

Winter 2012-2013

Number 110

# Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach



Kevin Curwick, from Minnesota,  
is followed around the world via the Twitter-sphere.



Kirouac  
Kirouack



Kérouac  
Kérouack



Keroac  
Keroack



Kéroack  
Kyrouac



Breton  
Burton



Curwack  
Curwick



## *Le Trésor des Kirouac*

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# THE PRESIDENT'S WORD

As you most likely noticed in the last issues of *Le Trésor* Jack Kerouac was very much in the news in 2012. All this attention was brought about by the première of the film *On the Road*, Walter Salles adaptation of Jack Kerouac's most famous novel, presented at the Cannes Film Festival in France last May. Then in November, *Québec/Kerouac 2012*, a four-day event was an occasion to underline Jack's taste for Jazz as well as the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the only French-speaking international Jack Kerouac gathering which was held in Quebec City in 1987: *Rassemblement international Jack Kerouac*. It was also the chance to show Jack's profound attachment to his Canadian and Breton origins.

In the spring 2012 issue of *Le Trésor*, I mentioned that our Association was invited by the head of the *Québec/Kerouac 2012* organizing committee, to prepare an activity of our choosing to be included in the official programme. The Board of Directors was delighted to accept. A committee comprising Marie Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac, Michel Bornais and myself was set up to carry out the mandate. At first, we considered mounting a photo exhibition presenting Jack's genealogy and showing his deep attachment to his Canadian and Breton origins; however, as the deadline was fast approaching, compounded with a total lack of funds, the committee opted for a no-cost PowerPoint presentation.

Various other problems and delays crept up through the preparation prior to the event and throughout the event itself but the KFA finally not only held on but came ahead of the game. The high quality of the PowerPoint was much appreciated and garnered many congratulations from the numerous visitors who saw it over four days at our KFA stand at the Quebec Museum of Fine-Arts as well as at the Sunday public screening in the Museum's auditorium. In addition, we are pleased to tell you that the PowerPoint, created for *Québec/Kerouac 2012* will

have an extended lifespan. As soon as the KFA's Web Site is remodelled in 2013, the genealogical and historical PowerPoint on Jack will be accessible to the public at large on the KFA Web Site.

Here I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to the KFA committee members who, not only contributed to put together the PowerPoint presentation, but also spent time answering the visitors' many questions at the Museum. Also may I extend my gratitude to three other persons who manned our KFA stand at the Museum (22-25 November 2012), Marie L. Timperley, Lucille K/ and Céline K/.

This event in Quebec City was the opportunity to interview two specialists of Jack Kerouac's works. Roger Brunelle from Lowell and Dr. Eric Waddell, responsible for the *Jack Kerouac Observatory*. Both were guest panellists invited to take part in a number of public sessions during the *Québec/Kerouac 2012*. Let's mention that Dr. Waddell was the heart and mind behind the 1987 French-speaking *Jack Kerouac International gathering*. Both Dr. Waddell's talk and Mr. Brunelle's priceless knowledge of Jack's works were much appreciated. With their kind permission, their texts will be published in future issues of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*. See pages 6-7 for photos about last November's *Québec/Kerouac 2012*.

Then, let's take another look at past history, you will want to discover new facets of the precious *Philippe's Papers*. As Céline K/ and Lucille K/ keep digging into this gold mine of information, their tireless research and analysis enable us to discover totally new, and never published before, facts about the lives of the first generations of K/s in Quebec. And this is not the last chapter yet. There is more to come.



François Kirouac

Collection François Kirouac

On 4 August 2012, our American cousins gathered in three different States. Although Greg did not manage to send us photos this year, we know the Illinois Kyrouracs enjoyed a wonderful picnic. The Michigan Kirouracs also held their annual picnic on that sunny Saturday and Cathy Kirouac Robinson sends us photos and comments as well as the **Preliminary Program of the first ever KFA Annual Gathering to be held in Michigan next 19-21 July 2013.**

Last but not least, there are pages of news and photos about the CURWICKS' first extended family gathering over three days, 2-4 August 2012... Enjoy *Bud* telling you about a clan of colourful characters, and much gratitude to *Blunk*, a.k.a. LeRoy, the heart & mind behind it all. And do not miss the story of Kevin Curwick, a remarkable teenager, and *Bud's* grandson, who took on fighting cyber-bullies on their own turf. Read how his NICE TWITTER account spread positive changes like wildfire from Osseo to all of North America and around the world "*Tweet by Tweet*". (For those, like me, not too familiar with Internet & 21<sup>st</sup> Century youth jargon, Twitter and Tweet are explained).

Finally, and in spite of its tardiness,  
I wish everyone of you and  
your respective families  
A VERY HAPPY  
AND  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.