is about an elegant Parisian cabaret owned by a couple played by Paul Desmarteaux and Aline Duval, who were able to buy it thanks to an inheritance from a not-so-pleasant aunt played by Manda Parent (1907-1992).

In 1958, Aline Duval was in the musical show "*Winter Carnival*," part of Uncle Albert's Music-Hall. Aline is part of everything going on.

On 8 February 1964, at Saint-Pierre-Apôtre Church in Montreal, Aline Duval finally married Paul Desmarteaux in a strictly private ceremony. It did not make the news as it was kept secret. A few months earlier, Aline had had a stroke.

Her relationship with Paul lasted so many years that she got to know him better than anyone else. They had the same tastes and outlook on life, the same career, everything profoundly united them. It is also the period when they had the largest number of friends in the artistic community, the Olivier Guimond, father and son, (1914-1971), Léo Rivet (1913-1990), La Poutine (1903-1996), Manda Parent (1907-1992). Their marvelous love story ended with Aline's death. Aline's demise left Paul completely at a loss. The only souvenir he had was Aline's son born from her first marriage. Paul and Aline's were officially married only in 1964, because at the time, there was no such a thing as divorce so, one had to wait for one's legal partner's demise to remarry legally.

In 1965, between two TV shows and a cabaret performance, Paul while enjoying a few days holiday with his wife Aline, suddenly felt very ill and had to be taken to the hospital in St-Eustache (off-island suburb, 35 km northwest of Montreal). In 1963, he had already been hospitalized for a first medical alert.

Aline Duval, although a pillar of burlesque and variety abandoned her career completely, the illness sapped all her energy. On 2 May 1967, after a long illness, Aline died of a heart attack at St-Eustache General Hospital at the age of 63.

At the time the couple lived at 986, 19th Avenue in Fabreville/Laval. Visitation was at Alban Malette & Son Funeral Home, 146, St. Louis Street, in St-Eustache. The funeral was on Friday, 5 May 1967 at St-Édouard Church at Fabreville/Laval. Many personalities from the theatre world and journalists attended the funeral at the church to pay their respect and homage to Aline Duval. Paul wept openly during the ceremony at the church and again at the Fabreville Cemetery where so many friends, including Claude Blanchard and Léo Rivet, went to support the bereaved Paul through his terrible loss.

When his wife died, Paul's world crumbled. However, he married again. On Saturday, 17 August 1968, at Saint-Pierre-Apôtre Church in Montreal, he took as his third wife Arlette Bouchard, a family friend aged 29. On 19 January 1974, aged 68, Paul died; he was finally reunited with his dear Aline Duval, née Blanche Lacombe, who had died barely seven years earlier, on 2 May 1967.

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Nathan Christopher Fillion

by André St-Arnaud

Nathan Christopher Fillion is a Canadian actor born on 27 March 1971 in Edmonton, Alberta. He became an American citizen in 1997. He is the son of Robert (Bob) Fillion and June (Cookie) Early, both retired English teachers in Alberta's capital, Edmonton. Nathan's older brother, Jeff, is director of an elementary school. On Wikipedia, we learn that both sides of his father's family were part of the Quebec diaspora living in Fall River, Massachusetts; his mother had a Norwegian maternal grandfather and a Finnish maternal grandmother. His mother's family the Earlys, are descended from Jubal Anderson Early (1816-1894), a Virginia lawyer and politician and a Confederate general during the American Civil War (1861-1865).

He completed his secondary and post-secondary education in Edmonton, at Holy Trinity Catholic High School, Concordia University College of Alberta, and the University of Alberta, where he was a member of the Kappa Alpha Society. Like his parents he was destined to a teaching career, but after taking part in Theatre Festivals in Edmonton, acting became his profession.

After working in several theatre, television, and film productions, Nathan Fillion moved to New York City in 1994 where he acted in the soap opera *One Life to Live* as Joey Buchanan, for which he was nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Younger Actor in a Drama Series in 1996. Three years later he moved to Los Angeles where he played various parts including James Frederick "The Minnesota" Ryan in Steven Spielberg's film *Saving Private Ryan*, *Blast From the Past* and *Dracula 2000*.

He played a supporting role in the sitcom *Two Guys and a Girl*, aired on ABC between 1998 and 2001. He took part in various series including *Pasadena*, *Firefly*, *Miss Match* and also in the last five episodes of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

Between 2004 and 2007, he acted in films, *Outing Riley*, a comedy, and the horror movie *Horribilis*. He was in the last episode of *Lost*. Fillion lent his voice in some episodes of *Justice League*, and to many other parts during his very successful career.

In 2007, Fillion signed with **Fox Broadcasting Company** and was cast as Alex Tully in the series *Drive*; however, after four episodes, the series was cancelled due to poor ratings. At the beginning of fall 2007 Fillion joined the cast of **ABC's** *Desperate Housewives*. The same year, he starred in two films: the romantic comedy *Waitress*, with Keri Lynn Russell in the title role, and *White Noise: The Light*.

In 2008, he starred in the film *Trucker*; played opposite the lead character in the mini web-series *Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*, critically acclaimed and winner of many awards. In March 2009, the first episode of the ABC crime television series *Castle* playing the titular character Richard Castle, a mystery novelist who helps the **NYPD** solve murders.



Nathan Christopher Fillion
Photo : Wikipédia : Gage Skidmore
[CC BY-SA 3.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)]

While starring in *Castle*, he also played in various films, video games and web series.

In May 2016, when *Castle* closed after eight successful seasons on **ABC**, Nathan also played in the recurring sitcom *Modern Family*. Many of the programs he played in are known in Quebec in their French version.

He takes part in many other comedies: one episode of *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*.

In 2018, Nathan returned to **ABC** as the hero in a new detective series entitled *The Rookie* (called *La Recrue* in French in Quebec), in which he plays the latest recruit but the eldest one in **LAPD**.

Besides all his achievements as an actor, Nathan Fillion, with writer Phillip-Jon Haarsma, is the cofounder of a charity called **Kids Need to Read**, created in 2007.

Source: Wikipedia

Ancestry of Nathan Christopher Fillion



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Dorilda Fortin, Granddaughter of Marcelline Kirouac, Wife of 15th Premier of Quebec

by Marie Lussier Timperley

Presentation

Again thanks to André St-Arnaud, a regular contributor to *Le Trésor*, always searching for important de Kervoach descendant through female lines, we present Mrs. Dorilda Fortin-Godbout. He found a short biography of Dorilda in Jean-Guy Genest's doctoral thesis entitled *Vie et œuvre d'Adélard Godbout** (1892-1956), (*Life & Work of A.G.) presented at Laval University in 1977. Dorilda Fortin (1889-1969), was the wife of Adélard Godbout, who was the 15th Premier of the province of Quebec in 1936 and from 1939 to 1944.

While preparing footnotes, to better understand the story, we learned about the passing of Mrs. Marthe Godbout-Bussièrès, who had lived in the family home. Her son most kindly offered to provide us with photos, even enlisting his aunt Rachel's help; she is the last surviving of the five children of Dorilda and Adélard.

We warmly thank Mr. Michel Bussièrès, his aunt Rachel Godbout-Jobin and her daughters, Michelle, Diane and Francine for their irreplaceable contribution. The photos illustrating the article are from their family archives. We are particularly grateful to them for proofreading, editing and enriching the biography of their grandparents.

Marie Lussier Timperley



Dorilda Fortin (1889-1969)
(Photo: Francine Jobin collection)

* *Marthe Godbout-Bussièrès of Frelighsburg (Quebec) aged 93, died on 6 February 2021. She was the daughter of Adélard Godbout and Dorilda Fortin. She was predeceased by her husband, Georges Bussièrès, her brothers Jean and Pierre, and her sister, Thérèse. She leaves to mourn her children, Michel (Gillian), Marie (Marc), Paule (Louis) and Lizanne (the late Ross); her grandchildren and her sister, Rachel Godbout-Jobin.*

Marie-Louise-Dorilda Fortin was born on 24 August 1889 in L'Islet-sur-Mer, Quebec south-shore, daughter of Florent Fortin (1855-1918) and Herméline Eliza Lebourdais¹ (1856-1934). As a child Dorilda liked going for walks but she was not the outdoor type. As a teenager, she preferred to play piano and go to the theatre. She taught piano in L'Islet for a few years before getting married. In 1907, at 18, she received her diploma for teaching French elementary (model school) and high school (academic school). Four years later, on 11 September 1911, school inspector L.P. Goulet presented Miss Dorilda Fortin, teacher at Saint-Louis School in L'Islet, with a \$20. bonus to reward her ardour and dedication to the teaching profession.

Marriage

The *Cercles de fermières* (French-speaking farmers' wives' circles) were very popular in the province of Quebec at the time; a new section was founded in L'Islet in 1922 and Dorilda Fortin was named treasurer. After teaching in the Belles-Amours Lane school, she took charge of the village telephone exchange located in her mother's house. It seems this is how Joseph-Adélard Godbout (1892-1956) met Dorilda when the short blond eligible young man spoke for the first time with the tall young lady with a natural suntan when he went to place a call. At the time, Adélard was

teaching in at the provincial agricultural college at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, but his repeated trips to L'Islet did not go unnoticed. To his colleagues teasing him, Adélard simply answered that he enjoyed his visits to L'Islet. A year



¹ *Éliza Lebourdais was the youngest of nineteen children of Marcelline Kirouac and Joseph-Louis Le Bourdais. To further understand the close relationships between the Kirouac and Le Bourdais, two families originally from Brittany, please refer to **Le Trésor des Kirouac**, number 107, spring 2012, p. 13.*



Wedding of Dorilda Fortin and Adélarde Godbout,
L'Islet-sur-Mer, 9 October 1923.
(Photo: Francine Jobin collection)

later, 34-year-old Dorilda Fortin married 32-year-old Adélarde Godbout.

The wedding took place on 9 October 1923 in the Holy-Virgin Chapel², the bride's brother, Rev. Irénée Fortin³ (1884-1936), officiated. Special music was played during the ceremony. The bride wore a navy-blue suit with a matching navy hat and silver fox fur. Her bouquet was American Beauty roses. A reception followed at Mrs. Fortin's home and the new couple left for their honeymoon to Montreal, New York and Philadelphia. They settled in Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, in one of the houses built by the Agricultural College. This union produced two sons, Jean and Pierre, and three daughters, Marthe, Rachel and Thérèse.

Family

A Montreal nephew, Fernand Godbout, was studying at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière while his uncle Adélarde was teaching there. The young man was often a guest at his uncle's home, where he particularly enjoyed Dorilda's delicious cooking. Relatives were always welcomed and really enjoyed Dorilda who was so warm-hearted and such a great cook.

As the family increased, Adélarde hired a maid to help with domestic task. This was to make life

easier for his wife and not because there was more money coming in. In Quebec then, teachers' salaries were meagre at best; teachers were badly underpaid. Adélarde as county agronomist was equally underpaid. It is only during the *Quebec Quiet Revolution*⁴ that agronomist and teachers started earning fair wages. In order to help with the family budget, Dorilda, like many other housewives then, did paid-work at home. An industrial company supplied knitting machines to women who could operate them and were paid by the piece. It greatly helped make ends meet.

Her husband was more and more involved in politics and Dorilda was not too happy about him becoming a minister. It had already been eating into their family life for eighteen months when her husband entered the cabinet and that did not improve the situation. Regretfully, but because she loved her husband, she agreed to see him become a minister in 1930; but on one condition: that it should not affect the children's education.

Dorilda went to Quebec the day before her husband's swearing-in ceremony. She accepted the new situation, which also meant moving to a large town. She would never interfere with her husband's career. She attended receptions and special events more because it was her duty than by pleasure. First and foremost, she remained a housewife and a mother keen to give the best education possible to their five children. The well-being of her family came first. Both Adélarde and Dorilda being professional teachers, education was of the utmost importance and they did all they could to promote youth education. They talked a lot with their children on all subjects, answering their multiple questions, encouraging them to carry on their studies, to develop a career. The family atmosphere was simple, never pretentious. They never raised their voices to be obeyed; that went without saying. The children were correctly dressed without fuss. Dorilda was naturally thrifty and avoided needless expenses.

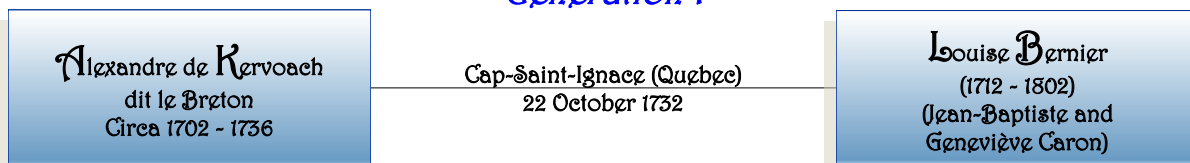
² *Holy-Virgin Chapel, now Sailors Chapel, was built in 1835 on the Pioneers Road in L'Islet, a kilometre east of the parish church, Notre-Dame-de-Bonsecours church, as a procession chapel used mainly during the Corpus Christi celebration in June. When it was restored in 1935, for its centennial it was dedicated to the sailors given L'Islet's important maritime history. In 1981, it was designated a heritage building by the Quebec Department of Cultural Affairs. (Source: Wikipedia)*

³ *Irénée was the eldest of the eight children of Éliza Le Bourdais and Florent Fortin. He became a priest as was often the case then. He was a vicar in Saint-Georges-de-Beauce (Quebec). Irénée died at Lévis on 19 January 1936 of chest pain and angina. His brother-in-law, then Quebec minister of Agriculture, the Honorable Adélarde Godbout, attended his funeral as well as many members of the clergy including Rev. Victor Rochette, canon at the Archbishop's palace, Alphonse Fortin, superior at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière (Quebec), Rev. Arthur Beaudoin, Alexandre Vachon, Pierre Saindon from Rimouski (Quebec) and Louis-Marie Belleau from the Lévis College.*

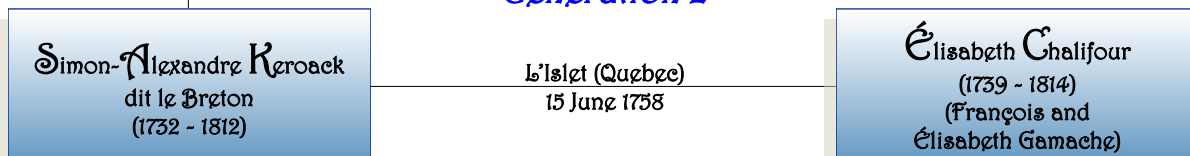
⁴ *The Quiet Revolution refers to the 1960s; it was a period of intense socio-political and socio-cultural change in the Canadian province of Quebec, characterized by the effective secularization of government, the creation of a state-run welfare, etc. (Wikipedia).*

Ancestry of Dorilda Fortin

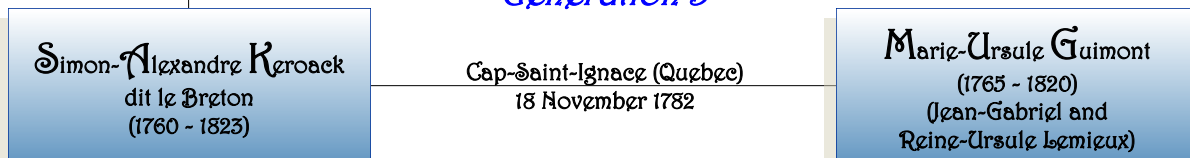
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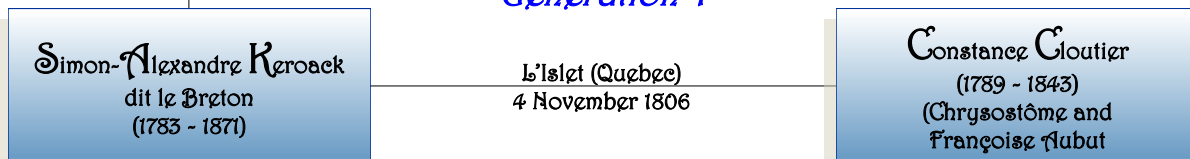
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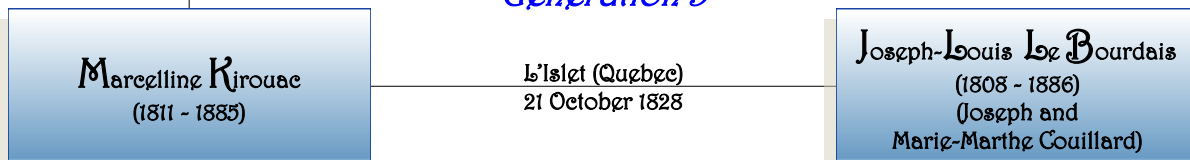
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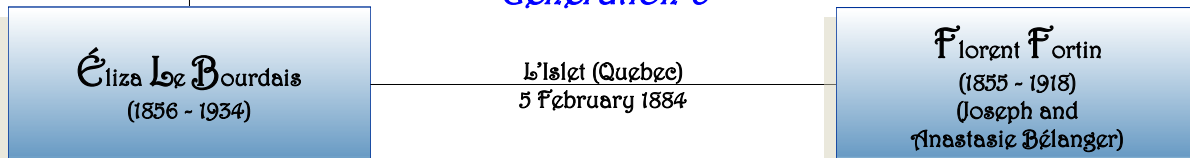
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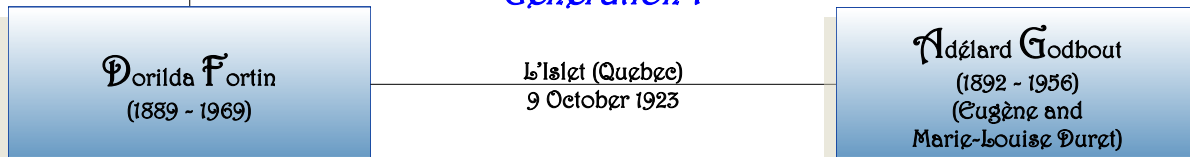
Generation 5



Generation 6



Generation 7



In 1931, the family bought a farm in the Eastern Townships. Adélar Godbout chose Frelighsburg⁵, as the oasis to rest away from the Capital's political and administrative worries. At the end of every school year, the family left town to spend the summer in their beautiful country estate *La Ferme des Trois-Ruisseaux*⁶ the name chosen for their home. The trip became a kind of expedition, driving from Quebec City to Frelighsburg crossing various towns, Plessisville, Warwick, Kingsey Falls, Richmond and Cowansville. The minister/farmer drove his own car.

Like many women at the time, Dorilda never had a driver's license. However, even after her husband's death, she always had a car at her disposal. When she needed to do some shopping she would ask one of the farm employees or one of her children to drive her in her car. For her, it meant keeping a certain independence.

In 1949, the family officially settled at Frelighsburg. Relatives kept coming to the farm, particularly Dorilda's brothers; they loved to visit their older sister. They felt it was important to keep in touch with her and it was such a pleasure to enjoy a picnic under the tall pines.

The Renowned Godbout Hospitality

Adélar Godbout was always inviting people for dinner. His friends and colleagues used to say: *In Godbout's home, the table is always served.* Paul-Omer Roy, agronomist and Godbout's friend, said publicly: *If you want a good meal, go to the Godbouts.* Whenever visitors came to their Frelighsburg home, Godbout would provide them with room and board because he would not let any of them have to put up with the shabby local hotel. Of course, that meant extra work for Dorilda but she was always happy to do so, considering

this was her contribution to her husband's career.

After her husband's death, Dorilda continued to operate the farm with her eldest son, Jean. In her free time, she particularly liked to receive her children and share with her grandchildren her many memories. Dorilda lived at the farm until her death on 10 January 1969. She is buried beside her husband in Saint-François d'Assise Cemetery in Frelighsburg.

⁵ *Frelighsburg is a town in the Brome-Missisquoi County, southeast of Montreal, in the Eastern townships. (Source: Wikipedia)*

⁶ *You may remember that the property our Breton ancestor, Alexandre de Kervoach, bought in 1734 in Notre-Dame-du-Portage, was called Les Trois Ruisseaux (the three Streams).*



Dorilda Fortin and Adélar Godbout's family photo taken in front of their residence in Frelighsburg, Quebec in 1936. From left to right: Marthe, Adélar, Rachel, Pierre, Thérèse, Dorilda and Jean. (Photo taken by Rev. Maurice Proulx; courtesy of Francine Jobin collection)



(Photo : collection Francine Jobin)

The Godbout family photographed in front of their residence in Frelighsburg, Quebec in July 1941. From left to right: Marthe, Pierre, Dorilda, Thérèse, Adélar, Rachel and Jean.



Dorilda Fortin and her husband, Adélar Godbout attending an official ceremony in 1939. (Photo: Francine Jobin collection)

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Bernard Hurtubise

by Bernard Hurtubise

PROUD OF MY KIROUAC AND HURTUBISE ANCESTRY

Going back in time to recount what happened between 1924 to 1984, at the age of 96 and counting, requires a good memory and stamina. The mind suddenly wakes up and memories flow. By the time you read these pages, I will be 97 years old - or young? You will see that between 1945 to 1970, I spent most of my time cooking up far more than food. Then, from 1970 to 1984, I was a civil servant and that was very different.

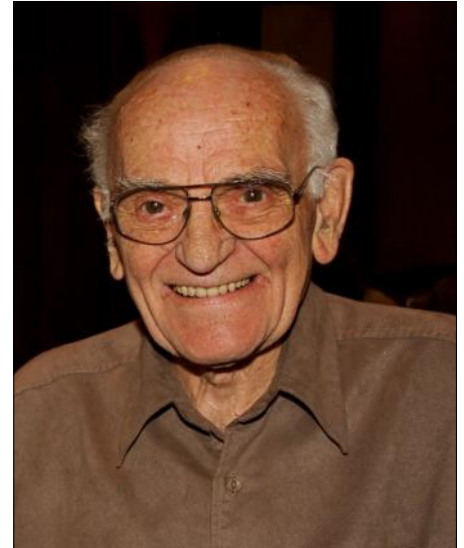
Nowadays it is normal to see the younger generation using double surnames, hence I could do the same and introduce myself as Bernard Kirouac Hurtubise, grandson of Pierre-Amédée Kirouac and of Alexandre Hurtubise. I was born on 25 October 1924, the seventh child of Germaine Kirouac (born in Kingsey Falls) and Alfred Hurtubise (born in Montreal). What a blessing!

Genealogically speaking, everything else and the rest of the text could be forgotten, except, of course, my wife, Madeleine Thibodeau, whom I married in 1950 and who gave me five wonderful children: Mathieu, Marie-Josèphe, Catherine, Anne and Ève. We had been married 55 years by the time Madeleine died on 2 July 2005.

My parents, my father Alfred (1890-1961) and my mother Germaine (1891-1935) met for the very first time in 1911. Germaine was studying at the convent in Pointe-aux-Trembles (independent municipality located at the eastern end of Montreal Island). It was a magical moment. But, was it accidental or destiny? In short, my future father, Alfred, used to visit his sister, Hélène, who was a dear friend of my future mother and studying at the same convent. Through visits, meetings, lovely notes, post cards, lots of them, the romance developed. Writing was very much "in" then. It was a useful and nice way to get to know the other person and it helped to make a good choice.

The result was a quiet wedding on 27 May 1913 in *Le petit Canada*, at Manchester, New Hampshire, a region where so many French-Canadian expatriates lived. It was often said then that in the USA then, one could get married in the Catholic Church without banns being published (for three weeks before). That suited the future couple very well as they could get married without delay and my father could come back to his job and start on number one of his fourteen children. All lived into adulthood except for Pauline, who died very young.

Eventually I came along. I was born on Meese Street in Montreal. My favourite memory is that of my big dog BUSTER, the faithful companion of my younger years! It was a mixed Saint-Bernard breed, very strong and very intelligent. We lived close to the (St-Lawrence) river and one day Buster saved a person from drowning by pulling him back to the shore by his pants. Then he jumped back in the water, and brought the rowboat to shore. He was also a perfect driver! Here is what he used to do. Buster would be harnessed to a small "buggy" and, at the end of the school day, he would go to Saint-Victor School pick up my sisters, Fernande, Lucille and Marthe, and bring them back home, pulling them home for about a mile and half. Unfortunately, one day Buster was killed by a jealous neighbour. Yes, I cried a lot!



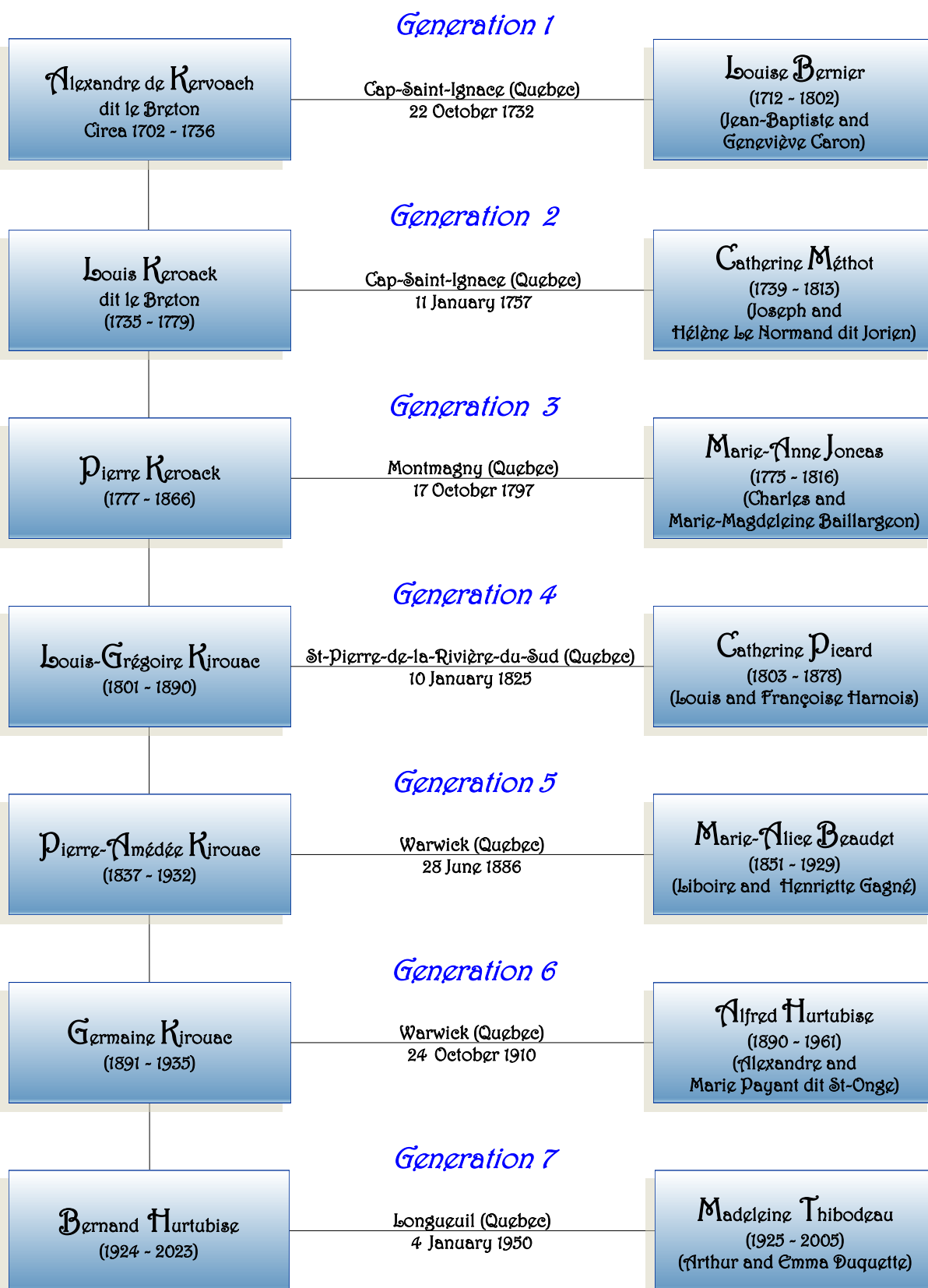
Bernard Hurtubise
(Photo : Pierre Kirouac)



Parents of Bernard Hurtubise:
Alfred Hurtubise (1890-1961)
and Germaine Kirouac (1891-1935)
(Photo: KFA collection)

¹ *Viauville, Montreal district founded in 1892, according to plans by Charles-Théodore Viau; later included into Maisonneuve and finally Montreal.*

Ancestry of Bernard Hurtubise



After we moved to Viauville¹, I started grade one, the elementary school was run by the De La Salle Brothers (FEC in Quebec). Even if some religious congregations are badly criticized nowadays, as far as I am concerned, I am forever grateful for the invaluable education and great training I was given by the brothers during those seven years!

In 1935, something terrible happened, it was a very sad day when my young mother died. I was only ten. To this day, I still miss my mother and I keep the memory of a very kind and loving mother.

From 1929, followed by the "Dirty Thirties", life was difficult and during that time, every member of the family had to contribute whatever one could do to help. While I was in elementary school, I had tasks to perform. I was an altar boy starting at a very young age. After Mass, I was invited for breakfast at the Sainte-Émilie convent where I could eat as much as I liked. But here is a not-so-funny story. Once I had to serve at the afternoon vespers but there was a baseball game too. All I could think of was if only the ceremony can come to an end, then I would be able to play baseball. Unfortunately, thinking of the upcoming pleasure distracted me from my duty and after the ceremony I put things away as fast as I could, and a little too fast! I placed the very hot censer in the wrong box, although it was a metal box it contained some charcoal briquettes; and I ran off to play baseball! Through the sacristy window smoke started to escape. Mr. Gosselin, the verger who lived across the street, called the fire department. Luckily the damage was minimal, but the church was, in a way, blessed with incense!

About the same time, after school, I started to distribute the French daily *La Presse*², fifty copies for 50 cents per week. I picked up the papers at Bachand the local Nickel & Dime store³. After I was finished delivering the papers, the Bachand



Bernard Hurtubise, altar boy, first at left in front row.
(Photo: Bernard Hurtubise collection)

family kept me at their home to do my school homework and gave me supper. I usually stayed until 7:00 p. m., helping at the store, selling penny candies⁴ and answering the English-speaking customers. There were many of them, the workers from the nearby *Vickers*⁵. Well, yes, little Bernard spoke English!

Besides delivering *La Presse*, I also distributed *Le Petit journal*⁶, sold after Sunday Mass and *The Standard*⁷ (*The Star*), delivered on Saturday evening around 9 p.m. Delivering *Le Star* paid well because tips were good! Every bonus and extra pay went towards our family needs for food, clothing, etc. During Summer, starting at the age of eight, I helped at the *Maisonneuve*

¹ Viauville, Montreal district founded in 1892, according to plans by Charles-Théodore Viau; later included into Maisonneuve and finally Montreal.

² *La Presse*, the largest French daily in North America founded in 1884 by William-Edmond Blumhart. Typographer Trefflé Berthiaume became manager in 1889 and owner in 1894.

³ "5-10-15 " Nickel & Dime: chain of reasonably priced store in North America, like Woolworth. For younger readers, the ancestor of Dollar Stores. The development of large shopping mall in the early sixties, slowly killed the Nickel & Dime, local stores. The Quebec Historical Society tells the story online.

⁴ Penny candies were very popular; often sold in small shops; available for as little as a penny; candies were sold in bulk and by weight. In Canada, on 4 February 2013 the penny was taken out of circulation by the government.

⁵ The Canadian Vickers, a branch of British Vickers, built ships, airplanes trains on their fifty-acre land in Maisonneuve, Montreal eastern district, from 1911 to 1944 and employing thousands of workers.

⁶ *Le Petit Journal*, popular French weekly, founded in Montreal in 1926 by the Roger brothers (1896-1972) and Roland Maillet (1897-1960); it closed down in 1978.

⁷ The Montreal Star, English daily founded by Hugh Graham, Lord Atholstan, in 1869; closed in 1979.

Market. My father had a stall where he sold fruits and vegetables. I sorted them and helped with cleaning. Luckily for me, at the market I was able to visit the other stalls. Once grown up, I realized that that is where I learned all the basic things I needed for my future work as a caterer and my career in food! I used to talk with the farmers there. They often came from Saint-Léonard⁸, or with those from Notre-Dame Street where the Louis-Hippolyte-Lafontaine⁹ tunnel-bridge is today. While chatting with them, I learned about lots of different fruits and vegetables and their characteristics. I also learned a lot about the various apples grown in Saint-Hilaire¹⁰. These are part of many delicious memories.

Fruits arrived by train at Bonaventure Station¹¹; coming from Ontario or the United States. Watermelons were kept in sheds, (shed is the word we used then even in French). We would place them in sooty coal bins. During those years, I fully explored the Maisonneuve Market¹². There I also learned about meat at the Pion butcher's shop. Mr. Pion generously gave our family 40 to 50 pounds of bones for our great dog Buster. Of course, Buster was a large dog!

At one corner of the market, Mr. Masse sold eggs and live hens. Mr. Rondeau sold cheese and butter. In season, Mr. Parent, the grocer, sold



Buster the dog, Alfred Hurtubise and his son, Bernard, in 1926.

corn on the cob cooked in large boiling kettle and all day long we would hear him advertising loud and clear: "Delicious boiled corn on the cob, a nickel a piece." Depending on arrivals, we also sold bananas kept in Mr. Séguin's basement, cherries, and bitter black cherries from the Maskinongé region¹³, lilac, Malpèque oysters¹⁴. These famous oysters were sold directly from the schooners at the fish market (that used to be at the corner of Berri and Commissaires streets). In those days, we had to go and get the oysters there and shovel them into large coconut sacks. Having to pay them fifty cents per shovelful we had to fill the large coal shovel as much as possible!

During winter, the choice of fruit was limited. Oranges came from California during the holidays. If we were lucky there was an orange in every Christmas stocking!¹⁵

During those years, my widowed godmother, Maria Racicot died. She had been married to one of my grandfather Hurtubise's brothers and had remarried a Mr. Meunier. She left me \$500.00 for my studies. Thanks to her great generosity, after elementary school I was able to start high school. My father had preciously kept that inheritance for me, in spite of the fact that he badly needed that money during 1929 and the following tough years, through the thirties, he could have used that money many times over. Here I have to say that I was the seventh among thirteen hungry mouths to be fed! Thus, I entered the Jesuit-run Saint-Ignace College¹⁶ and did the first two years of the classical course.¹⁷

⁸ *Saint-Léonard-de-Port-Maurice: from 1886 until the middle of the Fifties was essentially a farming village with a population of 300 French-speaking Canadian Catholics. Incorporated as a town in 1916. It was known as Montreal's Garden as all agricultural and dairy products were sold in the metropolis.*

⁹ *The Louis-Hippolyte-Lafontaine Tunnel-bridge linking Montreal to Longueuil on the south shore, the tunnel part is under the Saint-Lawrence river. Named in honour of a politician (1807-1864).*

¹⁰ *Mont-Saint-Hilaire, town south of Montreal, in the Richelieu Valley, famous for its many orchards and great variety of apples. Take a virtual visit. (source: Wikipedia)*

¹¹ *Gare Bonaventure: railway station, 1847-1948; demolished in 1952, was located on Saint-Bonaventure Street, now part of Saint James Street.*

¹² *Marché Maisonneuve — in 1899, a first proposal for a public market was turned down but in 1912, a market opened essentially for stockbreeders to sell their animals. The market was designed by Marius Dufresne, architect and civil engineer, and built in 1912-1914, in the Beaux-Arts style. It is the second of the four largest markets in Montreal; worth a visit. It was a public market when the Hurtubises had a stall there.*

¹³ *Maskinongé - In the Mauricie region, includes the towns of Trois Rivières and Shawinigan.*

¹⁴ *The oysters from Malpèque Bay in Prince-Edward-Island arrived at Montreal by schooners and were sold directly from the boats anchored near the fish market located at the foot of Berri and Commissaires streets. Hence, merchants or their helpers had to go there to buy them.*

¹⁵ *Christmas Stockings! As for its content then and up to the late Fifties, read the story in Le Trésor des Kirouac, no 119, Winter 2015-2016, Christmas & New Year's at the Hurtubise.*

¹⁶ *Saint-Ignace College was built by the Jesuit fathers in 1927 and offered the "classical course" only to boys. In 1967, with the Quebec government reform of education, it became CEGEP Ahuntsic (CEGEP = College of general and professional education) for boys and girls.*

¹⁷ *The "classical course" was an eight-year course following a seven-year elementary course (no kindergarten then). Obtaining a BA degree opened the doors to university. Each year had a name: Basic latin, Syntax, Method, Versification, Literature, Rhetoric, Philosophy I and II.*

My grades were really good. I want to stress that, then, we spent at least 36 hours per week in class and besides studying hard, the professors were very strict regarding politeness, homework and there was also lots of readings to be done, add to that, the travelling time between home and college, and for me, my responsibilities at home! Sadly indeed, after the second year, I had to quit the college because there was no more money to pay for it. So, my father then found me a job as an errand-boy at *La Sauvegarde Insurance Company*¹⁸, their headquarters was next to the then Montreal Court House¹⁹. My job was to bring coffee, Cokes, chocolates, cigars, and Delisle yogurts²⁰, on every floor in the nine-story building. My salary was \$5.00 per week including a half-day on Saturday. People gave me tips but there was one *séraphin*²¹, Mr. Charland, scrooge, sometimes, gave me only twopence!

My father was always keen to find me better employment and contacted a Dr. Elzéar Hurtubise (former owner of the Hurtubise house)²². He was the doctor to the important Montreal Transport Company, MTC²³. There I earned \$30.00 per month as errand-boy. I wore a tram conductor's outfit²⁴ and could travel free on the Montreal

Photo: Hurtubise family collection



Bernard Hurtubise on St. Catherine Street, downtown Montreal, wearing his Montreal Tramway (MTC) uniform.

tramways. Later they trained me as office boy and I worked there until 1944. One thing I learned at the MTC was the numbering system for bus spare parts; that turned out to be very useful when I was conscripted in the army at the end of WWII.

Training started at Saint-Jérôme, then I was sent to Farnham²⁵; and finally at the military supply depot in Longue-Pointe²⁶ (at the eastern end of Montreal island). There my knowledge of the parts numbering system was much appreciated. The parts were prepared to be shipped to Europe. While I was waiting for a new position in the sheds, for one month I was assigned to the



Bernard Hurtubise's business card from the 1940s. (Photo: Hurtubise family collection)

¹⁸ *La Sauvegarde*, life insurance company founded in 1902. In 1913, *La Sauvegarde* moved into its new headquarters at 150 Notre-Dame Street East, in Old-Montreal. Story on internet at: <https://histoire-du-quebec.ca/sauvegarde>.

¹⁹ *Montreal's Court House*. Bernard worked in the second court house located at 100 Notre-Dame Street East, in a building called by the architect's name: Ernest-Cormier, an Art Deco specialist. One extra info, Lucien-Fernand Le Brice de Keroach, also art-deco specialist, worked for Ernest Cormier.

²⁰ *Yogourt Delisle*. In the Fifties, Delisle delivered yogourt in small glass jars directly to its clients at home. Although very popular nowadays, it was unknown at the time, and not available in groceries yet. Family history behind the product at: <https://www.journaldemontreal.com/2013/11/23/les-delisle>

²¹ *Séraphin*, as in *Séraphin Poudrier*, Central character in a novel entitled: *Un homme et son péché*, (A man's sin, greed) by Claude-Henri Grignon. Published in 1933, it was a long-running radio series. It also ran on Radio-Canada French television from October 1956 until June 1970. It was made into a film in 2002. Hence, in Quebec, calling a man *séraphin* means he is a heartless miser, i.e., a Scrooge.

²² *The Hurtubise house* was built in 1739, located at 561, Côte-Saint-Antoine Road, at the corner of Victoria Avenue, is the oldest house in Westmount, a wealthy Montreal suburb.

²³ *MTC — Montreal Tramways Company* (English name then) created in 1911, included and administered all the urban transport routes / services on Montreal Island until 1951 when it was replaced by the *Commission de Transport de Montréal* (with a French name).

²⁴ For many years, this was a French play on words about transportation: people used the word "char" for car and pronounced it "shar" So the joke worked three ways. If you had money you could afford to buy a car, a "shar", but very few did then. The other means of transportation being either the "p'tits chars", i.e. trams and, for long distances, the trains, known as the "gros chars", because they were big indeed.

²⁵ *Saint-Jérôme* (in the Laurentians, north of Montreal); Farnham, Canadian Army Training Centre created in 1910, in the Eastern Townships always in use.

²⁶ *CFB Longue-Pointe - Canadian Forces Base* located in Montreal, Quebec. Its official name is *Second Canadian Division Support Base Valcartier, Detachment Montreal* on Notre-Dame Street East. (Source: Wikipedia)

kitchen, learning to bone meat, prepare filets mignons, beef cubes for stews, etc. No rationing in the army!

To everyone's relief, the 1939-1945 war finally ended. My father, forever looking for work for his children, took me to his Bridge Club, *Cercle Préfontaine*, and showed me a large underused hall where I could set up a canteen. What a great idea! Once more, food would be at the heart of my life. I took over the cloakroom, the bridge tournaments' equipment, the hall's upkeep. And when came time to renew the lease, luck struck again, I was offered to run the hall as my own business. The contract stipulated that I had to keep two free evenings per week for the Bridge Club.

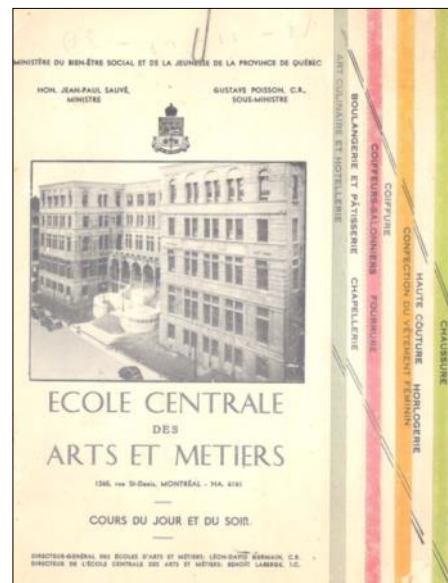
I advertised in the *Journal de l'est*²⁷ that the hall could be rented for wedding receptions and many other activities. After renting it out a few times, and thanks to many members of the Hurtubise clan, I decided to offer catering services for banquets. The whole family volunteered to prepare sandwiches, salads, desserts, etc. My sisters, the neighbour, everyone gave a hand. Fun activities it was for all!

My father's contacts were numerous and he knew where to buy the needed provisions. It was an immediate success and it turned out to be quite a challenge, and a pleasant one! For the following two years, there were non-stop wedding receptions, rather normal right after the war. There were also many in my immediate family; oyster parties, union gatherings, etc., there was even demand for home catering services, out of town, in church basements, etc., etc. Eventually, I realized that my culinary knowledge was not quite up to par given the increasing demand for large-scale and fancier catering!

One more stroke of faith. The same year, the Quebec government

opened *L'École des métiers commerciaux*, i.e., a multi-trade school in a renovated building on Saint-Denis Street²⁸. That building had housed the original Montreal University when it was still only a branch of Laval University from Quebec City²⁹, but Montreal University having moved to a site on Mount Royal in Côte-des-Neiges area, I immediately enlisted in the cooking classes of Mr. Napoléon Girard (former military camp chef). He was part of a first-class team of professors. There was Mr. Émile Puvilland³⁰, chief cook and former chef to King George V of England; Mr. Conte, a Swiss pastry chef, known and appreciated on cruise ships as well as number one in Quebec with all gastronomical clubs and professional organizations; and Mr. Burke, European baker, bread expert and French pastry chef. I often stayed on after school hours as a volunteer kitchen helper. Those were pleasant and delicious moments as not only did I learn more but I also got to taste more.

But the sweetest of all while at that school, was meeting the love of my life, Madeleine Thibodeau (1925-2005). My children have often asked me how it all started. What was the spark? First by serving her a cup of coffee. Then, greeting her at her table; a few words were exchanged in the staircase. And there was a spark.



Prospectus of Montreal's applied trade school, where Bernard Hurtubise studied in the late 1940s. See footnote 28.

The rest is history. Madeleine was studying sewing and high fashion. It was the beginning of a wonderful love story. More to come!

For the moment, let's get back to the ovens. After the day-time professional classes, there were receptions afterwards, often for government officials, including the then Quebec Premier, Duplessis. The students would cook and serve elaborate meals for them as well as cocktails, wine tasting, etc., whatever was requested. Given my

²⁷ Founded in 1938 as a bilingual newspaper serving French-speaking readers and English-speaking business owners in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve. Its name was bilingual: *Les Nouvelles de l'Est, The East End News*. (Source: <https://estmediamontreal.com/journal-nouvelles-de-est-bon-vieux-tempshochelaga-maisonneuve>)

²⁸ In 1946 the *École des Métiers commerciaux de Montréal- EMCM / school of applied trades* was opened to students. It closed in 1968. Located at 1265 Saint-Denis Street, in a completely renovated building that had been the first location of Montreal University. Story at: <https://encyclopedieqc.musee-mccord.qc.ca/fr/fiche/ecole-metiers-commerciauxmontreal>

²⁹ In 1878, Laval University (Quebec City), opened an annex in Montreal, the first French-speaking university in Montreal, including only three faculties: theology, law and medicine; it was housed in the above-described building and moved to the actual site on Mount-Royal in the mid-Thirties.

³⁰ *Émile Puvilland*, name given to the professional catering department where he taught for many years. The history of gastronomy in Quebec was published in a Master's Paper (French) written by Priscilla Plamondon-Lalancette, presented at UQAC in 2020. (UQAC= University of Quebec at Chicoutimi) Available at: https://constellation.uqac.ca/5920/1/PlamondonLalancette_uqac_0862_10709.pdf

previous experience acquired over the past years, I was often responsible to organize these events. It must be there that I learned the secrets of diplomacy and the art of serving while remembering the cost of food; that would always be useful to me all my life!

Being a volunteer also enabled me to learn every detail. After the one-year course I was recommended for a summer job as manager at the *Pine's Hotel* at Saint-Jovite in the Laurentians, north of Montreal. As summer 1948 was really beautiful, I invited Madeleine, with a friend as chaperone of course. My heart was more set than ever. I could now plan both my career and a family.

In the Autumn, once more Lady Luck was on my side. *L'École des métiers* recommended me for the position of manager at the restaurant at **Dupuis Frères**³¹. This multi-story store also included a dining room, a cafeteria, a banquet service and a special dining room for clergy members. All the commercial equipment was available, and we could serve 2,000 persons (per day). For example, one day we organized a reception at the Joliette arena, about 40 miles east of Montreal. This was a hockey arena and we had to fix a foot-large board around the outside perimeter to accommodate the extra guests. Mr. Antonio Barrette³², provincial deputy for Joliette, was reporting on his visit to the Pope !

At Dupuis Frères, where I worked for three years, I served over a thousand banquets, receptions, hot meals, buffets, etc. While working at **Dupuis Frères**, on 4 January 1950, Madeleine and I were married. It had to be at a time of the year when there was less entertaining and the restaurant not as busy. At last, the long-awaited day came without snow; it rained and we got soaked. However, they say that rain is good luck for newlyweds. We were married at seven a.m. at Saint-Antoine Church in Longueuil (Montreal south-shore); the bride's parish. My mother-in-law prepared a first-class reception; a buffet for twelve and, as wedding cake, a **tarte paradis** or paradise pie! (*See recipe on the right*). We left the reception rather quickly as we had to get to Windsor Station³³ to catch the early train for New York City for our honeymoon. When we came back, there was a small apartment waiting for us, thanks to my Uncle Gérard, parish priest at Saint-Albert-le-Grand (near Botanical Garden), who had found us a place to live with a Polish lady. In those days, it was almost impossible to find an apartment.

Because Dupuis Frères refused to give me the bonus I was entitled to, after the wedding, I left them and found another job within two days. I was hired by Hydro-Quebec to take on the cafeteria at Bersimis³⁴ and manage its



Photo: Hurtubise family collection

Bernard Hurtubise and Madeleine Thibodeau, during their honeymoon in January 1950, staying at the Victoria Hotel on 7th Avenue in New York City.

Montreal service centre on Jarry street which had a cafeteria and meeting room.

My first child was born in 1951, **my son Mathieu**. I was in seventh heaven! We had moved to Saint-Elzéar, then a country village, now part of Laval (north of Montreal). Then, in 1953, **my first daughter, Marie-Josèphe**, was born at Notre-Dame Hospital in Montreal. I remember well when the nurses first brought the baby they were humming a very popular tune: *Little Marie, I am crazy about you!*³⁵, as they knew the name we had chosen for our daughter. These were happy times when we were starting our family, according to our wishes and values.

In 1954, after reading some publicity in *La Presse*, Montreal's French daily, I joined the municipal administration as assistant

³¹ Nazaire Dupuis opened a small store on 28 April 1868. Convinced his brothers to join him and created Dupuis Frères in 1870. For 110 years, this French-Canadian store was one of the largest in Montreal. Remarkable story on internet.

³² Antonio Barrette, Quebec politician (1899-1968), conservative deputy for Joliette in Quebec Government 1936-1960, and Labour minister 1944-1960.

³³ Windsor Station, inaugurated in 1889, was also Canadian Pacific Railroad head office. CPR linked Montreal and Vancouver since 1885. The Canadian metropolis was the hub of the North American development, and a rival of Chicago, Boston and New York. (Source: Windsor Station on Wikipedia and history web sites)

³⁴ Construction of the hydro-electric power station in Bersimis (Quebec north-shore) started in 1953 and was in service by 1956.

³⁵ Then a very popular tune entitled *Mon petit grain de folie* was interpreted by famous French born singer Line Renaud (née Jacqueline Ente in 1928). Everybody sang along the chorus: freely translated it said: *I am crazy about you, There is no one like you, You upset my life, you knock me over.*

superintendent of restaurants within the **Parks Service**, under the direction of Mr. Claude Robillard³⁶. It marked the beginning of important developments: opening of a food counter at the Chalet on Mount-Royal³⁷, dining room at the municipal golf club³⁸, snack bar at Sainte-Hélène Island, at Jarry Park, in arenas, etc. But the biggest project was the modernization of a Quebec style building known as the old hall. It had been built of red stones quarried on Ste-Hélène's Island³⁹. In 1956, it became a restaurant known as **Hélène de Champlain**⁴⁰. Mr. Claude Robillard, engineer, decided its vocation/use. He was helped by Mr. Eddy Prévost from the Quebec Association of Restaurants⁴¹, by Mr. Gérard Delage⁴², director of the Quebec Association of Hotel Owners/ Managers, as well as by Mr. W.W. McCaffrey⁴³, superintendent of restaurants and myself, without forgetting Mr. Lucien Bergeron, responsible of the Municipal Tourism Office.

Montreal public works employees renovated the whole building from top to bottom. The interior decoration was done by Mr. Gaston Hinton. The aim was to use this restaurant to receive in style Montreal's guests when conventions were organized by the City's Tourism Office and remembering that it had to be available for various associations and countries too. The dining hall also had to be open to the public during the daytime offering reasonably priced meals to accommodate all classes of customers, whether Montrealers or tourists.

In 1956, my best gift was definitely the birth of **my daughter, Catherine**. She was born at the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital in Montreal. It was Easter, so I brought my two eldest children to the hospital to see the new baby. The nurses were nuns in those days and they had prepared a special Easter breakfast for Madeleine and treats for Mathieu and Marie, including chocolate. What wonderful memory! A year later, the whole family moved into a new house on Lafèche Street, in Montreal, where I am still living! This was followed by a period of intensive and motivating work. Let me explain...

When Montreal was chosen to hold the international exhibition, for three years in a row before it opened, Montreal hosted all the countries who intended to take part in **EXPO 67**. There were professional meetings, presentations, unveiling of scale models, or people simply coming to Montreal to find out about the city and its organization. It was during those visits that the wine cellar at *Hélène de Champlain* restaurant was set up with the help of the Quebec Alcohol Corporation (SAQ) (Mr. Chapleau and buyers). The *Pineau des Charentes* was then imported for the first time ever as well as other wines not available at the SAQ and served exclusively at the *Hélène de Champlain* restaurant.

During the six months of **EXPO 67**, Commissioner General Pierre Dupuy⁴⁴, hosted a special luncheon for each country on their national day. Evenings and weekends, the restaurant was available to all the countries and their personnel. *Hélène de Champlain* was also "the" caterer for the US pavilion and the official caterer for all countries who often suggested their own



Hélène-de-Champlain, the restaurant to be seen eating at during those years. (Photo: Bernard Hurtubise collection)

³⁶ *Claude Robillard (1911-1968), Canadian engineer, visionary and writer, first director of the Montreal Park Department, 1953-1961. (Source: Wikipedia) (see footnote 80)*

³⁷ *The chalet located at the top of Mount Royal, built in the Beaux-Arts style was inaugurated in 1932. The Kondiaronk Belvedere in front of the chalet offers sweeping city views of Montreal and of the Saint-Laurence River.*

³⁸ *Municipal nine-hole golf next to Maisonneuve Park and the Botanical Garden.*

³⁹ *The largest island located between Montreal and the south shore; named Sainte-Hélène by Samuel de Champlain in 1611, in homage to his wife, Hélène Boullé.*

⁴⁰ *Pavilion Hélène de Champlain, historical building built in 1937, was transformed into a restaurant in 1955, and used as the venue for all special events during EXPO 67.*

⁴¹ *The Quebec Restaurant Owners Association started in 1928 and was legally created in 1938. In 1952, Bernard became President of the QROA, French and English newspapers alike announced this special honour. See page 23.*

⁴² *Gérard Delage (1912-1991), lawyer, journalist, writer, administrator, humorist, emcee, gastronome, œnologist, union member and artist. Quebec Hospitality Ambassador and a gastronomy apostle. (See: The Canadian Encyclopedia online)*

⁴³ *W. W. McCaffrey, head of protocol for the City of Montreal with whom Bernard Hurtubise worked very closely for many years.*

⁴⁴ *Pierre Dupuy (1896-1969) studied law at Montreal University and at the Sorbonne in Paris. Posted in Paris from 1922 to 1942; posted at London to work closely with governments in exile. Ambassador to the Netherlands 1945-1952; Italy 1952-1958; and France until retiring from the Diplomatic Service in 1963 when he was appointed Commissioner General of EXPO 67. He received the Order of Canada in 1967; died in 1969.*

special menus. It was not known then that Montreal had loaned to the Federal Government the two islands where **EXPO 67** was and all equipment/facilities for the six-month duration of the international exhibition. The Montreal City Hall council chamber was transformed into the official dining hall where the city received dignitaries from various countries. The catering was always the responsibility of the chef of *Hélène de Champlain* restaurant.

One anecdote from 1967: During an official dinner at *Hélène de Champlain*, a Scandinavian princess raised her glass to toast the General Commissioner, Pierre Dupuy. What no one saw was that she was standing on her stocking feet. She had taken off her shoes and put them under the table!

It is in this council chamber that was held a famous luncheon for General de Gaulle⁴⁵, right after he had made his (in)famous speech from the City Hall balcony. I will never forget standing with the officials in the doorway and looking through a window and witnessing the crowd literally rising as far as Château Ramezay⁴⁶! At the mayor's request⁴⁷, I cancelled the cheese course to leave more time for the speeches during desserts. After the meal, all guests went out onto the terrace by the Champ-de-Mars⁴⁸ where liqueurs were served. As for Mayor Drapeau, and General de Gaulle, they stood away from everybody and had a very private twenty-minute conversation! The media were barred from that reception, thus the accounts were often less than correct. For example, four books published about **EXPO 67** mentioned that the luncheon was held at *Hélène de Champlain*, which is false. The meal was served at the City Hall, in the council chamber, while the next door councillors' chamber was used as the kitchen and pantry.

Citizens and tourists alike were often amazed by the high quality of our catering. That very active period did not stop me from increasing my



Photo : Bernard Hurtubise collection

Montreal City Council Chamber where French President, General Charles de Gaulle, was received for lunch in July 1967. Far left, standing at back, Bernard Hurtubise.



Photo : Bernard Hurtubise collection

Bernard Hurtubise serving Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau, French President General Charles de Gaulle, and Lucien Fournier, the mayor's right-hand man.

⁴⁵ *Général Charles de Gaulle (1890-1970) French politician and writer.*

⁴⁶ *Château Ramezay, built in 1705, located across the street from Montreal City Hall. American historical link: from 1775 it became the Canadian headquarters for the Continental Army after seizing Montreal. Benjamin Franklin stayed there overnight in 1776 while trying to raise troops to fight for the Americans in the American Revolutionary War.*

⁴⁷ *Jean Drapeau (1916-1999), lawyer and politician; mayor of Montreal 1954-1957 and 1960-1986.*

⁴⁸ *Champ-de-Mars, historical park located behind the Montreal City Hall, The largest park in Old Montreal. It was used for military manoeuvres and parades until the end of the 18th century. The last remnant of the imposing Montreal's fortification can still be seen there.*

family and in 1960, my daughter Anne was born and, in 1964, my youngest daughter Ève.

It is also in 1964 that one of the funniest stories of my professional life happened. I remember it well. There was a special reception held at Château Ramezay for international travel agencies' managers. At one point, a fawn, a Bambi, was paraded in the dining hall, led by the then well-known *Uncle Pierre*⁴⁹ (an important character in the former **Jardin des merveilles**⁵⁰ in Montreal), after going around the dining hall, both the fawn and Uncle Pierre left; they disappeared into Pierre's truck. But, to everyone's dismay, a gunshot was heard. And moments later the guests were presented with a sumptuous dish called "gigue du chevreuil malchanceux" (the unlucky deer jig)⁵¹. There were many sad and puzzled faces.

After **EXPO 67**, Mayor Jean Drapeau decided to carry on with activities on the site of *Man and His World* (1968-1984), under the direction of the Montreal Property Services. It was a mixed success. The nice beach is still available, the many gardens and a few **EXPO 67** buildings including the magnificent French pavillon that became the Montreal Casino in 1993 (history on Wikipedia), and the Biosphère!⁵²

There were many great events in 1968. For example, many international artists performed at **Place des nations**,⁵³ an outdoor amphitheatre. Among them, Gilles Vigneault⁵⁴ faced a huge chorus when the crowd of between 7,000 and 10,000 spectators sang with him his famous success: *Gens du pays* (almost a national anthem in Quebec since) and the French singer-songwriter, Gilbert Bécaud (1927-2001)⁵⁵. What Mr. Bécaud enjoyed most during the afternoon rehearsal was eating hot dogs! Imagine...!!

Another story I like to tell is what happened during a gastronomic dinner attended by Madeleine; she sat next to the Russian Consul. At the end of the meal, as I gathered the menus left on the tables, surprise, on Madeleine's menu there was a phone number – that of the Russian diplomat. . . Obviously he had enjoyed her company.

That whole period, 1945 to 1970, was, as far as I am concerned, a pivotal time for the Quebec culinary heritage that we enjoy nowadays. After living through the Dirty Thirties, WWII and all its restrictions, during the years immediately after the war, food started to be imported in large quantity, people were discovering diverse cultures, and the opening to the world through **EXPO 67**, all the flavours of the world invaded us!

It is also during those years that I had the occasion to prepare and serve cocktail parties and special luncheons and dinners for the inauguration of the **Saint-Lawrence Seaway**⁵⁶; champagne and appetizers at the opening of **Place des Arts**⁵⁷, dinner at the top of the **new stock exchange building**⁵⁸; the opening of the **Montreal Métro**, our subway⁵⁹, breakfast at the official opening of EXPO 67, cocktail parties and receptions during the **Summer Olympic**⁶⁰ games in 1976, Add to that some 2,000 to 2,500 other receptions! Finally, in 1952, I had the great honor of being named president of the

⁵⁰ *Le Jardin des Merveilles*, (garden of wonders) was a small zoo for children, story and photos at: <https://histoireplateau.org/album-virtuel/scenes-de-parcs/le-jardin-des-merveilles>.

⁵¹ Roasted deer jig. In French cuisine "gigue" refers to deer's leg or hind quarters or large venison including deer.

⁵² The US Pavilion at Expo 67 was the geodesic dome created by Richard Buckminster Fuller on St. Helen's Island. It was donated to the City of Montreal by then, U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson. It is an environment museum since 1990. For a virtual visit see: BIOSPHERE on internet.

⁵³ Place des Nations, located at the south end of St. Helen's Island, during Expo 67 was used for all official ceremonies, from inauguration to closing, all cultural, artistic, folkloric presentations from participating countries.

⁵⁴ Gilles Vigneault, born 27 October 1928 at Natashquan, Quebec north-shore, is a poet and prolific singer-songwriter .

⁵⁵ Gilbert Bécaud (1927-2001), famous French singer-songwriter, pianist, known as "Mr. 100,000 Volts", because of his energetic performances.

⁵⁶ The St. Lawrence Seaway includes a 189-mile section built 1954-1959. A 20th-century engineering masterpiece with seven locks, five Canadian and two American, enabling ships to climb 246 feet above sea level between Montreal and Lake Ontario. It opened navigation from the Atlantic to the end of the Great Lakes as far as Thunder Bay, Ontario, and Duluth, Minnesota. (Wikipedia).

⁵⁷ Place des Arts, inaugurated in 1963. History and virtual tour on Internet. A must see when in Montreal.

⁵⁸ The Stock Exchange tower, at Victoria Square, was inaugurated in 1964.

⁵⁹ Construction of the Montreal Métro started in 1962. Inaugurated on 14 October 1966 when Jean Drapeau was Montreal's mayor. It is the second Canadian subway system after Toronto which opened in 1954. Montreal Metro was inspired by the Paris Métro and the first subway in North America to run on rubber tires instead of metal wheels.

⁶⁰ The 1976 Summer Olympic Games took place in Montreal during the last two weeks of July 1976. Montreal was the second French-speaking city, after Paris, to hold the Olympic games (Wikipedia)

⁴⁹ *Désiré Aerts* (1924-1997), better known as Uncle Pierre, was a zoo veterinary and a Belgian-Canadian actor. In May 1957, he landed in Quebec invited by Claude Robillard, Director of Montreal's Parks. They had met in France. First hired by Jasmin & Jasmin veterinary clinic in Montreal in 1959, he became director of the Montreal Zoological Garden, the delightful *Jardin des merveilles* in Lafontaine Park with winter quarters at Angrignon Park from 1958 to 1989. During Expo 67, he was in charge of all animals on the EXPO islands living either outdoor or inside some pavilions. (Wikipedia)

Association des restaurateurs.
(See page 23) What an exceptional period!

There is a second part in my professional career. My years of service for the City of Montreal that can be divided into two. I like to call the second part: the years behind the curtain. I can remember so many receptions, silently listening to everything that was being said. I had the privilege to live to see the emergence of the gastronomic clubs and culinary salons. Instead of always serving others, as I had done all my life, I found myself at the receiving end, being served. After spending my life standing and serving, I was invited to sit down and be served. What a change! It was also a great time for food critics and writers; Roger Champoux⁶¹, Françoise Kayler⁶², Hélène Rochester⁶³, and so many others.

I want to pay homage to those I got to know well and work with during those years, because they were all part of the culinary awakening in Quebec. I will name a few: Mr. Kretz, chef at *La Sapinière*⁶⁴, Max Rupp of the *Chaîne des rôtisseurs*⁶⁵, Gérard Delage⁶⁶ from the salons gastronomiques organized for American journalists at the Chanteclerc Hotel⁶⁷, the Gourmets du Nord at Sainte-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson⁶⁸, the suppliers of the *Bonne table* with Jean-Guy Daudelin, Eddy Prévost, secretary of the *Quebec Restaurant Association*, all were backed by exceptionally



The Bernese Bear Trophy given annually to recognize the best promotion of the year. Mr. Max Rupp presents this prestigious Swiss trophy, on behalf of the Swiss Consul, to Bernard Hurtubise, who accepts it on behalf of the City of Montreal. Bernard's comment: *All through my career Max remained my best friend, starting at Dupuis Frères, then at the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, at the Society of Chefs and in all the gastronomical Clubs.*

all of Anglo Montreal for 33 years. Her book, Guide to Montreal Restaurants, was published in November 1994.

⁶⁴ Marcel Kretz, former Chef at *La Sapinière**. He came from Alsace in the fifties was the precursor of the new wave of eating local bio food. *On 20 November 2013, after 77 years, this famous hotel in the Laurentians founded and operated by the Dufresne family closed its doors.

⁶⁵ Max Rupp, originally from Switzerland, was a member of the famous association *Chaîne des rôtisseurs*. He founded, and was president of the *Quebec Society of Culinary and Pastry chefs*. The restaurant of the *Montreal Calixa-Lavallée Hostelry School*, at 4500 East Henri-Bourassa in Montreal-North, is named in his honour for his exceptional culinary contribution.

⁶⁶ Gérard Delage. His influence is still greatly felt today through the *Fondation Gérard-Delage* created in 1980 to encourage new generations of high-quality professionals in hotel management, catering and tourism by awarding scholarships for students carrying on superior studies and internships.

⁶⁷ The *Chanteclerc*, built in 1938, started as a 45-bedroom lodge by Lac Rond (round lake) at Sainte-Adèle in the Laurentians. Skiers' demand was such that it expanded rapidly and is always a favourite with skiers and American tourists.

⁶⁸ The *Esterel Hotel*, built in 1936-1937 in Art-Deco style, by Belgian Baron Louis Empain at Ste-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson in the Laurentians, is a listed heritage building.

⁶¹ Roger Champoux, well known food critic and author; the Roger-Champoux prize was created in his memory and honour.

⁶² Françoise Kayler, born in 1929 in France, died in 2010 in Montreal, Canada, was a journalist and eminent food critic passionate about gastronomy. In March 2011, the ITHQ (Quebec Tourism & Hostelry Institute) inaugurated a large hall in her honour. The *Françoise-Kayler Scholarship* is awarded yearly by the ITHQ to top students in restoration.

⁶³ The venerable Helen Rochester, who died in December 1994, had been the fine-dining critic for *The Gazette*, and ergo for



talented chefs, including Abel Banquet⁶⁹, Carlo Del'Olio, Pierre Demers from the Ritz⁷⁰, and all the members of the **Société des chefs de cuisine**⁷¹. An exceptionally rich period!

My catering life came to an end in 1970 halfway between the time when I was hired in 1954 by the Civil Service Commission, after passing many exams in subjects related to catering; and just before the municipal Civic Party was launched in Montreal in 1960⁷².

⁶⁹ Chef Abel Banquet and many other chefs are mentioned in Priscilla Plamondon Lalancette's thesis presented at UQAC* in 2020: *Histoire de la gastronomie québécoise: l'émergence d'une identité culinaire*. (*Quebec University at Chicoutimi). The PDF in French only is available on the web. It seems to be the best reference for the recent history of Quebec's culinary development.

⁷⁰ The Montreal's Ritz-Carlton is one of the top hotels in the world. When it opened in 1912, the Ritz inaugurated new standards in luxury hospitality.

⁷¹ *Société des chefs de cuisine* (chefs' society). Until the 1950s, only European chefs were accepted in Quebec's top hotels and restaurants. Those trained here at the Trade & arts school were not appreciated as they should. In 1953, pastry chef Max Rupp founded the *Amicale des maîtres de l'art culinaire* (club for culinary masters). This group visited every Montreal restaurant inviting cooks and chefs to a first general assembly which produced a friendly determined group of 35 people. It was an alternative to the *Société mutuelle des cuisiniers canadiens* existing since 1950 but Quebec members had disagreements it. The SMCC disappeared and the *Amicale des maîtres de l'art culinaire* became the recognized *Société des chefs, cuisiniers et pâtisseries du Québec* (SCCPQ) i.e. the official group for Quebec culinary and pastry chefs. Today, with its 800 members it is the largest professional group of food production in Quebec. Source: <https://www.facebook.com/sccpq>

⁷² *Parti civique* (1960-1994): municipal political party founded by Jean Drapeau with Lucien Saulnier, in 1960 to fight corruption in Montreal and put the city on the international radar.

The whole **EXPO 67** period was shared with my family; so many memories, stories, outings. My family came at lunch time visiting the site and I met them at noon to enjoy a picnic with them! Those were precious moments! I was transferred, without my consent, to the municipal real estate department as assistant manager as I was one of the few who best knew Sainte-Hélène and Notre-Dame islands, the various pavilions and the organization. Hay & Associate (business consultant) was hired by the city



Tuesday, 20 June 1972, printed in LA PRESSE, under the title: LA BONNE TABLE, Gastronomes (gourmets) from around the world are magnificently received in Montreal's very best hotels. ... Mr. Jean Phisel, Grand Financier for Canada's Baillage, and Mr. Bernard Hurtubise from Montreal's Baillage, both members of the organizing committee of the World Gastronomical Convention, and Mrs. Hurtubise. This photo illustrated Mrs. Françoise Kayler's article describing the World Convention held in Montreal for the first time. It was the seventh World Convention organized by the *Chaîne des Rôtisseurs*, an international brotherhood dedicated to the promotion of good cuisine.



Medal of the Gastronomical Merit, minted on the occasion of the convention held in Montreal. It shows a skewer, strait and sharp as a symbol and emblem of French cuisine, according to Curnonsky's definition. The *Chaîne des Rôtisseurs* chose it as its emblem. Thirty-three silver medals were minted as well as three gold ones awarded to Mr. Roger Champoux, for literature; Mr. Jean Phisel, for organizing provincial, national and international groups; and Mr. Gérard Delage, for humour and gastronomy.

administration to reorganize the non-unionized management personnel. For six months I was part of the assessment committee but, in the end, the report was shelved. I went back to the Montreal Park Service, but this time, I was assigned to the *Montreal Botanical Garden*⁷³, in charge of reorganization. It was a very happy time. The atmosphere was very pleasant and there was a real sense of well-being. In a way, I was co-habiting with the past, working from the office of Miss Marcelle Gauvreau⁷⁴, who founded the children's school: *L'école de l'éveil*. I remember that my son, Mathieu, enjoyed taking part in that program. I was very proud of my family link through my mother, Germaine Kirouac, with Brother Marie-Victorin, born Conrad Kirouac. And I was also very proud to work with many of his colleagues: André Champagne⁷⁵, Ernest Rouleau⁷⁶, Jacques Rousseau⁷⁷, Henry



Photo : Bernard Hurtubise collection

Municipal Official decorated by France: Mr. Bernard Hurtubise, deputy-superintendent, responsible for the restaurants of Montreal Parks Service, was decorated by France for his exceptional services to the cause of French gastronomy. During a ceremony attended by many important food experts, Mr. Pierre Brassac, commercial attaché from France, presented him with the *bronze medal of merit* from France's famous *Académie culinaire*.



Photo : Bernard Hurtubise collection

At the Lachute Golf Club* (between 1968 and 1972) during a special dinner of the Chaîne des Rotisseurs, from left to right: Mr. Guy Lamarche (1935-2021), journalist at **Radio Canada** (CBC) and **Le Devoir**, Montreal daily, the Lachute Golf Club Chef and the Maître d'hôtel; Mr. Jean Zanda, president of the Outaouais Baillage, Mr. Bernard Hurtubise, president of The Montreal Baillage since 1967, and the Chef from Rideau Hall, the Governor General's official residence in Ottawa. (Photo credit: SYD DREW from Lachute)

*Founded in 1923 by Gilbert E. Ayers, the Lachute Golf Club is known as one of the most beautiful in Canada; it has two 18-hole courses. Located in the province of Quebec, half-way between Montreal and Ottawa

⁷³ *Montreal Botanical Garden, founded in 1931 by Brother Marie-Victorin, born Conrad Kirouac (1885-1944). Visit the MBG website and the KFA website.*

⁷⁴ *Miss Marcelle Gauvreau (1907-1968), Canadian scientist, botanist, writer, and Marie-Victorin's assistant, 1933-1944.*

⁷⁵ *André Champagne (1915-2000), one of Marie-Victorin's most faithful disciples. Director of the Montreal Botanical Garden, 1958-1961, and Director of Montreal's Parks Department until he retired in 1980. He worked closely with Mayor Jean Drapeau.*

⁷⁶ *Ernest Rouleau (1916-1991), one of Marie-Victorin's first disciples, dedicated his professional career to preserving and enriching Marie-Victorin's Herbarium and Botanical Institute.*

⁷⁷ *Jacques Rousseau (1905-1970), botanist, ethno-biologist, explored Quebec's Labrador peninsula and outer regions, was an encyclopedia of natural and human sciences. With Brother Marie-Victorin, he worked at creating the Montreal Botanical Garden and became its director after Marie-Victorin's death in 1944 until 1957.*

Teuscher⁷⁸, Louis Dupire⁷⁹, and others who were all carrying on the founder's work. The Botanical Garden is all about nature and it is always very beautiful!

Upon the creation of the **Municipal Sports and Leisure Service** in 1971, I was named assistant director, responsible for the structure, the installations and the administration. The greatest result of these years of works was the agreement signed with the Montreal School Board for exchange of services. The schools used the arenas for various sports in daytime. In the evening, we could use the schools' gymnasiums for our own sports and leisure activities.

With the Eudistes congregation⁸⁰, we exchanged a large piece of land to build an arena to be used by students during the day. It worked well as all levels of society were respected. As Claude Robillard wanted it, the less well off could use the sports facilities like everybody else. The Centre Claude Robillard was named after him and is still a testimony to his vision. It shows how much he was appreciated and respected. Then it became evident that sports and leisure needed to be two separate entities because the activities were growing much faster than ever anticipated.

For example, during those years, the libraries were still the responsibilities of the municipal secretariat as they had always been. The leisure activity department was properly organized and Maisons de la culture (Cultural Houses) were created with headquarters in Montréal North. I retired from that department in 1984. When looking back, I see that these last years serving my fellow citizens were a gift well programmed by Claude Robillard, this exceptional and honest man. During the Sixties, he was chosen to work in the town planning department, but he was never given the financial means to carry out the various needed projects. The success he achieved with the parks keeps giving joy and satisfaction to Montrealers.

Yes, family life was possible, but it demanded a great deal of work and sacrifices from every member. I am for freedom for each Montrealer but it requires citizen implication.

Yes, a catering career is valuable, because it is always so pleasant to eat, drink and spend time in good company.

⁷⁸ Heinrich (Henry) Teuscher, (1891-1984), born in Germany in 1891, died in Canada in 1984, landscape architect, horticulturalist and botanist best known for having designed the Montreal Botanical Garden; was also its first curator.

⁷⁹ Louis Dupire (1887-1942), born in Ploermel in Brittany in 1887, died at Montreal, Canada, in 1942. Botanist and journalist worked closely with Marie-Victorin to create the Montreal Botanical Garden in 1931. See *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 92, summer 2008, pp. 36-37.

⁸⁰ *The Complexe sportif Claude-Robillard,* (CSCR), large multi-purpose sport facility built on land formerly owned by the Eudistes Fathers' congregation, and exchanged for another one. (*in homage to a truly remarkable man, see footnote 36).*



Bernard Hurtubise and his children: from left to right: Ève, Anne, Catherine, Marie and Mathieu. Bernard Hurtubise died on 29 January 2023. His obituary is in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, no 141, p.35. (Photo : Hurtubise family collection)

Kervoch Descendants Through the Female Line:

Mélanie Joly

by André St-Arnaud

Mélanie Joly, born on 16 January 1979 in Montreal, is a lawyer and a Canadian politician. Mélanie Joly PC MP is a Canadian lawyer, public relations expert, and politician. She is a Liberal member of the House of Commons of Canada, representing Ahuntsic-Cartierville, since the last federal election in 2015, and, since 18 July 2018, also serves as the Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and La Francophonie in the present Cabinet, headed by Justin Trudeau.

Mélanie Joly is the daughter of Clément Joly, accountant who was president of the Liberal Party of Canada's finance committee in Quebec and manager of the Canadian Air Transport Security System Authority from 2002 to 2007, and Laurette Racine, director of the Commission scolaire des-Mille-Îles (school commission).

After studying Regina Assumpta College, she attended Université de Montréal where she completed her degree in Law with Honours in 2001. At UdeM. she was president of the Law Students Organization. She is a member of the Quebec Bar. She won the Chevening International Scholarship and studied two years at Oxford University, England, obtaining a master's degree (*Magister Juris*) in comparative and public law in 2003.

At the beginning of her career, Joly practised law at two major Montreal law firms, Stikeman Elliott, and Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg. She worked primarily in the areas of civil and commercial litigation, bankruptcy and insolvency. She was also a prosecutor before the Gomery Commission of inquiry.

In 2009, she made the leap into the world of communications and was quickly appointed managing partner of the public relations firm Cohn & Wolfe in Montreal. In 2013, she was appointed head the Quebec Advisory Committee for Justin Trudeau's leadership campaign of the Liberal Party of Canada.

Along with colleagues, she founded Generation of Ideas, a political forum for 25- to 35-year-olds. As a member of the collective group Sortie 13, founded in 2011, she penned a contribution entitled *Les villes au pouvoir ou comment relancer le monde municipal québécois* (more power to municipalities or re-energizing municipal power).

In June 2013, Joly announced her candidacy for mayor of Montreal, and founded a new municipal party. On election day in November, she obtained 26.5% of the votes, finishing six points behind the winner, Denis Coderre, and ahead of several more established challengers.

In 2015, Joly left municipal politics and announced her candidacy for the nomination of the Liberal Party of Canada in the new electoral district of Ahuntsic-Cartierville for the 2015 federal election. She won the riding (political district in Canada) with 47.5% of the vote. She was named Minister of Canadian Heritage as part of newly elected Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government. In August 2018, she became Minister of Tourism, Official Languages, and La Francophonie.



The Honorable Mélanie Joly

Photo: Milton Martínez / Secretaría de Cultura CDMX <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=73595603>

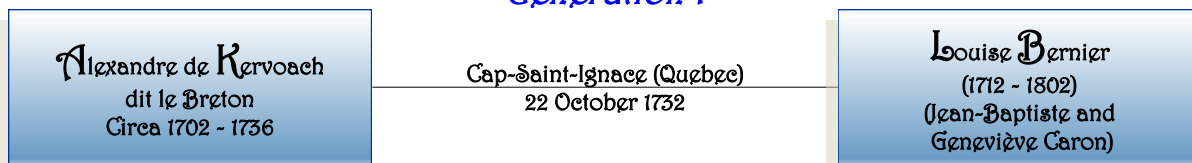
Mélanie Joly was Minister of Canadian Heritage from 4 November 2015 to 18 July 2018, then Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and Francophonie until 20 November 2019. Afterwards, she was Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages from 13 December 2019 until the 2021 general election. Since reelected she is Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

In addition to her professional activities, Mélanie Joly is actively involved in social and cultural life. She has also served on several committees and boards of directors.

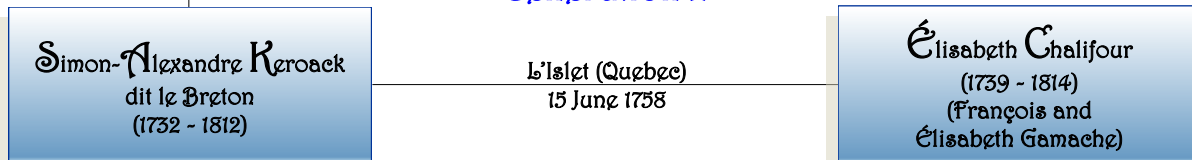
Source : Wikipedia

Ancestry of Mélanie Joly

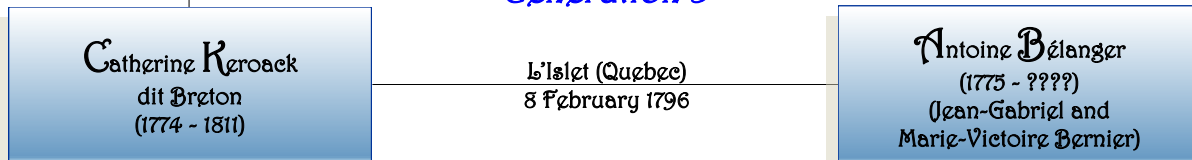
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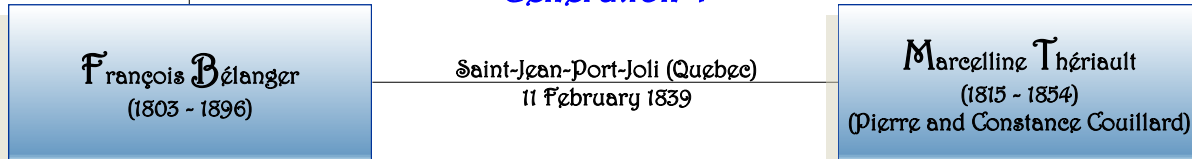
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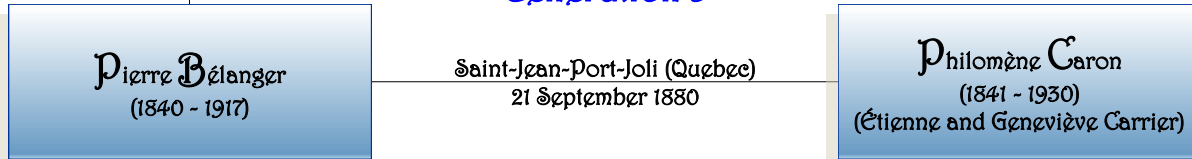
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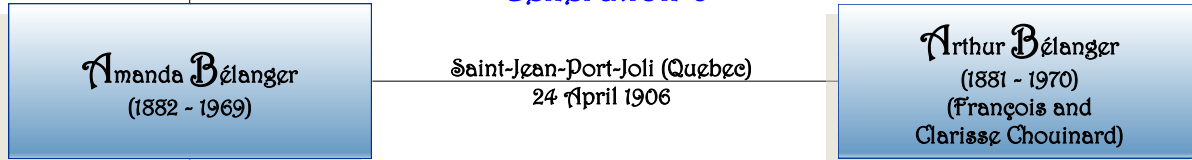
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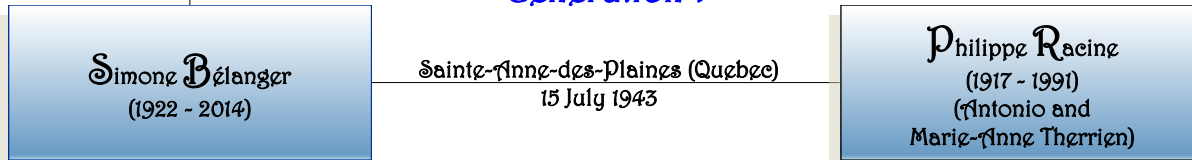
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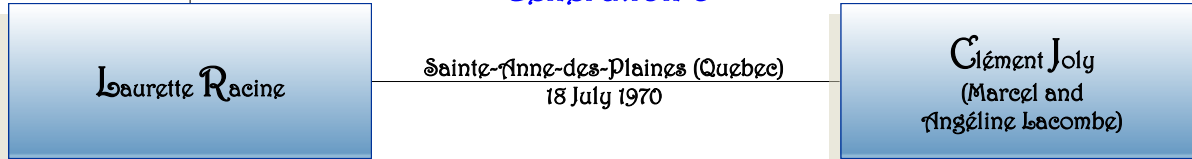
Generation 6



Generation 7



Generation 8



Generation 9



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Ian Lafrenière

by Christine Brouillet

Did you know that a very well-known policeman from Montreal is now representing the electoral district of Vachon, in the Monterégie region on Montreal south-shore, including the city of Longueuil? Ian, a member of the Coalition Avenir Québec party, is very well known across Quebec for many reasons.

Did you know that Ian Lafrenière has Kirouac genes? Now we have another star in our large Kirouac family since Ian was elected to the Quebec Provincial Government at the last provincial election on the first of October. Ian is the grandson of Gabrielle Hurtubise, our favourite oldest KFA member, officially 100 years young on 27 December 2018, her mother was Germaine Kirouac, Mrs. Alfred Hurtubise!

For you to know Ian better, here are some dates and facts taken from his official biography: "Ian was born in Granby (Monterégie, region between Montreal and Eastern Townships). He began his career as a policeman in 1993 in Mirabel (north of Montreal); in 1994, he joined the SPVM in Montreal. In 1996, he was appointed to the public relations department. For years he was the official spokesman for the Montreal Police Service. As such he was the news anchor during various major events, including the 1998 Ice Storm; the student crisis in 2012 spring, etc. As the years went by, he climbed up the ladder, from Sargent responsible for media relations to Commander of Corporate Communications.

In June 2016, after over nineteen years working for the SPVM Communications Department, he became an inspector and was the assistant to the Dept. Chief of information for eighteen months. In

December 2017, he became chief of the Communications and public relations department.

Ian Lafrenière also pursues a military career. He is a Captain and presently a public affairs training officer on a part-time basis. Since 2013, as a consultant for UNESCO he trained officers of the Security Forces, on security matters and human rights; he conducted training missions in Tunisia, Somalia, Rwanda, Mali, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Gambia and Ukraine.

Forever keen to get involved in his community, for ten years, Ian was a voluntary fireman in the town of Mont-Saint-Hilaire, where he lived. He is the founding president of the Mirabel Police Force's Support Funds since 1993, helping out some 300 local needy families. He received many commendations including the Great Samaritan Medal as a volunteer for the live organ transport with the Canadian Association of Organ Donor. In 2015, he received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for his community involvement. In 2014, he received the Police's medal for distinguished services. He also served on the communications committee of the St-John Ambulance.

Proud father of two your girls of eight and ten. Ian Lafrenière is a member of the UDA (Quebec Artist Union) and has been part of a number of American and Quebec productions. Since 2010, he is a movie consultant for TV series like "19-2" besides producing TV programs¹.

After being elected in 2018, Ian Lafrenière was a member of various



Ian Lafrenière
(Photo : Pierre Kirouac)

commissions. Re-elected in the 2022 general election, on 20 October 2022, he became minister responsible for Relations with the First Nations and the Inuit. He is also a member of the ministerial committees providing services to citizens.²

So far, in true Kirouac style, he has already travelled a long road and can be proud of his achievements and, of course, we can rejoice with him and congratulate him!

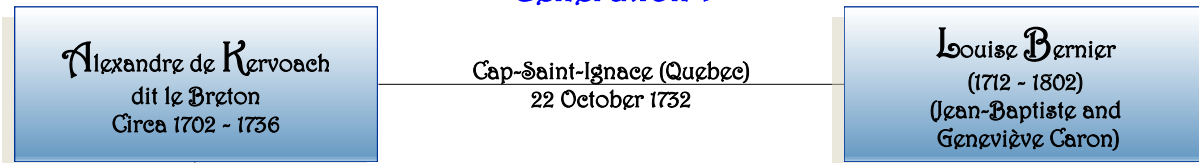
¹source: <https://coalitionavenirquebec.org/fr/blog/equipe/ian-lafreniere/>

²Site Internet de l'assemblée nationale du Québec.

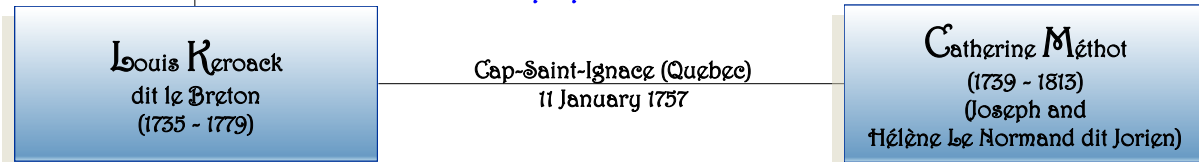


Ancestry of Ian Lafrenière

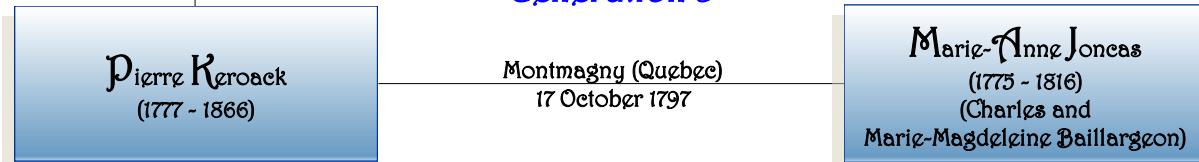
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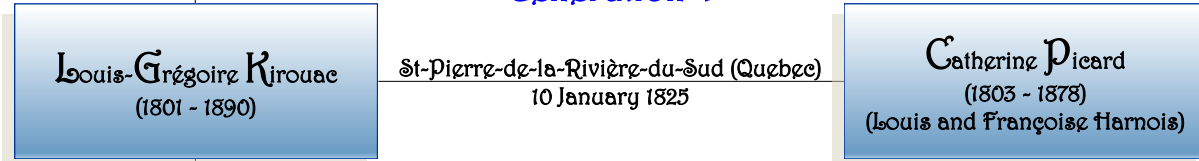
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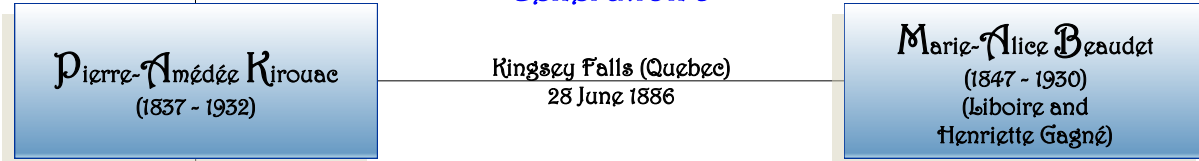
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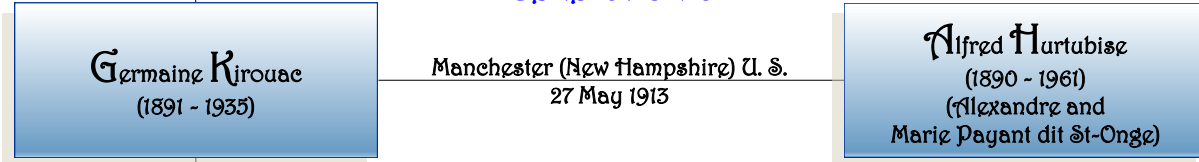
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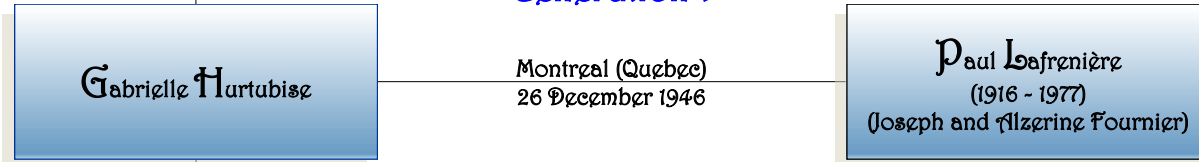
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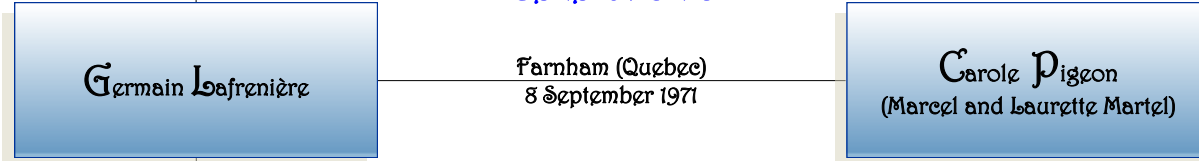
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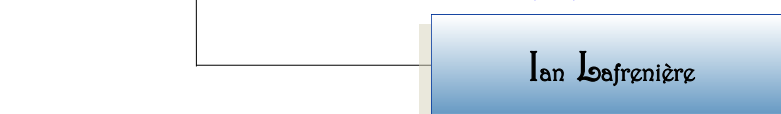
Generation 7



Generation 8



Generation 9



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Bernard Lamarre

by André St-Arnaud

The son of an engineer and construction contractor, Bernard Lamarre was born on 6 August 1931, in Chicoutimi, Lake-Saint-Jean, Quebec. At age 13, he left for Montreal to attend Mont-Saint-Louis college; three years later, he entered Polytechnique, University of Montreal's engineering school. In 1952, he got his degree in civil engineering and won an *Athlone* scholarship to study in London, England. In 1955 he received a diploma from the Imperial College of Science and Technology and a master's degree in the plasticity of concrete from the University of London.

Upon his return, his father-in-law, Jean-Paul Lalonde, co-founder of consulting engineering firm Lalonde & Valois, gave him his first job as an engineer. He was appointed Chief Engineer in 1960, and Senior Partner in 1962. The firm changed its name in 1972 to Lavalin, with Mr. Lamarre as President and CEO until 1991, when the company merged with SNC. He chaired the SNC-Lavalin Inc. Commercialization Committee and served as an advisor until 1999.

During his years at Lavalin, Mr. Lamarre was at the forefront of major projects that transformed the province of Québec. Montreal's Ville-Marie expressway, Montreal's Louis-Hippolyte-La Fontaine tunnel-bridge, Montreal's Olympic Stadium, the development of the James Bay hydroelectric project, and Alcan aluminum smelters in Saguenay are among the major achievements by the Lavalin group that he directed.

In addition to contributing to our society's growth, his boldness and determination are what led Lavalin to bring Quebec engineering to worldwide attention. Let's only



Bernard Lamarre (1931-2016), photo taken when he received the National Order of Quebec in 2013. (Photo: Simon Villeneuve, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

mention the Canadian Friendship Highway in Niger, the Sanctuary of the Martyrs in Algiers, and many more. Mr. Lamarre was also concerned about making the engineering profession more accessible to women and in the early 1980s was among the first business leaders to establish an easily accessible low-cost daycare facility at Lavalin's head office for his employees' children.

Alongside his engineering career, Mr. Lamarre was very active in the arts field. In addition to acquiring many artworks and establishing the Lavalin collection, he served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (1982-1991 and 1997-2008). His vision, his power of persuasion and his broad network of contacts benefited the museum's activities, a success which led to the museum's expansion with the construction of the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion, inaugurated in 1991. Until the very end, he maintained a presence among the museum's leadership as Honorary Chair.

Mr. Lamarre sat on many other boards of directors. He chaired, among others, the boards of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (1993-1997), the Institut de Design Montréal (1993-1999 and 2002-2007), the Ordre national du Québec (2003-2005) and the Old Port of Montreal Corporation (1994-2007), where he contributed significantly to the site's renovation and the building of the Montreal Science Centre. He also chaired the Board of Polytechnique Montreal (2002-2012), during which time various major projects were completed, including a reform of the undergraduate programs and construction of the Lassonde Buildings.

He remained very close to the students and was a valued ally as well as an advisor to the Poly-Monde Committee. In addition, he played a key role with the Polytechnique Foundation and the Polytechnique Graduates' Association. His great generosity and philanthropic soul are legendary. His community and social engagement cannot be ignored, including his seventeen years as a member of the Board of

Directors of the Angus Development Society, where he gave very generously his heart, credibility, expertise and network to restore hope to an entire community.

He was similarly committed to *The Lighthouse, Children and Families*, an organization that contributes to the well-being of children whose lives are threatened by illnesses requiring complex treatment.

Mr. Lamarre also received honorary degrees from a number of universities, including Université de Montréal (1985), Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (1987), University of Ottawa (1988) and McGill University (2001). He was also awarded eleven honorary doctorates.

* Bernard Lamarre's son, Jean (1953-2017), MBA from HEC, Montreal University's school of business administration, began his career working at Groupe Lavalin. Later he founded his own company Lamarre Consultants, specializing in consulting and financing projects. He was a respected businessman and was chairman of many boards of directors including Semafo Inc., Angus Heritage Society, Arianne Phosphate Inc., D-BOX Technologies Inc., Le Devoir (Montreal daily), and Télé-Québec.

SOURCE: Alfred Dallaire Memoria: <https://www.memoria.ca/obituary-bernard-lamarre.html>

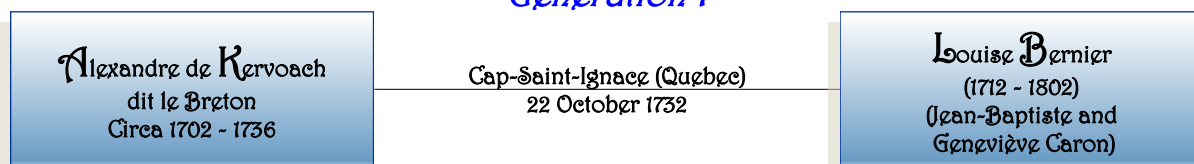
HONOURS AND AWARDS GIVEN TO BERNARD LAMARRE

- 1973 - Fellow of the Canadian Engineers Institute
- 1980 - Meritorious award from Polytechnic Alumni (Montreal University Engineering School)
- 1983 - Member of Ordre du Mérite
- 1985 - Officer of the Order of Canada
- 1985 - Medal Julian C. Smith
- 1985 - Award Chomedey-de-Maisonneuve
- 1985 - Officer of Quebec National Order
- 1986 - Gold Medal from the Canadian Engineers Council
- 1988 - Member of the Academy of Great Montrealers
- 1989 - Sir John Kennedy Medal from the Canadian Engineers Institute
- 1993 - Meritas from the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean Region for 2000 - Beaubien Award
- 2003 - Medal from Quebec Association of Consulting Engineers.
- 2006 - Award of Excellence from Quebec Order of Engineers
- 2009 - Distinction for meritorious services - Professional Services. awarded by the Engineers Canada 2009 - Award Hats Off, awarded by Quebec Steel Frame Institute (IAAQ)
- 2013 - Grand officer of Quebec National Order

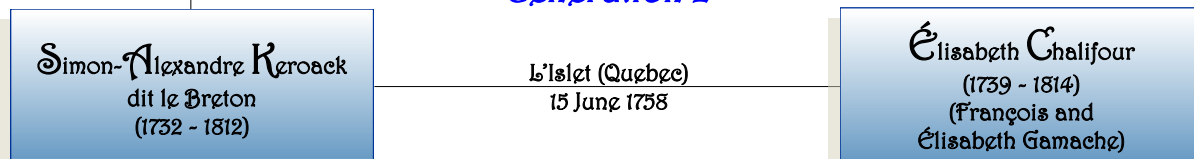
Source : Wikipédia

Ancestry of Bernard Lamarre

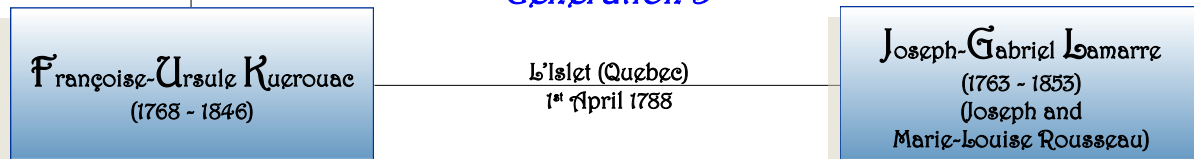
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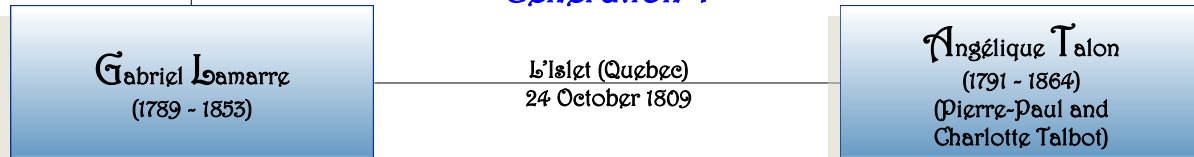
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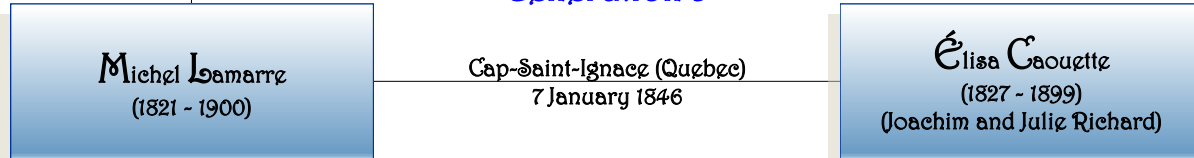
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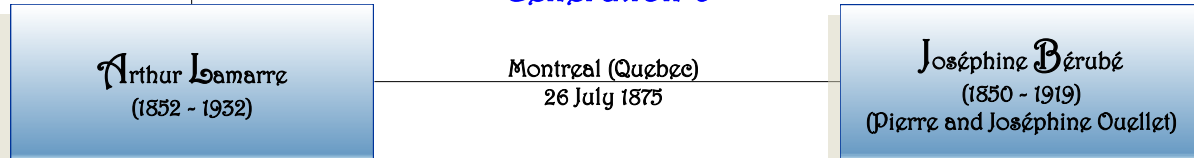
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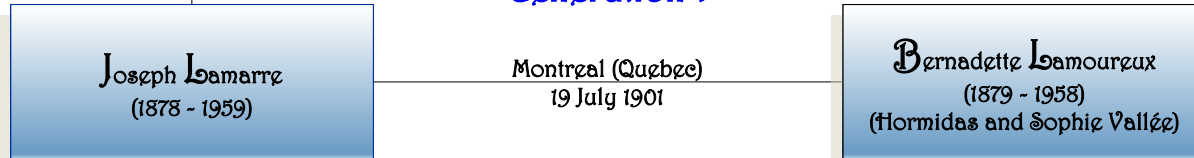
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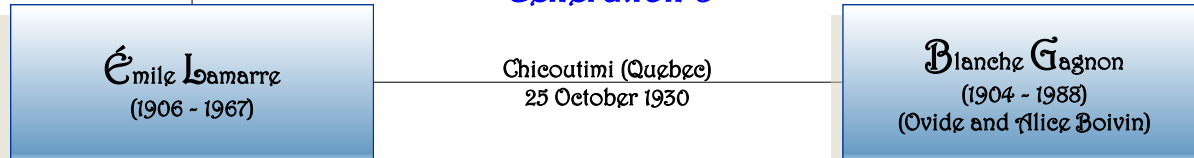
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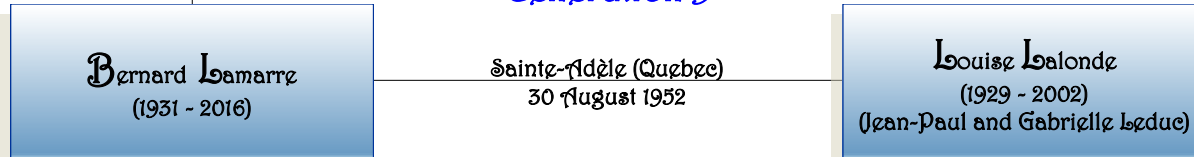
Generation 7



Generation 8



Generation 9



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Linda Lemay

by André St-Arnaud

Lynda Lemay is a Canadian singer-songwriter born on 25 July 1966 in Portneuf¹, Quebec. She grew up in happy surroundings with her wonderful parents and her two beloved sisters.

Already very young, she loved playing with words, rhyming was a game and writing poems a hobby. She started learning piano at the age of three but soon got bored repeating endless scales and doing sight-reading. The future musician more or less learned by herself.

Then the teenager grew more passionate about writing. Even dreaming of writing a novel but all that was before discovering her singing talent. At 17, she received a guitar; it was love on the first note! She tries her hand at writing and singing too; emotions flow through. Her fragile voice becomes stronger and her stories gain in rhymes and meaning.

Her mother, Jeannine, becomes her on-the-spot manager entering her into a contest. She encourages her daughter considering that her talent must get out of the home's basement. In 1989, Lynda at 23 wins her first big contest at the annual **Granby International Singing Festival**². It is a major turn in Lynda's life, her first steps in the professional music world. This first prize launches her career in France, with a first concert at the famous château at Saint-Malo³ in Brittany where Lynda discovers that the French public really loves her singing and her fresh repertoire.

In 1990 she signs a contract with the multinational **Warner Music Canada**⁴ the starting point of over 25 years of harmonious collaboration.

Lynda is prolific. New songs pour out from her imagination like water from a generous mountain source. Her first album entitled *Nos Rêves* (our dreams) (1990), knows only a discreet success but the second one entitled *Y* (1994), sold, in Canada alone, over 200,000 copies. People who love her style of songs with intelligent lyrics are eager to attend her performance. Although her albums are popular, it is on stage that she most successfully presents her works, alternating from heartbreaking stories to hilariously funny ones. Her public is taken for a roller-coaster ride of emotions crying and laughing at the same time.

1996

In 1996, three encounters have a definite impact on the career of this young up-and-coming singer-songwriter. At the famous **Montreux Jazz Festival**⁵ she took part in the special homage to **Charles Trenet**⁶, where she met three greats: Trenet himself who congratulates her for her remarkable performance, she sang two of Trenet's successes; **Charles Aznavour**⁷ who particularly noticed her strong penmanship after listening her singing "La visite", the third great was **Gérard Davoust**⁸, a partner of Charles Aznavour at the



Linda Lemay en concert à Carcassonne en France en juillet 2007. (Photo : Pinpin, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

¹ Portneuf, town situated by the Saint-Lawrence River, southwest of Quebec City, known for its paper industry.

² International singing festival held in Granby, Quebec, every August. Created in May 1969 by Yves Gagnon, then Granby's General Director of Recreation and Leisure. Since 2006, the festival chooses one winner every year. In 2022, it is the 54th edition.

³ Château at Saint-Malo, built from the 15th to the 18th centuries, it is situated on the east side of the town of St-Malo in Brittany. Concerts are held in the large inner-court of the castle.

⁴ Warner Music Canada, is the Canadian arm of Warner Music International, with head office in New York.

⁵ Charles Trenet (1913-2001) world renowned popular French singer-song-writer.

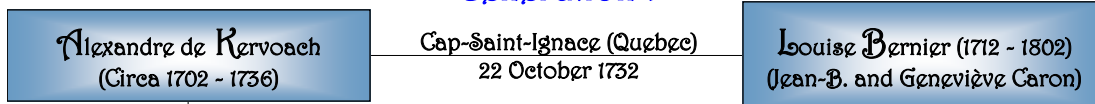
⁶ Montreux Jazz Festival, created in 1967 by Claude Nobs, held annually in early July in Montreux on the shore of Lake Geneva, Switzerland. It is the second largest annual jazz festival in the world after Canada's Montreal International Jazz Festival.

⁷ Charles Aznavour, born Aznavourian (1924-2018) famous Franco-Armenian singer, song-writer.

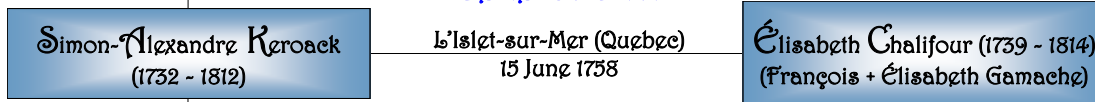
⁸ Gérard Davoust editor and producer born in 1936; PDG of Editions Raoul Breton.

Ancestry of Linda Lemay

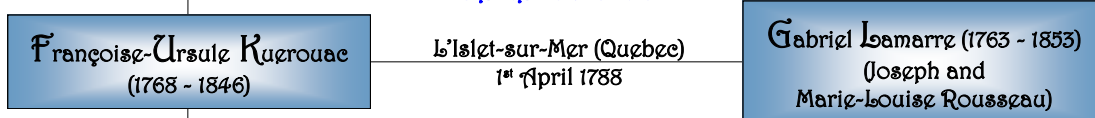
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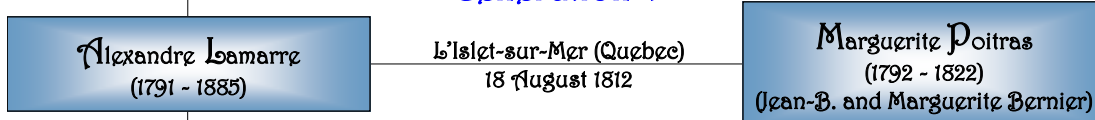
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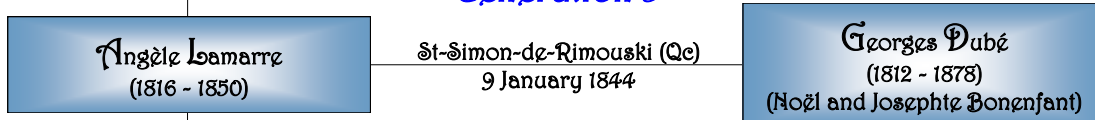
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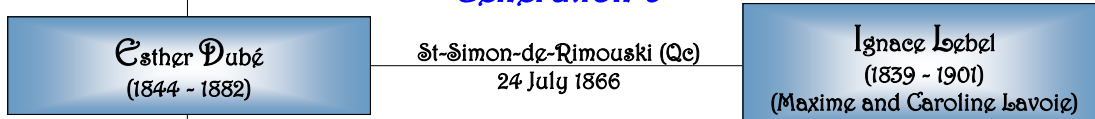
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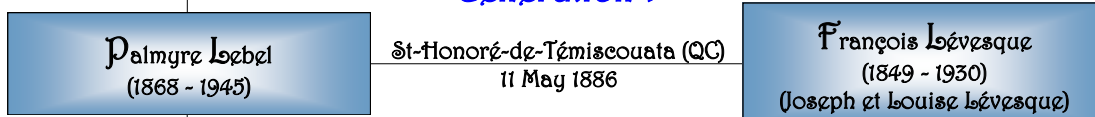
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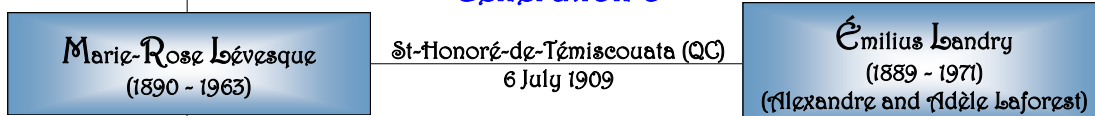
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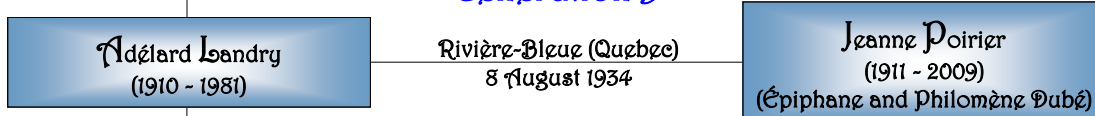
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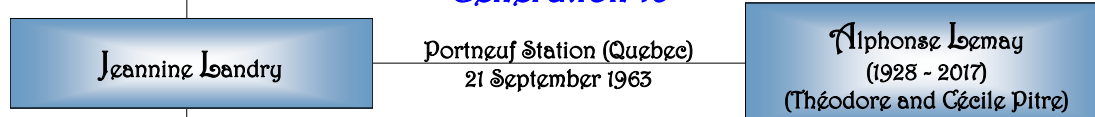
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Generation 9



Generation 10



Génération 11



André St-Arnaud et François Kirouac, July 2022

prestigious **Éditions Raoul Breton**⁹, who expressed a great interest in the up-and-coming artist's talent and work. This is the beginning of a strong association between the editor and Lynda.

1997

In 1997, when married to Patrick Huard¹⁰ actor and humorist, **Jessie**, her first daughter, is born. Then Lynda moves to France for a few weeks, time enough to record her eponymous album, directed by Yvan Cassar¹¹. The album is most successful and Lynda's performances are extremely popular. Her presence on the stage is magnetic, she reaches everyone.

2001

In 2001, the fourth album entitled "*Du coq à l'âme*" (free translation could be, both sides of the coin), produced by another friend **Claude "Mégo" Lemay**¹², marks the consecration of her immense talent. Crowned the year's female artist, Lynda Lemay creates one successful album after another: *Les Lettres rouges* (the red letters), *Les secrets des oiseaux* (birds' secrets), *Un paradis quelque part* (somewhere a paradise), all reach the top of the sales charts in Europe as well as in Canada.

2006

In 2006 she carries on but with a completely different project, a Folk Opera entitled *Un éternel hiver* (eternal winter). Her faithful public is deeply moved by this out-of-the-ordinary show to be followed by the birth of, **Ruby**, her second daughter, with her second husband Michael Weisinger¹³.

(After 2006)

In her forties, Lynda's career has its ups and downs. However, the albums "*Ma signature*", "*Allo c'est moi*" (Hi, it's me) and "*Blessée*" (injured), are successful. Her phenomenal talent enables her to constantly renew herself and she always surprises her public with beautifully crafted and exquisitely interpreted stories. *A Best of...* comes out in 2011. Lynda is on the road as usual and spending much quality time with her family.

2012

On 30 January 2012, at the **Olympia** in Paris, Charles Aznavour presents Lynda with the French decoration of **Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres**¹⁴. A few years earlier, she was presented with Quebec's decoration of the **Ordre de la Pléiade**¹⁵.

2013-2016

Her whirlwind career, great success, travelling, and various responsibilities eventually force Lynda to slow down a bit. In 2013, a new album "*Feutres et Pastels*" (Markers & Pastels) comes out and, in 2016, "*Décibels et des silences*" (decibels & silence). After her sixtieth show at the Olympia, in Paris, marking her 25-year career and selling over four million albums, Lynda opts for a needed and deserved quiet time.

2017

In 2017, Alphonse, Lynda's father dies. She always said that her father was the strongest. The last moments she spends with her "pillar of strength" bring out an extraordinary creative surge in the artist. Alphonse inspires new poetry to his daughter which she puts into songs. It is a very intense connection between father and daughter. With her father, Lynda imagines a far horizon where her new songs will travel.

2018

In 2018, Lynda embarks on a new "completely crazy project", the largest one ever: **IL ÉTAIT ONZE FOIS!** Not "Once upon a time" as one usually says, but, in this play on word in French, by adding a "Z" to ONE it becomes "ONZE", i.e., eleven in English. So, her crazy idea is to produce eleven albums of eleven songs each, to be created in 1111 days. Starting on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 2020.

Source

Linda Lemay official Internet site:
<https://lyndalemay.com/biographie/>

⁹ *Éditions Raoul Breton, publishers of the best authors, musicians, composers and performers for a century. Including, nearly all the songs of Charles Trenet, as well as Charles Aznavour and Lynda LEMAY, Félix Leclerc, BARBARA, Nana Mouskouri, Serge Lama, Les Zoufris Maracas, Agnès Bihl, etc.*

¹⁰ *Patrick Huard born in 1969 in Montréal, Canadian actor, humorist, director and producer, ex-husband of Lynda Lemay, and father of Jessie. Lynda's first daughter.*

¹¹ *Yvan Cassar, born in Rennes in 1966, French composer, pianist, and director. He works with numerous French singers and also conducts orchestral works for television.*

¹² *Claude Lemay, famous musician better known by his nick-name Mégo, i.e. cigarette butt in English, referring to his past smoking habits, was, for decades, Céline Dion's musical director, arranger, band leader. He also played with top international musicians and singers.*

¹³ *Michael Weisinger, musician, manager of Boogie Wonder Band, ex-husband of Lynda Lemay (2005-2012) and father of Ruby, Lynda's second daughter.*

¹⁴ *Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres is a French honorific award created in 1957 presented by the French Department of Culture, to recognize people's contribution to spreading French arts, music and literature, in France and around the world.*

¹⁵ *Ordre de la Pléiade, Quebec Government award given for promoting French culture and language. On 17 March 2010, at Quebec City, Lynda Lemay and twenty other personalities were presented with this award by Mr. Yvon Vallières, president of the Quebec National Assembly and President of the Francophonie (APF).*

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Laval Lord

by André St-Arnaud

Laval Lord was born on 13 February 1926 at Saint-Damase-des-Aulnaies¹. He was the son of Léon Lord, farmer and Hélène Ouellet. After studying at the village elementary school he did his high school at the Classical College in Lévis, where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in 1948. In 1949, he entered the Laval University Faculty of Agriculture at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière to study agronomy.

He soon stood out among his peers as one who really loved studying and applying so much energy in every subject. He was first of his class in both the first and second years. Besides showing so much zeal to his studies, during his free time he was involved in various social and religious organizations.

In 1951, the IODE, Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire², awarded him a \$200. scholarship to Laval Lord, who finished first in May. Every year, for the past 25 years, the IODE presented a \$200 scholarship to the second-year agronomy student who achieved the highest score in the year-end exams.

He is a dedicated member of the Lacordaire Circles³. In 1950 and 1951 he was the president of the Circle in Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière and secretary in 1951 and 1952.

In 1953, he was the agronomist for the Department of Colonization at Amos in Abitibi. In 1955 he became a professor of agronomy at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière.

On 15 April 1963, at Deschambault⁴, he married Madeleine Pelletier (1937-2016), daughter of Lauréat Pelletier (1904-1960) and Simone Frenette (1908-1980). They had three children and seven grandchildren.

He was a botany instructor at Camp Marie-Victorin⁵, a founding member of Camp Marie-Victorin Corporation in 1968, vice-president (1968-1970), administrator (1970-1972), president (1972-1974) and executive secretary (1974-1978) until the corporation ceased its activities in 1982.

Laval Lord died at Laval Hospital in Sainte-Foy (Quebec), on 2 April 1998 and was buried at Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies two days later, on 4 April. His wife died on 14 April 2016 at La Pocatière and was buried next to her husband on 23 April.



(Photo: Archives CJN)

Laval Lord (1926-1998) leads a botanical class for the Cercles des Jeunes Naturalistes at Camp Marie-Victorin in 1961.

¹ *Saint-Damase-des-Aulnaies, a.k.a. St-Damase-de-l'Islet, on St. Lawrence south shore.*

² *The IODE, Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire, is a women's charitable organization based in Canada providing scholarships, bursaries and awards. Website.*

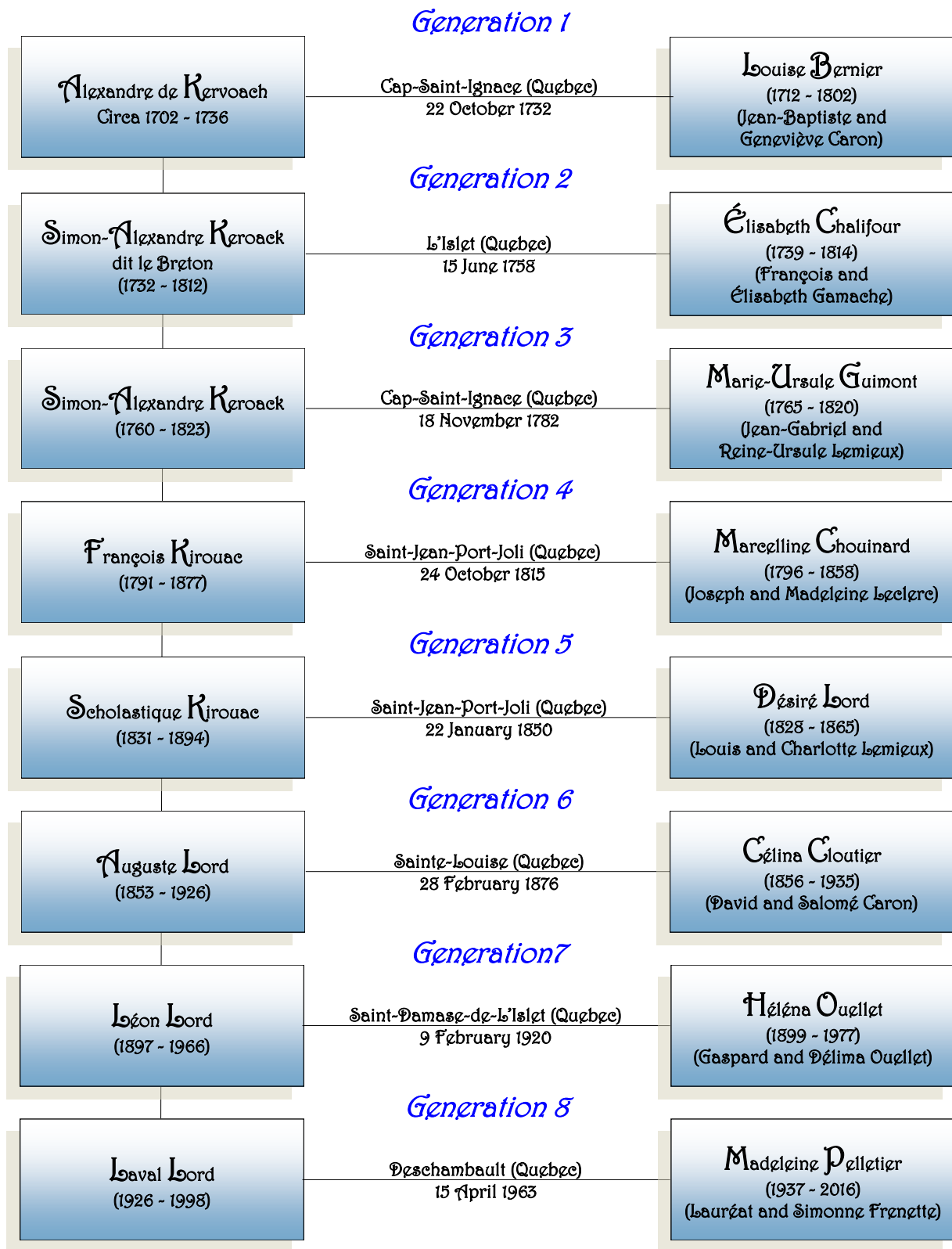
³ *Father Joseph-A. Jacquemet, a Dominican priest, founded the first Lacordaire Circle at Fall River, Massachusetts, on 5 February 1911. Four years later, in 1915, the first Canadian Circle was established in Saint-Ours-sur-Richelieu, a few miles south of Sorel. The aim of the Lacordaire Circles is to promote sobriety and members pledge to abstain from alcohol.*

⁴ *Deschambault, southwest of Quebec city, on the St. Lawrence north shore*

⁵ *See **Le Trésor des Kirouac**, no. 92, Summer 2008.*



Ancestry of Laval Lord



André St-Arnaud, May 2021

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer

by her daughter, Pía M. (Karrer) O'Leary

In May 1906, Marie Huguette Morin was not expected to live. In May 2006, Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer celebrated her 100th birthday!

Born on May 12, 1906, a mere fourteen months after her sister Claire, M. Joséphine Huguette Morin¹ was a tiny sickly baby who could not digest anything. In fact, she was so small that she had to be carried around on a pillow. Luckily for her ... and for us ... a combination of divine and human intervention saved her life and she is now the sole survivor of the thirteen Morin children.²

A devout Catholic, her mother Alphonsine Côté Morin, turned to prayer and vowed that, if her baby survived, she would call her "Marie". Meanwhile her father, Victor Morin, sought the advice of his friends. The suggestion to siphon soda water through the milk before feeding it to her did the trick. From then on, she began to thrive on these milkshakes and ... to be called Marie.

But that was not the only danger she survived. Living in a bustling household with so many older siblings had its challenges. Unable to be everywhere at the same time, Alphonsine would enlist the help of all the saints in heaven in raising and watching over her ever-expanding brood. One day when things were unusually quiet, her sixth sense led her to the bathroom where Gisèle (almost four years old) and Claire (barely one and a half years old) had undressed Marie (four months) and were about to give her a 'nice' bath in a deep tub full of water. A few years later while the parents were on a trip³, it was Tante Antoinette Côté⁴ who discovered four-year-old Marie hidden in a closet with a match and some newspapers in her hands ... Marie remembers the ensuing spanking to this day!

Fortunately, there were always additional sets of eyes to watch over the children. The maternal grandparents, Victor Côté and Philomène LeBrice de Keroack Côté, came to live

¹ She was baptized M. Joséphine Huguette Morin at St-Jean Baptiste Parish in Montréal on May 14, 1906. Her god-father was the famous artist-architect Napoléon Bourassa (see various English websites about this great artist 1827-1916), a friend of the family and Alphonsine's art teacher. Her godmother was Joséphine Sarasin, Alphonsine's good friend and confidante. At that time most girls were given Marie as a first name at baptism (this usually appeared as M. in the register). It did not mean that the child would be called Marie. In the case of Marie Karrer, her given name Huguette was replaced by Marie in thanksgiving for her miraculous survival.



Photo: Pía M. Karrer O'Leary

Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer (1906-2009)

² **Lucien**: notary (solicitor) (1894-2000, 106 yrs.), son of Fannie Côté, a Franco-American, Victor Morin's first wife who died a few days after giving birth to her son; **Réginald**: President and General Director of Industrial Valuation Company (1897-1939, 42 yrs.); **Simone**: (1899-1911, 12 yrs.); **Marc**: pharmacist-chemist (1900-1986, 85 yrs.); **Pol-André**: lawyer (1902-1940, 38 yrs.); **Gisèle**: housewife and patron of the arts (1903-1996, 93 yrs.); **Claire**: (1905-1994, 88 yrs.). Degree (LSc) in Botany and Library Science; secretary in Brother Marie-Victorin's scientific group before marrying Roger Gauthier in 1942, a botanist and professor at Université de Montréal. **Marie**: 1906-2009; housewife with diplomas in tourism and Italian language and culture; **Renée**: involved in adult education, publicity, active in the CCF party, author (1908-1984, 76 yrs.); **Roland**: art teacher, amateur artist and photographer (1909-1991, 81 yrs.); **Guy**: Regional Director of Blue Cross Insurance, aviator and amateur electrician (1912-1999, 87 yrs.); **Michel**: (1913-1914, 6 weeks); **Roger**: underwriter and appraiser (1915-1990, 74 yrs.).

³ Victor loved traveling finding it the best antidote to his work as notary, and his various activities as researcher, writer, community leader, etc. Reluctantly, Alphonsine would accompany him leaving the care of her precious children in the capable hands of her sisters, Antoinette and Cécile. The Morins made several trips to the United States and Europe. They visited the Holy Land and saw the Panama Canal under construction. Victor ventured into the Abitibi region of Quebec and trekked through Northern Ontario accompanied by two guides in search of a mine.

⁴ Antoinette Côté, unmarried daughter of Victor Côté and Philomène LeBrice de Keroack, came to help her sister, Alphonsine, in the large house on Saint-Urbain Street. An eye infection resulting from measles had caused her to lose the sight in one eye when she was a child. She was blessed with a magnificent voice but a death-bed promise extracted by her father prevented her from ever appearing on stage. Fortunately, she was invited to accompany a friend to France where she had the opportunity to further her study of music and observe the family's excellent chef. So, years later, she combined giving private voice lessons while supervising the kitchen in the Morin household.

with the Morins at 1116 Saint-Denis Street after they had lost everything in a fire in Saint-Hyacinthe. When the family moved to an even bigger home at 703 Saint-Urbain Street⁵, Alphonsine's two maiden sisters, Antoinette and Cécile Côté, moved in to help her run the household. Antoinette, a gifted singer and music teacher, oversaw the kitchen while Cécile looked after the garden, supervised the handyman and ran all the errands. In addition to the handyman, there were maids to help with the cooking, cleaning and laundry. When Alphonsine accompanied her husband on a six-month trip to Europe and the Holy Land, she even hired a cousin who was a registered nurse to look after the children.

Concern for the safety of her children was the reason why Alphonsine did not want a summer home near a body of water. Therefore the Morins bought a former apple orchard on the slopes of Mont-Bruno⁶. The sun, exercise, and fresh produce were excellent for building strong bodies. Unfortunately, the parents had neglected to take into account the vivid imagination and mischievousness of the older siblings which proved to be the greatest hazard of all!

Eager to win the respect of their older brothers, Réginald and Marc, Marie and all the other younger siblings would gladly accept their challenges to prove their spunk and bravery. Marie would let them drag her by the hair all the while pretending that it did not hurt. (Fortunately, this treatment did not cause her any hair loss. She still

sports a full head of hair which is the envy of her three grandsons.).

Initiation into Marc's *army* involved finding and destroying a wasps' nest and not complaining about the many stings. In fact the more stings you had, the higher your *rank* would be. One day the farm hand caught Marc about to roll a wagon wheel down the steep slope with Marie tied to it like Saint Catherine during her martyrdom. Another day, when the four little girls had climbed bare-back on a horse, Marc threw a stone at the horse ... the horse reared and bolted ... Marie, sitting behind the others on the horse, fell backwards and head first to the ground.

However, probably the most potentially lethal activity occurred in Réginald's personal laboratory which he called *ELECTRICA*. For the privilege of being allowed to enter, the children had to hold on to metal bars while he ran an electrical current through it, thus through his younger siblings. Marie remembers being unable to cry out or let go of the bars while the current was flowing ... it still sends shivers down her spine as she considers the possibility that she and all her siblings might have been wiped out in an instant. Unbeknownst to Alphonsine, who was probably busy with the latest addition to her family, her prayers were constantly answered for it was truly a miracle that the Morin children survived their youth!⁷

Respite came during the school year when the older boys were sent to boarding schools while the four girls were home-taught by a French

governess except for the occasional stay in a convent while preparing to receive the various sacraments of the Church. This arrangement caused much envy among the older brothers some of whom were often 'ill' in order to stay home. Tutors were hired for them but to no avail. Instead of studying, they disrupted the girls' class or amused themselves by creating general mayhem. The three younger boys did not go to boarding school as they attended the Académie Saint-Urbain across the street from the Morin home.

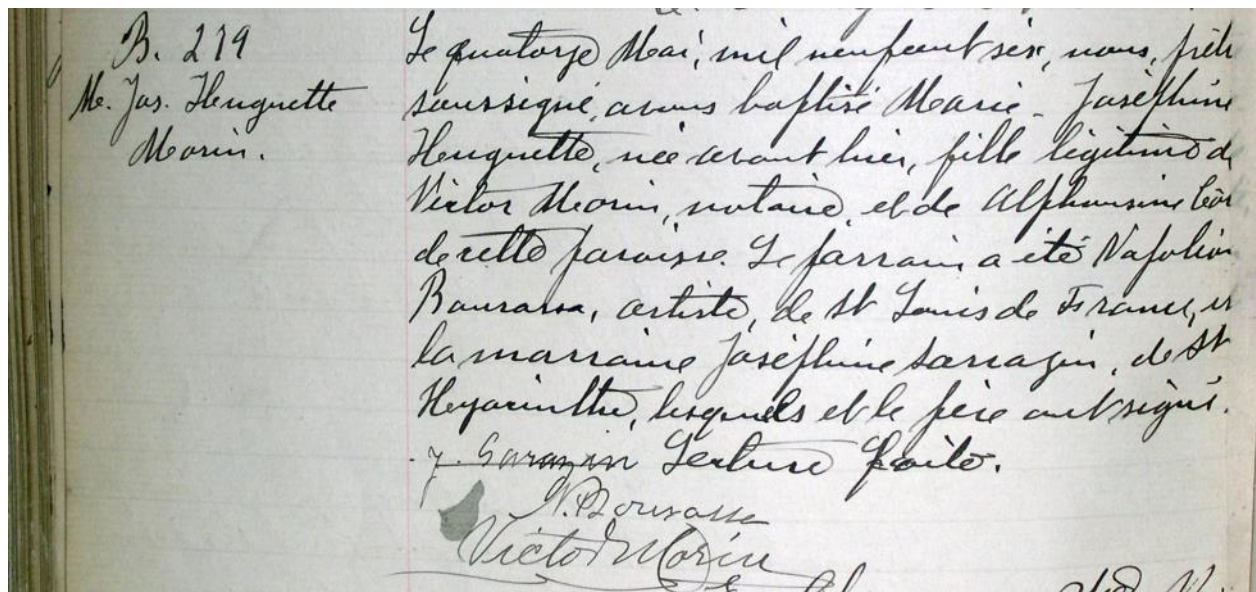
Discipline was meted out at the end of the day by the father upon returning from his office. Marie recalls witnessing a few memorable public spankings. Unfortunately, many misdemeanors were never punished given the protective nature of Alphonsine compounded by the mischievous nature of Victor who delighted in his sons' pranks.

Relations between the older brothers and their younger sisters improved with time. As young adults they enjoyed hosting parties together. Each invited a few friends and fun was had by all. Because of

⁵ From 1902 to 1911, the Morins lived at 1116 Saint-Denis Street in Montreal between Marie-Anne and Mont-Royal Streets. From 1911 to 1952 they lived at 703 (which became 3585) Saint-Urbain Street near Prince-Arthur Street.

⁶ Mont-Bruno: Across the River from Montreal, on the South Shore.
<http://www.lbean.com/parksearch/parks/html/1658lit.htm>

⁷ Simone died of measles and typhoid at the age of twelve, while Michel died of newborn's dysentery only six weeks old. Amazingly enough, Claire's broken arm and Renée's broken leg were the only serious accidents to befall any of the Morin children as they were growing up. They even managed to avoid the ravages of the Spanish Flu at the end of the First World War by retreating to their country home.



Baptismal record of Marie Joséphine Huguette Morin, dated May 14, 1906 (Collection Pia Karrer O'Leary)

its proximity to Mount-Royal Park, the Morin home on Saint-Urbain Street with its huge living-room and excellent midnight snacks became the *after-ski* headquarters for their ski club: *Club Chic Chac*. Their parents liked the arrangement. Victor would often join in the fun while Alphonsine was relieved to know where the children were and with whom they were associating. Even Tante Antoinette did not seem to mind spending all evening preparing a full meal complete with soup, meat and dessert for the hungry crowd. The time the Morin children spent together created a bond between them which lasted their lifetime and which continues to this day among their descendants.

Obviously the Morins were a very welcoming family. Every day, Antoinette would prepare a supply of hearty sandwiches for the *quêteux* (beggars) who knew where to come knocking around lunch time. When the inter-provincial exchanges began in the 1930's, the Morins were one of the first host families in Quebec. Sir Ernest⁸ MacMillan's son and George Grant,

the future philosopher, came as teenagers to learn French in the Morin home. Marie's helpfulness would later be acknowledged in George Grant's biography⁹. It was also with open arms that the Morins welcomed back their grown children in need. They sheltered all five members of Réginald's family in the aftermath of the Crash of 1929 and later raised his children, Jacques-Victor, Magdelaine and Pierre, after their parents' death. They also took in Marie and her daughter, Pia, back from Italy, after the Second World War.

Having been brought up in a warm and caring home, it was natural for Marie to volunteer in her community. For years, she was in charge of dispensing nutritional supplements in a shelter for expectant and new mothers. She also earned a diploma in tourism from the University of Montreal and volunteered as a tour guide for the city of Montreal.

Like her parents¹⁰ Marie enjoyed sports and a healthy lifestyle. She

skied, rode horses, played tennis and learned to swim at the *Palestre nationale*. Never having had a car and being used to keeping up to her husband's military stride, she walked briskly and never seemed to get tired. At the age of eighty-three, she would walk up four flights of stairs to her apartment several times a day often carrying her groceries. At ninety, she moved to London, Ontario, by herself on the train. When she was ninety-two, she was diagnosed with a small cancerous lump in her breast. At her pre-operation appointment she

⁸ Sir Ernest MacMillan was the conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

⁹ "That summer was very happy for me and particularly because a Morin daughter, Marie-Huguette, arranged how I spent the day." CHRISTIAN, William, *George Grant: A Biography*, University of Toronto Press 1993, p. 34 and note 61, p.381.

¹⁰ Victor played polo and tennis, loved hiking and walked to and from work morning, noon and evening.

Alphonsine was a talented figure skater.

compensated for the missing step-stool by jumping backwards onto the examination table much to the amazement of the nurses. Word got around, all the nurses wanted to see it. She obliged them all by repeating the maneuver. At the time, she did not know that she was suffering from osteoporosis. Within two weeks, as she was helping a neighbour pull a shopping cart up an incline, she suffered a compression fracture of four vertebrae and lost four inches in height in one day. The intense pain she suffered and the medications she took in order to control that pain affected her ability to live alone. At the age of ninety-six

she had to leave her apartment to live in a nursing home where, with the help of a walker, she can still outpace her much younger neighbours. She attributes her good health to the summers spent in the country, to the good food that Tante Antoinette prepared and, of course, to the genetic inheritance passed on by her parents.

From her father she also inherited an innate curiosity characterized by a love of learning and traveling. All her adult life she continued his research on the Morin and Keroack genealogies¹¹. She learned Italian and won the Canadian scholarship to study at the Università per Stranieri in Perugia (see *Le Trésor*, March 2005, for the complete story of her years in Italy). Alone, she visited Europe and took advantage of her steamer's port of calls to visit various cities in North Africa. In 1939, she married Carlo Karrer, an Italian army officer, and spent the war years in Italy. Later she followed her husband to Toronto, Boston, Binghamton and the New York City area.

Her knowledge of three languages has always been an asset. During the war, she was able to make a little money by giving private French lessons. In

¹¹ "Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer, who had inherited her father's love of research, began researching her family's genealogy at the age of eighteen. It is incredible that she was able to keep her notes and persevere with this project despite her many moves. Over the years, she continued writing to the various parishes in order to acquire the necessary baptism, marriage and burial certificates of her ancestors (...) After Carlo's death, she settled in Château Vincent d'Indy, a retirement home, where she could have more time to devote to her research. All she had was a bed-sitting room. Every day she would organize her notes on her bed only to have to pack everything up in plastic bags at bed-time. When she moved to London in 1996, Pia bought her a filing cabinet and helped her sort out the various documents. In doing so, the genealogical 'bug' was transmitted to Pia!"

"From 2000 to 2003, after retiring and acquiring a new computer, I (Pia O'Leary) reduced the contents of a filing cabinet into a book that would be more easily accessible for the whole family. The whole process was under the watchful eye of (my mother) Marie, who checked and corrected all the proofs at the age of 96!" Pia O'Leary (loosely translated from the *Preamble* to the Morin genealogy dated May 15, 2003).



The Morin children in front of their summer home in Mont-Bruno, summer 1909: Lucien, Réginald, Simone, Marc, Pol-André, Gisèle, Claire, Marie-Huguette, Renée. (Collection Pia M. Karrer O'Leary)

Toronto, she organized a French conversation group for the parents' association at Pia's High School and even helped an aspiring opera singer with his Italian pronunciation. In Boston, she accepted a position as a governess for a family of seven children. Even at the age of ninety-six, she was tutoring the daughter of her home-care worker. Despite her many moves she always adapted to life be it in French, Italian or English.

Being the eighth child in a family of thirteen children and having survived her older brothers' 'boot camps' made her adaptable and resilient in the face of adversity but who could have imagined all the challenges she would have to overcome. Marrying an Italian army officer on the eve of the Second World War was her first major hurdle (details of her Italian saga in *Le Trésor*, March 2005) Then she had to adapt to married life in a different culture while sharing an apartment with her mother-in-law and brother-in-law.

She gave birth to her only child, Pia, by Caesarean section, was unable to breastfeed her and did her best to raise a baby on the war-time rations of one half cup of milk a day¹². Moreover, she and her husband had to sell their most cherished possessions (wedding presents, Carlo's gold medals in gymnastics...even their gold wedding rings) in order to put food on the table. There was no longer any water, electricity or gas in their apartment building. Hunger and thirst were compounded by cold and fear. When the bombs came, they had to run ten minutes to the safety of Castel Sant'Angelo (a former summer residence of the Popes). When Carlo was taken hostage by the Germans, Marie sought refuge in a convent run by the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate-Conception, a French-Canadian order who had a convent in Monte Mario near Rome. She survived disguised as a nun ... the perfect camouflage so long as Pia remembered not to call her "Mamma".

During the war, her Canadian background made her the object of surveillance. Naturally she was suspected of sympathizing with the Allies. After the war, the tables were turned but she was still on the wrong side. Having become Italian by marriage made her ineligible for the rations which the British government doled out to other expatriate Canadians in Italy. The change of citizenship also made it a struggle for her to return to her homeland with Pia.

Then she had to wait another two and a half years before her husband would be allowed into Canada. Two years after the end of the war he was still

considered an enemy because of his military career in spite of the fact that he had avoided serving in the Fascist army and had consequently spent part of the war as a hostage of the Germans¹³.

When Carlo finally arrived in Canada, the position which awaited him at the Independent Order of Foresters, (IOF) was in Toronto. Once again, Marie was the outsider having to adapt to a new language and another culture. On top of that, she now had the additional task of initiating Carlo into the North American way of doing things and raising a child. However, neither of them was prepared for the outright xenophobia in a very WASPish¹⁴ post-war Toronto. If you had an accent, finding an apartment was next to impossible and a simple game of tennis with Pia in a public park on a Sunday morning scandalized the neighbourhood. Carlo struggled with the English language while trying to earn a degree in actuarial science at the University of Toronto. Then the arrival of the first actuarial computation machines and the resulting downsizing at IOF left him unemployed. It was a struggle to make ends meet.

When the *Sheraton Hotel* chain offered Carlo a position, the Karrers migrated to the United States where they spent

¹² *In Rome during the war, the milk ration for every child under three was only one half cup of milk a day. There was no milk for those over the age of three!*

¹³ *On September 3, 1943, the Allied Forces landed in Southern Italy and signed an armistice with the Italian government. Immediately, the Germans seized all the principal towns in Italy. Officers and soldiers alike ran to hide in order to avoid serving under the Germans. Carlo did not want to abandon his wife and child who could have easily been identified and killed. So he did not flee. He kept hoping the Allied Forces would soon reach Rome.*

Mindful to remain true to his military code of honour, while refusing to serve in the army of the pseudo-Italian Social Republic, he took a sick leave. So on September 9, 1943, instead of showing up for his military service, he checked himself into a hospital where he underwent a tonsillectomy. After spending ten days in hospital he succeeded in being granted another three-month leave for stomach ulcers (probably brought on by the constant hunger). On January 12, 1944, he was deemed cured but he continued to be excused from duty because of his classification as 'mutilated'. In fact Carlo had lost an eye in a military vehicle accident before the war.

Unfortunately, his sick leave expired before the Allies reached Rome. In early April 1944, he was arrested and disarmed in front of his family. The Germans took him to Venice behind the Gothic line in the German-controlled region of northern Italy. There they kept him under house arrest in civilian clothes as a hostage. The Germans would kill ten of these 'deportees' for every German officer that was killed by Italian Partisans. This strategy allowed the Germans to contravene the Geneva Convention which forbade killing prisoners of war (by definition, a prisoner of war is one caught on a battlefield).

¹⁴ *W.A.S.P. stands for White Anglo-Saxon Protestant*

Ancestry of Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer

Generation 1

Alexandre de Kervoach
dit le Breton
Circa 1702 - 1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712 - 1802)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Geneviève Caron)

Generation 2

Louis Keroack
dit le Breton
(1735 - 1779)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
11 January 1757

Catherine Méthot
(1739 - 1813)
(Joseph and
Hélène le Normand dit Jorien)

Generation 3

Charles Quéroac
(1769 - 1837)

St-Pierre-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud (Quebec)
20 July 1801

Josephine Blanchette
(1773 - 1860)
(Joseph and
Marie-Louise Roussseau)

Generation 4

Léon-Solymé
Lebricq de Keroack
(1805 - 1880)

Saint-Marc-sur-Richelieu (Quebec)
11 April 1836

Éléonore Létourneau
(1811 - 1885)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Josephine Beaudry)

Generation 5

Philomène Aurélie
Lebricq de Keroack
(1837 - 1912)

Saint-Hyacinthe (Quebec)
2 February 1860

Victor Côté
(1824 - 1905)
(Antoine and Charlotte Girouard)

Generation 6

Alphonsine Côté
(1869 - 1946)

Saint-Hyacinthe (Quebec)
5 May 1896

Victor Morin
(1865 - 1960)
(Jean-Baptiste and Aurélie Côté)

Generation 7

Marie-Huguette Morin
(1906 - 2009)

Rome (Italy)
2 March 1939

Carlo Karrer
(1906 - 1988)
(Francesco and
Carlotta Massigri)

the next twenty years in Boston, Binghamton, NY, Roselle and Rutherford, NJ. Neither Carlo nor Marie became American. Carlo continued to serve as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Italian reserve army and Marie did not want to risk losing her Canadian citizenship again. All that time they carried American immigration Green cards which identified them as “aliens” a term which can refer to foreigners as well as to extra-terrestrials. One way or the other, again they were outsiders... but that was nothing new for the Karrers.

In 1980, when Carlo retired at the age of 72, the Karrers decided to settle in Montreal in order to be closer to the Morin family. Marie was packing when a failing heartbeat caused her to collapse. Earlier that morning, Carlo had left for the day in New York with a suit he planned to take to the cleaner’s on his way to catch the bus. As luck would have it, the cleaning establishment was closed for the day. So, when Carlo returned home to leave his suit, he found Marie on the floor near the phone but unable to reach it to call for help.

She was rushed to the hospital and outfitted with a pacemaker which allowed her to return to Montreal and reunite with her remaining siblings. In 1996, after the death of her last sister, she settled in London, Ontario, to be closer to Pia and her four grandchildren.

Marie’s good genes, healthy lifestyle and strong family ties along with her mastery of three languages, her openness to others and to new adventures have combined to help her reach her 100th birthday.

She has been a wonderful mother and grandmother. Now her ambition and dream is to become a great-grandmother. But while she waits, we remind her that she is already a GREAT grandmother!

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Chronology of Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer’s life and the War Years in Italy

1906 (May 12):	Marie’s birth in Montréal.
1906 to 1937:	Marie lives in Montréal.
1937 (July 17):	Leaves for Perugia, Italy, to study Italian.
1938 (January 27):	Returns to Canada.
1939 (March 2):	Marries Carlo Karrer by proxy (Carlo in Rome, Marie in Montréal). In so doing she becomes an Italian citizen.
1939 (April 8):	Leaves for Italy.
1940 (April 20):	Pia’s birth.
1940 (June 10):	Mussolini declares war on the Allies.
1942 to 1945:	Austere conditions, lack of food.
1943 (July 9):	The Americans land in Sicily.
1943 (September 3):	An Armistice is signed. The Italian government surrenders to the Allies.
1943 (September 9):	The Germans seize all the major Italian cities.
1943 (September 9):	Mindful to remain faithful to his military code of honour, Carlo takes a health leave rather than swearing allegiance to the Germans.
1944 (April 4, 1944 to April 28, 1945):	Carlo is taken hostage by the Germans and brought to Venice. Marie remains alone with Pia in Rome without any source of revenue or contact with her family in Canada.
1944 (June 4-5):	The Allies arrive in Rome but war continues in Italy.
(Summer 1944):	Marie goes to live in the convent of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Monte Mario.
1945 (April 28):	Liberation of Venice. Carlo is free to return to Rome.
1945 December 18):	Marie and Pia immigrate to Canada.
1947 (July):	More than two years after the end of the war, a Peace Treaty is finally signed between Italy and Canada.
1948 June 29):	Carlo immigrates to Canada.
1948 (July 19):	Carlo starts working for IOF in Toronto.
1959 January 20):	The Karrers emigrate to the United States.
1980 (August):	The Karrers return to Canada settling in Town of Mont-Royal, greater Montréal.
1988 (July 22):	Carlo dies in Montreal.
1989:	Marie moves to Château Vincent-d’Indy in Outremont, greater Montréal.
1996 (September 1):	Marie moves to London, Ontario.
2002 (September 17):	Marie moves to Mount Hope Centre in London, Ontario.
2009 (December 11):	Marie dies in London, Ontario

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Chantal Pary (Lucie Bernier)

by François Kirouac

Lucie Bernier, a.k.a. Chantal Pary in the entertainment world, was born in Longueuil (Montreal south-shore) on 17 December 1950, daughter of Laurent Bernier (1927-2003) and Jeanne-Mance Milette (1930-2019). Her mother was a very well-known popular singer known as Janie Berre. Very early on, Lucie decided to follow in her mother's footsteps. She started taking singing lessons very young and soon won an amateur contest. Her first recordings were relatively successful. The real breakthrough came when she was just 15 with the song *L'amour vient, l'amour va* which she sang in 1965 on the then-popular TV show *Jeunesse d'aujourd'hui*. In an article published in the *Journal de Montréal* (a Montreal daily), on 14 July 2019, Agnès Gaudet mentions that her first great recording success was a 45 LP entitled *L'amour est passé*. Soon after Chantal represented French-speaking Canada at the 1967 International Singing Contest in Brussels, Belgium, where her talent was noticed.

"In 1969, she was named Revelation of the year at the Artists Annual Gala. In 1970, she sang in the first half of Sacha Distel¹ and Enrico Macias², important show at Montreal, Place des arts." (see p.22).

In 1970, during the popular TV show *Jeunesse d'aujourd'hui*, watched by millions of viewers she married André Sylvain³. They had one daughter, MÉLANIE, for whom Chantal wrote the song *Mélanie* which was on everybody's lips at the time. Her daughter is now known as Mélanie 13. Under the name Lucie Bernier, André Sylvain wrote over fifty songs for Chantal Pary, many reaching the top of the chart. Chantal launched some fifty original songs and albums during her career. In 1981, she won the Félix⁴ with the song *J'suis ton amie*, the best selling album of the year with over 250,000 copies sold.

Her successes are all songs about love: *Pour vivre ensemble, Ma vie c'est toi, L'amour vient, l'amour va, Seuls jusqu'à la fin des jours, C'est fini, Les gens heureux n'ont pas d'histoire, Emmanuella, Mélanie, and Mon enfant*.

Among her best career memories, one she will forever remember is the day she sang her song entitled *Mère Teresa*, for Mother Teresa, the famous nun (1910-1997) when she stopped at Ottawa during the 1990s.

She sang through the 1990s with Carl William⁵. In 2011, she took part in a very special TV show entitled *Le retour de nos idoles, Idols Return*. In 2012, she gave a series of concerts with Claude Barzotti⁶. In 2015, she sang with Renée Martel (1947-)⁷ and Michel Louvain (1937-2021)⁸ a one and only down memory lane show, the happy years: *Les Années Bonheur*.



Photo: Courtesy of Chantal Pary

³ Born André Vachon, singer, songwriter, and popular radio presenter over fifty years.

⁴ The Félix Award is an annual prize awarded by the Quebec Record & Show Industry Association to artists working in music and just-for-laugh industry. (Wikipedia)

⁵ Carl William, born in Montreal in 1969, a forever fan of Chantal, met her in 1995, they were married in 1997, but separated in 2006. (Wikipedia)

⁶ Claude Barzotti, born Francesco Barzotti, Italo-Belgian singer born in Belgium in 1953. (Wikipedia)

⁷ Renée Martel (1947-) very popular French-Canadian country singer born in Drummondville. Quebec. (Wikipedia)

⁸ Michel Poulain (1937-2021) Canadian singer, most popular in 1960s and 1970s. As TV and radio host, he was voted top show business personality in 1965. (Wikipedia)

¹ Sacha Distel, jazz guitarist, French singer-songwriter with Franco-Russian roots, (1933-2004). (Wikipedia)

² Enrico Macias, born Gaston Ghrenassia in 1938 in Algeria, musician singer-songwriter, and actor. (Wikipedia)

Ancestry of Chantal Pary (Lucie Bernier)

Generation 1

Alexandrê dz Kervoach
dit le Bréton
Cirea 1702 - 1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712 - 1802)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Geneviève Caron)

Generation 2

Simon-Alexandrê Kéroack
dit le Bréton
(1732 - 1812)

LeIslet (Quebec)
15 June 1758

Élisabeth Chalifour
(1739 - 1814)
(François and
Élisabeth Gamache)

Generation 3

Simon-Alexandrê Kéroack
dit le Bréton
(1760 - 1823)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
18 November 1782

Marie-Ursule Guimont
(1765 - 1820)
(Jean-Gabriel and
Rozine-Ursule Lemieux)

Generation 4

François Kérouac
dit Bréton
(1791 - 1877)

Saint-Jean-Port-Joly (Quebec)
24 October 1815

Marelline Chouinard
(1796 - 1858)
(Joseph and Madeline Leclerc)

Generation 5

Édouard Kérouac
(1820 - 1891)

Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies (Quebec)
29 February 1848

Séverine Malenfant
(1824 - 1887)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Anathalie Picard)

Generation 6

Michel Kérouac
(1850 - 1916)

Saint-Modeste (Quebec)
19 October 1874

Hermine Bélanger
(1848 - 1930)
(David and
Ursule Dumont)

Generation 7

Ludger Kirouac
(1877 - 1952)

Nashua (New Hampshire) U. S.
18 May 1896

Arthémise Toubert
(1874 - 1965)
(Joseph and Adélaïde Gagnon)

Generation 8

Cécile Kirouac
(1901 - 1991)

Montréal (Quebec)
5 September 1925

Henri Bernier
(1902 - 1986)
(Joseph and Domithilde Lessard)

Generation 9

Laurent Bernier
(1927 - 2003)

Montréal (Quebec)
24 July 1948

Jeanne-Mance Millette
(1930 - 2019)
(Ovila and Alvara Leclerc)

Generation 10

Chantal Pary (Lucie Bernier)

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Valérie Plante

by André St-Arnaud

Valérie Plante was born on 14 June 1974 in Rouyn-Noranda, Abitibi region. She is the daughter of Gaétan Plante and Constance Lamarre. She was Projet Montreal's candidate for mayor in the 2017 municipal election and is the first woman elected mayor of Montreal.

As a teenager, she spent a year in North Bay, Ontario, to learn English. In 1994 she moved to Montreal to study anthropology at Université de Montréal and received her degree in 1997. The following year, she obtained a certificate in multi-ethnic intervention from the Permanent Education Department and, in 2001, a Master in museology from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

She soon got involved in fighting against social inequalities on the ground first, then in politic. Her career path put her in contact with cultural life, including Montreal's New Dance International Festival, various Montreal museums, community organizations and unions, where she worked as project coordinator and communication coordinator. She was also involved with the Latin American community in Montreal. These experiences increased her interest for social justice, fighting against poverty and for citizen participation. She supported immigrant women victims of domestic violence involved in the legal process, she gave self-defence classes to women and children and set up in training programmes for young women. In 2014 she was a board member of the Broadbent Institute¹.

While on the City Council she was the official opposition speaker for the city-centre, tourism, and women, and its vice-president as well as a Board member acting-mayor of the Ville-Marie Borough.

In 2013, after the departure of Richard Bergeron, founder of Projet Montréal (municipal party) and after Luc Fernandez, mayor of Plateau Mont-Royal Borough, and interim chief of Projet Montréal announced he would not run in the leadership campaign, Mrs. Plante ran and won the leadership. In the 2013 Montreal municipal election, Plante was elected councillor of two Montreal boroughs, Sainte-Marie and Ville-Marie, garnering 33% of the votes against 30% for her closest rival, defeating the 2009 favourite mayoral candidate and former provincial minister, Louise Harel.



Valérie Plante, first woman elected Mayor of Montreal
Photo by André Querry (dsc_2884) [CC BY-SA 2.0
(<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>), via Wikimedia Commons

On 20 September 2016, she launched her campaign to become mayor of Montreal. Her theme was: **Montréal jusqu'au bout!** e.g. **Montreal, all the Way!** Basically, she proposed to fight social inequalities dividing Montrealers, particularly committing herself to demand that the City offers a decent salary of \$15/hour to all city workers, either contractors or subcontractors.

When François Limoges abandoned the leadership race, it left only two candidates: Plante and Lavoie. Mrs. Plante got the support of Luc Fernandez, interim chief, Marie Plourde, councillor, and Michel Camus, Projet Montréal's former president (2011-2016).

On 4 December 2016, Mrs. Plante was elected chief of Projet Montréal, winning the leadership race with 51.9% against councillor Guillaume Lavoie; therefore becoming Projet Montréal's candidate for mayor in the 2017 election. On 5 November 2017 she became mayor of Montreal, beating outgoing mayor, Denis Coderre. One of her pet projects during the election campaign was the creation of a new metro, i.e. underground line, the "pink line" to link the island's north-east to the south-west via the town centre.

Valérie Plante is married to Pierre-Antoine Harvey, an economist with the Quebec Labour Congress. They have two children .

Source: Wikipédia

¹ Broadbent Institute is a Canadian progressive and social democratic think tank founded by Ed Broadbent the former founder and leader of the federal New Democratic Party from 1975 to 1989.

Ancestry of Valérie Plante

Generation 1

Alexandr de Kervoach
dit le Breton
Circa 1702 - 1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712 - 1802)
(Jean-Baptiste and
Geneviève Caron)

Generation 2

Simon-Alexandr Kervoach
dit le Breton
(1732 - 1812)

L'Islet (Quebec)
15 June 1758

Élisabeth Chalifour
(1739 - 1814)
(François and
Élisabeth Gamache)

Generation 3

Françoise-Ursule Kurovac
(1768 - 1846)

L'Islet (Quebec)
1st April 1788

Joseph-Gabriel Lamarré
(1763 - 1853)
(Joseph and
Marie-Louise Roussseau)

Generation 4

Gabriel Lamarré
(1789 - 1853)

L'Islet (Quebec)
14 October 1809

Angélique Talon
(1791 - 1864)
(Pierre-Paul and
Charlotte Talbot)

Generation 5

Michel Lamarré
(1821 - 1900)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)
7 January 1846

Élisa Caouette
(1827 - 1899)
(Joachim and Julie Richard)

Generation 6

Michel Lamarré
(1846 - 1916)

L'Islet (Quebec)
28 April 1868

Arthémise Bernier
(1848 - 1907)
(Stanislas and Esther Bernier)

Generation 7

Joseph Lamarré
(1889 - 1966)

L'Islet (Quebec)
11 January 1910

Joséphine Normand
(1891 - 1984)
(Émile and Héléne Cloutier)

Generation 8

Patrice Lamarré
(1917 - 1992)

Colombourg (Quebec)
11 April 1945

Adrienne Fortier
(1924 - 2012)
(Joseph-Henri-Georges and
Marie-Philomène Morin)

Generation 9

Constance Lamarré

Montréal (Quebec)
24 July 1948

Gaëtan Plante
(Robert and Thérèse Richard)

Génération 10

Valérie Plante

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Henri Poitras

by André St-Arnaud

Henri Poitras, very well known in Quebec under his nickname: *Jambe-de-bois*, meaning "wooden-leg" the name of a favourite character in a very popular TV series entitled: *Les belles histoires des Pays d'en haut*, written by Claude-Henri Grignon. Stories taking place in the Laurentians, known as *Pays d'en haut*, because located north, that is above Montreal on the map.

Henri Poitras, was born in Faubourg Québec, a former district of Montreal, on 11 June 1896 and baptised Joseph Alphonse Hospice Poitras. On 22 May 1918, he was conscripted by the Canadian army for WWI. When the war ended, he was a sergeant at Valcartier, the Canadian military base north-west of Quebec City.

In 1919, after completing his studies at Sainte-Marie College, in Montreal, he began acting at the Chanteclerc Theatre¹ under the direction of Palmiéri². His career took off soon after when he played at the Arcade Theatre in Montreal. He studied drama at Conservatoire Lassalle where he was trained by the Conservatory founder Eugène Lassalle and his wife Louise Darcey.

After that, he played with Jeanne Demons company³ at the Imperial Theatre and at the Family Theatre. He was also an excellent baritone and a great dancer. Hence, he played at the Société canadienne d'opérette (Canadian Operetta Society), and at Variétés lyriques, a theatre producing musical shows; as well as playing various roles on the emerging radio stations.

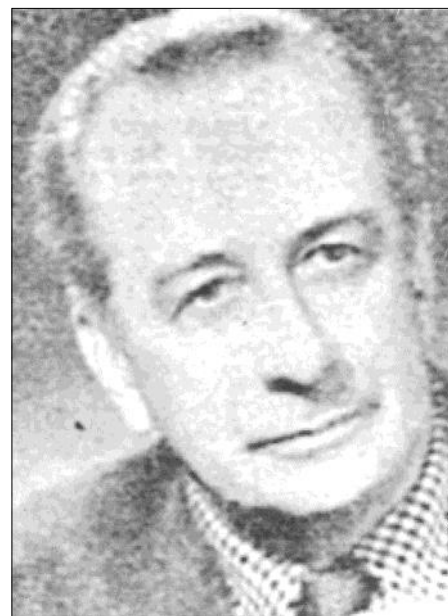
He played at Quebec City as well as Montreal and during regular tours in New-England. In the highly popular *Fridolinades* written by Gratien Gélinas⁴, he was known for making people laugh.

He was very much in demand and played in most of the first films

produced in Quebec. In 1940, he was part of the distribution of *Docteur Louise*, a French film shot in France. He managed his own performance art agency in the 1940s before founding the Théâtre du Rire in 1950 (laughing theatre) where he presented his own creations. He produced some fifty skits (one act plays); but, unfortunately, were never published.

While he taught at the Conservatoire Lassalle, he was also played the part of Pantaléon Veilleux in the very popular TV series *Le petit monde du Père Gédéon*⁵.

Henri Poitras is also well remembered for his role as the beggar *Jambe-de-bois* (wooden-leg), in another popular TV series *Les belles histoires des pays d'En Haut* (Stories from the Laurentians) created after Claude-Henri Grignon's popular novel *Un homme et son péché*, (One man's sin). Radio-Canada, French speaking CBC aired it from October 1956 till June 1970. His great talent and popularity was finally rewarded by a Méritas trophy in 1965. He died on first August 1971.



Henri Poitras
(photo: from his obituary published in *La Presse* on Tuesday August 3, 1971)

the Terrebonne College and at Saint-Laurent College; afterwards at Université Laval in Montréal from 1893 to 1896. He died on 30 April 1950 at Montréal. (Source: Artus, *répertoire des artistes du Québec*: <https://artus.ca/palmieri/>)

³ Jeanne Demons, Quebec comedian born in Agen in France in 1886, she died at Montreal in November 1958. She worked mainly as a stage actress in various theatres but she was also heard on radio, and seen on television and in films. (Source: Wikipedia)

⁴ Gratien Gélinas, born in December 1909 in Saint-Tite, Quebec village, died in March 1999 at Montreal. Author, playwright, actor, director, producer and theatre administrator, he is recognized as one of the founders of contemporary theatre and cinema in Québec. (Source: Wikipedia)

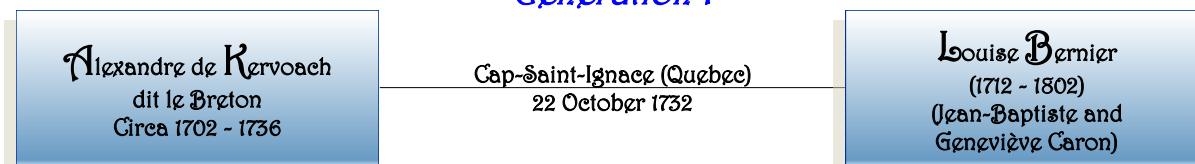
⁵ *Le petit monde du père Gédéon*, (Father Gedeon's familiar world) TV series aired on Radio-Canada (French-speaking CBC), between October 1962 to June 1963 with Doris Lussier playing the leading rôle.

¹ The Chanteclerc Theatre opened in 1912 in Montreal, followed by the Saint-Denis Theatre in 1916 and the Arcade Theatre in 1918. The Chanteclerc was very successful because actors were given support and good working conditions. During the "Dirty Thirties" everything slowed down but not at the Chanteclerc; eventually it became the Théâtre Stella, and still exists. After many important renovations, it became the Théâtre du Rideau Vert (green curtain), on the same lot where the Chanteclerc had been; the pillar of Quebec French-speaking theatre tradition was created over a century ago.

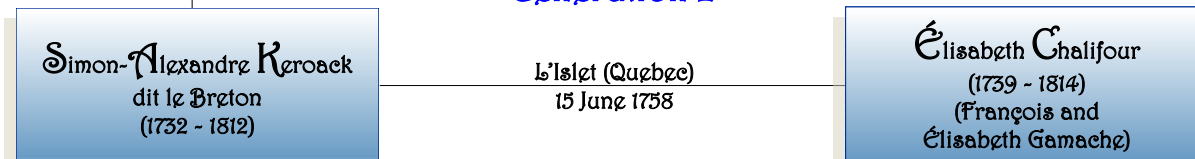
² Joseph Sergius Archambault was born in 1871 at Terrebonne (off-island suburb of Montreal, on the north side) borrowed his professional name, Palmiéri, from the first character he played when playing in a mixed company in 1896 at the Monument National Theatre in Montreal. He studied at

Ancestry of Henri Poitras

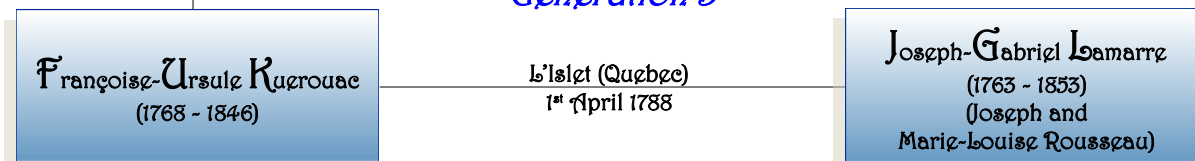
Generation 1



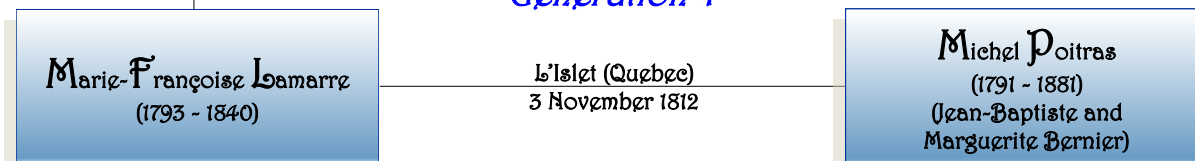
Generation 2



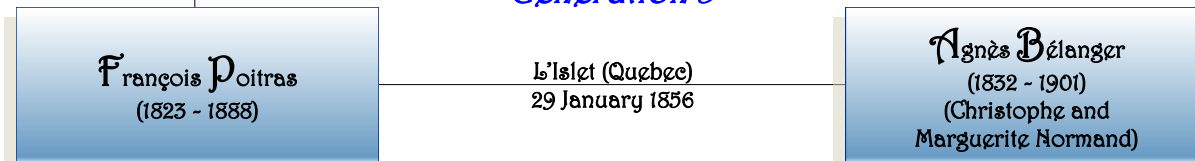
Generation 3



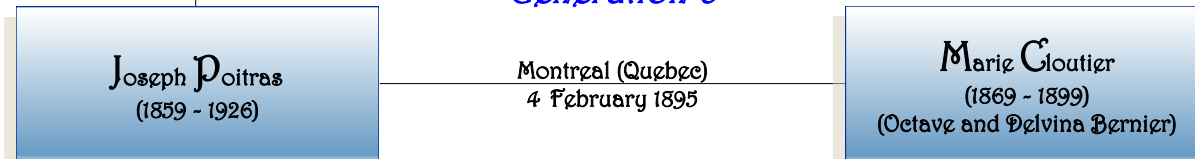
Generation 4



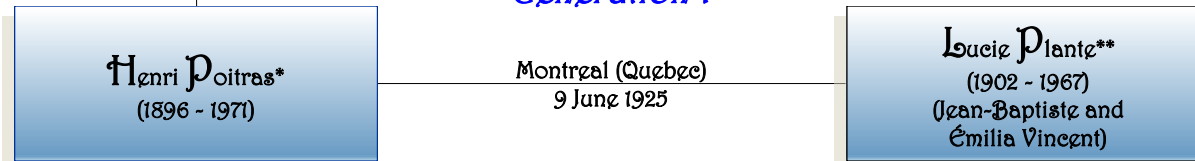
Generation 5



Generation 6



Generation 7



* Henri Poitras also married for a second time to Philomène Gilbert (1905-1991) on July 6, 1968 in Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot.

** Born Marie-Lucienne-Antoinette Plante, she was also known by her artist names Lucie Poitras in Canada and Lucie Arlette in New England.

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Mathias Rioux

by André St-Arnaud

Mathias Rioux, born at Rivière-à-Claude, on the Gaspé Peninsula, facing north on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, on 29 March 1934, is the son of Adélarde Rioux, fisherman, and Céline Lefrançois.

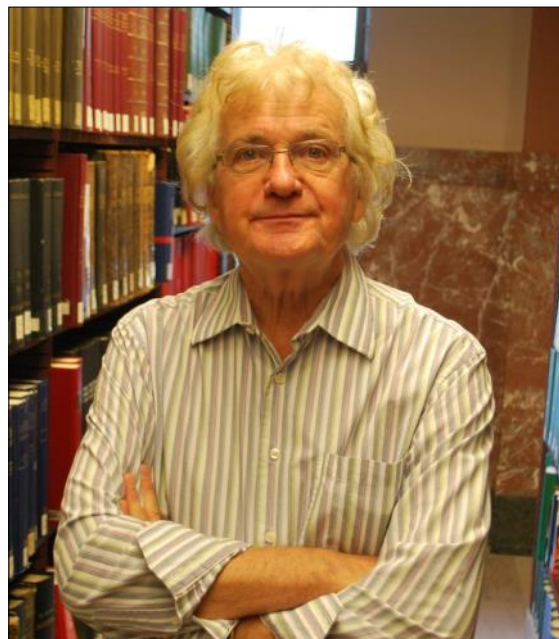
In 1961, he obtained a teaching diploma at École normale Jacques-Cartier (Teachers Training College). Then at Montreal University, he completed a BA in pedagogy then a licence in education administration in 1965. He studied at UQAM (Quebec University at Montreal) from 1973 to 1975, earning his master's in political science followed by a master's in regional development at UQO (Quebec University in Outaouais/Gatineau) in 2010. In 2018, for his 84th birthday, he received a PhD in Political Sociology and Regional Development from Laval University. His thesis was entitled: *La Gaspésie dans tous ses états: grandeurs et misères du développement régional au Québec. (The Various Shapes of the Gaspé Peninsula: Greatness and Highs and Lows of Regional Development in the Province of Quebec).*

From 1961 to 1967 he taught in the French Catholic school system. From 1965 to 1994, he was a journalist and a TV and radio commentator; from 1967 to 1970 he was also vice-president of the Centrale de l'enseignement du Québec (Quebec Teachers' Unions); from 1967 to 1971, president of the Alliance des professeurs du Québec (elementary and secondary teachers union); public relations vice-president and general director of CKLM-radio from 1985 to 1987. From 1987 to 1994, editor of Avenir Magazine and owner-editor of *MéMo* magazine. Cofounder of the Mouvement Québec-français; general secretary of Union des artistes (Actors' union).

In 1994, he was elected MNA (Parti Québécois) for Matane and was reelected in 1998; was Labour Minister in Bouchard's Cabinet from 29 January 1996 to 15 December 1998 and Minister responsible for elders from 23 September to 15 December 1998. He was president of the Quebec Cultural Commission from 4 March 1999 to 4 March 2001 and president of the Economy and Work Commission from 27 March 2001 to 5 March 2003; then resigning as MNA. He was coordinator of the construction industry's monitoring committee from February 2013 to autumn 2014.

On 22 November 2007, he was decorated Commandeur of the *Ordre de la Pléiade*. A distinction created in 1976 by the Francophone International Organisation to acknowledge the merits of personalities who served the association's ideals of cooperation and friendship.

As it is never too late to pursue higher education, at the age of 84, Mathias Rioux obtained a doctorate in political sociology and regional development at Laval University with a thesis entitled: *The*



Mathias Rioux, on 7 June 2013 in the library at the Quebec Parliament.

(Photo: Simon Villeneuve, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

various states of the Gaspé peninsula: greatness and miseries of regional development in Quebec.

Sources: Internet sites of *l'Assemblée nationale du Québec*, *Ici-Radio-Canada* and *Mémoires du Québec*.



Ancestry of Mathias Rioux



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Christine St-Pierre

by André St-Arnaud

Born in Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies, on the Saint-Lawrence south shore, on 10 June 1953, Christine St-Pierre studied at the CEGEP (college of general & professional education) in La Pocatière. In 1972, she studied at Moncton University (New Brunswick), graduating with a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences in 1976. This led her to a successful thirty-year career as a journalist for Radio-Canada (French speaking CBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation).

In 1992, she became parliamentary correspondent at the Quebec National Assembly for Radio-Canada, then took up the same position in Ottawa from 1997 until 2001. In 2001, she became parliamentary correspondent in Washington for a few years. Prior to jumping into politics, she returned to Canada as parliamentary correspondent for Radio-Canada (2005-2007) at the House of Commons in Ottawa.

In the 2007 provincial election, she was the Quebec Liberal Party's official candidate in the L'Acadie riding and was elected L'Acadie's MNA on 26 March 2007. Then Premier Jean Charest named her Minister for Culture, Communications, Women & Gender Equality. And, as of 18 April 2007, at the first joint cabinet in Quebec's history, she became responsible for applying the French Language Charter, the post being extended on 18 December 2018.

As Minister of Culture & Communications, Ms. St-Pierre was keen on heritage, particularly modernising the Cultural Property Act and increasing the funds to restore religious heritage. Besides, for the first time in forty years, she used the pre-emption right of a Culture Minister to preserve the original vocation of Montreal's Saint-Sulpice Library.

Also, improving women's condition was a priority for Minister St-Pierre, thus she proposed an amendment to the Quebec Charter of Rights & Freedoms, to include the notion of equality between men and women.



Christine St-Pierre

Photo: Wikimedia Commons, by Simon Villeneuve.
[CC BY-SA 3.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>)]

Re-elected in the general election of 4 September 2012, Ms. St-Pierre became the spokesperson for the official opposition for International Relations & the Francophonie (26 Sept. 2012-15 Sept. 2013). She was the Culture spokesperson for Greater Montreal* until the next Quebec general election in 2014. (*Half the province of Quebec's population lives in the Greater Montreal area.)

Second Government Mandate

From 23 April 2014 until the Quebec general election on 1 October 2018, back in power, she was Quebec Minister of International Relations & the Francophonie. In 2018, she was re-elected as MNA for the Acadie riding but this time in the official opposition.

She did not stand for reelection in 2022 general election.

Source: Wikipedia



Ancestry of Christine St-Pierre



Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Raoul Vézina

by André St-Arnaud

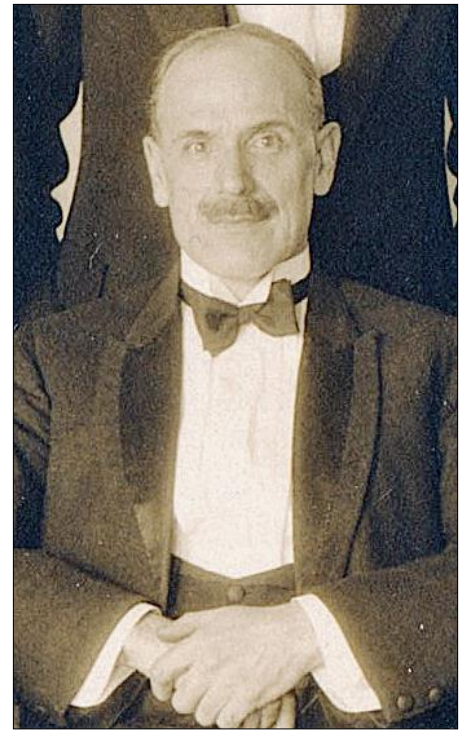
Joseph-François-Raoul Vézina was born on 7 July 1882 in Saint-Jean-Baptiste Parish, Quebec City. He was the son of François-Joseph Vézina (1849-1924) PhD music from Laval University, one of the most renowned composers in Canada, and his wife Marie-Céculie-Monique Tardif (1852-1940).

Pupil and disciple of his father, after his studies at the École Normale Laval, then at Quebec City's Académie Commerciale¹ as well as at the Petit Séminaire de Québec², he studied trumpet and horn at the Chicago Conservatory³ where he obtained his diploma.

He lived in Saint-Boniface⁴, Manitoba, from 1904 to 1906 where he was the musical director of *La Lyre*, the Saint-Boniface brass band⁵. He was also first trumpet in the Winnipeg Symphony⁶.

In 1903, he was one of the founding members of the *Société Symphonique de Québec*⁷ with his father, for almost forty years he was the first trumpet; he was QSO president from 1926 to 1929 and again from 1936-1939, as well as archivist, secretary and librarian for decades. For many years also, he was the solo-wind instrument in Quebec-City's main brass-bands as well as under his father's musical direction.

On 14 January 1908, at St-Jean-Baptiste Church, Quebec, he married his first wife, Claire Talbot (1884-1916), daughter of Octave Talbot (1850-1928) and Georgianna Montminy (1860-1916). They had ten children. On 12 May 1919 at Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs Church at Portneuf, he married his second wife, Eugénie Richard (1893-1967), daughter of Napoléon Richard (1842-1902) and Belzémire Valin (1857-1913).



Raoul Vézina (1882-1954) en 1928
(Photo : collection Orchestre symphonique de Québec, courtoisie Bertrand Guay)

¹ **François-Joseph Vézina** born on 11 June 1849, died on 5 October 1924, was a conductor, composer, organist and music professor. He was the son of François Vézina, a house painter and amateur musician, and Marie Petielerc. Joseph married Monique Tardif, a Kirouac descendant on her maternal side; they had four sons and three daughters including Raoul, 1882-1954, co-founder of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra (OSQ).

² Founded in 1862 by the De LaSalle Brothers under the English name *Quebec Commercial Academy*, this institution offered a commercial course in English only until 1870. The Academie moved a number of times until, in 1960, it settled on a new campus at Ste-Foy, Quebec suburb and became (Cegep) Ste-Foy College in 1967.

³ Petit Séminaire, the small seminary was founded in 1668 in Quebec City by (future bishop) François de Montmorency-Laval, it remained as an auxiliary of the Grand Séminaire until 1987. (small = high school level, grand = college level).

⁴ Chicago Conservatory of music, founded in 1867 under the name Chicago Musical College; part of Roosevelt University since 1954.

⁵ Saint-Boniface, heart of the French-speaking community in Manitoba. Historical city adjoining Winnipeg, Manitoba's provincial capital.

⁶ *La Lyre*, Saint-Boniface's harmony, was founded in 1904, due to the large influx of Belgian immigrants where brass bands were popular then. La Lyre carried on the tradition started in 1899 at Bruxelles, a Manitoba town. Then in 1910, the *Fanfare de la Cité de Saint-Boniface*, i.e. *St-Boniface Town Harmony* was created under the direction of Nicolas

Pirotton, to carry on the work of *La Lyre*. The population of Belgian origin was so large that the harmony was known as *Fanfare des Belges*, i.e. the Belgian Band. Source: <https://shsb.mb.ca> -Belgians in Manitoba by the St-Boniface Historical Society

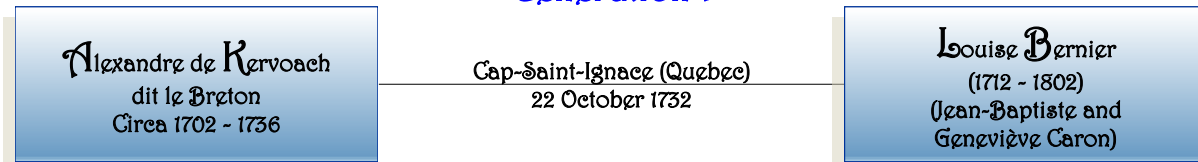
⁷ In 1880, the Société philharmonique was founded by Captain W. N. Kennedy, organist and former Winnipeg mayor; the **Winnipeg Symphony** followed, and after the Second World War, it became known as the **Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra**.

⁸ In 1902, Quebec's **Société Symphonique** was created and is known as the oldest orchestral formation in Canada. **Raoul** was a bassoonist from its beginning and its president from 1926 to 1929, and again from 1936-1939. Raoul's brothers, **Jules** and **Arthur**, respectively violonist and bassoonist, were also members of the orchestra while their father Joseph was conductor.

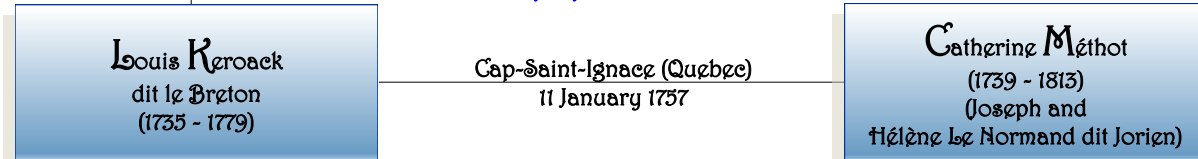


Ancestry of Raoul Vézina

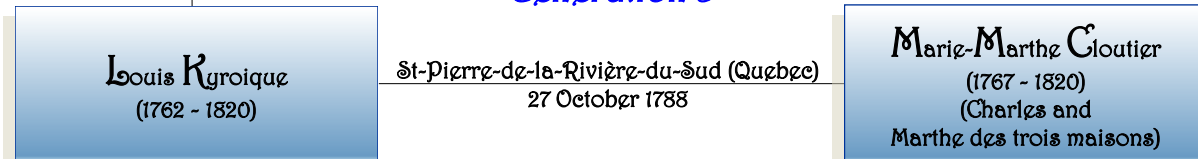
Generation 1



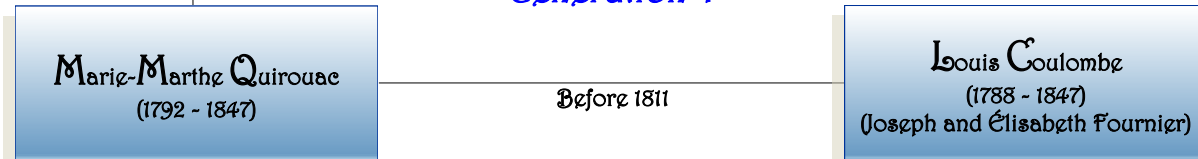
Generation 2



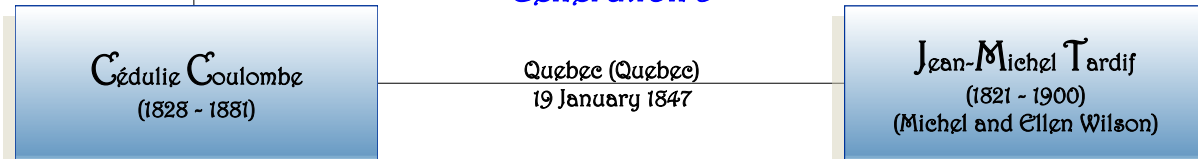
Generation 3



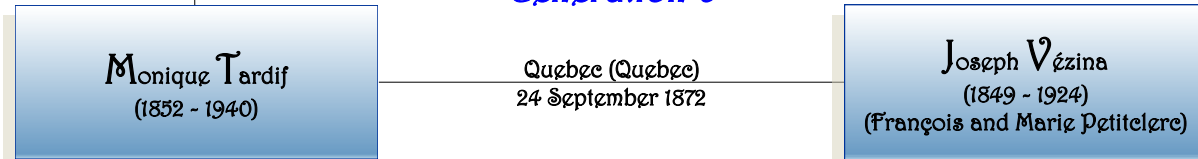
Generation 4



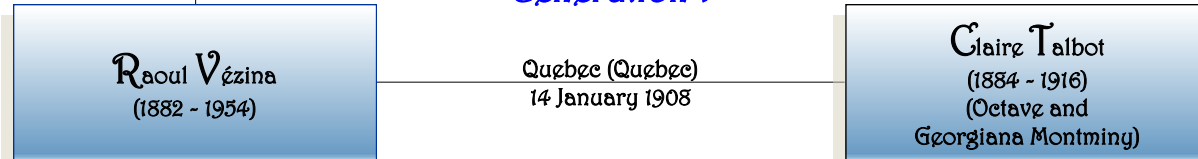
Generation 5



Generation 6



Generation 7



Besides his busy musical career, Raoul worked for the Canadian Postal Service⁸. In 1906 he joined the Postal Railway Service and travelled on various postal rail lines until 1912. Afterwards he joined the **Ocean Limited Line** for five years. In 1917 he started travelling on the **Maritime Express**, and worked on that postal line until retiring in 1947. The **Maritime Express** ran from Lévis, Quebec, to Tide Head, near Campbellton, New-Brunswick. In 41 years of service, it is estimated that he covered about 3,218,688 km or 2,011,666 miles.

He always counted his blessings as he was never involved in serious rail accidents and always credited the Holy Virgin Mary and Saint Christopher for looking after him. However, in 1918, he was on board a freight train that was involved in a serious accident at Saint-André-de-Kamouraska. The postal wagon turned over and the employees had to get out through the windows but he came out with bruises only.

In 1931, recommended by **J.-Robert Talbot**, then director of **Laval University's** Music School⁹, he was appointed professor of wind instruments (brass section) and technique. He was also director-choir coach of **Société Sainte-Cécile**¹⁰ at **Séminaire de Québec**. For nearly twenty-two years, he was musical director of Quebec City's **Saint-Jean-Baptiste Harmony** and band master of the Cadets' brass band.

In 1935, some 25,000 persons crowded **Dufferin Terrasse**¹¹ and surroundings to listen to a concert given by the Cadets' brass band of St-Jean-Baptiste Parish directed by **Raoul Vézina**. Afterwards, people enjoyed fireworks launched from Quebec's highest points and from Lévis to commemorate the 25th anniversary of George V's accession to the British throne¹².

On 3 October 1954 after a brief illness, Raoul died aged seventy-two years and three months. Visitation was at Germain Lépine Funeral Home at Québec City. Funeral Mass was held on Wednesday, 6 October, at Notre-Dame-du-Chemin Church followed by interment at Belmont Cemetery. The family then lived at 954 Moncton Avenue in Quebec City.

On 1st December 1954, the Société Sainte-Cécile at the Petit Séminaire de Québec, as part of its annual concert, paid a moving homage and gratitude to Raoul Vézina. The concert was held at the Salle des Promotions at Laval University. Under the direction of Abbé **Marc Letarte** the brass band played many pieces including a fantasia march entitled S. M. E. composed by **Raoul Vézina** around 1942 and dedicated to **Harmonie Sainte-Cécile**.

For a century the names of Joseph and Raoul Vézina, father and son, were synonymous with Quebec City's artistic and musical life.

This is the first part in the history of a musical family; one of Raoul's granddaughters will be featured in a future edition.

⁹ Railway postal service was established in Canada in 1854 and terminated in October 1971. It was hard usually overnight work, all tasks related to the postal service were done aboard the trains. Raoul worked on two line serving the Maritimes, the **Ocean Limited** and the **Maritime Express**. Read the Canadian Postal History on internet.

¹⁰ **Jean-Robert Talbot** (1893-1954) violonist, altist, professor, administrator, composer, first read Law at Laval University before studying music, especially with Joseph Vézina. He also studied at the Institute of Musical Art in New York. He was secretary (1922-1935) and director (1932-1954) of Laval University Music School. [...] He was conductor of the Société symphonique from 1924, to 1941. Later known as OSQ. (Source: Canadian Encyclopedia)

¹¹ **The Société Sainte-Cécile du Séminaire de Québec** was founded in 1833. In the Canadian Encyclopedia it says that Société Sainte-Cécile is a music society for the senior boarding students of college level at the Quebec Séminaire; the aim is to initiate the students to instrumental music, develop their taste for it, teach them how to play various instruments to give public performances as brass band, marching band or harmony to enhance public ceremonies. Reference: Vézina, Raymond. **La Société Sainte-Cécile, its role at the Small Quebec Seminary from 1765 to 1945** (Quebec City 1968)

¹² **Dufferin Terrace**, is a boardwalk that wraps around the Château Frontenac in Quebec City, Canada, overlooking the St. Lawrence River. Enjoy its history on line.

¹³ **George V**, (1865-1936) King of United Kingdom and British Dominions from 1910 to 1936.

Other documents consulted besides many websites

Biographical Dictionary of Canadian Musicians, Sisters of St. Anne, 1935, Lachine; Journal **L'Action Catholique**, BanQ, **Journal Le Soleil**, BanQ, **Le Petit Journal**, Sunday, 28 October 1951, page 38, BanQ, **L'Action Catholique**, Thursday, 7 October 1954, BanQ and **Le Trésor des Kirouac**, special issue 4, Spring 2017, page 10.

THANK YOU!

Our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Bertrand Guay, official historian of the OSQ, Quebec City Symphony Orchestra, who kindly and generously supplied us with the high definition photos to illustrate the present article. The history of music in the Province of Quebec has no secret for him. He has written a number of books on the subjects, including, **Un siècle de symphonie à Québec**, about the first hundred years of the OSQ, 1902-2002, published by **Éditions du Septentrion** in 2002 in Quebec City.

THE EDITOR

Kervoach Descendants Through the Female Line:

Abbé William Vachon

by Marie Lussier Timperley

Research by André St-Arnaud

Since Autumn 2018, André St-Arnaud, the genealogist of the *Saint-Arnaud family Association* and General Director of the *Cercles des Jeunes Naturalistes*, has been looking up personalities who are descendants of the De Kervoach ancestor through the female line.

How he does it remains a mystery for me. Recently, he found Abbe William Vachon, a beloved parish vicar from Saint-Aubert-de-L'Islet, whose notoriety comes from a tragic event: he was one of the victims at Mount Obiou in France, on 13 November 1950.

His very short biography:

William Vachon was born at Montmagny¹ on 18 August 1903, the son and only child of Odilon Vachon, horse-drawn carter, and Marie-Louise Gagné. He was ordained to the priesthood at Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière² by Cardinal R.-M. Rouleau³ and was parish vicar at Saint-Aubert de l'Islet⁴ from 9 October 1930 until his untimely death on 13 November 1950 at Mount OBIOU. He was buried in Notre-Dame-de-La-Salette Cemetery in France⁵. It took a tragedy to discover a priest was so much loved by his parishioners not only in Saint-Aubert but also in neighbouring parishes and villages, where he ministered.

The 1950 Holy Year – 1950

It was a very important Holy Year. I remember, I was seven, in grade two studying in a Catholic school where the nuns explained to us that His Holiness Pope Pius XII had proclaimed 1950 a Holy Year and its special importance for us French-Canadian Catholics.

On 15 September 1950⁶, at Palais Montcalm in Quebec City⁷, an important campaign was launched to send the largest possible Quebec delegation to Rome because, besides the Dogma of the Holy Virgin's Assumption to be proclaimed, the Venerable Marguerite Bourgeoys⁹ would be declared "Blessed". His Excellency Bishop Maurice Roy¹⁰ presided the ceremony. Parishes, organizations, charities, chose their

¹ In the Chaudière-Appalaches region, 56 km (35 miles) east of Lévis and south of Cap-Saint-Ignace.

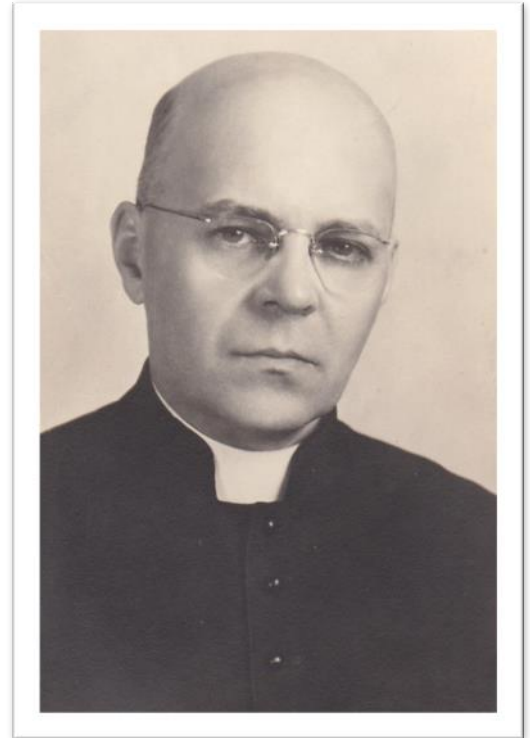
² Town, north of Montmagny, Kamouraska County, on the south side of the St-Laurence River.

³ Cardinal Cardinal Raymond-Marie Rouleau (1866-1931) became Quebec City archbishop on 9 July 1926; Source: <http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/quebechistory/encyclopedia/rouleau.htm>

⁴ Village in L'Islet County, inland 6 km from Saint-Jean-Port-Joli.

⁵ Known for the Holy Virgin Mary appearing to two children on 19 September 1846; The basilica was built between 1852 and 1879 at La Salette-Fallavaux, a nearby village in Isère, France.

⁶ In the Roman Catholic Church, a Holy Year is meant to revive the faith of Catholics, and occurs every 25 years.



Abbé William Vachon
(Photo : collection Rose-Hélène Fortin)

⁷ Built in 1932, transformed in 2007, the Palais Montcalm is the heart of the social, artistic, cultural life in Quebec City.

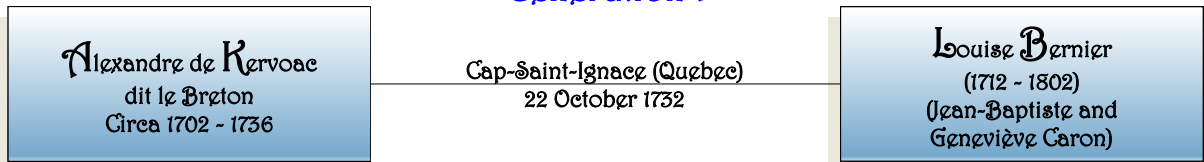
⁸ Oriental Christians believed in the Virgin's Assumption and it was celebrated in the 4th century in Antioch and in the 5th century in Palestine. The date of 15 August was chosen in Orient by Emperor Maurice (582- 603) to commemorate the inauguration of a new church dedicated to the Holy Virgin's Assumption.

⁹ On 1st November 1950, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the dogma of the Holy Virgin Mary's Assumption. Born at Troyes in France in 1620, Marguerite Bourgeoys died at Ville-Marie (Montreal) in 1700, New-France (Canada) already thought a saint. On 19 June 1910, Pope Pius X declared her Venerable. On 12 November 1950, she was Beatified by Pope Pius XII. And was finally declared a Saint on 31 October 1982 by Pope John-Paul II.

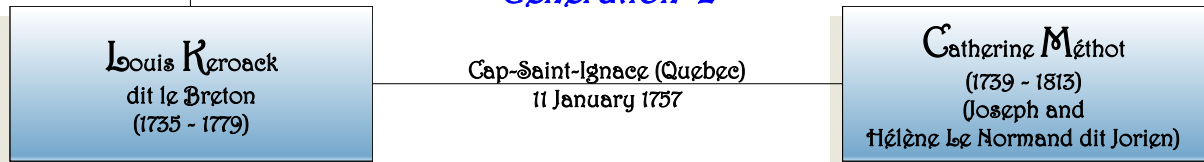
¹⁰ Maurice Roy (1905-1985) born in Quebec City, ordained to the priesthood in 1927; appointed Bishop of Trois Rivières in 1946. Bishop Roy became Archbishop of Quebec City in 1947 and Cardinal in February 1965.

Ancestry of Abbe William Vachon

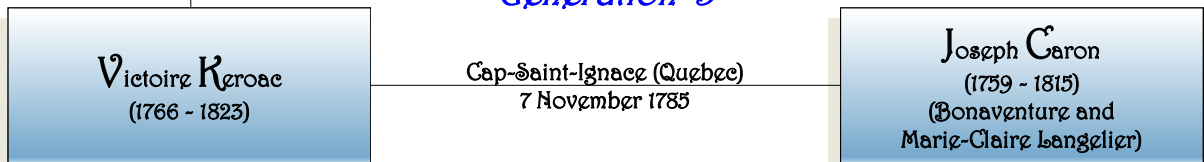
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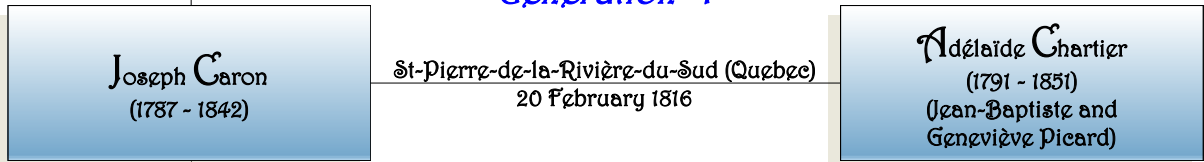
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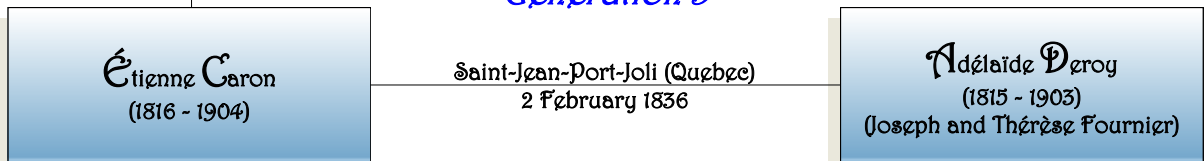
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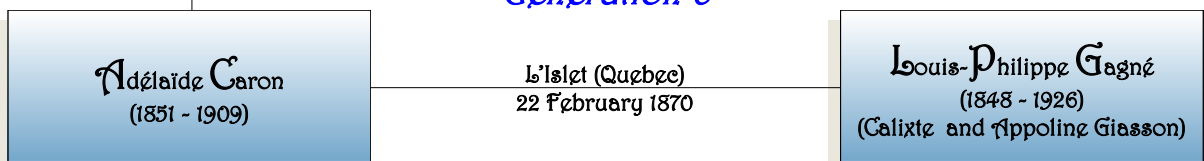
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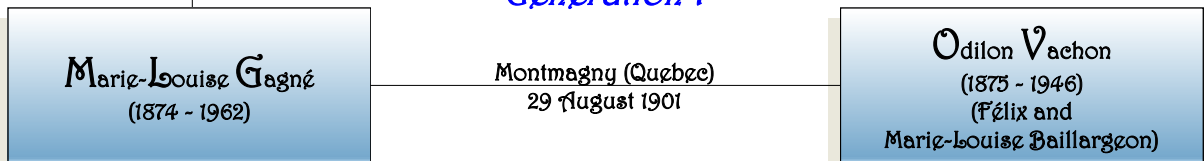
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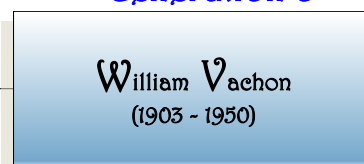
Generation 6



Generation 7



Generation 8



representatives. On 13 October 1950, 120 pilgrims boarded the S.S. Columbia¹¹ to sail to Europe.

The pilgrims first went to Fatima, Lourdes and Lisieux, before reaching Rome. On the morning of 13 November 1950, before the departure, the Pope gave a last and supreme blessing with plenary indulgences to the Canadians. Over forty of them flew back on the "Pèlerin canadien"¹², the name given to the plane of the Curtiss-Reid Company¹³.

To show their gratitude to their beloved parish vicar, Abbe William Vachon, the population of Saint-Aubert-de-L'Islet had decided to offer this journey/pilgrimage as a token of their gratitude for his twenty years of exceptional and faithful services.

Another priest of a nearby village, Abbe Nazaire Thibault, Parish Vicar at Saint-Eugène-de-L'Islet was also in the group; however, at the last minute he gave his seat to a passenger who was in a hurry to fly back. So he came home safely as he travelled on a ship a little later.

Rose-Hélène Fortin

Rose-Hélène Fortin, from St-Aubert, very kindly provided photos of Abbe William Vachon and the articles she wrote about the tragedy, that were published in *L'Attisée*, a regional paper¹⁴. Some years later, with a small group of ladies she went to LaSalette-Fallavaux. She wrote an article about the celebration marking the 60th anniversary held in 2010. In 2020, to mark the 70th anniversary, here is her article, entitled **Homage to Abbe William Vachon**, was also published in *L'Attisée*:

Rude awakening the morning following the 13th November: doom's day. For the population of Saint-Aubert-de-L'Islet, deeply Christian and involved in the special piety of a Holy Year, the dismay was nightmarish. Three of their own were gone, fallen to their death. Shock, denial, unimaginable,

consternation. Their parish priest: for twenty years, a real father always welcoming, a warm presence, goodness personified, unconditional trust for every one at all time, so approachable, easy to talk to and, in no way ways so devoted to the youth, not least as the faithful photographer of all the school activities. Although he always wore a serious expression, how he loved teasing.

Thus the parishioners decided to show their gratitude to their beloved parish priest by offering him the trip of a lifetime. Abbe Vachon was the stay-at-home type. So, the idea of going away? No! He hesitated about going to the end of the world? Fatima, Lourdes, Lisieux. By boat, and by air? The unknown? See Rome? Meet the Pope? It seemed like far too much for one who was perfectly happy with very little. Refuse or accept? It seemed like a mountain . . . dark allusion to what was in store for him. A couple from the parish, friends, decided to accompany him. Friday, 13 October. He boarded the ship carrying a travel journal, determined to write everything in order to recount all to everyone once back home. The many ceremonies represented a surcharge of emotions, something almost unreal between first time at sea and first flight. (Superstition? ... between two "13")

Monday, 13 November, return trip. He boarded the DC4 with his bag of medals, papal benedictions, tiredness and more, so much looking forward to getting back and again to read his breviary while pacing the manse's long balcony. The airplane is not new. Along the way, it veered slightly off course from the flight path to make up for lost time but the Alps claimed their right of way... The grey rainy and icy autumn sky in France was too much for the bimotor plane. The Alps! Those marvelous and proud mountains. The Obiou, rising almost 300 feet above the other summits, awaiting. Horror strikes at five p.m.

An only child, this priest leaves his old mother who kept the secrets written in his notebook one day found on the mountain top thousands of miles away, eventually came back to her all scrunched up. Saint-Aubert wept... why did it happen? A thousand times, why? He had been their parish priest for twenty years. He belonged to them for twenty years. They respected each other. At that moment, when one has to submit to God's will, his bald head received a crown, a saint's halo to welcome the good and faithful servant of the Lord to his reward. The day the Libera was sung in the parish church was the saddest ever. There was not enough room for all the parishioners who wanted to attend the service and express their final À Dieu.

¹¹ The S.S. Columbia built at Belfast in 1913, was transformed into a passenger ship in 1949; accommodating 52 first-class passengers and 754 in tourist. In the nineteen-fifties, the Columbia's travelled from Montreal and Quebec City, to Cherbourg, France and Southampton, England. After a collision in 1957, she ended life in Nagasaki, Japan, as scrap metal. Source: <http://www.c-and-e-museum.org/marville/other/maother-44.html>

¹² The "Pèlerin canadien", the plane named "the Canadian Pilgrim" because it carried so many pilgrims who had been to Rome. On 13 November 1950 it crashed on Mount Obiou in France. Source: <https://jemesouviens.biz/13-novembre-1950-le-pelerin-canadien-secrase-sur-lobiou-en-france/>

¹³ See the Curtiss-Reid 's website to read their comments about the crash of their Douglas C-54B-1-DC Skymaster on Mount Obiou: 58 killed. Source: <https://www.baaa-acro.com/crash/crash-douglas-c-54b-1-dc-skymaster-mt-obiou-58-killed>

¹⁴ See *L'Attisée*, December 2000, number 12; June & July 2010; November 2010, number 11; December 2010; November 2015, number 11, p.40. Unfortunately, these articles (in French) are no longer available on line; but should you wish to read them and see the photos in PDF format, please ask the KFA at: association@familleskirouac.com.

PERSONNALITIES FROM
THE ANCESTOR'S OLDER SON,
INCLUDING JACK KEROUAC

Maxime Bernier (politician),
Pascal Bérubé (politician),
Gaston Deschênes (historian),
Nathan Christopher Fillion (actor),
Dorilda Fortin-Godbout (wife of Quebec Premier),
Mélanie Joly (politician),
Bernard Lamarre (engineer),
Linda Lemay (singer-songwriter)
Laval Lord (agronomist),
Chantal Pary (singer),
Valérie Plante (politician),
Henri Poitras (comedian),
Christine St-Pierre (journalist, politician).



Jack Kerouac, at home in Northport, Long Island, NY, in 1964
(Photographer Jerry Bauer; photo courtesy of Gerald Nicosia)

PERSONNALITIES FROM
THE ANCESTOR'S YOUNGER SON,
INCLUDING BROTHER MARIE-VICTORIN,
BORN CONRAD KIROUAC

Jacques Blanchet (singer-songwriter, composer)
Étienne Boulay (professional football player and media host)
Irène Carbonneau-Galen (wife of politician)
Ivanhoé Caron (priest, historian, archivist)
Louis-Bonaventure Caron (lawyer, judge and politician)
Aline Duval (née Blanche Lacombe, actress)
Bernard Hurtubise (culinary chef, administrator),
Ian Lafrenière (police officer, politician),
Marie-Huguette Morin Karrer,
Mathias Rioux (journalist, media host and politician),
William Vachon (priest),
Raoul Vézina (musician).



Conrad Kirouac, Brother Marie-Victorin,
(Photo: KFA Collection)



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*Alexandre
Le Pihay*

*Maurice Louis
Le Bris De La Voach*

Alexandre De La Voach

Do you know any other personalities with a female Kirouac ancestor?

If you do, thank you for letting us know

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