

Spring 2014

Number 114

# Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach  
Witness to Kirouac Activities for 31 Years



Virginie Kirouac (GFK 00836) and her friend, Geneviève Bibeau, proud to have completed the 2013 edition of **Trophée Rose des Sables** (Desert Rose Trophy). (Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)



Kirouac  
Kirouack



Kérouac  
Kérouack



Keroac  
Keroack



Kéroack  
Kyrouac



Breton  
Burton



Curwack  
Curwick



## ***Le Trésor des Kirouac***

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# THE PRESIDENT'S WORD

Officially, this is the first bulletin of *Le Trésor des Kirouac* for the year 2014 which you should have received last January. We are very sorry for the delay and fully intend to deliver to you the promised three annual issues before the end of 2014, including our season's greetings on time! Is it an impression or are years flying by ever faster? Particularly when one is so called 'retired', one seems to do twice as much as before but still find it difficult to do all one would like to achieve.

Here is the eagerly awaited account of two brave young ladies' adventure in the North African desert. Virginie Kirouac and her friend, Geneviève Bibeau, took part in the 2013 edition of the women's only race *Trophée Rose des Sables*. Virginie is the second K/ descendant taking part in this gruelling race. Virginie is a descendant of Louis, our ancestor's younger son. In *Le Trésor*, no. 94, pp. 6-11, winter 2008-2009, we printed Caroline Kirouac's account of her participation in the 2013 edition. Caroline (GFK 2075), is from St-Eugène-de-L'Islet and a descendant of Simon-Alexandre, our ancestor's eldest son. So, now, each branch of the K/ family counts a participant in the race *Trophée Roses des Sables*. But then again as they say "never two without three", who will be the third one to take part in this amazing race?

Last summer, those of us who attended the Kirouac's gathering in Detroit enjoyed meeting many descendants of *Jacques Pierre Kirouac*, whose parents were originally from Warwick, Quebec. Three of Jacques Pierre's daughters accepted to tell their family's story, starting with their grandparents who

were the first Kirouacs to settle in the Detroit area. Then their parents' wonderful love story as they met in Austria at the end of the WWII.

In this issue, we also publish the second and last part of the interview with Roger Brunelle done in November 2012 while he was in Quebec City taking part in *Québec/Kerouac 2012*. This is the end of our five-part coverage of the KFA's participation at the 25th Anniversary of the *Rencontre internationale Jack Kerouac*, the only international French-speaking gathering held in Quebec City in October 1987.

About the never-ending saga around Jack Kerouac's estate, a chronology of events up to 1999 was previously published in *Le Trésor*. Here is an up-to-date chronology prepared by Gerald Nicosia. It is a unique document listing all facts and steps in the court case started in 1994, up to August 2013.

Here again we are pleased to offer you more stories about Kirouac women who became nuns. Once more we owe these to André Saint-Arnaud, a faithful contributor to *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, who is for ever digging out stories about Brother Marie-Victorin's relatives. This time, it is about two K/ descendants, who were nuns in the Congregation of Notre-Dame.

**I am extremely grateful to all who contribute so generously to *Le Trésor des Kirouac*. The constant involvement and input of each person is what makes our family bulletin so rich and interesting.**

Finally, here is the preliminary programme for this year's K/ family gathering to be held in the beautiful



François Kirouac

Collection François Kirouac

Saguenay town and region. The main day is Saturday, 16 August 2014, including the AGM. Activities offered on Friday and Sunday, are optional. However, let's say that the *Saguenay-Lake St-Jean* area fully deserves its title of *Kingdom* and we hope you can extend your stay to discover it.

The official invitation and registration form will be sent to all KFA members in mid-June. Of course the invitation is open to all, KFA members or not as well as anyone interested in the K/ history and stories. Some American cousins have already indicated that they will be with us in August and we hope that many more will make arrangements to come. English translation will be provided.

Enjoy reading!





## 2014 Annual Family Heritage Fair

Again this year, the **Kirouac Family Association** took part in the *Salon du Patrimoine familial*, e.g. the annual family heritage fair held on 21-22-23 February 2014 in *Laurier Québec*, a very large shopping mall in Ste-Foy, Quebec City. This is a great window of opportunity for family associations organized annually for the past eighteen years by **Fédération des familles souches du Québec**, e.g. Federation of Quebec Founding Families.

This year, the spotlight was on the Acadian people and the **World Acadian Congress**; conferences and films were presented during the three-day event. Fifty-one family associations used this fair to present their activities and accomplishments to the public.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to the volunteers who gave time and energy to spend many hours at the **Kirouac Family Association's** booth during this long weekend: Céline Kirouac, Lucille Kirouac, Marie Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac, Jean-Yves Laurin, Mercédès (Bolduc) and Marc Villeneuve who came all the way from Saguenay.

François Kirouac



Paul Kirouac, son of Ivan Kirouac, with Jacques Kirouac, KFA founding president at the KFA booth.  
(Photo: François Kirouac)



Jean-Yves Laurin and Céline Kirouac, two other faithful volunteers at the KFA booth.

# Desert Rose Trophy 2013 Race

By Virginie Kirouac, translated by Marie L. Timperley

What an extraordinary experience it has been to take part in this incredible adventure and complete this race known as **Trophée Rose des Sables!** A desert race exclusively for women!

My co-pilot, Geneviève Bibeau, and I decided to live this three-week adventure with an open mind and a sense of humour. Thank goodness for that decision as right from the start we needed to apply that philosophy. Our flight from Montreal to France was delayed by twelve hours!

Fortunately, we had planned on some extra time before the race, good decision as we arrived in La Seyne-sur-Mer one day later than expected. This is the town where we were picking up our 4x4. The first half of our first day saw us proudly applying numerous stickers from our sponsors on our car affectionately named **Rose-Air**. Training occupied the rest of the day. **Rose-Air** and I instantly clicked! Thanks to info and recommendations from Bruno, the very nice man from whom we rented our 4x4, the 'relationship' machine/driver, e.g. machine and I, was a success as Bruno taught me the essential I needed to know to manage the long ride in the desert.

During our second day, we drove to **Ciboure**, a small town in the south of France, close to the Spanish border, where the rally was officially starting. On the way we did a small detour to Toulouse to pick up the many kilos of goods collected by another Rose (name given to the participant). As you may know, we had to bring fifty kilos of goods as gifts for the Desert Children Association (*Enfant du desert*).



Waiting to go through the checking point in Ciboure, a small town in southern France.



Arrival of the **Roses** at the first bivouac near Erfoud in southern Morocco.

(Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)

October 9, 2013 was entirely for administrative certifications. Once everything was approved, all we could do was wait for the official departure the following day. The small town was crammed with 4x4 and the energy was intense.

October 10, around 11:30 a.m., after the first briefing by the director of

the Race, it was departure time! What a moment! Imagine, 210 teams, including 110 from Quebec, all riding under the pink arch, the Rally's symbol. We were all quite excited, honking, screaming, and laughing, during the first kilometres. Being already in the



south of France, it was faster to reach Spain; and we had to cross that country from north to south. That took us only two days. But it is a very long way but luckily some good music on the radio helped us enjoy the ride.

October 12, before sunrise, all the teams were in the port of Algeciras in Southern Spain, where we took the ferry for Tangier, in Morocco. It took only ninety minutes. Once more, as we landed, all horns were honking! Then we drove ten hours to reach our first bivouac in the desert, near Erfoud in the southern most part of Morocco. And the desert would be our 'sand box playground' for the next five days! A first supper was followed by a briefing about the next day!

The next morning, we rose with the sun, ate a Moroccan breakfast, including Berber pancakes, hard boiled eggs, and mint tea. We drove under a pink arch, our mileage was recorded by the officials and we were handed our first 'road book' that is our 'bible' for the day. This document tells us the directions to be followed in order to cover the day itinerary according to the official time/km chart and, at the end of the day, the highest points are awarded to the team that comes closest to that official time/km. These points are accumulated daily. Then, at the end of the day, at the bivouac: shower, supper: tagine or couscous, of course, washed down with more mint tea.

We delivered the gifts we had brought to the village where the money given by the Roses in the last few years has enabled children to attend school, as well as build sanitary facilities. The villagers had prepared a wonderful reception. And we met Noura, the seventeen-year old young woman who would be our 'god-daughter' for the next three years! It was a rather emotional moment for us. It is most encouraging and heart-warming to know that what you do will make a real difference in the life of another person. This young woman will now be able to



Geneviève, Noura and Virginie dancing together during the gift-giving festivity.  
(Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)



Our vehicle *Rose-Air* in the Moroccan desert.  
(Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)

attend school instead of being forced into a premature marriage.

These first five days in the desert enabled us to admire varied landscapes as well as experience different surfaces, as one cannot talk of roads. I drove guided by my friend, Geneviève, a great map reader. Sleeping at the foot of the majestic Merzouga dunes was amazing.

We did get stuck in ruts a few times but we always managed to get out like champs. No mechanical problems and no flat tire! WOW! Communications between Geneviève and I were a great part of our success. Not only did we have to live twenty-one days and nights really close together but we also had to find a way to understand each other and correctly grasp the daily instructions. These included, for example, the type of driving conditions we would encounter on so many kilometres: Oued, e.g. dry river-bed, rocky ground, sand, dunes, etc. engaging the clutch quickly or slowly, adjust the tire pressure



Geneviève and Virginie arriving at the bivouac after their last full day in the desert.  
(Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)



Virginie and Geneviève tout relieved to hit the finish line after so much effort put in before and during the race. (Photo: Virginie Kirouac collection)

according to the various ground types, e.g. release air when driving on sand, otherwise, you get into real trouble.

October 17, marked the last leg of our desert trek, half a day before driving under another pink arch for the last time, with teary eyes but so proud of ourselves! Then onwards to Marrakech; another eight hours of driving, crossing the Atlas Mountains via the Tichka Pass<sup>1</sup>.

Along the roads we slept in ‘five-camel’ bivouacs, so it was most appreciated to be staying at a ‘five-star’ hotel for two nights! Where warm showers to wash away the sand were royal treats to us!

October 18, how we enjoyed the closing gala! For days, we the ‘roses’ saw each other, all wearing the same helmet-shape hair-style because of the required desert protective head-covers, so what a pleasant surprise to see the same ‘roses’ in beautiful hairdos and makeup, wearing evening gowns and high heels!

Before leaving Morocco, *Rose-Air* needed a thorough wash to rid our 4x4 of the sand. Sand everywhere! October 20, we drove to Tangier to catch a ferry to Spain. It was a twenty-three hour boat-ride to Barcelona but it saved us two days on the road. From Barcelona, we drove the final eight-hour leg of our journey with *Rose-Air* to bring it back to our rental agent; however, it was with teary eyes that we turned it in. I really enjoyed driving it over 6000 kilometres with Geneviève as my navigator. In a way, *Rose-Air* was the third member of our team the *Roses-Alliées* (e.g. allied roses)!

October 25, as we landed in Montreal, our heads and hearts were bursting with souvenirs... as well as our suitcases with sand! Even today, five months later, I still miss the desert and driving in desert conditions.

Our goal was to finish the rally without any mechanical or medical help. Some teams lost full days because of mechanical mishaps, others even had to abandon the race altogether, so we are really proud of our 130<sup>th</sup> position. From start to finish Lady Chance was on our side and we are most grateful to all the people who helped us along the way.

During this desert adventure we made many new friends with whom we shared special moments. We accumulated lots of thrilling souvenirs and we are so proud to have lived this unique experience which we shall never, ever forget.

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1 Tizi n'Tichka, literally means ‘the pastures mountain pass’ in the Tamazight language. This mountain pass is situated at 2,260 meters above sea level on the road between Marrakech and Ouarzazate. It links the semi-desert-like areas of the south-east Atlas region and the more fertile plains on the Atlantic coast. (Source: Wikipedia)





# Preliminary Programme for the Annual Kirouac Family Gathering In Saguenay, 15-16-17 August 2014

## Friday, 15 August 2014

**7:30pm** *La Fabuleuse Histoire d'un Royaume – The Fabulous Story of a Kingdom* is a giant musical production about life in Quebec. Starting with the arrival of the initial twenty-first settlers in the Saguenay-Lake-St-Jean area, discover rural life with its farmers, lumberjacks, merchants, personalities. Live through the four seasons with its colourful events. Experience daily life, a great fire, a local fete, a wedding, a flood, an impressive finale looking to the future.

Expect to be mesmerized by over a hundred passionate actors playing 1600 characters on a huge stage ... and horses and farm animals, and waterfalls, and far more than you can possibly imagine. You have to see it to believe it!

## Saturday, 16 August 2014

**8:00am** Welcome and registration at Hotel Chicoutimi. Rooms are reserved for the Kirouacs. Please mention that you are part of the K/ group to get the special price for room including breakfast.

**10:00am** Annual General Meeting including reports and election of new member to the KFA Board.

**11:30am** Lunch at Hotel Chicoutimi.

**1:00pm** Guided tour in a chartered bus around the Jonquière district where the first Kirouacs settled in this northern region. Discover the land/farm cultivated by the first K/s in the Kingdom of the Saguenay as well as other local attractions.

**5:00pm** Supper at Hotel Chicoutimi.

**7:00pm** Slide show about Iceland; a special presentation by Pia Karrer O'Leary, photographer emeritus.

## Sunday, 17 August 2014

**10:00am** Mass at the Chicoutimi Cathedral in homage to Bishop Sylvio K rouack, and two other K/ priests: Hubert K rouack and L on Laberge.



The *Little White House* in Chicoutimi, now a museum, and a rare survivor of the July 1996 flood.



# Jacques Pierre Kirouac

**Family Gathering in Detroit, MI, USA. Thursday evening, 18 July 2013**

**by Vivian (Kirouac) Miles, Christine Kirouac, Sharon (Kirouac) Posey & Linda (Kirouac) Martin**

**T**hursday night, July 18, 2013, in Detroit, MI, on the eve of the Annual Kirouac Family Reunion, a wonderful time was had at the Jacques Pierre Kirouac Family Dinner, hosted by Ruston (Vivian Kirouac) Miles. It was an interactive family fun time. Each of the five large, round dining tables were decorated with an authentic Lake Superior beach setting. On the table, hidden amongst the mass of shiny stones, driftwood, birch bark, sand, and other small beach treasures, were highly prized agates, thomsonite, and copper, similar to those that we spent many pleasurable hours looking for on the beach. When you are raised with Lake Superior as your back yard, you are destined to be a rock hound! And WOW, what rock hounds we still were that night!

The frenzy began as we dove in, becoming like little kids again, with EEKs! Shouts! I found one! Oh look at this! How beautiful! Much gratitude to Vivian (Kirouac) Miles for collecting and displaying the beach treasures and to her husband Michael for lugging them! The great-grandchildren celebrated by filling their bags at their very own candy table and having photos taken at a photo booth. It should be noted that the photo booth had a waiting line the entire evening! Each of us left the lavish dinner carrying a heavy bounty of lake treasures and beautiful birch driftwood candles, with plans to go home



Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection

18 July 2013, the avid collectors diving into souvenirs from their youth: the girls, from left to right: Cathy (daughter of Jules Kirouac) Robinson, Sharon (Kirouac) Posey, Sandy (wife of Gary) Kirouac, Christine Kirouac, Kathy (wife of Dennis) Kirouac, Linda (Kirouac) Martin.



Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection

The 'boys' did the same. From left to right: Steve (Becky's son) Palumbo, Jason (Dennis) Kirouac, the evening's host: Ruston (Vivian's son) Miles and David (Sharon's son) Posey.

and arrange our treasures on our dining room tables as a reminder of the evening.

**Now, we would like to tell you about our parents who started our wonderful family.**

On 31 July 1920, Joseph Pierre Jacques (GFK 00897) was born

in Sherbrooke, in the south-east part of the Province of Quebec; he would eventually become our father. His parents were Calixte Philippe Kirouac (GFK 00846) and Marie Alphonsine Jolicœur who were married in Warwick on 9 January 1905. Between

1905 and 1925, they had twelve children. Jacques Pierre was the ninth; the others were: Jolicœur, Philippe, Rolande, Carmen, Jean and Gustave born in Warwick; Robert, René and Jacques, born in Sherbrooke; Jules and Gilles, born in Waterville; Jeannine, the last one was born in Montreal. Robert died from diphtheria in 1924, aged seven. A week later, Gilles died of Meningitis at eight months!

Our Kirouac family at one time lived in Warwick, Sherbrooke, Waterville and Montreal. Grandpa Kirouac went to the States with the two oldest boys, Jolicoeur 22, and Philippe 19 to look for work. But, they were unable to find work and returned to Canada.

Soon the Jolicoeur family bakery in Warwick burned down. With no insurance to replace the business they could not rebuild. Grandmother decided to go to the States again, with her two older boys to find work. She was a good French seamstress and found work right away along with the boys. This was in 1927. Our dad was seven years old. After working for a while they went back to Canada to get the rest of the family and all returned with Grandpa Kirouac to Detroit. They rented from Mr. and Mrs. May and when Grandpa Kirouac could not find work, he went back to Canada and worked for his brother, Onésime, in his woolen mill in Warwick. Grandpa Kirouac never came back to the States and died 8 April 1948 at the age of 68 and was buried in Warwick.



Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection

Jacques Kirouac giving a ride to his brother, Jules, and his sister, Jeannine, on a pony.



Philippe Kirouac and Alphonsine Jolicœur, wedding photograph, Warwick, 9 January 1905 (Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection)

Grandma Kirouac rented a house which she eventually bought. In 1936, she also rented an old cigar store on Crane Avenue. She transformed it into a general store which offered baked bread. Jacques helped grandma in her new endeavour and was fast becoming an attraction in the area.

In the house on Sheridan Ave, dad and his brothers would play foot hockey. The legs of the kitchen stove were one goal and the pantry door was the other. Dad was seven or eight at the time this was happening. Every Sunday, dad and family went to **Bill's Place**, a park and recreation area. Grandma Kirouac would fix food for everyone: seven brothers, three sisters and their friends. They would swim and play together all day.

As a teenager, during the Great Depression, our father would sell the Detroit Free Press on street



corners and help his older brothers sell fruits and vegetables. First they drove out of town to a farm to get their produce then came back to Detroit. Their route was Sheridan to Field Avenues. According to dad, Grandma Kirouac would get up at 3:00-4:00 a.m. to make breakfast for the boys before they went out on the vegetable wagon. Along the way home, at the end of the hot summer days, as they stopped at intersections, they would roll the unsold melons down the street to the neighborhood children and say, "Here you go. Take'em home!" Dad said he was so grateful to the Lord for being able to work that he would sing songs to the Lord, while on the back of the vegetable wagon or selling newspapers on street-corners.

This attitude prevailed during his entire life. One time after a



Children of Philippe Kirouac (00846) & Alphonsine (Jolicœur); from left to right: René Kirouac (GFK 00890), Gus Kirouac (GFK 00887), Philippe Kirouac (GFK 00870), Jeannine (Kirouac) Pattison (GFK 00916), Jules Kirouac (GFK 00904), Carmen (Kirouac) Navarra (GFK 00881), Jolicœur Kirouac (GFK 00863), John Kirouac (GFK 00882), Jack Kirouac (GFK 00897); sitting in front: Rolande (Kirouac) Pickett (GFK 00880).

lengthy stint of unemployment he got a job at the White Pine Copper mine on the top of the smelter. When he came home that evening, he shared with us, at the supper table, that as the sweat was running down his face and the soles of his shoes were melting, all he could do was sing songs of thanksgiving to God with tears for having a job.

Sometime during the thirties, Uncle Jolicoeur and dad were delivering milk on their milk route. Jolicoeur stopped at the bar and went in to get a paper and brought it out and showed dad the picture of their brother, Gus, on the front page of the *Detroit Times*. He had won the **Golden Glove Boxing Tournament**<sup>1</sup> or **Diamond Belt** and the picture was of Gus hitting his opponent. Jolicoeur showed everyone the paper saying: "This is my brother." Dad remembers feeling so proud. Years later dad won a **Golden Glove Boxing Tournament** in the **Featherweight** division.

Our father played saxophone and clarinet and had a Big Band when he was in his teens and twenties, **Jack King and His Knights of Royal Rhythm**. As new musicians were constantly joining the band, to rehearse, they had to move to grandma's kitchen and eventually her porch. It was a 'full house' every night because the neighbours would bring out their chairs in the alley and listen to the music and people would dance in the street.

Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection



Back row: Jacques & Mathilde; centre row: Rolande & Jeannine; front row: Alphonsine Jolicœur holding her granddaughter, Linda, daughter of Jacques & Mathilde.

<sup>1</sup> The **Golden Glove Boxing Tournament** and **Diamond Belt** are the two main annual American boxing championships.





Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection



Jack Cooper, one of the musicians in Jack King's big band.

**Jack King and His Knights of Royal Rhythm** on Valentine Day 1941. Front row, from left to right: Pat Hannan, Jack Kirouac, Jack Cooper and Sam Carlessi (he later played in Las Vegas). Back row, from left to right: Bob Wilkins, trombone, Eddy Nucelli, trumpet (his father played the trumpet with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra), Darrel Moore, first trumpet, Henry (Hank) Isopi, trumpet, Dicky Devandorf, drummer, Chuck Harrington, double-bass, Floyd Gross, piano, and Yvonne Quemet, singer. (Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection)

The band had as many as fourteen musicians. One of the band members was Jack Cooper, whose dad played for Russ Morgan<sup>2</sup>. And Jack's dad gave a lot of tips to our dad and his band; for example: "If it is cold, warm your instruments to room temperature first or you will be flat".

Another player, Eddie Nuccilli was the youngest band member in Dad's band. He was only fourteen years old. Eddie went

(Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection)



Jack King, Jack Cooper and Sam Carlessi



(Photo: David Posey collection)

on to be a well-known Jazz great with his band **Plural Circle**. Our sister Christine talked with Eddie in 1997 via phone. He was blown away that one of Jack King's kids would look him up. He said that our dad was a very gentle band leader and how that had been so important to

<sup>2</sup> **Russ Morgan** (29 April 1904 -7 August 1969) was a big band orchestra leader and musical arranger in the USA during the 1930s and 1940s. He was one of the composers of *You're Nobody til Somebody Loves You* along with Larry Stock and James Cavanaugh. Morgan was the first to record the song. Morgan's biggest success came when he was offered the position of Musical Director for **Detroit Radio Station WXYZ**. His show, **Music in the Morgan Manner**, became one of the most popular radio shows. At one time, during his radio run, he was directing nine commercial programs. While in Detroit, he arranged for the 102-piece Detroit Symphony Orchestra to present their wide-ranging repertoire and demonstrate their outstanding talent.

him at such a young age. Eddie passed away in April 2011.

Dad's orchestra played three times a week at the *Star Ballroom*. The Band accumulated many successes and it seems that one recording was made; however, no one knows what happened to it. *Jack King and His Knights of Royal Rhythm* won the *Detroit Battle of the Bands* three years in a row; until the beginning of WWII put an end to the Band.

On 1 December 1942, dad enlisted in the Army and on 11 December 1942 he entered active service duty. Under *Battles & Campaigns* he is listed as *Rhineland Central Europe*. He was in Europe for eleven months and five days with a total service time of two years & twenty-four days. He departed the States on 6 October 1944 arriving in Europe on 20 October 1944. He became an American



Detroit, 28 June 1947, Jacques Pierre Kirouac "Jack" and Mathilde Poeschl  
(Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection)

citizen on the boat while sailing to Europe. He departed Europe on 2 September 1945 arriving back in America on 10 September 1945.

While in Europe, he was first an army truck driver, a postal clerk and then created a band which played in the Officers Club.

Dad met mom (Mathilde) in Innsbruck, Austria, near the end of World War II, when dad knocked on the door of a private home, asking permission on behalf of the US Army to setup a mail headquarters in the home. During the conversation he glanced past the home owner and saw, who he described, "as a most beautiful fraulein." Dad and his partner received permission to setup the mail-room; however, two weeks later the US Army told them to either move the office or make the family move out because they could not have civilians residing there anymore. So, dad and his partner relocated the office but, by that time, as dad said, "He was madly in love with the lovely fraulein".

Mathilde's ascendancy was Austrian but she was born in Pridoli (Priethal) in Czechoslovakia on 7 January 1925. Her parents were Franz Ziehensack (born on 3 January 1902) and Maria Poeschl, (born on 18 November 1900). As a young woman she went to school and became a Kindergarten teacher. Later she became accredited as a business secretary and moved to Austria where she worked as a secretary for the city of Innsbruck.



Jack Kirouac, WWII, American Army.  
Photo: Sharon Kirouac Posey collection



After the War, dad was shipped back home to Detroit, leaving on 2 September 1945 and landing home eight days later. He courted mom for two years, through packages and letters, until the 'German War Bride Act', allowed mom to come to the U.S. Grandma Kirouac took mom under her wing immediately. Our mother thought the world of Grandma Kirouac, perhaps she understood what it was like to come to a different country and be a foreigner. In any event, Grandma Kirouac put on the whole wedding herself. All of her children were in the wedding, eighteen attendants in all! The wedding took place on, 28 June 1947, in Detroit, MI.

In 1946, grandma sold the house and bought an apartment building at 6427 Crane Avenue, across the street from her store. Our parents rented the upstairs apartment from Grandma Kirouac. Later, they moved into the downstairs apartment because of our sister LINDA.

Dad went to Carpentry school and later started a Construction business called K&M Construction (Kirouac & MacAvoy). He had to change the name of his company to J&T Construction (Jack & Tom). In 1952 he sold all his musical instruments to buy a lot and build the basement of their first house in Harper Woods, at 20205 Roscommon. In 1953 our family, consisting of mom, dad, Linda (5 yrs), Vivian (3yrs), Dennis (2yrs) and Gary (1 yr) moved into the new home. Sharon was born shortly after.



Jacques Pierre Kirouac "Jack" and Mathilde Poeschl  
(Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection)

In the fall of 1957 the Mackinaw Bridge opened a link from the Lower Peninsula of Michigan to the Upper Peninsula. Upon hearing of the Porcupine Mountain range, our mother, remembering Austria, wanted to see them. Mom and dad headed north in the spring of 1958. They ended up staying at the Johnson's Motel and Restaurant on the beach of Lake Superior six miles west of Ontonagon, MI. Both of our parents recalled with great fondness their time there. They talked about how they wished they could live there and raise us away from the city of Detroit. Shortly before leaving the motel, they asked the owners to place an ad in the Detroit Free Press if they ever decided to sell.

Dad and Uncle Jules were looking for businesses in the newspapers that they could buy and run as a family. While going through the Detroit Free Press, Mom noticed an ad, "Motel for Sale". It was the Johnson's Motel! They took one more trip up, negotiated a sale, returned home, put the house on the market and it sold immediately! We moved in the fall of 1958. The beach seemed huge. Our first night there we were staying in cottage # 9 and we had a terrible storm. We children were afraid that we were going to be washed out to sea. That was our welcome, but from that time on we were close friends with the beach. A much better welcome was experienced on 23 February 1959 as Christine was born, completing our family of six children. We lived in what we called the Old House (#11) while our dad built a new home for us to live in. Our family managed the motel and its restaurant for many years. Dad worked as a carpenter/ millwright. Many people in the Ontonagon County remember him because he was such a great carpenter. You can see his beautiful carpentry displayed in the Ontonagon County Court Room.

Our parents were happily married for fifty-four years, surrounded by six children: Linda, Vivian, Dennis, Gary, Sharon and Christine, eleven grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. Mom and dad were known for their hospitality, kindness, generosity, and great Faith. Mom was a good business woman and ran a popular restaurant. Dad



continued to work as a Carpenter/Millwright traveling all over the Upper Peninsula and Wisconsin doing construction. They both were very active in the Holy Family Catholic Church, serving in the choir, jail ministry, prayer meetings and eventually as Eucharistic Ministers. They opened the

motel for all Nuns and Priests to rest. When the nuns would visit, there was always interesting conversation, prayer and great spaghetti! To this day we still have people come to us and tell us of some unexpected act of kindness or words of Wisdom that our parents provided for them.

Take two immigrants from two different parts of the world, add six children and sixty six years and you will find our memories rather disjointed, but there is one fact we all agree on, the greatest legacy our parents left us was their Love for God and neighbour for which we are eternally grateful. May their memories be Eternal!



**Left to right, 4th row:** 4-A David Posey (Sharon Kirouac Posey's son), 4-B Jason Kirouac (Dennis Kirouac's son) Kirouac, 4-C Katie Kirouac (Dennis Kirouac's daughter), 4-D Joe Posey (Sharon Kirouac's husband), 4-E Ruston Miles (Vivian Kirouac Miles' son), 4-F Michael Miles (Vivian Kirouac's husband), 4-G Nicholas Kirouac (Gary Kirouac's son); **3rd row:** 3-A Jacqueline Kirouac (Gary Kirouac's daughter), 3-B Laura Stuck (David Posey's wife), 3-C Holly Mc Naughton (Jason Kirouac's wife), 3-D Kathy Tavis (Dennis Kirouac's wife), 3-E Dennis Kirouac, 3-F Melissa Miles Migliore (Vivian Kirouac Miles daughter), 3-G Grayson Migliore (Melissa Miles Migliore's son), 3-H Becky Johnson (Linda Kirouac Martin's daughter), 3-I Jessica Martin (Linda Kirouac Martin's daughter), 3-J Steve Polumbo (Becky Johnson's husband), 3-K Alberta Mannan, 3-L Fred Martin (Linda's husband); **2nd row:** 2-A Sandy Biernat Kirouac (Gary's wife), 2-B Gary Kirouac, 2-C Sharon Kirouac Posey, 2-D Vivian Kirouac Miles, 2-E Renee Kirouac (Jason Kirouac's daughter), 2-F Linda Kirouac Martin, 2-G Jason Charles Kirouac (Jason Kirouac's son), 2-H Christine Kirouac; **1st row:** 1-A Sarah Posey (David Posey's daughter), 1-B Elizabeth Kirouac (Jason Kirouac's daughter), 1-C Molly Posey (David Posey's daughter), 1-D Jack Posey (David Posey's son), 1-E Kate Posey (David Posey's daughter). **Not Pictured:** Joshua (Christine's son) Utecht, Adam (David's son) Posey, Linda and Fred's Grandchildren, Jaiden and Annalise Harnevious and Linda's BELOVED daughter, Susie Harnevious. Photo: Vivian Kirouac Miles collection



## Safe-keeping of the Kirouac Family Photographic Heritage

The photo on the left was sent by Vivian Kirouac Miles from Detroit, daughter of Jacques Pierre Kirouac and Mathilde Poeschl whom you read about in the previous article. The lovely young woman on the right is Alphonsine Jolicœur, the same young lady photographed with her new husband Philippe Kirouac on page ten. The other three elegant girls not yet identified, could they be Alphonsine's sisters? (Archive number: X4330-0363)

The photo below seems to be that of a painting, but might just be colorized. It was sent by Catherine Kirouac Robinson, from Detroit. On it we see her grandfather, Philippe Kirouac, with his brother, Joseph. Unfortunately we have no indication as to who the other gentlemen are.

If you have similar old photographs, why not share them with us. Simply scan them and email them to the KFA. It would be a pleasure to print them in ***Le Trésor des Kirouac***. And, who knows, perhaps the still unknown persons could be identified!

Back row, standing on the left: Philippe Kirouac (GFK 01081); sitting in front of him, his brother, Joseph (Jos) (GFK 01078). The other persons not yet identified. (Archive number: X4330-0309)





# Marie-Marguerite Kirouac, Sister Sainte-Marcelline

Of the Congregation of Notre-Dame (CND)

Collaboration of André St-Arnaud

**T**he future Sister Sainte-Marcelline was born in Saint-Pierre-de-Montmagny on 19 April 1829 <sup>1</sup>. She was baptised **Marie-Marguerite Kirouac**. She was the third in a family of twelve children born to Louis-Grégoire Kirouac (1801-1890) and his wife Marie-Catherine Picard dite Des Trois Maisons (1803-1878).

She studied with the Sisters of the Holy-Cross. Soon after leaving the boarding school at the end of her studies, out of kindness and devotion for her brother, François Kirouac\*, she followed him to Quebec City to look after him and his home. During four years, that is until one year after he was married (to Marie-Julie Hamel), she encouraged him and counselled him in his commercial endeavours. (\*the future Knight and father of Sister Sainte-Marie-Bernard)

At the age of twenty-six, Marie-Marguerite requested permission to enter the Congregation of Notre-Dame and was accepted on 2 September 1854. She received her religious habit on 28 August 1855 and

made her permanent religious vows on 30 August 1856. Thence her missionary life began. She started with a twelve-year teaching career that took her to St-Roch Parish (Quebec City), Académie Visitation in Montreal, the CND Mother House also in Montreal, and St-Félix School (Montreal).

She showed such dedication and excellence in everything that she was named Mother Superior in Bourbonnais, Illinois, where she spent seventeen years. After which, in 1886, she was called back to the CND Mother House in Montreal to look after the finances. After a year there, she carried the same duties in Bellevue (Ontario). Then, she was named Mother Superior again, first in Ste-Famille (Boucherville, Montreal South-shore) for one year; then on to St-Johnsbury, Vermont, for six years.

Back to Canada, she settled in Verdun (Montreal suburb) for twelve years. There in spite of old age, her nimble fingers kept the convent linen in impeccable condition. At eighty-eight, two years after her diamond jubilee,



Marie Marguerite Kirouac  
(Photo: KFA collection)

she went back to the Mother House. Pneumonia shattered her health and she died at 11:50 on Tuesday morning, 11 May 1920.

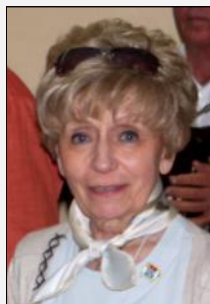
**Our gratitude to Sister Suzanne Rochon, CND archivist, for providing info and archive documents.**

<sup>1</sup> Although the CND records give her birth date as 19 Apr 1829, her baptismal record on 23 Apr 1829 in the St-Pierre-de-Montmagny parish book states that she was born the previous day, which would have been 22 Apr 1829.—Greg Kyrouac

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

On May 30th, June 3rd and 6th, Céline, Lucille, and Jacques Kirouac celebrate their respective birthdays. All the very best to each one from the team of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*.

Photo: Michel Bornaïs



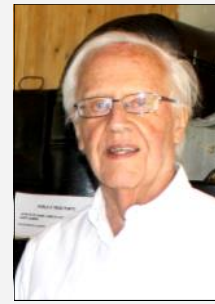
Céline Kirouac

Photo: Michel Bornaïs



Lucille Kirouac

Photo: Marie Kirouac



Jacques Kirouac



# Interview with Roger Brunelle

Sunday, 25 November 2012,  
at *Le Petit Coin breton* Restaurant, Ste-Foy, Québec  
2<sup>nd</sup> and last part

This is the second and last part of the interview between the KFA Board members and Roger Brunelle, a Franco-American from Lowell, Massachusetts. The first part was published in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 113.

The KFA Board of Directors took advantage of the *Québec/Kerouac 2012* event to invite Roger Brunelle and Eric Waddell <sup>(1)</sup>, two long-term friends and both specialists of Jack Kerouac's works who had been invited to be on various panels during the activities marking the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Rencontre internationale Jack Kerouac* held in Quebec City in October 1987. The present article completes our coverage <sup>(2)</sup> of *Québec/Kerouac 2012*.

The Editor

## In attendance

JK : Jacques Kirouac

RB : Roger Brunelle

MLT : Marie Lussier Timperley

FK : François Kirouac

ÉW: Éric Waddell

LK : Lucille Kirouac

MK : Marie Kirouac

JK: Mr. Brunelle, I have another question for you. Could you tell us about *Lowell Celebrates Kerouac*? How did it start? Who organized it and how it evolved?

RB: It was organized by Brian Foye <sup>(3)</sup>, a young man from the Lowell Irish community. I remember exactly when and where

I learned about it. We were in the garden of the Way of the Cross... a place to be visited... I was there with my uncle, not much older than I, who liked walking and there we met Brian Foye. He introduced himself and we talked about Jack Kerouac... Around 1985, I believe that is when there was a first meeting... Then an honorary board was named; some families accepted to let their names be used... and there I was too. I remember saying: I hope that *Lowell Celebrates Kerouac will valorise his Franco-American side*.

JK: Roger, when did that happen?

RB: In 1985-86?

ÉW: It all happened more or less at the same time, I believe, that is in Quebec City and in Lowell. As far as we are concerned, first the *Club Jack Kerouac* was created in 1986 as part of activities supported by the *Secrétariat permanent des peuples francophones* (Permanent Secretarial Office for Francophone peoples). Its aim was to create links between Quebecers and Franco-Americans using a common interest in the life and works of one of the greatest writer in modern North-America. Members of the Club Jack Kerouac went to Lowell in the footsteps of the man, while Franco-Americans came to the *Rencontre Internationale Jack Kerouac* held here in Quebec City in October 1987. Thanks to this common passion, together we lit a candle...

RB: What is really remarkable is

that, at the same time, there was a Franco-American named Paul Marion, Executive Director of a government Agency called *The Lowell cultural Preservation Commission* created to heighten culture, and his idea was to erect a monument in honour of our writer, Jean-Louis Kirouac. Many proposals were presented... Truth be told, the very idea came from Jack himself because in one of his books he wrote, in a funny and somewhat bawdy way: "Well, if the people of Lowell want to erect a monument in front of the City Hall, I will pose naked for them!"

Hence the first suggestion was a statue of Jack, in front of the library, reading a book sitting on the grand staircase in front of the main door! Other suggestions followed... I was invited on the selection committee. A competition was launched. Many artists submitted projects. We chose Ben Woitina's design because this Texas artist's proposal showed his love for, and knowledge of Jack's literature. It was obvious that he had read Jack's novels. Let me give you an idea of the monument: imagine triangular and rectangular dolmens; eight of them... A Christian cross and a circle adorn the stone slabs, within

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<sup>(1)</sup> Eric Waddell, responsible for the Jack Kerouac's Observatory.

<sup>(2)</sup> Coverage in five installments published in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, including no. 110, winter-2012-2013-pp. 6-7; no. 111, spring 2013, pp. 7-14; no. 113, pp. 5-11 & 20

<sup>(3)</sup> Brian Foye, author of *A Guide to Jack Kerouac's Lowell*, published in 1988.



Eric Waddell and Roger Brunelle at the restaurant *Le Petit Coin breton* in Ste-Foy, Quebec City, on Sunday, 25 November 2012. (Photo: François Kirouac)

a square... Like some Buddhist depiction... On each stele, are inscribed the first paragraphs of each of Jack's Lowell novels. Except on one stele, where one can read the first and last paragraph of *On the Road*. My favourite stele is the one where the beginning of *Lonesome Traveller* is carved: **Name: Jack Kerouac, nationality: Franco-American.** Choices had to be made. "In my heart I always considered writing as my duty on earth." DUTY! That notion comes from the French: LE DEVOIR D'ÉTAT \*; when I was studying in Sherbrooke, Quebec, we heard about it. And, it is also what the nuns at Saint-Louis-de-France School <sup>(4)</sup> used to teach us! What is my 'devoir d'état'? DUTY! Duty on earth! That gives it a religious connotation. Jack kept writing; it was a magnet, and a question of pride. (\*this means the duty of being; the French word 'état' can mean 'state' in English, but it can also refer to 'being' as in this French expression. *Translator's note*)

Let me tell you, it was not easy to come to a decision because the Municipal Council was not united

on the matter. There were nine councillors: eight voted 'yes' and one 'no'. And I will tell you why. The mayor voted 'no' because his son was a Jesuit. So, as you see, it could have gone either way. We even managed to get the Federal Government to pay for the demolition of a large building and also for the construction of the monument. On top of that there was a \$100,000.00 prize for the winner. Let me mention one particular element: on one monument, the date is not centered. There was supposed to be a medallion with the likeness of Jack, but when it was shown to Stella, she said: *Oh no, that's not my Jack!* Isn't it wonderful? What is most important for a writer? His writings of course! Not his face. However, during the annual festival, we can see his face on all the T-shirts and we still have his writings.

**MK:** Earlier when you mentioned the circle over the Cross, you said it was a Buddhist reference; personally, I see the Celtic influence because, for example, in the cemetery where the victims of the Titanic are buried, on the

monuments we always see Celtic crosses, with a circle, and as Jack was of Breton origin...

**RB:** Celtic! Excellent! You remind me of something I had forgotten to mention; round shapes reflect for us, for everyone, his attachment to Buddhism, and the Cross to his Christianity, that he never abandoned. He drew angels and crosses in many of his drawings and paintings. His painting of Pope Paul VI, is a good likeness as Jack was a good artist. He sang well too; somewhat sounded like Frank Sinatra.

**JK:** Mr. Brunelle, here is a fundamental question. I am going to read the sentence, because it is a quote from Emmanuel Mounier a French twentieth century philosopher. "*Le sentiment du chez soi garde une ambivalence profonde.*" *The sense of home remains profoundly ambivalent.* But, Léo-Alcide had told Jack: *Be a good American!* Do you think

(4) Lowell Catholic Elementary-High School

that Jack might have developed an ambivalent feeling or even a contradictory feeling towards his French-Canadian origins and being integrated into American culture?

**RB:** What he says is true and not only for himself. Double identity was not only acceptable then, but he completely adhered to it. He loved America; but for him, America was not only the United-States, it was the United States of AMERICA! For him, French-speaking Canada was important! Mexico represented his attachment to the southern part of the continent; however something he did not fully develop. But his emotional attachment was to his genealogical identity because, in the end, he wanted to know who that Le Brice was... For example, he writes: *I love America*. And it goes on for some twenty lines. We find that in the book: *On Top of an Underwood* <sup>(5)</sup>, a collection of his writings before he definitely left for New York and before he went 'on the road'. It is difficult to explain his affection because he was attached to everything. Paul Marion edited that book which proves that Jack showed talent even before leaving Lowell. He developed his talent (through reading) at the Lowell Library. Have I answered your question.

**JK:** Yes, indeed. It sheds light on the subject! It cannot be settled once and for all.

**RB:** Coming back to his third wife, I do not want to blunder here but I can tell you this, recently I was given a box full of documents that belonged to Father Morissette. It was all about Jack Kerouac. It even includes a first edition of *Doctor Sax*.

In the box I found a letter from Stella to Father Morissette written around Christmas 1977; way before we were involved. I will try to quote from memory what she wrote: "I am really concerned when people want to use Jack's works for their own benefit. If they want to know my husband, all they need to do is read his books in which they will find where he went and what he did." I keep this letter in a transparent envelop; I believe that Stella must have been inspired by Jack. Because that is the point! He wrote! So read his books instead of reading the long-winded biographies about him. And in his books you can be sure to find aspects of Jack that will interest you.

I have hundreds of letters sent to me by people after staying in Lowell attending *Lowell Celebrates Kerouac*. If these letters were about someone else, I would have thrown them all into the garbage. Happily I have kept them. These letters are in English, some in French, some from France, also from the French Consul in Boston. I have to sort them all and give them to the University for researchers.

**MK:** May we ask that they come to *Fonds Jack Kerouac* (Jack Kerouac's Archives), which we inherited, may we ask that you give them to the *Kirouac Family Association*?

**RB:** I cannot commit myself here and now. This is a little tricky. I cannot answer you because others have already been in touch with me. A Lowell UMASS professor go spoke to me about it as well as others. It would be possible to put it all in the Patrick Mogan Center where all sorts of treasures can be

found. However, your idea is good but I cannot give you an answer.

**JK:** Mr. Brunelle, have you done an inventory?

**RB:** I am doing it now. I have four filing cabinets of four drawers each. Every time I check, I take out one folder. It brings back so much memory that I forget the time! Time flies, Jacques. Next week I will be 78 years old (28 Nov. 2012)!

As I speak to you now I am amazed at my energy. I live at... I feel as if I were thirty something, or even in my twenties. But that is not the fact and you know it!

**JK:** Mr. Roger, nevertheless, if among the documents that you have, those from Father Morissette, Jack's confidant, if you find interesting things, we do not ask to 'inherit' them, but perhaps we could be informed of what you find, just like Father Morissette looked after Jan when she went to Lowell. Also if you were to find interesting documents referring to Jack, or about Jan, it would be really appreciated if you could let us know?

I met Father Morissette when I was in Lowell and he said to me: "Mr. Kirouac, one day Jack came to see me and said that his classmates laughed at him." This is an indication that Father Morissette was, in a way, Jack's confidant. Last time Jan was in Lowell, it is Father Morissette who paid her hotel bill. So if you have documents, something referring to this kind of events, we would very much like to know.

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(5) Probably the most popular typewriter sold at the time.



**RB:** I could select some documents, photocopy them and send those to you. Would you like that?

**JK:** Yes of course, that would be great!

**MLT:** I was privileged to scan lots of Kirouac archives. It is so easy to keep scanned archives on DVD or CD in order to save them for posterity. If ever the original documents are destroyed, at least the electronic archives remain.

I would like to add something about Stella's phrase, the one you quoted. The phrase is from Jack, word for word. Yesterday evening, I searched Internet to find out about Mr. David Amram before meeting him. By chance I found some quotes taken from Jack's writings at different moments in his life... One quote was exactly that: *"If people want to know me, they should not come knocking at my door, let them read my books."* It is very interesting what you mentioned about Stella who must have heard Jack say that, and quoted him.

**RB:** Jack repeated himself and, I am quite sure he said that to his wife. So she knew it. She phoned me one day and asked me to show her everywhere Jack had lived when growing up. Unfortunately, she died before it was possible to do so.

**EW:** About all this, let me add that there is an expression, a made-up word, used in both languages: in French they say *vie-écriture*. In English: *lifewriting*. That is Jack: *vie-écriture, or lifewriting*. For him, life and writing are one and the same. Problems appear when universities jump in, followed by intellectuals and researchers. They take a 'whole' and cut it up in little

bits and pieces... They study; then exclaim: Look, what I have found! But they have lost sight of the 'whole'.

**RB:** Once I received a call from Washington University in Seattle, where my daughter was studying, the gentleman said: "I found you on Internet. May I come and visit you? Anytime, I will pay you. So I said WOW you must be a student? He said: "Yes, I have just completed my studies and now I am ready to write my thesis about Jack. So he came. I took a full day to show him around. He stayed at a hotel. For two days, we did Kerouac! Then, imagine, his thesis is just the following: "The pathetic side of Jack"! Another student just received his PhD in theology; the subject of his thesis was: "Jack's link with Mexico and Mexican religion."

**ÉW:** There are thousands like that. Jack was memory alive and living culture. He was everything! He had everything!

**JK:** It is extraordinary! And it is a Franco-American who did it all! That is what I find quite extraordinary.

**ÉW:** A Franco-American who loved, as Roger said, who loved ALL America: its past, present, and future, here and elsewhere.

**JK:** Nonetheless, his past was firmly rooted here in Quebec and even in Brittany, in some way. Roger, a few minutes ago, we talked about David Amram. I met him yesterday and he promised us an article <sup>(6)</sup> about Gabrielle Lévesque whom he met. Very little has been written about Gabrielle Lévesque, Jack's mother. This is very interesting....

So, in this context, we are very happy to have received you here today. We hope very much that we will be a follow up. For me it is a particularly memorable occasion to have you here with us today. Now I leave the last word to our KFA President and, Eric, if you wish to add something about the whole gathering, please do so. Perhaps first Eric then François can conclude.

**ÉW:** Roger, it has been a delight joy to have you here in Quebec during the last few days. It has been a great joy for me and our friends. Sometimes we do not see each other for long periods of time but our friendship goes a long way, twenty-five, even twenty-six years... We share the happiness. Roger brought us quite something and I hope, well, I believe that we also have something to offer Roger. We are sharing and sharing is essential. That is life! So Roger, thank you very much for coming here.

**FK:** It is difficult to add to these comments and gratitude but there is one thing that I absolutely want to say to you. I can see how extremely generous you are by the way you willingly shared all this info with us even if you do not really know us, only by name. Thank you again so much for sharing your souvenirs with us. Thank you also for sharing all you think about Jack's works.

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(6) Article published in 2013 in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 113, p. 20.

# Jack Kerouac's Estate, Summary of the Court Case, 1994-2013

by Gerald Nicosia

Introduction and conclusion by Jacques Kirouac

translation by Eric Waddell

## INTRODUCTION

*A summary of the dispute between certain members of the Jack Kerouac family and the heirs of Stella Sampas, Jack's third wife, was published in the March 1999 issue of Le Trésor des Kirouac. In the present issue we provide an update highlighting the successive stages of the conflict. This update is particularly appropriate for two reasons. Firstly, on 10 August 2011, a three-judge panel of the Florida Second District Court of Appeal confirmed Judge Greer's decision establishing that Gabrielle Lévesque's testament was a forgery. This judgment put an end to the lawsuit against the Sampas family that had been initiated by Jan Kerouac, continued by Gerald Nicosia as her literary executor, and concluded by Paul Blake, Jr. .*

*Secondly, Gerald Nicosia, author of the highly regarded biography of Jack Kerouac, Memory Babe, and Jan Kerouac's literary executor, began writing a biography of the latter in January of this year (2014). One chapter of the biography will be devoted entirely to the legal action she took against the Sampas family. Nicosia will offer an overview of the proceedings but will not enter into detail. Rather it is the following chronology which provides a step by step portrait of the saga. It is important to stress that a close reading of the update is required in order to appreciate a legal dispute replete with unexpected developments.*

*Jacques Kirouac*

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1) Jack Kerouac dies 21 October 1969, in St. Petersburg, Florida. He leaves everything to his mother Gabrielle Levesque, but Stella Kerouac applies to the State of Florida for a one-third dower's right. Therefore, even though Jack does not leave Stella anything, she receives one-third of Jack's estate through Florida state law.

2) Upon the death of Gabrielle Lévesque in 1973, her two thirds of Jack Kerouac's inheritance is bequeathed to Stella Sampas, who therefore gains control of all of Jack's estate.

3) Stella Sampas dies in 1990. She bequests all of her inheritance to her family and it is her brother, John, who becomes executor of her will. Again today, it is he and his brothers and sisters who own and control Jack Kerouac's entire legacy.

4) On 9 January 1994, Jan, Jack's only daughter makes a will and names as executor of her estate her former husband John Lash, who lived in Brussels, Belgium, for many years,

5) On May 16, 1994, Jan institutes proceedings against the Sampas in St. Petersburg, alleging that the signature on Gabrielle Lévesque's will is a forgery.

6) On 5 October 1994, Judge Thomas Penick in the Probate Court of Pinellas County, Florida, threw out all of Attorney Thomas Brill's charges except one: forgery. Penick ruled that forgery constitutes "fraud upon the court" and is not subject to a statute of limitation. The judge therefore denied the Sampases' motion to dismiss the case, and ruled that the case could go to trial on the single issue of whether the will was forged. This was Jan's first great victory, which allowed the case to proceed to trial, even though the forgery had taken place 21 years earlier.

7) On 28 June 1995, Jan adds a codicil to her testament naming Gerald Nicosia of San Francisco as her literary executor.

8) On 5 June 1996, Jan dies at the age of 44 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

9) In September 1996 following Jan's death, John Lash, in accordance with John Sampas, intends to end Jan's proceedings against the Sampas family, while



Gerald Nicosia as Jan's literary executor plans to pursue them as promised to Jan before her death.

10) At the end of September 1996, the Court of St. Petersburg asks the Court of Albuquerque to reach a legal conclusion as to whether John Lash or Gerald Nicosia should control the lawsuit in Florida.

11) On September 1998, a judgment of the Court of Appeal of Albuquerque favors John Lash against Gerald Nicosia in a split decision of two against one.

12) On 28 October 1998, Gerald Nicosia obtains permission from the Supreme Court of Justice to appeal the case in the Supreme Court of New Mexico.

13) October 1998-September 1999: Gerald Nicosia with his attorney, Jerome Field, prepares his appeal for hearing before the New Mexico Supreme Court.

14) At the same time, Fall 1998-1999: Nicosia files a libel suit against Diane DeRooy, an ally of John Sampas, for having accused him in print of committing numerous felonies. The case is thrown out because Nicosia is deemed a "public figure," against whom it is permissible to say almost anything, and he is forced to pay a judgment of \$35,000 to DeRooy.

15) On 15 September 1999, the Supreme Court of New Mexico, in Santa Fe, denies *certiorari* <sup>(1)</sup>. This means that, after agreeing in 1998 to hear Nicosia's case, the Supreme Court then does an about-face in 1999 and refuses to hear the case. Nicosia is thus removed as Jan's literary executor, and no longer has any standing in the Kerouac Estate case. During the final settlement proceedings, it is revealed that John Lash and David Bowers, Jan's two heirs, have made a deal with John Sampas.

16) In late September 1999: Lash and Bowers appear before the Probate Court in Pinellas County, Florida, and request that Jan's lawsuit against the Sampas family be dismissed. Judge Penick allows Lash only to dismiss Jan's portion of the case, but he insists that Paul Blake, Jr., Jack Kerouac's nephew, may still have a right to carry the case forward.

17) Late 1999-early 2000: Attorney Bill Wagner of Wagner, Vaughan, & McLaughlin, a Tampa, Florida, law firm, is nominated by the court to represent the indigent Paul Blake, Jr.

18) Early 2000: Wagner presents a motion to the effect that Paul Blake, Jr., should become the substitute plaintiff, taking Jan Kerouac's place in the case against the Sampases. The Sampases say they will file for summary judgment against Blake - which, if successful, would mean the case would be stopped.

19) 2000-2001: The Sampases succeed in having Judge David Seth Walker removed. Judge George Greer returns to the case.

20) 2001: The Sampases sell Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* manuscript at Christie's in New York for \$2.43 million dollars to James Irsay, owner of the Indianapolis Colts.

21) September 2001: The Sampases finally file their motion for summary judgment against Blake. They claim that Blake's filings against them are barred by statute of limitation, because he has come into the case "too late."

22) Late September 2001: Wagner beats back the Sampases' summary judgment motion. Judge Greer allows Blake to take Jan's place as "substitute plaintiff."

23) 2001-2002: The Sampases take Blake's deposition, and both sides gather evidence to support their positions.

24) September 2002: Judge Greer rules that "We will have a trial on the merits." But no date for the trial is yet set.

25) 2002-2003: Wagner and the Sampases' lawyers continue to do research, gathering handwriting samples, subpoenaing medical records, taking depositions, etc., in order to build arguments for their respective positions.

26) November 2003: The Sampases' attorneys file a second summary judgment motion. This time they file a very detailed, 28-page motion listing dozens of reasons why they believe that Blake's case should be thrown out. But the heart of their motion is Florida's

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<sup>(1)</sup> *Certiorari*: in the United States, is a writ seeking judicial review. It is issued by a superior court, directing an inferior court, tribunal, or other public authority to send the record of a proceeding for review. (Wikipedia)

so-called “non-claim statute,” Florida Statute Sec. 733.710 (1989). The non-claim statute permits a person to keep anything they inherit in Florida, including stolen property, so long as no one complains within two years.

27) December 2003: Wagner files an answer to the second summary judgment motion.

28) 19 March 2004: Greer rules again in Blake’s favor, that Blake has the right to carry the case to trial. ***But the Sampases win on one key point.*** Judge Greer upholds the non-claim statute. The judge rules that the living Sampas brothers and sisters, who inherited the Kerouac Estate from Stella Sampas Kerouac, cannot be sued by Paul Blake, Jr., concerning property that they inherited. But Judge Greer rules that Wagner can proceed to trial with Count One, the action for fraud on the court. Wagner declares that he will take the case to trial on Count One.

29) 13 October 2004: The trial in Clearwater, Florida, is stopped by the intervention of a Sampas relative, Maria Perritano, who demands that someone represent the Sampas family in the proceedings. Judge Greer declares that Wagner must find an independent *administrator ad litem* <sup>(2)</sup> to represent the Sampases.

30) 17 November 2006: Attorney Elaine McGinnis accepts the position of *administrator ad litem*.

31) 2007-early 2009: McGinnis prepares a defense for the Sampases.

32) 1 April 2009: The case finally goes to trial in Clearwater, Florida. The arguments from Bill Wagner and his son Alan, as well as Elaine McGinnis, take almost a full day. Judge Greer says he is most impressed by the testimony of handwriting analyst Ron Rice, who found “at least 50 dissimilarities between Gabrielle’s known signatures and the signature on the will.”

33) 24 July 2009: Judge George Greer issues a powerful opinion, declaring Gabrielle Kerouac’s signature on her will dated February 13, 1973, a forgery.

34) 21 August 2009: The Sampas family, along with John Lash and David Bowers, appeal Greer’s decision.

35) 10 August 2011: A three-judge panel of the Florida Second District Court of Appeal affirms Judge Greer’s decision that Gabrielle Kerouac’s will is a forgery. This is a final decision.

36) Late 2011 - late 2013: Bill and Alan Wagner try but fail to find a way around Florida’s non-claim statute, so that the Blake family can receive at least part of the Kerouac Estate. The Blakes consider bringing in a literary property attorney to help with this effort.

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### CONCLUSION

*While the judges had the mandate to verify the authenticity of Gabrielle Lévesque’s signature on her last will, it did not extend to identifying the authors of the forgery. As such Jan Kerouac, Jack Kerouac’s only child, received absolutely nothing of her father’s substantial inheritance, in spite of what is believed by some people. So where is this inheritance today? The answer is to be found in Point 3 of the above chronology?*

*If, in the case of Jan, the dispute has definitely come to an end, there remains a tiny window of hope for Paul Blake Junior, Jack Kerouac’s nephew by virtue of his sister Caroline’s marriage to Paul Blake Senior.*

*So much for the state of this never ending family saga!*

*Jacques Kirouac*

<sup>(2)</sup> ***Administrateur ad litem:*** An individual appointed only for the purposes of prosecuting or defending a court action or litigation, on behalf of an undefended person or interest.





# Marie-Julie-Malvina Kérrouack

Sister Sainte-Marie-Bernard  
of the Congregation of Notre-Dame (CND)  
Collaboration of André St-Arnaud

**M**arie-Julie-Malvina Kérrouack was born in Quebec City on Good-Friday, 18 April 1851, and was baptised the following day in Saint-Roch Church. She was the second child bringing happiness to her excellent parents who had fifteen during their married life. She was the sister of Jules-Adrien Kirouac <sup>(1)</sup> (1869-1945), parish priest of Sainte-Justine and Travelling Vicar (Vicaire Forain).

Her father, Chevalier François Kirouac <sup>(2)</sup> (1826-1896), was a well-known and renown Quebec City grain merchant, Knight of the Order of the Holy Sepulcher, and her virtuous mother was Marie-Julie Hamel <sup>(3)</sup>, are still today the pride of this wonderful Canadian French-speaking family who saw many of its children and descendants give their life for God's service.

Two of Marie-Julie-Malvina's aunts were already CND nuns: Sister Sainte-Catherine (Henriette Kirouac) <sup>(4)</sup> (1835-1895), who died after forty-one years as a nun, on 20 April 1895, and Sister Sainte-Marcelline (Marguerite Kirouac) <sup>(5)</sup> (1829-1920), who died on 11 May 1920 in her 64<sup>th</sup> year of religious life.

Some cousins were also CND nuns at the same time as she was: Sister Saint-Calixte-de-Syracuse (Marie-Aurélie Kérrouack) <sup>(6)</sup> (1863-1941) and Sister Sainte-Hortensia (Germaine Kirouac) <sup>(7)</sup> (1899-1988). One of her nieces was a nun in the Congregation of Jésus-Marie (Quebec City), Mother Marie-des-Anges (Adelcie Kirouac) <sup>(8)</sup> (1883-1967), from Sillery (Quebec City suburb) and a famous nephew, the Reverend Brother Marie-Victorin

(born Conrad Kirouac) <sup>(9)</sup> (1885-1944).

On 8 September 1869, aged eighteen, having just graduated at the Convent in Saint-Roch (Quebec City suburb) where it is said that she was a model student, she entered the CND congregation. She was a happy-go-lucky, very pleasant and generous person. After completing her noviciate, she made her first vows and received her religious habit on 9 June 1870.

She was musically gifted and had a delightful voice which she kept in good practice so she was the ideal candidate to teach music. On 9 November 1871, she said her final vows as **Sister Sainte-Marie-Bernard** and the next day she started teaching music with enthusiasm and generosity and did so for the following thirty-three years. She was a born organizer with a flair for simplicity and distinction, so the concerts she planned were always very happy occasions. She also prepared religious celebrations with even more care. Always and wherever she taught, she garnered the esteem and gratitude of her pupils as well as their parents.

Her career took her to various places in the Province of Quebec: Académie St-Antoine, St-Jean, Notre-Dame-des-Anges, Terrebonne, Académie Visitation, Académie St-Patrice, as well as St-Johnsbury, Vermont, USA, and Brockville, Ontario, Canada.

The appointment register also indicate that after teaching nine years in St-Johnsbury, Vermont, she became Mother Superior of the convent from 1899 to 1905. She was also Superior at the Convent in



Marie-Julie Malvina Kérrouack  
(Photo: Congrégation Notre-Dame)

St-Malo Parish (Quebec City) from 1910 to 1917. The last years she spent in St-Malo must have been rather painful as she was already suffering from arthritis, the illness

(1) GFK 00655; see *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Number 52, June 1998, pp. 12 to 39.

(2) GFK 01078; see *Revue de l'Association des familles Kirouac*, Number 7, June 1986, pp. 2 to 28.

(3) See *Revue de l'Association des familles Kirouac*, Number 4, March 1985, p. 6 and Number 9, April 1987, p. 6.

(4) GFK 01083.

(5) GFK 01080.

(6) GFK 01939. See *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Number 112, Autumn 2013, p. 25.

(7) GFK 01035; see *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Number 113, Winter 2013-2014, p. 31.

(8) GFK 00574; see *Le Bris de Keroack*, Number 19, March 1990, pp. 3 to 13.

(9) GFK 00575; see la *Revue de l'Association des familles Kirouac*, Number 4, March 1985, pp. 3 to 33 and *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Number 57, September 1999, pp. 45-46.

that would eventually put an end to her teaching career.

During 1917, she had to retire to the infirmary where she spent the next fifteen years. In spite of her age, she kept a youthful heart and was a grateful patient, even a happy one, always ready to sing hymns or the pleasant melodies that brought smiles and happiness to those around her. She was never idle either as she worked on lovely fancy objects.

Myocarditis had been threatening her health for a long time so a heart-attack was the obvious indication of the end. Thence she received the Holy Viaticum and the Extreme-

Unction on the first of December 1932. As the Sisters were praying around her, around eleven-thirty in the morning on 3 December 1932 she died peacefully.

The following Tuesday, 6 December, Father Pierre Dupaigne, p.s.s., celebrated the Funeral Mass. Were in attendance: her brother, Napoléon Kérouack, Brother Marie-Victorin, religious of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, her cousins, Sister Saint-Calixte-de-Syracuse and Sister Sainte-Hortensia.

For health reasons, the parish priest of Sainte-Justine, Jules-Adrien Kirouac, was unable to attend the

funeral of his beloved sister; he sent his condolences to the CND Community, thanking the Mother General and the nuns who were so devoted to his dear sister while she was ill. He wrote: "I hope that my dear sister has received her reward in heaven because every day of the last ten years of her life, was a sacrifice."

As Travelling Vicar for the Diocese of Quebec, he blessed the CND nuns to whom he offered his deepest wishes of spiritual consolation for 1933.

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Our gratitude goes to Sister Suzanne Rochon, CND archivist, for providing info and archive documents.



## IN MEMORIAM



### **BERGERON NADEAU, JEANNETTE (1921-2014)**

At the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital in Arthabaska, Quebec, on 11 April 2014, aged ninety-two, died Mrs. Jeannette Bergeron-Nadeau, wife of Marc-Aurèle Nadeau. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her sisters: Gisèle (**Bruno Kirouac GFK 00714**), Jocelyne, Raymonde (the late Yvon Toupin) and her brother Claude Bergeron. The Funerals were held on 17 April 2014 in Saint-Médard Church in Warwick, followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery. **Bruno Kirouac, was one of the fifteen founding members of the Kirouac Family Association.**

### **BOIVIN, GISÈLE DALLAIRE (1925-2014)**

In Roberval, on 23 April 2014, aged 89 years and one month, died Mrs. Gisèle Dallaire-Boivin, wife of Mr. Réül Boivin. Funeral was held on Monday, 28 April 2014, in Notre-

Dame Church in Roberval. The ashes will be deposited in the Roberval Cemetery at a later date. Besides her husband she leaves to mourn, her children: Luce (**René Kirouac GFK 01332**), Irma, Gervais (Hélène Cinq-Mars), Renaud (Johanne Laflamme), Claudine (Jako Dumont), Richard (Annie Mc Nicoll), Guylaine (Jacques Boily) and Guy (Manon Denoncourt); her grandchildren: Mélanie Beaulieu (Frédéric Potvin), Marie-Claude Boivin (Alain Tremblay), Frédéric Boivin (Stéphanie Gagnon), Francis Boivin (Marie-Josée Goderre), Karine Boivin (Martin Meunier), Marilyne Dumont, Pierre-Marc Dumont (Audrey-Ann Grenon), Bruno Boivin (Audrey Méroz), Caroline Boivin, Stéphanie Boivin (Francis Doré), Philippe Boivin, François Kirouac (Béatrice Landry-Belleau), Étienne Boily (Cindy Germain), Samuel Boivin (Julie Larouche) and Sara-Jane Boily (Dominic Morissette); her seven great-

grandchildren: Anne-Sophie, Mathieu, Léa-Jade, Anna-Ève, Livia, Ève and Juliette.

### **CHOUINARD, BERTIN (1978-2014)**

In Sherbrooke, Quebec, on 27 March 2014, aged thirty-five, died Bertin Chouinard, son of Lorraine Baillargeon and the late Jacques Chouinard. Besides his mother, Bertin leaves to mourn his sister, Claudia (**Alain Kirouac**), his nephew, **Raphaël Kirouac** and his god-son, **Nathan Kirouac**.

### **CYR-NÉRON, GERTRUDE (1932-2014)**

On 20 March 2014, at the Golden Age Residence, aged eighty-one years & ten months, died Mrs. Gertrude Cyr-Néron, wife of Mr. Hervé Néron. A prayer ceremony was held on 29 March 2014 in the Nault & Caron Funeral Home in Jonquière, Quebec. She was the daughter of the late Azade Cyr and the late Anita Bouchard. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn



her husband's children: Francine Neron (André Gagnon), Alain (Audrey Lasalle), Ghislain (Guylaine Charbonneau); his grandchildren: Karine, Valérie, Marie-Pierre. She was the sister of the late Claire Cyr (the late Claude Letarte), the late Lucille (Raymond Boivin), the late Bertrand (Rolande Deschênes), the late Alphonse (**Ghislaine Kirouac, GFK 02469**), the late Robert (Lisette Martel), the late Claude (Diane Levasseur), the late Jean-Paul (Lise Bouchard); her sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law).

#### **DESROCHERS, MICHEL (1952-2014)**

At the Long-term Care Facility Marie-Pagé in Victoriaville, on 4 April 2014, aged sixty-one, died Michel Desrochers, husband of Diane Cantin; he was the son of the late Roméo Desrochers and the late Cécile Tousignant. Besides his wife, he leaves to mourn his children: Véronique (Pascal Moreau), Pascal (Josiane Ratté); his step-children: Josée Roux (Éric Robidoux) François Roux, Marc-André Roux (Martine Trottier); his grandchildren: Valérie, Shany, Jessy, Kim; his brothers and sisters: Renaud (Gyslaine Desrochers), Pauline (the late Jacques Robitaille) and Paul Gagnon, Normande (Paul-Yvon Desrochers), Huguette (the late Richard Laviolette), Ginette (Pierre Robitaille), Hélène, **Francine Desrochers (François Kirouac GFK 00715)**, Fernand (Marlène Roy), Denise (Réal Lemieux), Denis (Sylvie Desharnais), Sylvie & Alain (Nathalie Picard). Funeral was held on 12 April 2014 in the Louis-Bergeron Funeral Parlour in Victoriaville. Burial will be held at a later date. **François Kirouac was one of the fifteen KFA founding members and the present KFA President.**

#### **DUPUIS FORTIN, IRÈNE (1923-2014)**

At the Acton Vale (Quebec) Long-term Care Facility, on 29 March 2014, aged ninety, died Mrs. Irène Dupuis-Fortin, widow of Gérard Fortin. She leaves to mourn her children: Gervaise (Fernand Bizier), Solange (Oliva Bizier), Marcel (**Luce Kirouac GFK 0785**), Céline (Herman Larose), Bibiane (Gilles Gamache), Colette, Gérard, Maurice (**Linda Kirouac GFK 00786**), Marjolaine (Lyn Beauregard), Renold (Manon Grondin), Chantal (Mario Proulx), her grand-children and many great-grandchildren, as well as her sister, Mrs. Lorraine Dupuis-Roy. Funeral was held in the Chapel of the Bessette Funeral Home in Granby (Quebec), on April first 2014. Burial will take place at a later date in the Mgr Pelletier Cemetery in Granby.

#### **GENEST JEAN-CLAUDE (1931-2014)**

On 19 January 2014, aged eighty-two, died Jean-Claude Genest, son of the late Wilfrid Genest and the late Marie-Ange Tourigny. Funeral was held on 25 January 2014 in the Chapel of J. D. Garneau Funeral Home in Trois-Rivières, followed by burial in Sainte-Marie-Madeleine Cemetery. Widower of Thérèse Gélinas; he had one sister, the late Aline and her late husband Jacques Brousseau. He leaves to mourn his daughters: Diane (Yvon Rhéaume) and Hélène; his beloved grand-children: Denis Stevens (Marylou Gélinas), Mélanie Jacobs (Vincent Denicourt) and Anne-Marie Jacobs (Benoît Thiffault); his brothers and sisters: Denise (René Deshaies), Yvon (Lise Poisson), **Yolande Genest (Michel Bornais, former KFA secretary)**, Marie-Paule (the late Albert Bellemare), René (Suzanne Savoie), Lise (the late Jeannot Brousseau), Guy (Éliane Sandoz) and Michel (Irène

Desjardins); his sister-in-law, Andrée Durand (widow of Clément Genest); his aunt, Julia Tourigny.

#### **KIROUAC, CLÉMENT (1944-2014)**

On 14 January 2014, aged sixty-nine, at home in Belleville, Ontario, died Clément Kirouac (GFK 01333). He leaves to mourn his wife, Elizabeth Scrob. He was the son of the late Amédée Kirouac and the late Gertrude Roy from Malartic, Abitibi (Quebec). He was the brother of the late Yvon. He leaves to mourn his other brothers and sisters and their spouses: Muriel (Raymond Lefebvre), Lise, René (Luce Boivin), **Nicole**, Diane, Lucie (Serge Gagnon), Claudette (Jacques Laplante), Monique (Alain Mailloux), Carmen (René Hénault). His ashes were buried in Malartic. His sister, **Nicole Kirouac organized the 2007 Annual Kirouac Family Gathering in Amos, Abitibi.**

#### **KIROUAC-BÉDARD- RHÉAUME YVETTE (1918-2014)**

At the Jeffrey Hale Hospital, on 29 April 2014, one month before her 96th birthday, died Mrs. Yvette Kirouac-Bédard-Rhéaume (**GFK 01127**), daughter of Alexina Dubé and Édouard Kirouac; she was the widow first of Lucien Bédard; then of the late Eugène Rhéaume. Funeral was held on 5 May 2014 in St-Rodrigue Church in Quebec City followed by burial in St-Charles Cemetery in Quebec City. She leaves to mourn her daughter, Florence Bédard (the late Robert Talbot), the late Jean-Louis Bédard, the late Clément (Claire Witlip); her grandchildren: Diane Talbot (Benoît Leboeuf), Daniel Talbot (Louise Morency) and Réjean Talbot; Linda Bédard, Sylvie Bédard, Gina Bédard, Josée Bédard, Chantal Bédard and Martine Bédard and

their spouses; Frédéric Bédard, Sylvana Bédard and their spouses; her great-grandchildren: Nicolas Leboeuf (Alexandra Fortier), Sabrina Leboeuf; Simon Talbot, Dominic Talbot; and of the fifth generation : Lauryann Hunter, Florence Leboeuf and Juliette Leboeuf; her brothers and sisters: Laurette Kirouac (the late Émile Jobidon), Charlotte Kirouac (the late Raymond Boulanger and the late Arthur Fiset), Hélène Kirouac (the late Roger Boucher); many relatives from the Kirouac, Bédard and Rhéaume families and friends including Raynald Ouellet.

**KIROUAC-DIONNE,  
MARIE-PAULE  
(1923-2014)**

At the CHUL Long-term Care Facility in Quebec City, on 19 March 2014, aged ninety, died Mrs. Marie-Paule Kirouac-Dionne (GFK 00602), widow of Rosaire Dionne. She was the daughter of the late Lauréat Kirouac and the late Juliette Bussière. She leaves to mourn her children: Lise (Richard Vaillancourt), Michel (Andréanne Bilodeau), Hélène (Serge Michelin), Christiane (the late Marcel Beaumont), Pierre (Célyne Bastien), the late Jacques, Alain (Bushra Semma) and Sylvie (André Desgagnés); as well as Jocelyne Martel; her grand-children: Sylvain, Alain, Dany, Simon, Kevin, Maxime, Valérie, Cynthia, Michaël and Stéphane; her great-grand-children: Youri, Antoine, Thalya and Elliot; her brothers and sisters: Thérèse (the late Henri Parent), the late Madeleine (the late Yvon Bélanger), the late Jacqueline (the late Rosaire Michaud), the late Marcelle (the late Roger Beaumont), the late Jean-Guy (Janette Guay); André (Jocelyne Auclair); her Dionne sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law. The funeral was held in Notre-Dame-de-

l'Annonciation Church in L'Ancienne-Lorette (Quebec) on 29 March 2014.

**KIROUAC-LAMONTAGNE,  
LISE  
(1950-2014)**

At the Long-term Care Facility Littoral in Lévis, Quebec, on 20 March 2014, aged sixty-three, died Mrs. Lise Kirouac-Lamontagne, wife of Henri Lamontagne. She was the daughter of the late Marie-Rose Daigle and the late Joseph Kirouac (GFK 01874). Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her daughter Marie-Josée (Christian Poulin); her grand-children: Jonathan, Jérôme and Cassandra; her brothers and sister: Alphonse (Lisette Bergeron), the late Céline (Gaston Lamontagne) and Denis (Doris Rousseau); her Lamontagne sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law. Funeral was held on 4 April 2014 in St.Nicolas Church.

**KIROUAC, RENÉ DÉSIRÉ  
(1922-2014)**

On 22 March 2014, in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA, aged ninety-one, died René-Désiré Kirouac (GFK 00399). He was born in Berteau-court-les-Dames in France, son of Arthur Kirouac and Éléonora Ancelles. He served in the French Army during WWII. Captured by the German Army he was POW. After the war, he and his wife, Fernande Lahutte, immigrated to the States. She died in 2010. For many years, he was foreman in a paper factory in Florence, Massachusetts. He leaves to mourn his son, John and wife Helen; his brothers: Michel and Guy. The funeral was held on 28 March 2014 in St-Élisabeth-Ann Seton Church in Northampton, followed by burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**KIROUAC, RICHARD  
(1948-2014)**

On 10 January 2014, at the Long-term Care Facility Maria-

Chapdelaine in Dolbeau-Mistassini, aged sixty-five years & nine months, died Richard Kirouac (GFK 00314), spouse of Géraldine Tremblay-Gilbert (widow of Jean-Guy Gilbert). Richard was the son of the late Maurice Kirouac and the late Marie-Jeanne Cauchon. Funeral was held on 15 January 2014 in Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes Church in Girardville (Quebec). He was buried in the parish cemetery. Besides his spouse, Géraldine Tremblay-Gilbert, he leaves to mourn his children: Michel (Johanne Laferrière), Manon (Rémy Boisvert) and their mother Mrs. Françoise Maltais; his grandson Tomy Kirouac-Lambert; his brothers and sisters: Hélène (the late Jean-Paul Sicotte), Gisèle (the late Gérard Verreault), Simone (the late Marcel Ménard), the late Jacques (Rolande Lalancette), the late Claude (Brigitte Paquet) and the late Régis (Denise Savard); his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law in the Tremblay family.

**KIROUAC, ROLAND  
(1938-2014)**

On 12 April 2014, At the Long-term Care Facility in Rouyn-Noranda, aged seventy-five, died Roland Kirouac (GFK 01308), son of the late Albert Kirouac and the late Irène Auger. He leaves to mourn his brothers and sisters: Gisèle (the late Paul-André Caron), Lucille (Jacques Boulet), Fernand (Michèle Charest), Thérèse (Réjean Brassard), Raymonde (François Dumulon), Cécile (Marc Roger), Suzanne (Jean-Marc Piette), Jocelyne (the late Donald Dumont), Jean (Odette Caron), Lucie (Denis Laverdière), Michel (Micheline Alix) and Richard; he was also the brother of the late Gérard (the late Thérèse Gervais) and the late Jeannine (the late Jean-Marc Dumas). The ashes were placed in the Notre-Dame Cemetery Columbarium in Rouyn-Noranda on 21 May 2014. **Roland was the**



**brother of Lucille Kirouac-Boulet, who served twice as KFA Board Member. He was also the brother of Thérèse, a member of the *Trésor des Kirouac* editorial team, and the brother-in-law of Réjean Brassard, the KFA Webmaster.**

**KIROUAC, ROSAIRE  
(1930-2013)**

On 28 October 2013, in Kelowna, B.C., aged eighty-three, died Rosaire Kirouac (GFK 01710), son of Trefflé Kirouac and Marie-Louise Parent. Besides his wife, Denise Leblanc, he leaves to mourn his daughters: the late Simonne (Gerry Lepage), Cécile Kirouac (Phil Jamieson), Suzanne Kirouac, Jacqueline Blonarowitz (Colin); his son, Richard Kirouac (Tina); five grand-children: Nikki Bishop (David), David Lepage, Colter Blonarowitz, Alex Kirouac, and Katelyn Kirouac; his sister, Thérèse (the late Thomas Boychuk); his sisters-in-law: Marguerite Bisson (the late Paul Kirouac) and Sylvia Normand (the late Jean-Marie Kirouac). Cremation and burial followed the funeral ceremony.

**MORIN, EDWARD A.  
(1933-2014)**

On 26 February 2014, in Bradenton, Florida, aged eighty, died Mr. Edward A. Morin. Born on 5 August 1933 in Northampton, Massachusetts, USA, he was the son of Arthur J. Morin and Agnes Lamica. Mr. Morin was a Veteran of the Korean War. He leaves to mourn his wife, **Rose-Marie Kirouac (GFK 00412)**, his children: Peter, Cam (Mike Kelly), David (Susan) and Scott; his grand-children: Sean, Ryan and Dana Kelly, Marc and Andrea Morin; his sister: Joy Tudryn; his brothers: Dr. Bernard A. Morin (Barbara), Pierre (Pete) Morin (Sue Shea) and the late Arthur J. Morin, Jr. (Joyce). Funeral was held on 29 March 2014 St. Elisabeth Church in Northampton, MA,

followed by burial with full military honour in St. Marie Cemetery in Northampton, MA.

**NELSON, MONICA FIORINA  
(1940-2014)**

Mrs. Monica Nelson, 74, died 28 April 2014 in Litchfield Park, Arizona. She was born Feb. 10, 1940, in Kankakee, to Anthony and June Edna BURTON-FIORINA. Her mother, June Edna was the daughter of Jesse James (**GFK 00205**) & Nelda (née Brouillette) BURTON. Besides John, her husband of 55 years, she is survived by her children and their spouses, Reine and Matt Laschen, Amy and Trey. Cowan, John II and Toni Nelson; her seven grandchildren: Blaire, Ashley, Rachel, Valerie, Jeremy, AJ, and Webb; her three great-grandchildren: Sean, Doc and Jacob; her brothers and their spouses, Richard and Lucy Nelson, Thomas and Sandra Nelson. She was the keystone and matriarch of her family and will be missed dearly. Funeral Mass was held on 2 May at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, in Phoenix, Ariz. Burial of the urn will be held at a later date at Holy Cross Cemetery in Avondale, Ariz.

She worked as a clerk at Town and Country Foods (Indiana) where she earned the position of Department Manager by the age of nineteen. This job supported John and her while he finished engineering school. She was a long-time member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Parish; was active in Pop Warner and Little League; volunteered at Maryvale Hospital; worked as a library clerk at Desert Sands Middle School where she truly enjoyed working with the students; worked as Student Records Clerk at Cartwright School District; was a third generation woman farm owner; and was a member of the American Kennel

Club where she helped develop the Phalene line of Papillons for show.

**PERREAULT, ANDRÉ  
(1935-2014)**

At the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital in Arthabaska, Quebec, on 22 January 2014, aged seventy-nine, died Mr. André Perreault, husband of the late Solange Cloutier and spouse of Françoise Campagna. Besides his spouse, Françoise Campagna, he leaves to mourn his children: Mario, spouse of **Esther Kirouac (GFK 00766)**, Sylvain, spouse of Fabienne Girard, Luc, spouse of France Carrier, Martine, and Josée, spouse of François Lambert. Funeral was held on 3 February 2014 in Warwick.

**RAPHAËL, MICHEL  
(1951-2014)**

On 10 February 2014, at the Chicoutimi Hospital, aged sixty-two years and nine months, died Mr. Michel Raphaël, son of Thommy Raphaël and the late Yvette Bluteau. Funeral was on 13 February in the Mashteuiatsh Church followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery. He leaves to mourn his children: Francky Raphaël (**Patricia Kirouac**), Mélissa Raphaël (Alain Simard), Éric Raphaël, Steeve Raphaël (Karina Bélanger), Cécilia Raphaël (Kesy Jalbert); the mother of his children, Mrs. Yvonne Bégin, as well as his thirteen grand-children. He was the brother of: Lauretta Raphaël, Charles Raphaël (Marguerite Dominique), Thérèse Raphaël (the late Raymond Bégin), Éliane Raphaël (Bernard Bacon), the late Carmen Raphaël (Armand Siméon), Stéphane Germain (Florence Dominique) and Karine Launière.

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**Our Deepest Condolences  
to the Bereaved Families.**

# GENEALOGY / THE READERS' PAGE

*The KFA's computerized genealogical data base comprises a number of persons' names for which we are missing either the spouse and/or parents' names. Answers to the following questions would enable us to complete our data. Feel free to consult previous issues of Le Trésor and forward us the relevant info.*

*Many thanks,  
François Kirouac*

**Answer received from Greg Kyrrouac, Ashland, Illinois USA**

## **Question 444**

What are the names of the parents of Émilie Nelson, first wife of Armand Lévesque, son of Julie Alice Kerouac (GFK 01569) and Joseph Lévesque? The couple was married in Sayabec (Quebec) on 6 April 1932?

The parents of Émilie Nelson were Charles Nelson and Émilie Hacquet from Sayabec, Matapédia Valley, Quebec, Canada.

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## **Question 450**

What are the names of the parents of Pamela Sue Chudy, spouse of Randolph Scott Burton, son of Howard William Burton and Margaret Mary Marczak? This couple was married in Bonfield, Illinois, on 28 August 1999.

## **Question 451**

What are the names of the parents of Ginette Larcher, first wife of Real Kirouac (GFK 00394), who was the son of Arthur Kirouac and Éléonora Ancelles? The Ancelles/Kirouac couple was married in France but divorced in 1958.

## **Question 452**

What is the name of the mother of Michaël Kirouac, son of Danny Kirouac and grandson of Lucien Kirouac (GFK 01458) and Isabelle Dionne?

## **Question 453**

What is the name of the mother of Robert Hodyr, spouse of Kristine Johnston, daughter of Carmen Kérouac (GFK 02069) and Ronald Johnston?

## **Question 454**

What is the name of the mother of Serge Charron, spouse of Kathleen Johnston, daughter of Carmen Kérouac (GFK 02069) and Ronald Johnston?

## **Question 455**

What are the names of the parents of Ann Brown, first wife of Harold Philip Burton, son of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan? This couple was married in Kankakee, Illinois, on 11 May 1935.

## **Question 456**

What is the surname of Brenda, second wife of Harold Philip Burton, son of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan? And what are the names of her parents?

## **Question 457**

What is the surname of Dorothy, third wife of Harold Philip Burton, son of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan? And what are the names of her parents?

## **Question 458**

What is the surname of Becky, fourth wife of Harold Philip Burton, son of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan?

And what are the names of her parents?

## **Question 459**

What are the names of the parents of Earline McKinney, spouse of James Michael Burton, son of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan? And what are the names of her parents?

## **Question 460**

What are the names of the parents of Donald Pement, spouse of Sharon Ann Burton, daughter of Ambrose Hector Burton and Ruth Eileen Dolan? And what are the names of his parents?

## **Question 461**

What is the surname of Caroline, spouse of Louis Philippe Kerouac, son of Louis Godefroi Kerouac (GFK 00180) and Josette Boudreau? And what are the names of her parents?

## **Question 462**

What are the names of the parents of Richard Renwick, spouse of Lena Antoinette Burton, daughter of Philippe Kerouac (GFK 02732) and Anna Theolinda Olson?

## **Question 463**

What are the names of the parents of Alexandre Noël, spouse of Geneviève Kirouac, daughter of Jean-Nil Kirouac and Lyse Desrosiers; the Noël-Kirouac couple were married in Longueuil (Quebec) on 5 July 1997.

*We welcome your genealogical questions and we will do our very best to answer them.*

*Results will be published in future issues of Le Trésor.*

*The Editor*



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## **Annual Gathering of the Kirouac Families**

**Saguenay, 15-16-17 August 2014**

**See preliminary programme on page 8**

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