

Summer 2010

Number 100

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach



2010 marks the 65th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Robert Maranda, son of Bernadette Kirouac and Albert Maranda, died in June 1944. Here he is at the command of his Spitfire while stationed in England. The handwriting below is that of his uncle Conrad, Brother Marie-Victorin: "Our dear nephew in England, he is a very brave boy!"

*Notre cher neveu en Angleterre.
C'est un brave enfant!*

fr Marie-Victorin

Kirouac



Kéroack



Kirouac



Kyrout



Kirouack



Kirouack

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Le Trésor des Kirouac, bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach, is published in two editions: French and English; it is distributed to all AFK / KFA members. Permission to reproduce an article must be obtained from the KFA beforehand.

Bulletin Production Team (In alphabetical order)

Michel Bornais, François Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac,
Marie Kirouac, Marie Lussier Timperley

Authors and Contributors to the present issue (In alphabetical order)

Michel Bornais, Céline Kirouac, François Kirouac,
Lucille Kirouac, René Kirouac, Jean-Yves Laurin, Marie Lussier Timperley

Newspaper Articles and/or extracts from the Internet

La Seigneurie (Christine Bouthillier)

Graphic Design

Front Cover: Jean-François Landry
KFA Logo on back cover: Raymond Bergeron
Bulletin: François Kirouac

Layout and Design

French Edition: François Kirouac
English Edition: Gregory Kyrourac

Translating and Editing (In alphabetical order)

Michel Bornais, Yolande Genest Bornais,
Marie L. Timperley, J. Brian Timperley

Editorial Policy

At its discretion, the KFA Board reserves the right to edit texts received for publication. Though the author of a text is entirely responsible for his/her text, the KFA Board reserves the right not to publish a text (photo, caricature, or illustration) deemed of no interest to the KFA mission or susceptible to cause prejudice either to the Association, person, group of persons, or any organization. Modified text will be published only with the author's prior consent as he/she is still fully accountable for its content.

Publisher

L'Association des familles Kirouac inc.
3782, Chemin Saint-Louis, Quebec (Quebec) Canada G1W 1T5

Legal Deposit 2nd quarter 2010

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec
National Library of Canada

Distribution

French Edition: 140 copies, English Edition: 40 copies

ISSN 0833-1685

Subscription Rates:

Canada: \$22; USA: \$22 US ; Overseas: \$30 Canadian

Table of Contents

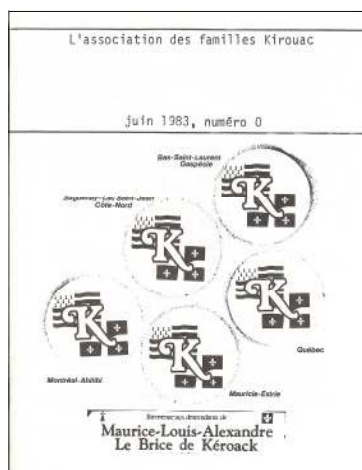
Le Trésor des Kirouac No. 100

The President's Word	3
Briefly Speaking	6
Press Review, <i>On the Road</i> To Be Filmed in Montreal	6
Robert Maranda, Unknown Hero of the Kirouac Family	7
Official Programme for the Annual Kirouac Family Gathering, 13—15 August 2010 in Sherbrooke	11
Our Heritage (Philippe's Papers)	12
Interview with François Kirouac	17
Important Visitors in Quebec City, Colette Kerouac and Robert Deschênes	29
Kirouac ... <i>ON THE ROAD AGAIN</i> ... As the Song Goes	30
In Memoriam, Canada	34
In Memoriam, USA	35
Treasurer's Report for 2009	36
Earthquake in Chile, Lived by Two K/ Travelers from Boucherville	39
Photographic Heritage	41
Genealogy and the Readers' Page	42
Board Members 2009-2010	43
Regional Representatives	43
Notice of Convocation to the 2010 Annual General Meeting	44

The President's Word

100 ways
to remember

This is *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, bulletin number 100, hence the title *Hundred ways to remember**. What a long road we have travelled since June 1983. Please allow me



June 1983, first bulletin

to present a streamlined history of the ground covered during so many years, since I believe that our bulletin has become a very interesting and precious source of information for anyone who wishes to find out about the K/rouacs, in general or about some family members in particular, from the most famous to the famous unknown.

**Translator's Note: The French title, Cent souvenirs pour s'en souvenir, is a clever play on word by an unknown author; I have yet to find the equivalent in English; however, it does mean: Hundred ways to remember.*

Some figures

During the first three years, 1983 to 1985 inclusively, our family bulletin was published only twice a year. Then from 1986 to 1988, there were three annual issues; finally since 1989, four bulletins are published every year.

Three hundred copies were printed of most issues. However, 400 copies were printed of number 4 because it was dedicated to Brother Marie-Victorin. Five other issues had a printing of 250 copies, while six bulletins had a printing of 350 copies. From number 80 on, the number of copies printed varies between 150 and 225 for the French edition and forty to sixty for the English edition, which has been published as a separate edition since number 81, in the autumn 2005. It is worth noting that from the beginning some articles were translated into English and inserted into the French edition. From 2000 until 2004 inclusively, nearly all texts were translated and inserted into the French edition of *Le Trésor* until the KFA decided to print a complete and separate English edition in 2005.

The first bulletin to bear a registering ISSN number was number 9, in April 1987.

The first 65 bulletins were entirely done 'by hand' by Marie Kirouac. In December 2001, with number 66, we 'graduated' to digital design and lay out which I have been doing since.



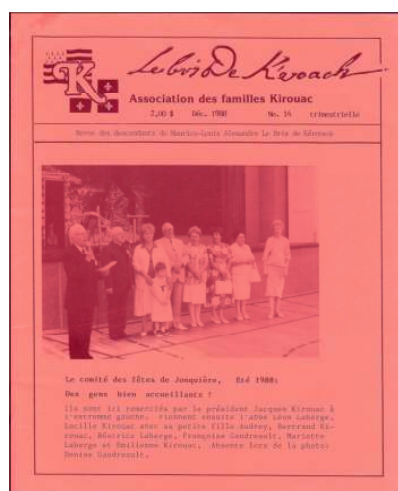
François Kirouac

Collection François Kirouac

Between June 1983 and June 2005, the number of pages varied according to the quantity of subjects to be published. The smallest *Trésor* had only sixteen pages and the largest had sixty. For a while the bulletin had forty-four pages but, from September 2005 (number 81), in order to reduce costs, we settled for forty pages. Since spring 2009 (number 95) because of the amount of work involved in preparing two whole separate editions, one in French and one in English, *Le Trésor* is now thirty-



December 1984, new presentation



December 1988,
a first name

two pages; however, we are adding a few more pages for this special milestone issue of *Le Trésor*.

The bulletin's name and presentation

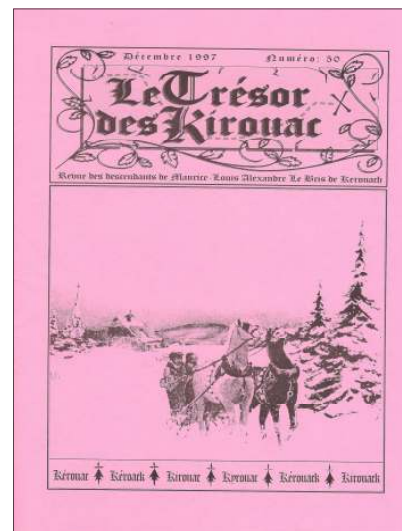
From 1983 to 1988, for five years our bulletin was published without a name. Then from December 1988 to December 1994, it was *Le Bris de Keroack*. In March 95, number 39, the name *Le Trésor des Kirouac* was definitely adopted. The name was chosen following a survey among KFA members as it is associated with a rather popular family legend recalling the death of our ancestor in the spring of 1736 as he was leaving New France to go back to Brittany to claim an inheritance. When our bulletin changed its name from *Le Bris de Keroack* to *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, it also acquired a new format. The format of numbers 0 to 38 was 17.6cm by 21.6cm (7 X 8½ inches); from number 39 on, format has been and still is 21.3cm by 27.9cm (8 ½ X 11 inches).

In December 1997, the editorial team marked the publication of number 50 with a new front page. The crest used since March 1995 symbolizing the Kirouac treasure was replaced by a *treasure hunt map* as a direct reference to the legend told and published by ethnologist, Jean-Claude Dupont.

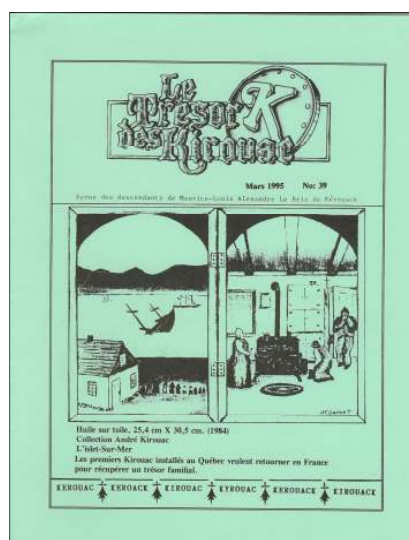
Changes in the bulletin's name also show our uncertainty as to our ancestor's name. Therefore the caption under the ancestor's name also evolved according to our knowledge or understanding of his name. For example, on the front page of number 39, under the name of our bulletin, one read: *Revue des descendants de (Bulletin of the descendants of) Maurice-Louis Alexandre Le Bris de Kérouack*; then on number 50, the name *Kérouack* became *Kerouach*. On number 56, *Kerouach* went back to its former spelling: *Kérouack*. Finally, in March 2000, number 59, further to the discoveries of Clément Kirouac, Patricia Dagier, and

myself, the name was changed to: *Revue des descendants de Urbain-François Le Bihan, sieur de Kervoach*.

On the cover page of the present bulletin number 100, did you notice the new subtitle: *Revue des descendants d'Alexandre de K/vouch?* Why a new subtitle? Simply because after studying the eighteen signatures found so far, it seems obvious to us that this name better reflects the name our ancestor wanted us to remember him by. While living in New-France, our ancestor



December 1997, renewed front cover



March 1995, new name, new format
and new front cover

never signed Urbain-François; he usually signed Alexandre; in addition, the name *de K/vouch* is found in fifteen of the eighteen signatures known at the moment. Therefore, notwithstanding the results of the genealogical research done so far, from this day onwards, we wish, as of this number 100, highlight our ancestor's choice. **To complete this picture, on the back cover from now on you will see three different signatures left by our ancestor instead of only one.**

Evolution of content

Since 1983, many people, including all the KFA board members, not only looked after the interests of our family association but also contributed to our news bulletin. We believe that by now it has reached a high quality level which, of course, is to be maintained. When we started our bulletin, no one was familiar with publishing rules. However, over the years, the KFA adopted rules and regulations to make sure the information printed in our news bulletin is of the highest quality. The journalists' code of ethics and the genealogists' code of ethics are our reference base. Of course, that does not mean that we are immune to making errors, however, when you let us know that we have erred, a correction is printed in the following issue. The KFA has also determined an editorial policy to insure that the information is interesting, detailed, based on twice-checked historical facts, well documented, varied and certainly not harmful to any one. Through our editorial policy, we also want to let you know which rules we use to choose the texts we publish. Our editorial policy has been developed over the last hundred issues of *Le Trésor des Kirouac* and, without pretending to be infallible, rest assured that it is still our guide for the present number 100 and all the following bulletins.

We hope that from one issue to the next you will appreciate finding a variety of articles on many subjects, not only about the history of our clan and families but also about what



December 2001,
first electronic edition

has been gleaned in daily newspapers, on television, and on the Internet about the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach. All those presently working on our bulletin's editorial board do so because we believe to be contributing to writing our family encyclopedia.

The artisans/creators

The very first editorial board was exclusively Marie Kirouac and the founding president, Jacques Kirouac. I joined them a few years later. Two others in time joined our team, Marie



September 2005, first complete
English bulletin

Lussier Timperley and Michel Bornais.

Many others contributed time and energy on a fairly regular basis. Let's also mention Patricia Kelly, who was the first to translate some texts into English for the benefit of our American members, and Jack Kerouac's biographer, Gerald Nicosia, who has been keeping us up to date about the saga of Jack Kerouac's inheritance and Jack's daughter, Janet Michelle (Jan). So did Claude Le Petit and Clément Kirouac who told us the results of their research about our ancestor, and Hélène Kirouac from Warwick who gave us the opportunity to know her Uncle Louis' life and souvenirs in *La Vita Mea*; Raymonde Kerouac-Harvey (*L'Album* 1980) and so many others who were there from the very beginning. To conclude this list, let's mention a few from our expanding American team: Mark Pattison who brought to light his mother's reminiscences; Greg Kyrouac who keeps finding long lost records, and Catherine Robinson, responsible for the K/ USA E-News Service. I will stop here as I would certainly forget some names and the list would be too long. From the bottom of my heart I wish to thank one and all for your priceless contribution. I hope that everyone will feel included in this short message of deep gratitude and that you will appreciate reading this **Number 100 of *Le Trésor des Kirouac***.

**Most sincerely,
François Kirouac**

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

1st Jack Kerouac Festival in Lanmeur, Brittany



On 27 March 2010, the first *Jack Kerouac Festival* took place in Lanmeur in Brittany, France, where our ancestor comes from. To the left, the front page of the event's programme including lecture, debate, concert, theatre, and dialogue.

This was a first and is most likely going to be followed by many more such festivals in years to come. We wish the organizers the best of success in the future.

It is nice to remember that the municipality of Lanmeur, the inhabitants of Kervoac and the Le Coat family very warmly welcomed the thirty-two travellers who took part in the journey back to the source in Brittany between 3 and 18 July 2000.

PRESS REVIEW

ON THE ROAD TO BE FILMED IN MONTREAL

Famous Brazilian born (1956) filmmaker Walter Salles told *Pascal Mérieau*, of the *Nouvel Observateur* (Paris), that the movie *On The Road* will be filmed in Canada. On 14 May 2010, the news was posted by the French Internet daily - *nouvelobs.com*. This information was immediately confirmed by our long-time friend Gerald Nicosia, Jack Kerouac's biographer, author of *Memory Babe*, who recently published *Jan Kerouac - A Life in Memory*. Gerry told us that he would be arriving in Montreal mid-July, appointed as advisor to the actors.

On June first, *Le Journal de Montréal* published an article saying the filming had been confirmed as of Monday, 31 May 2010, by Hans Fraikin, from *Le Bureau du cinéma et de la télévision du Québec* (Quebec Film & Television Office), as well as Montreal based, Lyla Films, owned by Lyse Lafontaine who will also be involved in the production. So far it seems that Sam Riley will play Sal Paradise, a.k.a. Jack Kerouac; Garrett Hedlund would be Dean Moriarty. Kristen Stewart, who won an MTV Movie award for her role in *Twilight*, would be Marilou. Kirsten Dunst has also been confirmed. *The film* will be produced by French production banner MK2 in collaboration with Film 4 in the U.K. and Videofilmes in Brazil. Oscar-nominated writer Jose Rivera (*The Motorcycle Diaries*-2004) has penned the adaptation for Salles; Rebecca Yeldham (production) and Eric Gautier (photography).

After showing a rough cut of *IN SEARCH OF THE ROAD* at the *San Francisco Film Festival* on 29 April 2010, and just before being awarded the San Francisco Film Society's Founder's Directing Award at the [53rd San Francisco International Film Festival \(SFIFF53\)](#), the media started talking about the upcoming production. The French film company K2 offered \$US 25 million to Walter Salles to produce *On The Road* as well as finish the documentary he filmed while visiting locations in the USA.

So many articles were published about this long awaited news, too many to be listed here, therefore we only quote some of Walter Salles' answers to the questions put to him by the Paris' daily, *Le Nouvel Observateur*.

"How will I adapt Kerouac" by Walter Salles

... After seeing *The Motorcycle Diaries*, Coppola offered me to carry on... ..as for my film on the Che, for which I collected a great deal of information. First I wanted to discover the impact of Kerouac on American culture. So I travelled along his road, filming all along the way, talking to everyone who ever knew him... For the past five years, Salles has been working on this film, even following in Kerouac's original route criss-crossing the USA to get a feel for the material needed. Salles' journey has been captured in a documentary entitled *In Search of On the Road* ... from this work a documentary was born and also the conclusion that it would be impossible to shoot *On the Road* in the States: the geography is completely changed and, nowadays, the towns are completely different. Today, all cities look alike. We will shoot in Canada, except for some scenes located in New Orleans, and those will be filmed in nearby Algiers.

... The film will be somewhat like jazz, improvised ...

I would like the film to be like the novel. And like the novel to convey the urge to move on. Today, we pretend to be going places as we sit and watch television or the Internet. But Kerouac's book claimed that it is essential to personally and directly experience things, a desire that seems to be stifled in today's world. (Translation of French article published on: *Le Nouvelobs.com* (Paris))

Michel Bornais for *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, translated by M. L. Timperley

ROBERT MARANDA, UNSUNG HERO OF THE GREATER KIROUAC FAMILY

by his cousin, Jean-Yves Laurin

There are so many totally unknown brave young men who, during the Second World War, gave their lives to save ours.

Among those unsung heroes, one belongs to the Greater Kirouac Family.

Robert Maranda, an RCAF Officer, a Spitfire pilot, died on 8 June 1944 during an air-raid while the Allied Forces were landing in Normandy to liberate France, then occupied by the Germans.

How could I ever forget that memorable leave-taking evening in 1942 that Robert spent at our home in our sitting room in St. Sauveur (Quebec City district), with my brothers and sisters?

This was a particularly unforgettable occasion as it turned out to be the very last time we ever saw our cousin. He never came back. Robert had just learned that he was scheduled to leave to go overseas. As if sensing he was coming to say his final adieu he had a hard time parting and it was quite late in the night when he left.

Robert, the young RCAF (Royal Canadian Air Force) officer, only twenty years old (born in 1923), was the son of my aunt Bernadette Kirouac Maranda, a sister of Brother Marie-Victorin (Conrad Kirouac). Robert's father, my uncle Albert Maranda, was an army officer, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Canadian Armed Forces and Robert's sister, Raymonde, was a Corporal in the CWAC, Canadian Women Army Corps, she was also a Francophone singer in the *Army Show*, so she sang for thousands of Canadian soldiers and officers in

many countries, including France, England and Italy. Their other sister, Thérèse, was still too young to join the armed forces.

Robert began his military training in Trois-Rivières and received his Canadian pilot's wings before flying off to England to join the RAF, Royal Air Force, where he flew with the 416 Oshawa Squadron.

What I am about to relate is the result of some incredible and unforeseeable circumstances.

While teaching tennis in Cuba over a period of seven years, I met Allan Cox, an Englishman from England. I told him about my cousin's adventure during the war, explaining that Robert Maranda, a Spitfire pilot stationed in England, had disappeared and that we never heard anything more from him nor about him since other than he had disappeared.

I was dumbfounded to hear Allan Cox say that he was responsible for all the War Memorials and Veterans Cemeteries in Great Britain and that he would search to find out what had happened to my cousin.

About six months later, what a surprise to receive at home, a copy of the testimony of the Commanding Officer of the last airbase where Robert was stationed. The document marked *Top Secret* had been kept secreted for fifty years and it explained in details Robert's tragic end.

Documents mentioned clearly that the Spitfire Robert piloted was shot by the German Luftwaffe and brought down on 8 June 1944, over the Seine River, at Utah Beach near Cherbourg, after the Allied Forces'



Lieutenant Colonel Albert Maranda and his son, Flying Officer, Robert Maranda



Flying Officer Robert Maranda, Corporal Raymonde Maranda and their father, Lieutenant Colonel Albert Maranda

Collection Jean-Yves Laurin

Collection Jean-Yves Laurin



Robert Maranda in
1942

28 dec. 43'

Chère Tante,

Sincère merci pour votre gentille carte de souhaits et vos cigarettes; vous êtes bien aimable. Vous m'avez causé un réel plaisir, croyez-moi. Je regrette de ne pas avoir pu vous répondre de la même façon, mais, eh bien cette chère Albion.....! Le papier est rationné et je n'ai pu me procurer qu'une petite quantité de cartes. D'après votre petit mot, je vois que vous êtes tous bien; j'en suis bien heureux. Rachel travaille maintenant; elle doit aimer cela. Et cousin Loutrau, s'occupe-t-il toujours de nos bons vieux scouts? C'est malheureux que le mari d'Andrée soit si loin; l'année.... que nous...!!! Vous savez où je suis rendu moi maintenant aussi! Et... en passant... je ne suis plus seul maintenant; ça non! J'ai un "grand frère" Ray. est finalement rendu dans nos parages depuis une semaine je crois; je n'ai pas eu le plaisir de la voir, étant stationné en Corse pour un certain temps. à mon retour en Angleterre (prochainement) j'essaierai d'obtenir un congé afin de pouvoir passer quelques jours en sa compagnie, parlant

३५३

FROM (Sender's full name and address)

W/SGT R. HARRADJA - R. 1415'92 -
416 Seward - R.C.A.F.

—EAGLAND—



Le Trésor des Kirouac No. 100



Robert Maranda and his mother, Bernadette Kirouac-Maranda in February 1942

landing in Normandy. His squadron was then stationed at the Tangmere Airport in Sussex, Great Britain. (www.tangmere-museum.org.uk/)

The Spitfire were flying in a formation, the other pilots saw his plane catch fire and saw Robert jumping into the ocean with his parachute. It is also mentioned that Robert was unable to open his parachute and drowned into the sea. A fast American Navy U-Boat reached the spot where he had fallen but it was too late, he had already vanished.

Raymonde met her brother for the last time in London, England, at the request of the Canadian Armed Forces when they told them that their father had passed away. It was around March 30th at the time of the infamous 'Blitz'. Raymonde never saw her brother after that.

I felt a duty to tell this story about my young cousin whose heroism deserved to be known by all the members of the Greater Kirouac Family.

My cousin's name, JOSEPH CYRIL ROBERT MARANDA,

born in Quebec City, is forever written in gold letters on the **Runnymede Memorial** near Windsor in England, as well as on the **War Memorial** in Trenton, Ontario, Canada.

P.S. Raymonde lives in Prescott, Arizona, USA, and Thérèse in Kirkland, a Montreal West-Island suburb.



Raymonde Maranda, Robert's sister, in May 1942



Thérèse Maranda, Robert's sister



Robert Maranda on the War Memorial in Trenton, Ontario



Programme
Kirouac Annual Family Gathering
13, 14 & 15 August 2010, Sherbrooke

We count on receiving your registration by 21 July 2010. You may register for any or all activities offered; it is entirely up to you to decide.

Friday, 13 August

- 9:00 to noon Registration at Hotel / Motel L'Ermitage
Free time for lunch
- 1:30 p.m. Guided Theatrical Tour of Sherbrooke by private bus
- 4:00 p.m. Return to Hotel / Motel Ermitage
- 6:00 p.m. Supper at the Beauvoir Shrine's Restaurant
- 8:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting at Beauvoir Shrine's Restaurant
- 9:00 p.m. Followed by Kirouac Family Evening

Saturday, 14 August

- 7:00 a.m. Registration at Hotel / Motel L'Ermitage
Breakfast at Hotel / Motel L'Ermitage
- 9:00 a.m. Senator Howard's Estate guided tour by private bus
- Noon Free time for lunch at Restaurant Le Cartier
- 2:00 p.m. Lennoxville, town guided tour, by private bus, and
beer tasting at the Micro-Brewery & Pub Le Lion d'Or (Golden Lion)
- 3:30 p.m. Organ Concert at St. Mark's Chapel at Bishop's University
- 4:30 p.m. Return to Hotel / Motel L'Ermitage
- 6:00 p.m. Cocktail offered by the Organizing Committee at the Beauvoir Shrine's Restaurant
- 6:30 p.m. Followed by Banquet & *Traces & Souvenirs* - a witty humorous look at the history of
the Eastern Townships with Lysanne Galant

Sunday, 15 August

- 7 - 9 a.m. Breakfast at Hotel / Motel L'Ermitage
- 10:15 a.m. Mass in the Chapel at the Beauvoir Shrine
- 11:30 a.m. Brunch at the Beauvoir Shrine's Restaurant
- 1:00 p.m. Guided tour of the winery: *La Halte Des Pèlerins*
- 3:00 p.m. End of Activities

To get a taste of what to expect, please visit Sherbrooke's bilingual Web Site at:
www.ville.sherbrooke.qc.ca.

PHILIPPE'S TREASURE TROVE

We have been digging into "Philippe's treasure trove" of old papers. For *Le Trésor*'s number 100, we have taken out some deeds which, we hope, will tickle your curiosity. They relate to gifts and bequests made by Simon-Alexandre Keroack and his second wife, Marie-Ursule Guimont.

To help you figure out who's who, here is the genealogical data of the ancestor's oldest son, Simon-Alexandre II (GFK 01276) his wife and their children followed by the family of their eldest son also called Simon-Alexandre III (GFK 01278) and the latter's first wife Marie-Ursule Guimont. (Translator's note: To avoid confusion between the three

Simon-Alexandre and following a useful American tradition, I added the Roman numerals I, II, III, after their name.)

Data and analysis prepared by Lucille and Céline Kirouac, translated by Marie Lussier Timperley.

NAME	MARRIAGE	SPOUSE
Urbain-François Le Bihan Circa 1703-1736	Cap St-Ignace 22-Oct-1732	Louise Bernier 1712-1802
Simon-Alexandre Keroack I (GFK 01276) 1732-1812	L'Islet-sur Mer 15-Jun-1758	Élisabeth Chalifour 1739-1814
Simon-Alexandre Keroack II (GFK 01278) 1760-1823	Cap-St-Ignace (1st marriage) 18-Nov-1782	Marie-Ursule Guimont 1765-1820
Children of Simon-Alexandre (GFK 01278) and Marie-Ursule Guimont		
Simon-Alexandre III (GFK 01955) 1783-1871	L'Islet-sur-Mer 04-Nov-1806	Constance Cloutier 1789-1843
Marie-Ursule 1785-1863	L'Islet-sur-Mer 11-Aug-1807	Pierre Thibault 1789-
Emmanuel 1786-1868	L'Islet-sur-Mer 24-Jun-1806	Marie-Anne Cloutier 1787-
Joseph 1787-1864	L'Islet-sur-Mer 07-Feb-1809	Marguerite Bourgault 1790-1840
Geneviève 1788-1841	L'Islet-sur-Mer 15-Jul-1806	Joseph Cloutier 1786-
<i>Marie-Reine</i> 1790-1791		
François 1791-1877	Saint-Jean-Port-Joli 24-Oct-1815	Marcelline Chouinard 1796-1858
<i>Charles</i> 1793-1807		
<i>Antoine</i> Jan/1795-Aug/1795		
<i>Marie-Thérèse</i> 1796-1798		
Marguerite 1797-	L'Islet-sur-Mer 07-Nov-1815	Louis Gamache 1796-
Hilaire 1798-1879	L'Islet-sur-Mer (1 st marriage) 19-Jan-1819 L'Islet-sur Mer (2 nd marriage) 02-Sep-1828	Madeleine Boucher Agnès Lebreux

Germain

1800-1825

Augustin

1802-1888

Marie-Julie

1804-1881

Marie-Louise

1806-1882

Frédéric

1807-1808

Louis

1809-1810

Marie-Imelda

1810-

L'Islet-sur-Mer

10-Feb-1824

L'Islet-sur-Mer

21-Oct-1823

L'Islet-sur-Mer

07-Nov-1826

Marie-Angèle Bélanger

Pierre Blanchet

Frédéric Bélanger

1803-1883

Saint-Jean-Port-Joli

27-Nov-1827

Théodore Blanchet

- 1820 death of Marie-Ursule Guimont, wife of Simon-Alexandre II

- 1822 second marriage of Simon-Alexandre II (01278)

Simon-Alexandre Keroack II (GFK 01278) Saint-Jean-Port-Joli (2nd marriage)**1760-1823***Geneviève*

1823-1892

30-Jul-1822*L'Islet-sur-Mer*

16-Jan-1844

Geneviève Lord**1793-***J.-Baptiste Malenfant*

1822-1886

Above, contracts and deeds are listed according to content, they are bequests from Simon Alexandre (GFK 01278) and his wife, Marie-Ursule Guimont, to their children as part of their inheritance. These bequests were given to the children either upon their marriage or following the death of one of the parent.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE:

- 1- The substantial inheritance left to each one of their many children.
- 2- In the settling of Marie-Ursule Guimont's inheritance, the 42 £ (pounds), 9s (shillings), 1d (penny), that went to nine of their children came from their mother's inventory after death, divided between the nine children who were still eligible in such a share, as they had not yet received their due which had been given to the others as a wedding gift.
- 3- There is often a delay between the date of an event (wedding, for example) and the date of the contract when a bequest is granted. In addition, there is a delay between the signature of the deed of donation and the date of the receipt, e.g. the deed confirming that the donation has been received.
- 4- Note all the details included in the list of wedding gifts to the daughters who were married while their parents were still living.
- 5- Given that some contracts are missing, some questions are left pending.
- 6- In the deeds that we looked at, among those involved and who were legally authorized to sign, i.e. men of age, only one man signed his name: Louis Gamache, Marie-Marguerite's husband. The other men did not know how to write. But what about the women?
- 7- Many of the deeds examined in the present article will be studied more closely because either they pertain to selling or purchasing, exchanging or dividing up lands that belonged to those descendants living in the L'Islet and Saint-Jean-Port-Joli area, because they enable us to find out more either about their life or about some of Urbain-François' descendants.
- 8- **You will also notice that two of the daughters sometimes modified their Christian names. This trait seems to be part of our inheritance....**
- 9- Last, we have added some explanations about the monetary system of the time.

SIMON-ALEXANDRE II (GFK 01278) AND MARIE-URSULE GUIMONT

CHILDREN	BEQUESTS	NOTARY	YEAR
Simon-Alexandre III - (GFK 01955)	Renouncing his mother's legacy	Simon Fraser	20 Jul 1821
	He renounces his mother's legacy and prefers to keep what was given to him at his wedding, he also keeps acquired rights and privileges. (<i>Contract not yet found</i>)	Simon Fraser	16 Oct 1810
Marie-Ursule	Bequest from her father and mother upon her wedding: 1200 £ (of 20 shillings* each) – one 1½ year-old heifer - 3 sheep - 1 bed plus bedding but without curtains - 1 spinning wheel - 6 white plates - 6 forks, 6 pewter spoons - 1 chest of household linen and personal clothing (*In this contract, Notary Verrau wrote: schelling)	Simon Fraser	11 Jun 1810
	From her father's estate: 5 shillings and 2 pence	G.-A. Verreau	09 Mar 1825
Emmanuel	From his father's estate: 5 shillings and 2 pence	G.-A. Verreau	09 Mar 1825
	He renounces his mother's estate through his marriage (<i>Contract not yet found.</i>)	Simon Fraser	20 Jul 1806
Joseph-Gabriel	From his mother's estate: 42£, 9 shillings, 1 penny.	G.-A. Verreau	08 Aug 1821
	From his father's estate: 1£ plus 68£, 16 shillings (sale of his estate's rights on a lot of land in L'Islet, to his father)	G.-A. Verreau	30 Dec 1823
Aug 1821	Joseph-Gabriel sells to his father a lot of land and keeps another one as well as a woodlot in St-Jean-Port-Joli. He had inherited these lots from his mother's estate. So far, in the contract we have, no lots are mentioned. In his mother's inheritance, only money is mentioned, the amount on the first line above. Was he offered lands equal to this amount of money?		G.-A. Verreau 08
Geneviève*	Inheritance from her parents upon her marriage 1200 £ (of 20 shillings each), a 1½ year-old heifer 3 sheep, 1 bed plus bedding but without curtains 1 spinning wheel, 6 white plates, 6 forks, 6 pewter spoons, 1 chest of household linen and personal clothing.	Simon Fraser	11 Jun 1810
	From her father's estate: 5 shillings.	G.-A. Verreau	09 Mar 1825
François	From his mother's estate : 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny	G.-A. Verreau	27 Nov 1821
	Estate: 50 Spanish piastres plus 200 Spanish piastres.	Simon Fraser	02 Aug 1824
	(These amounts come from the sale of a lot of land from François to his father; these lots were from his mother's estate. We do not have a contract where land is mentioned. In the mother's estate, only amounts of money mentioned. Were those on the first line above. Was he offered lands equal to this amount of money? (<i>As in Joseph-Gabriel's case?</i>))	Simon Fraser	10 Dec 1824
		G.-A. Verreau	27 Jul 1821

Marguerite	Estate of her parents: Bed plus bedding but without curtains, ½ dz. White plates, ½ dz. Spoons, ½ dz. Forks – 1 full linen chest, 1 full cow, a 1½ year-old heifer 2 full grown ewes, 1 spinning wheel, plus 50 £ From her mother's estate: 12 £, 1 shilling, 2 pence. From her father's estate: 1 £, louis.	G.-A. Verreau G.-A. Verreau G.-A. Verreau	12 May 1818 08 Aug 1821 30 Dec 1823
Hilaire	From his mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny. From his father's estate: 30 Spanish piastres	G.-A. Verreau G.-A. Verreau	27 Nov 1821 30 Dec 1823
Germain	From his mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny.	G.-A. Verreau	27 Nov 1821
Augustin	From his mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny.	G.-A. Verreau	27 Nov 1821
Marie-Julie	From her mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny. (Gift from Simon-Alexandre III (GFK 01955), in the name of and as heir to the estate of Simon-Alexandre Kyrrouac (GFK 01978), father and guardian of Marie-Julie), plus interests on that amount that Marie-Julie and her husband, Pierre Blanchette can claim whenever they wish. From her father's estate: 25 Spanish piastres.	Simon Fraser Simon Fraser	30 Jan 1826 27 Dec 1829
	They declare (Marie-Julie and her husband) having received the equivalent of their share of the land, fruits & revenues "due to Marie Julie Kyrrouac, included and joined to the land of said Simon-Alexandre Kyrrouac (III) where he is living..." plus 9 £, shillings, 10 pence, representing the interests due on the amount of 42 £, 10 shillings, ten pence promised in 1826.		
Marie-Louise*	From her mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny, plus interests: 3 £. Remaining amount due on sale of land by his father to Pierre Sénéchal. Her father's estate: 25 Spanish piastres.	G.-A. Verreau	27 Mar 1827
Marie-Imelda	From her mother's estate: 42 £, 9 shillings, 1 penny, plus interests: 25 £, 2 shillings, 8 pence.	G.-A. Verreau	24 Nov 1829

* In some contracts, Geneviève is known as **Marie-Julienne**.

* In some contracts, Marie-Louise is known as **Élisabeth**.

Canadian Monetary System during the 17th– 19th centuries

From <http://www.wens.uqac.ca/~a2cote/monnaie.html> .

Under the French Regime (1608-1760)

1 £ (pound) (1.) = 20 sols (shillings)

1 sol (shilling) = 12 deniers (d = penny/pence)

Under the British Regime (after 1760)

1 pound (£) = 20 shillings

1 shilling = 12 pence; (singular - penny) (plural - pence)

1 pound (in 1764) = 1 *livre tournois* (French denomination)

In Quebec (mid-19th century): approximate figures

1 louis = 1 livre = 4 piastres = 20 chelins (1 chelin = 20 sous)

1 louis = 1 £ (pound) = 4 piastres = 20 shillings (1 shilling = 20 pence)

Piastre comes from the Spanish piastre; the term was used in many European countries as early as the 17th century. Gradually the term piastre replaced both the terms louis and pound in Canada and the USA. In 1835, the French Academy officially adopted the term dollar, hence dollar gradually replaced piastre, in both Canada and the USA.

Salaries

In the mid-18th century, a skilled worker's annual salary was about 300 £. In 1860, a century later, in Chicoutimi the monthly salary of a forest worker employed by the Price Paper Company was \$20.

**In the contracts mentioned by Lucille and Céline in this article, Notary Verreau wrote schelling.*

PRECISION — WELL DESERVED RECOGNITION



Behind the scene of the sugar cane in Cuba, Yvon Langlois always remains the very efficient planner/organizer.

(Photo: collection Yvon Langlois)

In the *Trésor* 99, pages 12-15, we published a few photos with comments about the trip to Cuba organized by the Montreal Botanical Garden. However, in our account we did not thank the person who first had the idea of travelling in Marie-Victorin's footsteps in Cuba and who, behind the scene, quietly and most effectively, planned and organized every detail of the trip. There are thousands of members of the *Friends of the Montreal Botanical Garden* and only one director of activities, Mr. Yvon Langlois, who, for almost twenty years now, has been planning, organizing and supervising hundreds of activities, also inspiring an army of volunteers, but without his name making front page news.

He knows Brother Marie-Victorin's works and, although he admits not reading all 1500 pages of his three books about Cuba's botanical treasures, it gave him the idea that visiting the Pearl of the West Indies would be an interesting adventure. It took over five years for his idea to germinate, during which time he saw to every detail of last February's first journey along Marie-Victorin's road. Without his inspired and untiring efforts it would not have happened.

The Editors

AN INTERVIEW WITH FRANÇOIS KIROUAC

A KFA FOUNDING MEMBER AND
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KIROUAC GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

The current President of the K/rouac Family Association has been active within the KFA for the past thirty-two years. He was one of the fifteen founding members and the only one still on the KFA Board. In 1978, like many others he answered Jacques Kirouac's first call to plan a gathering for 1980, marking the 250th anniversary of our ancestor's arrival in New France, as it was believed then that our ancestor had landed in New France in 1730.

Over the past three decades, within the KFA François has worn many hats. At first, as counsellor; by 1981, he was already involved in the genealogical dossier. In 1988-1989, he was Vice-President; then Secretary from 1989 to 2002. In 2005, he became President of our family association. In 1992, he joined the editorial committee of *Le Trésor*. His trademarks are passion, commitment, and tenacity, but where does he get it all? Everyone knows it takes resolve and persistence to do historical and genealogical research. It is a long road to travel, one day you take a first step but, as you go along, it seems that the end is never in sight.

The KFA Board members and the *Trésor* Editorial Committee members, eager to learn more about this KFA pioneer and his deep convictions on the pursuit of the truth about our Ancestor, Urbain-François Le Bihan alias Alexandre de K/voach, asked if he would agree to an interview. We thought there would be a double advantage to this exercise, first to better know our President and, second, give our readers a streamlined history of the research carried out over three decades as well as the publications that ensued during those years.

Marie Lussier Timperley for the KFA Board members and the *Trésor* Editorial Committee members.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

LE TRÉSOR — The word 'genealogy' comes from 'gene', so, by any chance, did you inherit a special 'research gene'? Please tell us about your youth!

FRANÇOIS — I was born in May 1951 at the Arthabaska Hospital. My paternal grandparents, Augustine (née Lemay) and Émile Kirouac, were my god-parents. I grew up in Warwick and attended the local elementary school. After a year and a half of '*cours classique*' at the Nicolet Seminary, I came back to finish my high school studies in Warwick and Victoriaville. Then, because of my great love of nature and outdoor activities, I opted for professional training in forestry in 1969-1970, a course given in La Tuque.

LE TRÉSOR — Pardon the pun, but how did you go from forestry to genealogical trees?

FRANÇOIS — In the autumn 1970, I started working for the Department of Natural Resources as a labourer. Then, from 1975 until 1997, I worked as a technician in mineral resources in a department responsible to do the geo-chemical survey of the whole of Quebec. In that capacity I travelled the length



Augustine Lemay (1889-1959)
Photo: collection Bruno Kirouac



Émile Kirouac (1888-1969)
Photo: collection Bruno Kirouac



The two men responsible for the K/ genealogy, Alain and François Kirouac, Quebec 1985. Photo: KFA collection

and breadth of Quebec which I enjoyed very much. After the department's mandates were modified, I accepted administrative responsibilities in the procurement services of the same department from 1997 until 2000. From December 2000 until May 2007, I worked as an industrial relations counsellor for a labour union. My mandate was to resolve complaints and grievances submitted by union members and, if no settlement was agreed upon, I prepared the proof to be presented to either an administrative tribunal or a conciliation board. This was an extremely important part of my mandate as I was the one deciding whether or not to present the case to a tribunal or conciliation board. I was also responsible



Photo : Collection AFK

Kamouraska, 28 & 29 July 1990, collecting genealogical data by hand

to see that harmonious workplace relations were maintained within the sections covered by the union I represented.

LE TRÉSOR — When were you bitten by the history and genealogy bug?

FRANÇOIS — I think this is really my mother's doing because, when I was very young, she used to remind me that my grandfather Émile was very proud of his Kirouac ancestors and that he knew the names of each one in each generation as far as the first one who came to New-France. I think that my mother's comments made a great impression on her young son and that, I believe, was the spark that fired my imagination at a very young age. However, it is only with the birth of the KFA that it materialized.

THE KFA GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY

LE TRÉSOR — Who or what prompted you to get involved in the Kirouac genealogy?

FRANÇOIS — Alain Kirouac, who had started working on the Kirouac genealogy, asked me in 1981 if I could give him a hand. Alain and his wife had already collected genealogical data on about 1200 cards. My wife, Francine, and I then accepted his invitation and started to copy the 1200 cards, first to safeguard all the info so far gathered. Having two copies of all the data was certainly safer than only one. Once this was completed, I started searching through the parish records for births, marriages, and burials that could be found in Quebec's National Archives.

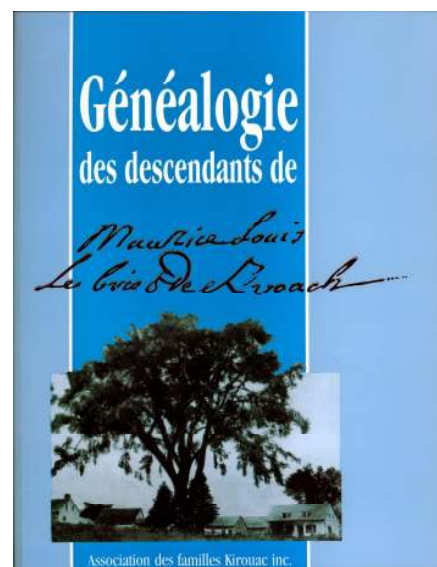
Every family gathering organized by the KFA was a good occasion for Alain and I to collect new data and validate data previously collected. It is

important to remember that we were still in pre-computer days. Everything was done by hand, that means written by hand on cards bearing sequential numbers and 'safely' kept in shoe boxes! At that time we did not even have an index to help us find names; so that was the next thing I did, I built up an index by alphabetical order, one with the husbands' names and one with the wives' names in order to quickly find a person and family links. And, again, these were all handwritten cards!

LE TRÉSOR — So, when did you 'graduate' to computerize data and how did you go about it?

FRANÇOIS — In the middle of the eighties we started thinking about computerizing the data. However, at the time, genealogical programmes were new and being created and did not meet our needs. They have greatly improved since. So, to get the work done, I looked around for a computer science student who could build us a database in which we could enter all the accumulated data, always keeping in mind that, eventually, it would be published.

LE TRÉSOR — Who did you find and what did that person do?



Dictionnaire généalogique des familles Kirouac, edited and published in 1991 by the KFA

FRANÇOIS — I contacted John Ewen Cameron from Baie-Comeau (QC) who was studying in Québec City at the time. I do not remember who had given me his name but I shall never forget his immediate enthusiasm for our project. Within a few weeks, we had a prototype and I was able to start entering the data written on 2,900 cards representing what we had accumulated up to 1990. But by then I was solely responsible for the project as Alain had left the KFA a few years earlier. However, I am glad to say that a few other people were also doing some genealogical research. Once all the data was entered in the database, we started working on the layout and design of the book that was to be published in 1991. As a title we used the Breton name known then for our ancestor: **Généalogie des descendants de Maurice Louis Alexandre Le Brice de Keroack.**

LE TRÉSOR — This book is very impressive not only because of the genealogical data but also because it includes so many stories about some K/ personalities and some K/ families too; it

must have taken months of work; tell us about it?

FRANÇOIS — About the mid-1990, the KFA Board gave me the mandate to publish the data. However, to be honest, the idea of publishing only names, dates, and links, did not really appeal to me, so I decided to add a historical part including some important family members and what was known about our ancestor at the time. With Raymond Bergeron, who created our logo and knew first hand the publishing world, I prepared a tender for three printers. As soon as one was chosen, 500 copies were quickly printed and by the beginning of the summer 1991, the KFA organized launchings in Quebec City, Warwick, Montreal, as well as in Nashua, New Hampshire, during the 1991 Annual Gathering held there.

LE TRÉSOR — Since the *Genealogy* was printed, twenty years ago, did you keep researching and adding to the original data?

FRANÇOIS — Of course, publishing a genealogical dictionary was the crowning point of the first stage. It was very

important to carry on particularly as computerized data made it so easy to draw family trees. Thus I kept collecting data from KFA members, archives, and various records whenever I had time. Quite a few years ago already, I transferred all the data onto a commercial genealogical database which enabled me to add a great deal of information that we did not previously have, like children who no longer bear the name K/rouac but whose mother was born K/rouac; also whenever they are available, photos of individuals are added to the genealogical data bank, as well as sources of information and photos. To date, the database includes 14,697 persons, of which 5,941 are couples. For our ancestor's eldest son, Simon-Alexandre, so far we have recorded 3,438 descendants, plus another 2,590 for his younger brother Louis, for a total of 6,028 recorded descendants.

IMPLICATION IN THE RESEARCH ON THE ANCESTOR

LE TRÉSOR — While you were concentrating your efforts on the genealogy of the Ancestor's descendants, was anyone trying to find out about the Ancestor himself?

FRANÇOIS — Yes, indeed; our founding President, Jacques Kirouac, was deeply interested in finding out about our Ancestor and he was responsible for that side of the research. I was keenly following every new development brought to light by Claude Le Petit, a Breton genealogist, paid by the KFA, to find our Ancestor's place of origin in Brittany. In 1993, when Mr. Le Petit came to Quebec, he gave a lecture which was an opportunity for me to talk with him and, because of a comment he



8 September 1991, at the Boucherville Municipal Library, launching of the Dictionnaire généalogique des familles Kirouac. From left to right: Donald Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac, François Kirouac and Pierre Kirouac.



Photo: collection Bruno Kirouac

Joseph Kéroutack (GFK 00690) (1857-1905), father of Émile Kirouac.



Photo: collection Bruno Kirouac

Henriette Leclerc (1863-1903), mother of Émile Kirouac.

made, I got more involved in the research. He said: ***"It could be you here in Quebec who, one day, will find the elements enabling you to answer the search."*** That sentence was the spark that got me going. My curiosity was aroused particularly as I realized that, funnily enough, no one here had done any research in Quebec; except possibly, Father Gérard Lévesque who had discovered our Ancestor's purchase contract of a lot called *terre des Trois*

Ruisseaux and a renunciation to the same lot by Louise Bernier⁽¹⁾, in 1736. Besides those two documents, the only other one that we knew then was the Ancestor's marriage as entered in the Parish records in Cap-Saint-Ignace.

LE TRÉSOR — So, one spark and you were off the rocket launching pad; but what to look for and where?

FRANÇOIS — Remember, I mentioned that my mother aroused my curiosity when I was very young so, I was always keen to discover more. If I remember well, it was around 1995 that I started digging into archives. However, prior to that, I was already actively involved in this research project and, when I had asked the KFA Board to create a special research fund, it was agreed upon enthusiastically and the initiative was rather successful. Many people were closely following the evolution of the research, thanks to the reports sent by Claude Le Petit and regularly published in *Le Trésor*.

LE TRÉSOR — What were the results? How long did it go on?

FRANÇOIS — By 1996 the research for our Ancestor's place of origin in Brittany unfortunately came to an end for lack of funds. So the KFA Board decided to put that project on the back burner. However, at that time, Clément Kirouac who was the KFA President, decided to carry on the search in Brittany at his own expense and privately. A Breton genealogist, Patricia Dagier, joined him in his efforts. At the time, Clément Kirouac made it very clear at each and every Board meeting that the KFA was NOT involved in that particular search in Brittany. Nevertheless, the search in Quebec went on more than ever, I was seriously involved and had been for quite a while and it was always a pleasure for me to share my findings

with Clément Kirouac, because what really mattered to me and the KFA was that we would eventually find out here where our Ancestor came from.

In the summer 1997, I found a first deed concerning our Ancestor; the contract by which Louise Bernier and Maurice Louis Le Bris de K/voach ceded, for 600 pounds, their inheritance rights to Jacques Rodrigue who was Louise Bernier's step-father and our Ancestor's ⁽²⁾ step-father-in-law. During that same summer, I had been looking up information on Louise Bernier herself, and the results of my research was later published in *Le Trésor* and showed all her ascendancy for both of her parents: Bernier & Caron⁽³⁾ as well as what we knew then about herself and her life as our Ancestor's wife while he was alive.

LE TRÉSOR — Where did you go to search?

FRANÇOIS — Starting in the mid-eighties, I used to go to the *Archives nationales du Québec* (Quebec National Archives = QNA), at first to establish the genealogical lines of our Ancestor's descendants and, later on, I discovered the various types of documents available at the QNA. So I looked up the archivists' reports, the notaries' deeds, the various indexes, the judicial archives and especially the inventory of the Intendants' ordinances, e.g. the Authorities' decrees and regulations.

LE TRÉSOR — Did you discover anything else?

FRANÇOIS — The second deed I discovered was a major one, but, at first, it was rather disappointing⁽⁴⁾. Let me explain; I discovered the existence of the document but I could not read it because it had been misfiled. Also, in the

(1) *Le Bris de Keroack* No. 20, pages 6-8.

(2) *Le Trésor* No. 50, pages 6-8.

(3) *Le Trésor* No. 50, pages 20-24.

inventory I had looked at, it stated that a certain Pierre Riou had written the deed. It is only much later⁽⁵⁾ when I finally read the deed that I realized its importance. Of course, that was after discovering the mistake in the Notaries' inventory of deeds. When I looked at the signature of Pierre Riou, it was perfectly obvious to me that he had not written the contract; it had to be our Ancestor who had written the text as well as signing it as: Alexandre le Breton. This deed constituted the absolute proof that our Ancestor was indeed a trained notary. In addition, for the first time, I held a proof that our Ancestor had most likely arrived in New France before 1730.

The third deed I discovered was a document giving the results of a claim that our Ancestor had instituted against one Joseph Martin⁽⁶⁾; the fourth deed was a renunciation by Louise Bernier to the common ownership of assets that had been agreed to between herself and our Ancestor⁽⁷⁾; the fifth deed was a second document about the claim instituted by our Ancestor against Joseph Martin⁽⁸⁾; the sixth deed was our Ancestor's letter to the Governor, the Marquis de Beauharnois⁽⁹⁾, this letter was another proof that our Ancestor was highly educated. The seventh deed was the ordinance of Intendant Hocquart asking people to help Alexandre le Breton⁽¹⁰⁾. The eighth deed was the hiring contract of one Claude Chamberlant by Alexandre de K/voach⁽¹¹⁾. In the ninth deed, dated 1726, was the very first Le Bihan signature ever found⁽¹²⁾ and the tenth deed, signed at Montreal and dated 1727⁽¹³⁾ was the third Le Bihan signature found. And the 11th deed was the letter of Alexandre de K/voach to Mr. Boucher, seafarer from Quebec's Lower Town, dated 8 February 1734⁽¹⁴⁾.



Photo: collection Bruno Kirouac

Louis Kérouack (GFK 00689) (1827-1902) and Adélaïde Gingras (1835-1913); father and mother of Joseph Kérouack (GFK 00690).

LE TRÉSOR — Do you think that more documents about Alexandre de K/ could still be hidden in the Quebec National Archives?

FRANÇOIS — It is most likely and I certainly hope to find more. Besides, there is at least one major mystery to elucidate because there are no more traces of Urbain-François Le Bihan in Brittany after 1721 and we found Alexandre de K/voach in New-France in 1726. Everything has to be discovered about this five-year gap for which, so far, we have absolutely nothing about our Ancestor on this side of the Atlantic.

INTERPRETATION OF AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

LE TRÉSOR – In 1999, Patricia Dagier, the Breton genealogist, published a first book (in French only) entitled *Jack Kerouac, Au bout de la route ... la Bretagne*, about what the

life of our Ancestor might have been. Has she published anything else since?

FRANÇOIS – Since 2008, Mrs. Dagier has published (in French only) two books on our Ancestor. The first one, entitled *Le véritable trésor de Clément Kirouac* presents all documents found about our Ancestor in Brittany as well as

(4) *Le Trésor* No. 51, pages 10-15.

(5) *Le Trésor* No. 60, pages 21-24.

(6) *Le Trésor* No. 51, pages 10-15.

(7) *Le Trésor* No. 52, pages 8-9.

(8) *Le Trésor* No. 53, pages 9-12.

(9) *Le Trésor* No. 54, pages 4-16.

(10) *Le Trésor* No. 54, page 17.

(11) *Le Trésor* No. 54, page 18.

(12) *Le Trésor* No. 57, pages 38-41.

(13) *Le Trésor* No. 65, pages 9-10.

(14) *Le Trésor* No. 68, pages 20-27

in Quebec. This book includes the documents that she found as well as those found by Father Gérard Lévesque, Clément Kirouac, and myself. Mrs. Dagier comments each document and spells out clearly what she thinks about them and gives her very personal interpretation. A second book entitled *Jack Kerouac, Breton d'Amérique*, co-authored with Hervé Quéméner for the part about the biography of Jack Kerouac, tells what the author, Patricia Dagier believes to have been the life of our Ancestor in New France and also of his widow after the Ancestor's death.

LE TRÉSOR - So what do you think about that interpretation of Alexandre de K/voach's life?

FRANÇOIS - It seems quite obvious to me that there are gaps in our actual knowledge of our Ancestor's life, therefore we must keep looking in order to find out more about it. The whole truth has yet to come out. It is obvious that documented facts have to be used to come to conclusion but, at the moment, the existing documents leave a great deal of room for many various interpretations, and personally I cannot accept the romantic story that Mrs. Dagier gives in her books. . . **all based on her own assumptions and deductions.** Of course hypotheses are useful in genealogy, but they must be used as questions to enable to push the investigation forward. To accept suppositions and assumptions as absolute truths puts an end to all research. Given what I know about the actual state of the research, I think this is absolutely ridiculous.

For personal reasons about which it would be inopportune to speculate here, Mrs. Dagier chose to describe

our Ancestor as good-for-nothing "forced to leave Huelgoat, his home town"⁽¹⁵⁾ forced to go away and make himself scarce for a while". She is, of course, free to explain the situation as she wants, but personally I would draw other conclusions, also suggested by the content of the same documents and I feel that she must accept the fact that other people are also free to think differently from her.

LE TRÉSOR — Do you mean that the story, as published, could be a very different one?

FRANÇOIS — Yes indeed, that is my opinion. But do not get me wrong, Mrs. Dagier's research is remarkable and thorough but, it is the way she chose to draw her conclusions from the documents found that is not in line with what I read in the same documents. Like everyone else, she is entitled to her conclusions, but, in my opinion, one cannot offer such conclusions as the only possible explanations unless they are supported by facts proven by known documents. And, frankly, it does not appear to me to be the case here.

LE TRÉSOR — What would your assumptions be?

FRANÇOIS - The story published by the genealogist, Patricia Dagier, depicting our Ancestor as a delinquent character - something she constantly repeats in her public interviews in Brittany - is that "he was a very bad boy who, after 1720, left Huelgoat, his native town, because he made the headlines."⁽¹⁶⁾ - this whole argument is based on two facts: **a court proceeding whose outcome was never discovered - this is an important point to remember - and the fact that our Ancestor used different names when signing**



Louis-Grégoire Kérouack (GFK 00473) (1801-1890), father of Louis Kérouack (GFK 00689) and his wife Catherine des Trois Maisons dite Picard (1803-1878).
(Photo : collection Bruno Kirouac)

documents in New France; according to Mrs. Dagier the second fact is a direct consequence of the first one.

She pretends that our Ancestor used different names and surnames in New France because he had something to hide and she adds that it is the proof that he necessarily had something to hide. So, her bet is that the accusations made against our Ancestor at a wedding in 1720 where wine overflowed, were justified. So the whole story she builds up is based on those two presumptions.

LE TRÉSOR — Why do you say that she is betting on this?

FRANÇOIS — Because, in my opinion, in all the documents pertaining to the court case, there is nothing, absolutely

(15) Jack Kerouac, *Breton d'Amérique*, Patricia Dagier, Hervé Quéméner, Édition Le Télégramme, page 67.

(16) Jack Kerouac, *Breton d'Amérique*, Patricia Dagier, Hervé Quéméner, Édition Le Télégramme, page 79.

nothing, that could lead us to believe that our Ancestor had done anything that could incriminate him, or force him to leave Brittany as she asserts. **Quite to the contrary; some elements in the proceedings clearly point towards the opposite direction, in other words, this event was of rather minor importance in our Ancestor's life.**

THE 1720 STILL PENDING COURT CASE

LE TRÉSOR – What are the elements in these same documents that allow you to prove a position opposite to that of Mrs. Dagier?

FRANÇOIS — First, let us look at the trial. **And here I wish to underline that this trial is a libel suit against those who defamed and molested our Ancestor... and nothing else. In the trial, he is presented as a victim of various accusations – and of a search – that took place publicly during a wedding where alcohol flowed generously. The testimonies in themselves cannot validate the events at the wedding.** Our ancestor was never accused of anything nor brought to justice at any moment, neither in Brittany nor in New France. Let us also remember that, at the time, libel suits existed and were brought up in court, because some people had been lying about others, otherwise such proceedings would not have existed. In other words, **it is possible that our Ancestor was victim of false accusations; and this is what Patricia Dagier wrote in her book published in 1999, *Jack Kerouac, Au bout de la route... La Bretagne*.**

In the documents she found in Brittany, one can read that the Court says that it does not believe the testimonies of two of the four witnesses accused of defaming our ancestor. This is a major

fact. It means that the Court considers that the individuals lied to her. It undermines their credibility. In my opinion, in such a case, one has to ask if these individuals might not also have lied about what happened at the wedding, when they accused the ancestor of various mischiefs. This possibility opens the door to a possible condemnation of the defendants for libel and not a declaration of their innocence. In addition, the other two accused in this case admitted to the Court that they were too intoxicated with drinks to remember what they had said then.

In short, two of the four defendants facing the libel suit brought on by the Ancestor's father, were not believed by the Court and the other two admitted having been too drunk to remember what they had said. These facts must be taken into account as they are detailed in Court documents, and they cannot simply and completely be ignored, taking for granted that the defendants were not guilty of defamation. Unfortunately, the Court documents pertaining to the trial's conclusion are still nowhere to be found.

In my opinion, the only remaining way that Patricia Dagier, the Breton genealogist, can conclude as she does, is by taking for granted that our Ancestor used different names in New France in order to hide his true identity because he would have committed something wrong. But... the court procedure found so far does not show anything to that effect. Finally, in the documents found in Brittany as well as in New France, there is not a single proof worthy of mention that enables us to find or even suspect our Ancestor guilty of anything at all.

It is quite likely that this court case affected the young man's reputation. As the saying goes, no matter what you say, something always remains. However, other documents found in Brittany even put a damper on this possibility.

FORMER FOES RENEW FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP

LE TRÉSOR — What do these new documents found by Patricia Dagier tell us?

FRANÇOIS — **These documents show that the two families involved in the case were reconciled after the 1720 events.** Members of the Le Bihan family were godparents to two children of the Berthelemy family (the family of the girl who had claimed that Urbain-François had stolen her purse during the wedding party); in addition, our Ancestor's father who, in the name of his son, sued members of the Berthelemy family for libel, was chosen by members of the said Berthelemy family as their notary on a number of occasions during the following years⁽¹⁷⁾. The Berthelemy could well have chosen another notary as, according to Mrs. Dagier, there were others in the area. But no, they opted for Notary Le Bihan. **Therefore, if the whole episode had been damaging to Urbain-François Le Bihan and his family, would they have resumed their relationship? This seems to me to be a reasonable question.** Let us be logical for a moment; who would restore relationships, friendly or professional, with people who would have ruined the career or reputation of a son, brother, or even a cousin? Honour, was not a

(17) *Le véritable trésor de Clément Kirouac*, Patricia Dagier, page 69.



Photo: collection Marie Kirouac

Pierre Keroack (GFK 00470) (1777-1866); grandson of Alexandre de K/voach and Louise Bernier and father of Louis-Grégoire (GFK 00473)

trifling matter in those days; quite the opposite as duals, although forbidden, were still frequent and a normal way of settling accounts!

Furthermore, if there was anything true in the original story, e.g. that the accusations made during the wedding party against the Le Bihan family were founded, who would want to do business with the Le Bihan once stripped of their good reputation? Let us not forget that these Le Bihan are notaries and that their reputation must remain impeccable to be qualified. And of course if the reputation of one family member had been stained, it would reflect on the whole Le Bihan family. But, quite the opposite, they remained in business. So, obviously there must be a reason for that! Therefore, contrary to Patricia Dagier's opinion, I think it is quite

unlikely that the two families would have restored their former relationship if the career of the young Le Bihan had been compromised and the honour of the Le Bihan family had been stained!

It seems to me far more likely that, once the dust had settled, the two parties involved in this case found new understanding, or that the court procedure had little effect on the honour of the young Le Bihan and his family. In this case, our ancestor most likely came to New France for quite another reason than what the Breton genealogist, Patricia Dagier, has been claiming for nearly ten years.

LE TRÉSOR — So, if this is the case, why would Urbain-François have left Brittany?

FRANÇOIS — Well if we ask the question, we must offer other

hypotheses. In fact, asking that raises more questions. In spite of the court case, is it possible that the young Le Bihan's decision to leave Brittany was due to something else? Can we reasonably think so? Could he have left because, like any young man, he dreamt of greater freedom? Or, simply wished not to follow in his father's footsteps? He would not be the first one refusing to follow a path pre-determined for him! Or, perhaps it would be reasonable to think that the call of adventure was very strong? And what about hoping to make a fortune for himself? Would any serious researcher refuse to look at these possibilities? After all, on this side of the Atlantic, though one may now refer to our ancestor as a *coureur des bois* (fur trapper), documents found refer to him as a *voyageur* (licensed fur trader under contract), what is more likely to be, due to his level of education. Isn't this indicating that he possessed an independent mind and liked adventure? While in New France, given his superior education, he could well have chosen a more comfortable life. But of course, these are all hypotheses, e.g. questions in need of answers.

And, talking about assumptions, what about the abundantly documented extremely serious economic crisis that struck France in 1721 as a result of the collapse of the French monetary system built on the principles of Scottish financier, John Law of Lauriston (1671-1729)? As many families saw their fortune evaporate in the economic turmoil, exile to the colonies became a strong incentive for the sons deprived of the future they counted on and it is in great numbers that they left the Old World for the promising colonies in America and Asia. The scandal was such that the army was called in to repress the riots in the streets of Paris.

Could this historical event have been a motivation for our ancestor's move to New France? It might be worth looking into!

NAME CHANGE OR VARIATIONS USED BY OUR ANCESTOR

LE TRÉSOR — From what you explain, it seems that you do not believe in the argument that our ancestor would have used various names and surnames in order to hide his identity while in New France?

FRANÇOIS — So far in the known documents, there is nothing to conclude that the ancestor ever used the Christian names Urbain or François when he lived in New France⁽¹⁸⁾. Perhaps he did not like them! Who knows? However, it is undeniable that he chose to use the Christian name Alexandre. Did he think it looked more "noble"? Again, who knows? Let us study the facts closely!

When looking at the eighteen signatures left by our ancestor and found to date, we see that they vary. **Now, when looking at them closely, one notices a constant use of the surname *de K/voach* as 'family name' (patronyme in French, which derives from the latin word, *pater* = name of the father) so, for all and sundry, the ancestor distinctly and generally identified himself by that 'family name'.** In all, *de K/voach* appears in fifteen of the eighteen signatures found so far. As for the Christian name *Alexandre*, it appears fourteen times. In the three signatures where *de K/voach* does not appear, one notes in the first signature what would be his real family name *Le Bihan*, in the second signature, he uses the nickname *Le Breton* and in the third signature, he used only his chosen Christian name, *Alexandre*. In

the known signatures, *de Kervoach* is some times used with the family name *Le Bihan*, sometimes with the family name *Le Bris*, but generally, *de Kervoach* is used by itself.

Consequently, our ancestor's use of the surname *de K/voach* finally replaced both family names of *Le Bihan* or *Le Bris* that he used only on three occasions each. And that might explain why, almost three hundred years later, all his descendants are using Kirouac - in a multitude of spellings - as their family name, and no longer *Le Bihan* or *Le Bris*.

LE TRÉSOR — What conclusions do you draw from these observations?

FRANÇOIS — This question raises even more questions: **what is our ancestor actually doing when signing *de K/voach* as he did fifteen out of eighteen times? He is simply using the name currently and constantly used by his own father, the name his grandfather constantly used and that his great-grandfather also used throughout his life.** Knowing that the surname *de Kervoach* was not only unique in Brittany but that it was used only by the *Le Bihan* family, how can one conclude without any doubt, that this is done by someone who, by all means possible, wants to hide his true identity? Is it permitted to think otherwise? Would it not be more appropriate and logical for a Breton who supposedly wishes to lose himself in the crowd and hide his identity, to simply use *Le Bihan* or *Le Bris*, two rather common family names in Brittany then and now?

LE TRÉSOR — What else did you notice in the documents known to date?

FRANÇOIS — In spite of all the various signatures, there is no doubt whatsoever that in New France, our Ancestor was known by all and sundry under the name *Alexandre de K/voach dit (known as) Le Breton*. And if we wish to better understand the personage, it is essential to look beyond the variants; otherwise one could read too much into it and come to unfounded conclusions. It is absolutely essential to consider the ways and customs of the time, and then, it was perfectly normal for people to use a number of names or, varied forms of the same name, and, more often than not, names were written as one heard them, they were not spelled according to any rules, examples abound. Just look at the forty-five different ways our family name was written in Philippe's Papers that we published in the last issue (#99) of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*!

It is also important to keep in mind the context in which the signatures were written and consider what had just happened before and after these events. From all this I can draw one conclusion and make one comment: our Ancestor always introduced himself as *Alexandre de K/voach* and everybody knew that he was from Brittany. This is perfectly clear on a deed he signed on 25 January 1727.⁽¹⁹⁾ Our ancestor signed *Le Bihan* on the deed, but in the text it says that one

(18) Name changes were frequent and normal in New France at the time. But it is interesting to note that it was then just as normal and frequent in France, so much so, that by the time of the French Revolution, a law was enacted to stop anyone from using names and surnames other than those registered in the official government files. (*Geopatronyme.com*). So, our ancestor was very much a man of his time!

Alexandre Carunoac was present at the ceremony; this obviously means that he gave his name to the parish priest as: *Alexandre de K/voach*, but in the Church record the parish priest wrote the name as it sounded to him without bothering about the spelling... and the signature in the same parish records is clearly *Le Bihan*.

LE TRÉSOR — Can you give us other examples, just as relevant?

FRANÇOIS — The same thing happened at his marriage, on 22 October 1732.⁽²⁰⁾ On that occasion, he used another name in front of the surname *de K/voach*. Nevertheless, it is difficult to think that his in-laws would have known him as anything else but **Alexandre de K/voach, dit le Breton** even if he used a new name that day.

When he was married to Louise Bernier, our Ancestor officially acknowledged a son born *out of wedlock* in February 1732, which is eight months earlier. However, on the birth certificate, in the parish records ⁽²¹⁾, the parish priest could have written the common form used at the time: “born of unknown father”, but he wrote: “son of one called Alexandre voyageur” (usual for “traveling fur trader”). Thus, eight months before the wedding he was already known as Alexandre and it is not by chance either that the son was baptised Alexandre in the absence of the father. Therefore, in February 1732, his future in-laws knew him as Alexandre and, as on 25 January 1727 in Quebec City, he would have introduced himself as Alexandre de K/voach, and then, a few months later, at his wedding, he signed the parish records in Cap St-Ignace as *Maurice Louis Le Bris de K/voach*.

LE TRÉSOR — Fascinating! Now what else did you observe?

FRANÇOIS — There is another interesting fact: three of Louise Bernier's sisters married three Côté brothers between 1720 and 1722. Louise Bernier was our ancestor's wife. Her three sisters' husbands were the sons of the *Seigneur de la Rivière-Verte* and our Ancestor already knew that family in 1730, which is two years before getting married to Louise Bernier. The *Seigneur Côté*, who could neither read nor write, evidently fully trusted our Ancestor because he asked him to prepare a simple contract* for the sale of a piece of land ⁽²²⁾. The contract is signed by *Alexandre de K/voach dit le Breton*, therefore his new wife's sisters already knew him as Alexandre le Breton, the nickname under which he was obviously known at the time according to the documents discovered so far.

Finally, I wish to add that our Ancestor signed all these documents in full view and knowledge of all those present at these signing sessions. He introduced himself as Alexandre de K/voach and signed something else! Whenever he used these various signatures, those present must have been aware of it, at least the notaries, the parish priests and those who witnessed the signing of the deeds and, no one ever seem to find fault with this or be annoyed by it. Why? Most likely because it did not matter at the time. Of course, today, it would not be accepted as our customs and our laws have changed; so nowadays our ancestor would be caught red-handed. But at the time, no one cared about spelling and the Ancestor's signature was perfectly legible, which is not always the case nowadays.

LE TRÉSOR — How would you explain our ancestor's varied signatures?

FRANÇOIS — Let us look at his marriage for example. Then, he gives himself two new Christian names, **Maurice and Louis** and he signs the family name **Le Bris** accompanied with the surname **de Kervoach**. Furthermore, he invents, for himself, a set of parents whose names make them look like nobility: François Hyacinthe Le Bris de Kervoach and Madeleine de Meuseuillac. Now, let me quote the Breton author, Pierre Jakès Hélias⁽²³⁾: “*The owner of a farm, or even one whose family had been living on a farm for some years, is given the name of the farm, just like in the olden days the Seigneurs took on the name of their land. When speaking of one called Yves de Kerlaeron, do not believe for a moment that it is a noble personage, a viscount or a marquis.*” When you know that the surname **de Kervoach** is indeed the name of a property in Lanmeur that belonged to Urbain-François' ancestors, and that, they too used that name as a surname, when he signed Maurice-Louis Le Bris de Kervoach and invented himself some ‘noble’ parents, would you not think that our Ancestor simply had been trying to climb up an extra step or two on the social ladder rather than attempting to

(19) Archives nationales du Québec, Notre-Dame-de-Québec Parish Register (CE301, S1).

(20) Archives nationales du Québec, Cap-Saint-Ignace Parish Register (CE302, S1).

(21) Archives nationales du Québec, Cap-Saint-Ignace Parish Register (CE302, S1, dated 28 February 1732).

(22) Archives nationales du Québec, Superior Court Archives, Abel Michon Notary (CN302, S29). (*simple contract, translates the French expression: *contrat sous seing privé*)

(23) Tradition bretonne, le savoir-vivre, 1973. (Book about ways and customs in Brittany.)



Bruno, son of Émile Kirouac, and François Kirouac in front of the commemorative plaque in homage to Urbain-François Le Bihan, Sieur de Kervoac, unveiled on 9 July 2000 in Huelgoat. (Photo: collection François Ki-

change his identity to mix the cards as the Breton genealogist asserts? Does he simply wish to make people believe that he is 'noble'? Why do I ask myself that question? How could we ignore the family legend that members of our family at large believed in for so long? Yes, let us admit it; we liked to believe that our ancestor was of 'noble' origin. And during a century, a few members of our family knocked on the door of the Marquis of Kérouartz in Brittany believing that we were related. So, may we be allowed to think that the real purpose of Alexandre de K/voach on 22 October 1732 was simply to raise himself up an extra notch on the social ladder?

As far as I am concerned to pretend that our ancestor changed his identity because he did not want to be linked to his past because this past was supposed to be non-commendable does not hold water. By giving himself 'noble airs' at his wedding, what was he exactly doing? Let's face it; he was clearly attracting

attention to himself as there were rather few 'nobles' in Cap-Saint-Ignace during the 18th century. As far as I am concerned if he had really wanted to hide his true identity and remain out of sight, he would not have used the surname *de Kervoach*, being fully aware that it was unique and that only his ancestors had ever been identified by it. To me, he looks more like someone who is very sure of himself and knows his true worth.

LE TRÉSOR — Captivating! Do you have anymore examples like that?

FRANÇOIS — Here is another one. The Breton origin of our ancestor was common knowledge, so much so that he was called *Alexandre le Breton* by all and sundry. In 1730, when he signed his name Alexandre le Breton, in no way would he have been trying to make people believe then that this was his "family name in lieu and place of Le Bihan", he is signing his surname or nickname because it was the done thing at the time! People were quite

normally identified by their place of origin. Hence the Houde/Houle dit Desrochers, Durocher, Desruisseaux, Duruisseau - following the splitting of a family estate, Pépin dit Lachance and Quemenner dit Laflamme! Here, the French word '*dit*' means 'known as'.

On 30 November 1733, our ancestor wrote a letter to the Governor of New France, the Marquis de Beauharnois ⁽²⁴⁾. Now the follow up to that letter is most interesting as an indication of our Ancestor's famous identity. He signed his letter *Alexandre de K/voach*. However, the Intendant Hocquart, the highest authority in New France at the time, further to our ancestor's letter, a few days later published an ordinance ⁽²⁵⁾ inviting the population to help *Alexandre le Breton*. The letter was signed *de K/voach* but the ordinance mentions *le Breton* without

(24) Archives nationales du Québec, Governor's archives under the French Regime R1, P40.

even mentioning *de K/voach*. The content of these two documents clearly show that our ancestor, Alexandre de K/voach, who was known by the **population in general by the surname/nickname of Le Breton was also known as such by the administrative and judicial authorities of New France**. For everybody he was *Alexandre de Kervoach dit le Breton*, no matter how he signed documents and deeds. The use of the surname/nickname *le Breton* was indeed so popular among his contemporaries that long after his death, his own sons, grandsons, and even some of his great-grandsons were still known by that surname. With time it has been transformed in some cases into Berton and even Burton.

LE TRÉSOR -- Would you say that he liked to take front stage?

FRANÇOIS – Definitely, and not only with the administrators of the colony but also with the ordinary people. The documents found to date in Quebec prove that *Alexandre de K/voach* led a very active social life on the Côte-du-Sud (St. Lawrence River South Shore, North of Quebec City). We find him in Beaumont, Cap St-Ignace, L'Islet, Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies, Kamouraska and Île Verte. He is present at the signing of various contracts and notaries' deeds, at funerals, burials, baptisms and marriages. He also signed documents and deeds in Quebec City and once in Montreal where he was god-father to a baby girl. Everywhere he is known as *Alexandre de K/voach dit le Breton*. His notoriety is uncontested and proven again, one last time, at his own funeral. He died on 5 March 1736 and at his funeral the following day, the parish priest wrote in the parish records that

the whole parish of Kamouraska attended the funeral and burial, this was a rare occurrence at the time, so much so that it is very seldom recorded in writing.

CONCLUSION

LE TRÉSOR — What conclusion would you draw from the research about our Ancestor in New France at the time?

FRANÇOIS — Considering that our ancestor used *de Kervoach* on a regular basis to identify himself vis-à-vis his contemporaries;

Considering the fact that the uniqueness of the name *de Kervoach* would have enabled his contemporaries to easily link him with the Le Bihan family of Huelgoat, because the family was originally from a place known as *de Kervoac* in Lanmeur, this reference enabling the same link to be made three hundred years later;

Considering that variation in the spelling of names was a customary practice in New France;

Considering that the social life lead by our ancestor does not at all fit the profile of one who wished to remain unknown because he had committed some reprehensible act, would try to hide himself, not wanting to be found out;

Also considering that the conditions in New France at the time could have made it extremely easy for him to stay hidden if that had been his goal, but quite to the contrary, he put himself out front everywhere;

Considering that our ancestor, instead of avoiding the administrative and judicial authorities in New France, as would have done any person wanting

to keep one's identity hidden, he in fact collaborated with said authorities on a number of occasions, and even was hired by them to work as guide for said authorities;

Given all the afore mentioned evidence, we cannot but believe that our ancestor does not at all fit the profile of the infamous delinquent that the Breton genealogist, Patricia Dagier, insists in describing in her two recent books entitled: **Jack Kerouac, Breton d'Amérique** and **Le véritable Trésor de Clément Kirouac**. There are also sufficient reasonable explanations to let us think that the importance of the 1720 court case was rather minor on the life of our Ancestor.

LE TRÉSOR — Given all this information, can we reasonably think that, so far, the whole story has not been told and that more is yet to come?

FRANÇOIS — The genealogical research started in 1978 by the KFA had essentially one aim, to discover the place of origin of the Ancestor of the Kirouac families and nothing more, no matter what others might pretend. However, this research has brought us a lot of information but far more interrogations. When researching, my philosophy is that every affirmation must be backed by facts proven by documents and certifiable references. Hypotheses are permitted and numerous but they are only questions to be answered. It often takes months and years of research to finally unearth documents in archives that will eventually and finally shed light on a person or a period of their life. I could fill pages with questions - still to be

(25) Archives nationales du Québec, Ordonnances des intendants, 4 December 1733, Orders in Council, by Chief Administrator Hocquart (E1, S1, P4351).

answered - about our ancestor. How I would love to fill all the gaps one day, or at least some of them. For the moment it is a dream. Reality is often more extraordinary than fiction and I am convinced that the research file is far from being closed; I would rather say that it is wide open.

LE TRÉSOR — Thank you very much indeed for answering our numerous questions. I think we can believe that the enigma of the true history of our ancestor will be resolved one day but not without your input. We wish you the best possible success, many more discoveries and, one day, to publish the history of our Ancestor.

FRANÇOIS — If I may add as a last word, I think that when analyzing the results of the research, it is important to look not only at what is written in the documents and what it says, but it is also important to take into consideration the ways and customs of the time and, added to that, what has been imprinted in our collective minds for so long. It is also most important to remember that Alexandre de K/voach is not only Jack Kerouac's ancestor. He is also the ancestor of Brother Marie-Victorin as well as the ancestor of thousands of descendants for whom, as for my own grandfather, the motto of our Association has a profound signification: **Pride, Dignity and Integrity.**

Important Visitors in Quebec City Colette Kerouac and Robert Deschênes



On 15 May 2010, some of the Board Members and a few other lucky people met with Colette Kerouac and her husband, Robert Deschênes, over a lovely meal at the Restaurant *Le petit coin Breton*. From left to right: François Kirouac, Michel Bornais, Robert Deschênes, Céline Kirouac, Marie Lussier Timperley, Colette Kerouac, Yolande Bornais and Jacques Kirouac. Colette and Janet Michelle are second-cousins, as their fathers, Harvey and Jack, were first cousins. (Photo: collection KFA)

Historic Moment: 21 years ago



On 17 December 1989, some KFA Board members then welcomed Janet Michelle Kerouac at a meal at the Restaurant *Chez Camille*, now *La Girolle*. From left to right: Marie Kirouac, François Kirouac, Sarto Kirouac, Janet Michelle Kerouac and Jacques Kirouac. (Photo: collection KFA)

Kirouac ... *ON THE ROAD AGAIN* ... as the song goes

by Nathalie Kirouac



n a lovely spring afternoon, François, Michel, and I, drove to La Pocatière to meet with Vincent-Gabriel.

From Quebec City, it was about a two-hour drive. What a pleasure to meet with this proud member of our wonderful family.

We had heard that this twenty-year old man nurtures a very special dream, a Canadian-size adventure even, like only a Quebecer could envision. It is a pleasure to share the results of this interview with you as our host is so passionate, particularly about horses.

Who is Vincent Gabriel Kirouac?

Vincent-Gabriel was born at the Saint-François-d'Assise Hospital in Quebec City on 27 December 1989. He is the son of Lucie Paré and Yves Kirouac; he has two siblings.

About the time he turned fourteen, this very sensitive young man discovered a passion for horses. At first he thought he might become a blacksmith. But as future employment opportunities did not look too good in that field, he had second thoughts.

While in grade eleven, this charming young man got involved in many school committees, including the student CO-OP. He was known as a convincing and capable leader by his peers. He spent lots of time and energy to successfully carry out a number of projects.

He was about sixteen when he decided to choose a programme of studies that would best use his love of horses and develop his aptitudes, so he registered into the equestrian program at the La Pocatière CEGEP (College of General and Professional Education). He then had to leave Quebec City to follow this

specialised course, but he felt it was no sacrifice given that his dream was coming true: living surrounded by horses.

A grand entrance and a crown for a king

Before going on about Vincent-Gabriel's college years, we have to tell you about his adventure at the end of high school. At the end of the final high school year is there a greater event than the graduation ball? Given his passion for horses, this dreamer with a rider's good looks decided to arrive at the Prom in proper attire . . . Of course, you guessed it . . . on horseback, wearing medieval knight's attire! But this was in Quebec City, in one of the largest hotels located on one of the busiest avenues: Grande Allée! So, on any teenager's most important night, all decked up, he strolled his horse down Grande Allée, the name says it all, and turned up at the Loews Le Concorde Hotel!

That he made a grand entrance is to put it mildly. There is a lot of horse power on Grande Allée, but all on four-wheels, therefore, riding on horseback was not as easy as expected; nevertheless he arrived at the Ball on time and was greeted by cheers and warm applause. No one will ever forget that moment in 2008 and certainly not the young Knight in armour . . . flashed by the cameras of wide-eyed tourists ...

During the evening, another special treat was in store for Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac. The organizers had planned on naming a King and a Queen of the 2008 Graduating Class. And you guessed right again, Vincent-Gabriel was declared King and was invited to open the dance by waltzing with the Queen of his Class. He was very touched by the compliments and the



Photo: collection Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac

Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac, great-great-great grandson of Chevalier François Kirouac (GFK 00474)

gratitude expressed by his peers. He was not only dressed for the part, his implication and commitment through high school were real and highlighted in a very special way. He says that it is at that moment that he realized how strong his aspirations were. Strangely enough, being named the King of the 2008 Graduating Class, somewhat strengthened his dream.

But what is this dream?

Vincent-Gabriel is determined to ride across Canada on horseback as a crowning experience at the end of his College years. But why, oh why does he want so badly to live this dream? To this question, Vincent-Gabriel answers: "To create a better world by helping the various communities that I will be visiting along the way." This young knight has a burning desire to spread goodness around him, but also to serve humbly. Vincent-Gabriel is a very spiritual person; he was through his teens and still is. It is also this spiritual fire that steers him in his actions and thrusts him forward into realizing this long journey.

Profession: Knight or Vincent Gabriel 1st of Beauport Kirouac

Who wants to become a knight nowadays? Do not think for one moment that becoming a knight in this day and age happens through waving a magic wand. It does require many sacrifices, starting by putting money aside to buy the needed equipment. Vincent-Gabriel admits that he had to make choices, budget carefully, and save; sometimes cutting down on grocery bills. He had to work really hard to pay for all his equipment. A devouring passion compels this young man to act as he does; hence his dream of riding across Canada has to become a reality.

Going across Canada: preparations

Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac intends to start his 6000-km trans-national ride in the spring of 2012, going from east to west. He is not going alone as a friend is planning to accompany him. Audréanne Dupuis, also studying at La Pocatière in the same equine training programme will be travelling with him. The two riders are busy raising funds to achieve their project. This is a first crucial step and getting coverage in the local and provincial media, helps them a lot in establishing their credibility and getting people to believe in their amazing expedition.

As they work on a map showing the route to be followed, their project becomes more definite and real and it will be a great help in planning their itinerary. As Vincent-Gabriel underlines, nothing is written in stone ahead of time. The itinerary can and will change, that is fully expected. No only the route might be modified, the time spent in each place can also vary. The adventure may last six months, a year, even two years; however, one thing is sure: *we have no idea how long we will be on the road from the departure time and our return.*

A list of contacts 'from sea to sea' is slowly expanding. The two adventurers hope to enlarge it as much as possible before starting off because it will



Chevalier Vincent-Gabriel 1st of Beauport Kirouac

definitely facilitate their journey. As already mentioned in this article, the ultimate goal is to help various communities build a better world. It is a special and worthwhile project based on generosity and spirituality. We do believe that Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac will achieve his great dream. He has the making of a knight.

He may look like a happy-go-lucky guy but his burning desire to spread goodness around him is genuine. His values of respect, courage, openness to others and loyalty transcend his discourse. Few twenty-year-olds show so much maturity. To us, KFA

members, Vincent-Gabriel, is a model of dynamism and commitment. We wish him a terrific journey and may his wildest dreams come true.

Judging by his detailed explanations, Vincent-Gabriel is well aware of horses' needs and behaviour and is also conscious of the many pitfalls along the road, so even if his project may seem hay-wired, we think that his feet are both resolutely on the ground as well as firmly in the stirrups.

To better encourage him on this long trek starting in 2012, we invite all K/s, by name or in spirit, living between Halifax, NS, and Vancouver, BC, and between Saint-John's, Newfoundland, and Victoria, BC, who would like to offer lodging and any other services, to please contact the KFA at (afkirouacfa@hotmail.com) or Vincent-Gabriel directly at:

horsemaster300@hotmail.com.

To conclude this article, I will quote Vincent-Gabriel: *In a way, our adventure is a fairy tale, a dream, and that is why it is magical, and the magic comes from the heart of those who are carrying it out. We hope to be encouraged and supported because we want to help people.*

Translation by Marie L. Timperley for Le Trésor des Kirouac, #100, June 2010.



Ready to serve!

Collection: Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac

Photo: collection Vincent-Gabriel Kirouac



Vincent-Gabriel 1st of Beauport Kirouac

Genealogy of Vincent-Gabriel 1st of Beauport Kirouac

I

Alexandre de K/voach
Around 1703-1736

Cap Saint-Ignace
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712-1802)

II

Louis de K/voach
1735-1779

Cap-Saint-Ignace
11 January 1757

Catherine Méthot
(1739-1813)

III

Pierre Keroack
(1777-1866)

Montmagny, Saint-Thomas
17 October 1797

Marie-Anne Joncas
(1775-1816)

IV

Louis-Grégoire Kérouack
(1801-1890)

Saint-Pierre-de-Montmagny
10 January 1825

Catherine Picard
(1803-1878)

V

François Kérouack
(1826-1896)

L'Ancienne-Lorette
6 June 1848

Marie-Julie Hamel
(1830-1915)

VI

Joseph-Arthur Kirouac
(1853-1935)

Québec, Saint-Roch
24 January 1880

Amanda Lemieux
(1860-1940)

VII

Émile Kirouac
(1895-1971)

Québec, N.-D.-du-Chemin
10 September 1918

Léontine Marois
(1895-1970)

VIII

Gabriel Kirouac
(1924-)

Québec, Saint-Fidèle
9 June 1949

Jeannine Simard
(1926-)

IX

Yves Kirouac
(1960-)

Saint-Jacques-de-Leeds
28 December 1985

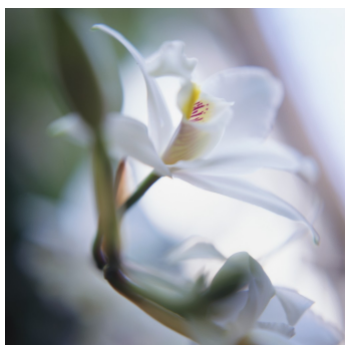
Lucie Paré
(1959-)

X

**Vincent-Gabriel 1st
of Beauport Kirouac
(1989-)**



François Kirouac 30 March 2010



**Baillargeon, François
(1962 – 2010)**

At home, on 2 March 2010 at the age of 47 years and eleven months passed away François Baillargeon, son of Adrien Baillargeon and Julienne Fleury-Baillargeon. Funeral was held on 13 March in St-Ignace-de-Loyola Church in Quebec City. Burial followed in the parish cemetery. Besides his parents, Mr. Baillargeon leaves to mourn his daughters Laurie and Élodie, their mother **Manon Kirouac (GFK 01490)**, his brothers and sisters, Jean-V (France Langevin), Dominique (Céline Gauthier), Charles E. (Mariette Ruel), Gilbert (Caroline Béliveau) and Christine; his two godsons, Jean-Thomas and Maxime.

**Kirouac, Gaston
(1923-2010)**

At Hôtel-Dieu Hospital in Arthabaska on 22 April 2010 passed away at the age of eighty-six, Gaston Kirouac, husband of the late Marie Lesieur. He leaves to mourn his children: Pierre (Lucie Durand), Louise (Robert Talbot), and Lorraine (François Cyr), three grandchildren: Jesse, Gabrielle and Katherine. Mr. Kirouac also leaves his brother-in-law Paul Lesieur (Jeannine Lesieur) as well as many nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends. Funeral was on 30 April 2010, in Ste-Victoire Church in Victoriaville, Quebec.

IN MEMORIAM - Quebec

**Kirouac, Pierre
(1934-2010)**

At Laval Hospital, on 27 April 2010, at the age of seventy-six, passed away Pierre Kirouac, husband of Colette Bernier. He was the son of the late Georges Kirouac (**GFK 00629**) and the late Lucienne Drollet. Funeral was held on 1st May 2010 in the Chapel of Complexe Funéraire de la Cité. He leaves to mourn, besides his wife, Colette Bernier, his brother, Michel (Monique Vaillancourt), his sister-in-law, Jeanne-D'Arc Bernier (the late Marcel Roberge).

**Morin, Marie-Paule Lamarre
(1920-2010)**

After a long, happy and full life, surrounded by her evergrowing family, our mother, Marie-Paule Lamarre, passed away on 11 March 2010 at the age of 89 years and six months. She was the widow of Armand Morin. She was predeceased by her parents **Marie Kirouac (GFK 02190)** and Joseph Lamarre. She leaves to mourn her children: Eddy Morin (Ginette Duchesne), the late Linda, Denise (Robert Gagnon) and Roger (Brigitte Blaney); her grandchildren: Michel, Richard, Natalie, Pascal, Martin, Guillaume and Charles; her great-grandchildren: Riley, Coralie, Naomi, Jeremy and Edouard. She was predeceased by her brother Émery Lamarre (the late Yvette Thibeault), and her sister Alida (the late Ulric Thibeault). She was the sister-in-law of: Marie-Ange Morin (the late Ernest Fortin), the late Léo (Fernande Émond), the late Philippe (the late Marie Lapointe), the late Maurice and the late Rita.

**Ledoux-Kirouac, Ruth
(1934-2010)**

In Magog, on 26 April 2010 at the age of seventy-six passed away Ruth Ledoux, widow of **Jean-Marc Kirouac (GFK 00740)**. Funeral was held on 1st May 2010 in St-Jean-Bosco Church in Magog. Mrs. Ledoux-Kirouac leaves to mourn her brothers: Luc (priest), Roch and his wife Fatima; her nephews and nieces as well as many other relatives and friends.

**Pelletier, Donald
(1950-2010)**

At the CLSC & Long-term care centre in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli, Quebec, on 26 February 2010, when nearly sixty years old, passed away Donald Pelletier, husband of Pierrette Bouchard, living in Sainte-Louise, L'Islet County. He was the son of the late **Jeanne KIROUAC (GFK 01686)** and the late Briand Pelletier. Besides his wife, he leaves to mourn his children: Julie, Eric (Marie Gauthier), Sylvain (Karine Legris); his brothers and sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law: Serge (Sylvie Michaud), Mona (Gilles Marier), Linda (Daniel Bard), Sonia (Eric Lessard); members of the Bouchard family: Huguette (André David), Muriel (the late Jules Ouellet), Charlotte (Robert Lizotte), André, Raynald (Louise Marcel), Yvan (Lise Roussel), Jean-Marc, Ghislain (Constance Bois), Richard, Guylaine (Mario Lizotte); his godchildren: Stéphane David and Jacynthe Marier, many nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends. Funeral was held on 5 March in the parish church in Sainte-Louise followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery.



IN MEMORIAM - United States



Duval, Mary A. Ricard White (1905-2009)

Mary A. (Duval) Ricard White, age 104, died peacefully Wednesday morning, Dec. 30 in Wachusett Manor Nursing Home, Gardner, MA. She was born in Winchendon, MA on July 6, 1905, the daughter of the late **Octave and Emma (Kirouac) (GFK 01631) Duval**. Mary was a machine operator for several years at New Hampshire Ball Bearings in Peterborough, NH until her retirement. She previously had worked many years ago at White Brothers Mill, Mason and Parker Co. and General Box Co. She enjoyed snowmobiling, casinos and dancing into her 80s. Before returning to Winchendon in 2005, Mary lived in Rindge for 48 years and in Oregon for six years. Mary was predeceased by her first husband of 14 years, Antonio E. Ricard, died in 1939 and her second husband of 42 years, Herbert L. White, died in 1999. She was also predeceased by a son in 1995, Antonio E. Ricard Sr., and a daughter in 2005 Bernadette A. Davis as well as five brothers and five sisters. She leaves four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Private Service was held prior to burial in Calvary Cemetery, Winchendon.

Paradis-Kirouac, Jeanita (1932-2010)

At home on 25 January 2010, at the age of 78, passed away Jeanita Paradis, **widow of Émile Kirouac (GFK 00923)** who died on 17 December 1993. Jeanita was the daughter of Henrietta (Fontaine) and Edward Paradis. She leaves to mourn her three sons: Michael E.

Kirouac, Daniel E. Kirouac and Steven D. Kirouac (Michelle Loader); three sisters: Georgette Gamache, Rachel C. Therrien and Gloria (**Ernest Kirouac, GFK 00922**); two grandchildren: Jamie and Ryan Kirouac. She was predeceased by her son Rodney A. Kirouac in 2005 and by her daughter-in-law, Dyann L. Fasshauer-Kirouac in 2006. Funeral was held in St. Georges Church in Worcester MA, followed by burial in Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton MA.

Pelletier, Russell G. (1921-2009)

On 22 December 2009 in Wachusett Manor Nursing Home in Gardner aged 88, passed away Russell G. Pelletier. Born in Amesbury on Feb. 11, 1921, he was the son of Romeo and Helen Helie (Gosselin) Peltier. His beloved wife, **Laurette B. Kirouac (GFK 02109)** died in 1998. Russell worked for the former Heywood Wakefield Company as a cabinet maker and foreman for 40 years, and prior to his retirement, for the former Nichols and Stone Company. Russell was a communicant of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Gardner. A skilled painter, he was a member of the Greater Gardner Artists Association. He was also active with the South Gardner Historical Society, the Gardner Museum and the Montachusett Organ Society. He served as officer for the American Association of Retired Persons, the Gardner Golden Age Club, the Handicap Commission for the City of Gardner and as chairman

of the Council on Aging. He and his wife Laurette were very active and ran dance clubs at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles. He took creative writing courses at Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner including a generational writing course, working with his great-granddaughter Bridget Wood on a project called **Memories** which was published in *The Gardner News*. He will be sadly missed by two sons: Russell E. Pelletier (Joan) of Falmouth and Kenneth E. Pelletier (Denise) of Gardner; two daughters: Barbara A. Bachand (Richard) of New Bedford and Nancy D. Pelletier of Mashpee; two sisters, Lorraine (Ken Tuttle) of Winchendon and Marie (Ron Quinlan) of Rindge, nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and many nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by two sisters, Laura Werner and Marguerite Baldinelli and one brother, Richard Helie. Funeral Mass was celebrated in Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church on 28 December 2009 followed by burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, Gardner, MA, USA. Russell and Laurette attended the Kirouac family gatherings in Canada and New England and Laurette faithfully forwarded information about the New England Kirouacs to the KFA in Quebec.

OUR DEEPEST
CONDOLENCES TO
THE BEREAVED
FAMILIES.

TREASURER'S REPORT 2009

René Kirouac

The 2009 Financial Report showed a surplus of revenue over expenses in the order of **\$733.71**. Compared with 2008, the revenues in 2009 decreased by **\$1,549.60** and expenses by **\$2,226.39**.

Looking at the revenues, we notice that the annual memberships, our Association's main source of revenues, have been slightly decreasing in the last few years. In 2005 there were 171 members, in 2006: 163, in 2007: 165, in 2008: 161, and in 2009: 152 members. Nevertheless, the total revenues closely correspond to the amounts budgeted for the regular KFA working expenditures. The gap between the revenues of 2008 and 2009 is due essentially to the exceptional surplus garnered from the annual gathering held in Quebec City in 2008. As for the **Jacques Kirouac Funds**, the money was invested for a five-year term that came up for renewal in June 2009. After studying various options, the KFA Board decided to take advantage of some permanent shares to be offered by Quebec City's *Caisse populaire Bellevue* at an initial yearly rate of 4.25%. However, until this investment tool became available, the money from the *Jacques Kirouac Funds* was put into a term deposit at an annual rate of 1.5% for the period of June to October 2009 inclusively. In 2009, the Funds provided the KFA with revenue of \$682.07 plus a further refund of \$35.44, for a total of \$717.51. This refund was included in the 2009 revenue although it belonged to the period from 1st January to 31 December 2008.

Expenses for 2009 were almost as budgeted; however, slightly less than in 2008 as the KFA no longer needs to absorb certain exceptional expenses like covering the final payment of the debt for the crest related articles and a KFA contribution to the publishing of the book *Janet M. Kerouac - A Life in Memory*. In addition, it must be noted that the publishing expenses for our news bulletin decreased in 2009. As a matter of fact the cost has never been so low: almost \$400.00 less than during the previous year. The explanation is that from number 95 on, *Le Trésor* comprises only 32 pages instead of forty. It is an important economy that in no way affects the quality of the product.

The table below shows the production expenses for each of the four issues published in 2009. For your information and for comparison the expenses were \$2,501.08 in 2008.

2009 - Bulletins	95	96	97	98	TOTAL
Production Cost	\$531.97	\$473.20	\$623.60	\$491.67	\$2,120.44

Finally, for the 2010 Budget, estimated revenues are \$4,975.00 and expenses \$4,550.00 providing a surplus of \$425.00.

TREND OF COSTS OF THE BULLETINS SINCE 2006

2008 - Bulletins	91	92	93	94	TOTAL
Production Cost	\$713.20	\$551.91	\$623.61	\$612.36	\$2,501.08

2007 - Bulletins	87	88	89	90	TOTAL
Production Cost	\$649.46	\$664.54	\$597.67	\$600.03	\$2,511.70

2006 - Bulletins	83	84	85	86	TOTAL
Production Cost	\$659.66	\$690.94	\$691.95	\$644.00	\$2,686.55

ASSOCIATION DES FAMILLES KIROUAC INC.

KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR 2009

(Not audited)

REVENUES

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS 2009

Regular Members (112)	\$2,472.00
Benefactors (34)	918.00
Sub-total:	3,390.00

PREMIUM & INTERESTS

Exchange on US currency	80.90
Interest earned	2.49
Sub-total:	83.39

GIFTS & RECOVERED AMOUNTS

<i>Jacques Kirouac</i> Fund	682.07
<i>Jacques Kirouac</i> Fund – return on investment 2008	35.44
Gifts (Administration expenses)	142.50
Amount Recovered	0.00
Sub-total:	860.01

2009 ANNUAL GATHERING

Surplus from 2009 annual gathering	196.40
Sub-total:	196.40

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

1991 Genealogies sold (10)	100.00
Bulletins sold (15)	51.00
Crest & Badges sold	55.00
French Edition of <i>Memory Babe</i> sold (5)	150.00
Book: Jan Kerouac - <i>A Life in Memory</i> - sold (3)	75.00
DVD 30th Anniversary - sold (6)	120.00
Notepads sold (10)	12.50
<i>Mon miroir - Marie-Victorin's Journal</i> - book sold (1)	35.00
<i>Marie-Victorin à Cuba</i> by A. Bouchard - books sold (3)	90.00
Sub-total:	688.50

TOTAL REVENUES: **\$5,218.30**

EXPENSES

ADMINISTRATION

Canada Custom & Revenue (2009 Annual Return)	\$ 32.00
Insurance –general responsibility (12 months/12)	205.69
FFSQ 2009 Membership - \$1.75/member/year	259.00
Convention or Seminar Registration	0.00
Bank Fees - bank book	79.90
Sub-total:	576.59

LE TRÉSOR - Bulletins number 95 to 98

KFA Secretariat	44.07
Printing	1,089.70
Shipping & Handling	329.42
FFSQ Secretariat	53.12
Canadian Postage	371.75
USA Postage	232.38
Sub-total:	2,120.44

KFA SECRETARIAL EXPENSES

Postage	149.76
Photocopying	17.45
Stationary, envelopes, and cards	138.50
Parking	0.00
Sub-total:	305.71

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Genealogical Research in Quebec	400.00
Sub-total:	400.00

SUNDRY (Publicity & Promotion)

Web-Site 2009 annual fee - WEB CGFA	0.00
Photos & albums (Chicoutimi 2009 Gathering)	190.80
DVD 30th Anniversary: 2 nd of two CDs	359.86
Postage for shipping books - Janet M. K/ by G. Nicosia books	33.00
Gift to <i>Fondation Hôpital Laval</i> : in memory of Roland Kirouac	50.00
Gifts	240.95
Registering of <i>Observatoires Jack K & FMV</i>	126.00
<i>Memory Babe</i> , in French copies bought (3 / 25): left 0	81.25
Sub-total:	1,081.86

TOTAL EXPENSES: **\$4,484.59**

SURPLUS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES 2009 **\$ 733.71**

Bank Account

Balance at 31 December 2008	8,939.64
Credited amounts from 1st January to 31 December 2009	5,240.63
Debited amounts from 1st January to 31 December 2009	5,206.13
Balance as of 31 December 2009	\$8,974.14

Prepared by: René Kirouac, Treasurer

Earthquake in Chile

La Seigneurie - 19 March 2010

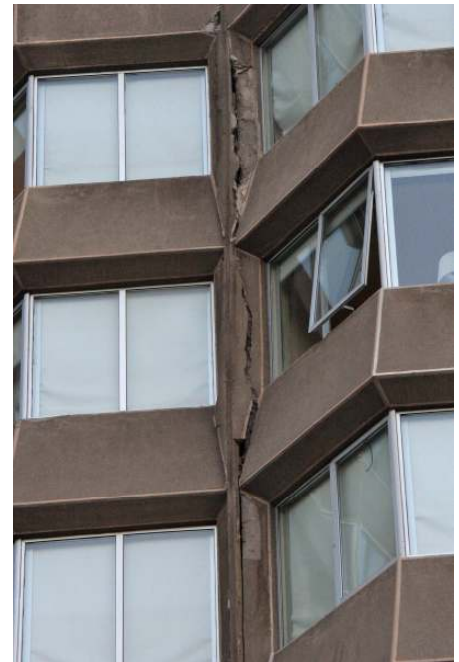
By Christine Bouthillier

Pierre Kirouac and his wife Marie-Andrée Lavigne-Kirouac, from Boucherville (Montreal South-Shore), were in Chile when an earthquake violently hit the country. Now grateful and happy to be back home, they related their experience to *La Seigneurie's* journalist. To celebrate her sixty-fifth birthday, Mrs. Lavigne-Kirouac and her husband had planned a fourteen day cruise with their neighbours, Robert and Suzette Sarrazin. The cruise ship was to leave from Buenos Aires, in Argentina, on 28 February 2010, and sail southward along the coast towards the tip of the continent and turn northwards to sail along the Chilean coast landing in Santiago, Chile. This was to be their first cruise.

On the way to Buenos Aires, their flight stopped in Santiago, on 26 February, where an unfortunate mechanical problem forced the pas-

sengers to disembark and spend one night in the Chilean capital. That was the time needed to fix the problem. However, it turned out to be a six-day stop-over. All passengers had to leave their passport at the airport to avoid paying for a visa to enter the country. At 3:30 a.m., Pierre Kirouac woke up and went to the bathroom; and that is when the earth started to shake and it did for over a minute. "It is a shock. You lose all notion of time. You are stuck. You cannot move because everything is moving around you. Then I started hearing people screaming, and outside, things were falling. It did not stop, it diminished a little then started again stronger" says the now retired photographer from the Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital.

Mr. Kirouac was really frightened. He woke his wife. She adds to the story: "With the air-conditioning system's noise it was like being in a moving train. The blinds were knocking hard on the windows. The bed was shaking quite roughly. I



One wing of the Sheraton Hotel completely severed from the central tower.

will not forget that night." Their room being on the fourth floor of a six-floor wing, Pierre Kirouac was afraid the two top floors would crash on them.

Besides broken knick-knacks and a shattered wineglass, their room suffered little damage. There were no injured customers at the Sheraton Hotel where they were staying along with dozens of other Quebecois including many from Varennes and Boucherville who were all scheduled to go on the cruise.

In Chile, hotels are built to resist earthquakes, and the Sheraton did. In Concepcion, the quake's magnitude was 8.8 while it was only 7.0 in Santiago. However, one of the two wings of the Sheraton Hotel got separated from the central tower, says Mr. Kirouac.

As soon as the quake was over, the hotel customers were ushered out of the hotel in relative calm but some people were crying because of the shock. The air was thick with cement dust floating about. The



Pierre Kirouac and his wife, Marie-Andrée Lavigne; Pierre was the KFA Regional Representative for the Greater Montreal area between 1983 and 1993.

hotel employees immediately did all in their power to look after their guests making sure all travellers were safe and sound, supplying blankets and slippers to those who had left their rooms with only a bed sheet or dressing gown. While the damages were being assessed, the clients spent the days outside, even eating their meals outdoors.

By the end of the day, all could go back to their rooms. However, some people afraid of the aftershocks preferred to sleep outside or by the door to the courtyard.

Nevertheless, Mr. Kirouac and his wife went back to their room. "There were regular daily aftershocks" adds Pierre Kirouac. "When I felt the first aftershock while indoor, I froze. The day we left there were three aftershocks; one was a magnitude 5.3 on the Richter scale."

Return Journey

The cruise was cancelled so our holiday fell through . . . While waiting to return home, the travel agency organised a guided tour of Santiago for its stranded clients. Pierre Kirouac explains: "It is a beautiful clean city, with some old architecture. The buildings did not suffer too much. Some sections were closed to traffic and others were littered with rubble."

During the days after the quake, the stranded visitors also took advantage of the free time to visit the artist district, and play various parlour games or enjoy a cocktail by the pool. The General Manager of the hotel hosted a special evening with musicians and dancers. There was a minute of silence in memory of the quake's victim and funds were collected to help the survivors.

"We were very lucky in a way as we had no problems. Everyone in our group shook hands with the or-



On 27 February 2010 in Chile, the Boucherville travellers a few minutes after the earthquake. From left to right: Robert Sarrazin, Marie-Andrée Lavigne, Pierre Kirouac and Suzette Sarrazin. Photo: Pierre Kirouac



Worried by the aftershocks, some guests chose to sleep outside. Photo: Pierre Kirouac

ganizer before leaving to thank him for everything. Other groups were not as lucky as even their tour guide left them to fend for themselves. It was quite an experience. What a zoo we live in, for better and for worse", concludes Mr. Kirouac.

Reference for the article: http://monteregieweb.com/Mon_Boucherville

Translated by Marie Lussier Timperley for *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 100, Spring 2010.

Photographic Heritage



Kirouac House in L'Islet in 1904: seated on the balcony railing: the very young Albert Kirouac (GFK 01293)), beside him, his parents: Andréas Kirouac (GFK 01292), Azilda Caron-Kirouac; from left to right, his three K/ aunts: Méline (GFK 01289), Adelia (GFK 01290), Laetitia (GFK 01291). In front of the house: at the foot of the staircase: Joseph Kirouac (GFK 01288) and his wife, Alphonsine Berger-Kirouac. Original photo: Lucille Kirouac; acquired on 27 March 2010.



Rosa Kirouac (GFK 00841), on 16 May 1910, 21 years old; Photo: W.C. Houle, Warwick; Marie Rose Émérentienne was born in 1888 in Kingsey-Falls, QC, and died in Montréal in 1957. Original photo: Marie Kirouac; acquired on 26 October 2009.



Jack Kerouac (1922-1969) with Léontine Rouleau-Kerouac (1883-1975), wife of his uncle Joseph Napoléon Kerouac (GFK 01362) (1880-1944). Photo: Colette Kerouac; acquired on 12 October 2009.



Rose-Alma Kirouac born in Saint-Sébastien (Richelieu) on 27 November 1900; died in Taunton, MA, USA, on 31 December 1996. Daughter of Louis Kirouac (GFK 00107) and Élisabeth Trahan-Kirouac.

GENEALOGY / THE READERS' PAGE

The KFA's computerized genealogical database includes a number of couples where the name of one of the partners is missing.

Answers to the following questions would enable us to complete this data.

You are also invited to consult previous issues of *Le Trésor*. If you know the answers to any of the questions, please forward them to us and we will publish them in the Readers' Page in future issues.

Thank you very much

François Kirouac

Answers from Readers

Question 258 in *Le Trésor* 98

What are the names of the parents of Robert Bujold, second spouse of Yolande D'Assylvas, daughter of Auguste D'Assylvas and Blanche Cécile Kirouac-D'Assylvas?

Answer from Mrs. Ginette Otis:

The parents of Robert Bujold were Benjamin Bujold (Bujould) and Dora (Eudora) Boudreault.

Question 259 in *Le Trésor* 98

What are the names of the parents of Rolland Cummings, first spouse of Yolande D'Assylvas, daughter of Auguste D'Assylvas and Blanche Cécile Kirouac-D'Assylvas?

Answer from Mrs. Ginette Otis:

The parents of Roland Cummings, first husband of my aunt Yolande were Charles Cummings and Marie Bujold (Bujould).

Question 292 in *Le Trésor* 99

What are the names of the parents of Alice Bédard, spouse of Victor Côté, son of Victor Côté and Philomène Aurélie Le Brice de Keroack?

Answer from Mr. Gregory

Kyroutac: *The parents of Alice Bédard were Thomas Bédard, cobbler, and Sophie Morin. Victor Côté and Alice Bédard were married on 26 November 1906 in the parish of Saint-Jacques-le-mineur in Montreal.*

Question 295 in *Le Trésor* 99

What are the names of the parents of Wilfrid Laroche, spouse of Valentine Côté, daughter of Alfred Côté and Philomène Kirouac?

Answer from Mr. Gregory

Kyroutac: *First let us correct the Christian name, it is not Wilfrid but Joseph François Michel and he is the son of Gaudiose Laroche and Florida Petitclerc.*

New Questions

Question 296

What are the names of the parents of Robert Donald Taillefer, husband of Huguette Côté, daughter of Louis-Philippe Côté and Germaine Kirouac?

Question 297

What are the names of the parents of Denyse Laberge, wife of Roland Côté, son of Louis-Philippe Côté and Germaine Kirouac?

Question 298

What are the names of the parents

Please send us your genealogical questions; we will try to answer them and the results will be published in a following issue of *Le Trésor*.

The Editorial Team

of Édouard Barette, husband of Marguerite Côté, daughter of Joseph Côté and Marie-Anne Kirouac?

Question 299

What are the names of the parents of Auguste Meunier, husband of Annie Côté, daughter of Joseph Côté and Marie-Anne Kirouac?

Question 300

What are the names of the parents of Ernest Rochette, husband of Amanda Côté, daughter of Joseph Côté and Marie-Anne Kirouac?

Question 301

What are the names of the parents of Wilfred Jacques, husband of Anne Côté, daughter of Joseph Côté and Marie-Anne Kirouac?

Question 302

What are the names of the parents of Émérence Bourgault, wife of Léo Pelletier, son of Alexandre Pelletier and Marie-Catherine Kirouac?

Question 303

What are the names of the parents of Alice Turcotte, wife of Onésime Pelletier, son of Alexandre Pelletier and Marie-Catherine Kirouac?

Question 304

What are the names of the parents of Ghislaine Matte, wife of Jean-François Martel, son of René Martel and Mariette Kirouac?

KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

PRESIDENT

GENEALOGY AND EDITOR OF OF LE TRESOR

François Kirouac (00715)
31, rue Laurentienne
Saint-Étienne-de-Lauzon (Québec) G6J 1H8
Telephone: (418) 831-4643

1st VICE-PRESIDENT

Céline Kirouac (00563)
1190, rue de Callières
Québec (Québec) G1S 2B4
Telephone: (418) 527-9858

2nd VICE-PRESIDENT

Nathalie Kirouac (01509)
1475, avenue Mailloux, appt. 1
Québec (Québec) G1J 4Y9
Telephone: (418) 661-3571

SECRETARY

VACANT POSITION

TREASURER

René Kirouac (02241)
3782, Chemin Saint-Louis
Québec (Québec) G1W 1T5
Telephone: (418) 653-2772

LE TRESOR EDITORIAL TEAM

Marie Kirouac (00840)
1039, rue Raoul-Blanchard
Québec (Québec) G1X 4L2
Telephone: (418) 871-6604

COUNSELLOR

Lucie Jasmin
10407, De Lorimier
Montréal (Québec) H2B 2J1
Telephone: (514) 334-6144

COUNSELLOR

Mercédès Bolduc
140, Rue de la Victoire
Chicoutimi (Québec) G7G 2X7
Telephone: (418) 549-0101

TRANSLATION &

LE TRESOR EDITORIAL TEAM

Marie Lussier Timperley
127, chemin Schoolcraft
Mansonville-Potton (Québec) J0E 1X0
Telephone: (450) 292-4247

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

REGION 1, QUÉBEC-BEAUCE-APPALACHES

Marie Kirouac (00840)
1039, rue Raoul-Blanchard
Québec (Québec) G1X 4L2
Telephone: (418) 871-6604

REGION 2, MONTRÉAL, OUTAOUAIS, ABITIBI

Louis Kirouac (00327)
621A, Rue Notre-Dame
Le Gardeur (Québec) J5Z 2P7
Telephone: (450) 582-3715

REGION 3, CÔTE-DU-SUD, LOWER ST. LAWRENCE, GASPÉ PENINSULA & MARITIME PROVINCES

Lucille Kirouac (01307)
123, Chemin Rivière-du-Sud
Saint-François-de-la-Rivière-du-Sud (Québec) G0R 3A0
Telephone: (418) 259-7805

REGION 4, MAURICIE, BOIS-FRANCS, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

Renaud Kirouac (00805)
9, rue Leblanc, C.P. 493
Warwick (Québec) J0A 1M0
Telephone: (819) 358-2228

REGION 5, SAGUENAY, LAKE-SAINT-JEAN

Mercédès Bolduc
140, Rue de la Victoire
Chicoutimi (Québec) G7G 2X7
Telephone: (418) 549-0101

REGION 6, ONTARIO, PRAIRIE AND PACIFIC COAST PRO- VINCES

Georges Kirouac (01663)
23, Maralbo Ave. E.
Winnipeg (Manitoba) R2M 1R3
Telephone: (204) 256-0080

REGION 7, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

EASTERN TIME ZONE

Mark Pattison
1221 Floral Street NW
Washington, DC 20012 USA
Telephone: (202) 829-9289

CENTRAL TIME ZONE

Greg Kyrouac (00239)
P. O. Box 481
Ashland, IL 62612-0481 USA
Telephone: (217) 476-3358

Our motto
Pride Dignity Integrity



Founded: 20 November 1978
Incorporated: 26 February 1986
Member of the *Fédération
des familles- souches
du Québec inc.* since 1983

Canada Post
Mail Agreement number 40069967 for Mailing Publications
Return to the following address:
Fédération des familles-souches du Québec inc.
C.P. 10090, Succ. Sainte-Foy, Québec (Québec) G1V 4C6
IMPRIMÉ—PRINTED PAPER SURFACE

Some of our Ancestor's signatures

*Alexandre
Le Pihan*

*Maurice Louis
Lebrun et Voach*

Alexandre Ductroach

ÉTIQUETTE ADRESSE

CONVOCATION TO THE **2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Please be advised that the Annual General Meeting will take place on
Friday, 13 August 2010, at 8:00 p.m. at the Restaurant of the
Sanctuaire de Beauvoir (Shrine), located at 169 Beauvoir Road,
Brompton, Quebec, Canada.

To contact us or to receive information about our activities

Main Office
3782, Chemin Saint-Louis
Quebec (Quebec)
Canada G1W 1T5

Internet Site
www.genealogie.org/famille/kirouac
E-mail: afkirouacfa@hotmail.com
Webmaster: Pierre Kirouac

Treasurer and Membership:
René Kirouac
Telephone: (418) 653-2772

FREE E-MAIL KFA NEWS SERVICE LE TRÉSOR EXPRESS

To receive KFA's INFO EXPRESS Bulletins,
Simply e-mail us your own E-Mail address to:
afkirouacfa@hotmail.com