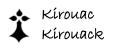
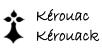


Bulletín of the descendants of Alexandre de K/Voach Witness to Kírouac activities since 1983

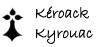


Seasons' Greetings from Thomas and Le Trésor team!

















Le Trésor des Kirouac

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Editorial Policy

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Collection François Kirouac

The President's Word

The first Kirouac family reunion was held at L'Islet-sur-Mer in 1980. So our 2015 gathering, on 16-17 August, marked the 35th anniversary of that great occasion when over 700 'cousins' met in the lovely Lower St-Lawrence town where Simon-Alexandre Kervoach, as we knew him then, put down the roots of our family That first reunion was line. scheduled to underscore the 250th anniversary of our ancestor's arrival in New France, according to what we knew at the time.

In the past thirty-five years, our Association has organized thirtytwo additional get-togethers, where we have seen the level of attendance fluctuate considerably from year to year. The attendance at our second gathering in 1982 marking the 250th anniversary of Alexandre de K/ and Louise Bernier's wedding dropped to 300 'cousins'. Since then, attendance peaked at 305 in 1989 at La Broquerie, Manitoba, but reached an all-time low of twenty-five in Drummondville, Ouebec, summer.

So, in the autumn 2015, to discuss this steady decline especially in recent years, the KFA Board invited a few people to meet in Quebec City. The Board also discussed this at its 31 October 2015 meeting.

How to fully explain the downward trend is rather difficult as we do not have all the facts. But we know that it is a general trend. Every family association member of the Quebec Federation of Family Associations experiences the same problem. Everyone to a greater or lesser decline extent faces a participation. Why? No one really Besides, it is knows. impossible to know whether the decline is due to the same causes in each association.

As far as the K/s are concerned, we noted the highest attendance level either at a first-time gathering in a region, or at those organized towards the end of the 1990s and early 2000 during the period of intense research about our ancestor. Subsequently, participation gradually declined in each region, hitting its lowest level in 2015 in Drummondville. The number of participants at our gatherings may diminishing, however, number of KFA members remains about the same at around 160.

Furthermore the organizing committees of five to ten members no longer exist. Undoubtedly, these committee members attracted many members of their own families which of course increased the number of participants at the gatherings. Besides, let's not forget that since our first gathering in 1980, many faithful participants have grown older and some have away too. passed And, unfortunately, the younger generations have yet to join the ranks to replace those who can no longer attend.

In an effort to increase the number of participants in the future, the Board has resolved to focus its efforts where our ancestor's descendants are in largest number, i.e. the greater Montreal area and Quebec City region.

Alternating between those two cities, thus in 2016, our annual gathering will be in Quebec City. And in 2017, it will be in Montreal as the City celebrates its 375th anniversary. This does not mean that we are no longer considering other regions. Far from it! Should there be any proposals for gatherings in other regions, the Board would be delighted and will gladly lend a hand to a regional committee wishing to organize an event.



François Kirouac

In our spring 2016 bulletin, you will find all information about the upcoming 2016 summer gathering but, in the meantime, keep an eye on the KFA's website and Facebook page, where info will be posted.

This winter issue is being sent to you very late indeed, we are very sorry for the unforeseen delay and sincerely apologize.

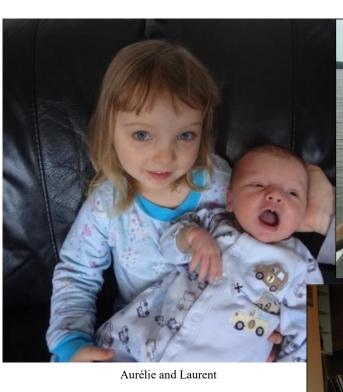
Nevertheless, may I, in my name and on behalf of the Board members, wish you:

A VERY HAPPY EASTER and may the remainder of 2016 bring you and yours, health, happiness and prosperity.



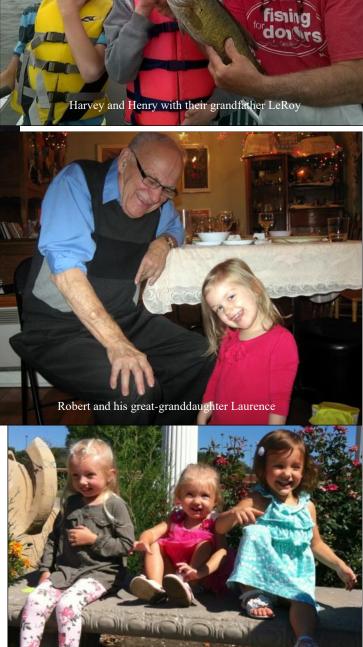
EW YEAR 20

It is a heart-warming tradition so see our **YOUNGER TREASURES**, all de Kervoach's descendants wish you **HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND PROSPERITY DURING** 2016!





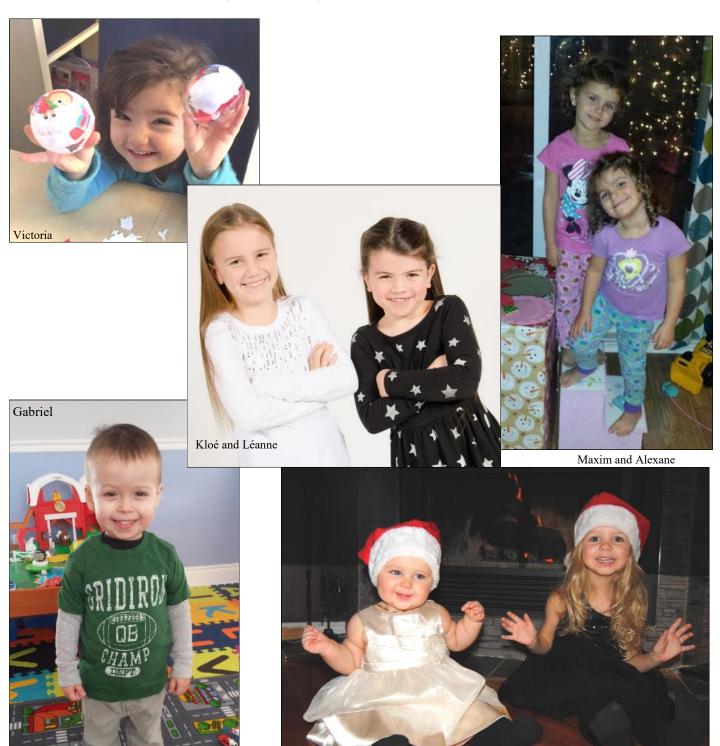
Emma and Juliette



Selah, Serena and Elliana

EW YEAR 20

It is a heart-warming tradition so see our **YOUNGER TREASURES**, all de Kervoach's descendants wish you **HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND PROSPERITY DURING** 2016!



Alyson and Rosalie

New Representatives and Correspondents for the large Montreal, Outaouais and Abitibi Region

Since 2012, our Association has been without a representative covering the Montreal, Outaouais* and Abitibi region. From 2003 to 2012, Louis Kirouac successfully represented that extra-large area for eight years; but with his departure no one had volunteered to step into his shoes. Until now! (*Between Quebec and Ontario, part of the border is a river called Outaouais in French and Ottawa in English, hence, the Ottawa area on the Ontario side and, Outaouais area on the Quebec side. Translator's explanation)

It is therefore with great pleasure that the KFA Board Members welcome not one, but two correspondents for this area. Now we can count on Karyne and Roxanne Kirouac as KFA representatives. Together, they are taking on gathering everything concerning the K/s from the Montreal, Outaouais and Abitibi regions; said information to be presented in future issues of Le Trésor whenever possible.

You already know these twin sisters as we first introduced Karyne in our spring 2015 edition and you were able to follow her and her twin in California on the road to San Francisco in Jack Kerouac's Footsteps in **Le Trésor des Kirouac**, number 118. Below, Roxanne introduces herself.

Where do I come from?

I was born in Laval, 2 November 1982, but I grew up in Saint-Eustache, just north of Montreal. I am the twin sister of Karyne who won the CBC/Radio -Canada contest *Sur les traces de Kerouac* in December 2014.

An unconventional post-secondary route!

Planning on a teaching career, I studied at College Lionel-Groulx where I obtained a college diploma (DEC) in human sciences in 2002. Passionate about geography and history, I enrolled in a teaching programme for high school level offered by UQAM (University of Quebec in Montreal). However, one year prior to earning my diploma, I



Karyne and Roxanne Kirouac

realised that I preferred teaching children more than teenagers! So, instead of a teaching diploma, I worked towards a Bachelor of Education which I earned in 2006.

While studying during those years, I also realised I was attracted to children with learning difficulties and this led me to pursue post-secondary studies in the psychology of education. Thus in 2008, I completed a minor in the psychology of education from Montreal University. Feeling better prepared to face life's challenges, and my desire to work with children, as well as my longing to reconnect with my inner child and values, at last I had found my ideal career as a pre-school teacher.

Finally, in 2011, I received my diploma (DEC) in early childhood education from Marie-Victorin College in Montreal. I am now teaching at Centre de la Petite Enfance Pic-Bois in Laval. (Translator's note: pic-bois is wood-pecker; CPEs are kindergartens subsidised by the Quebec Government).

DO YOU HAVE ANY DEATH NOTICES AND/OR OBITUARIES? PARTICULARLY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS?

IF YOU DO, PLEASE SEND US SCANNED COPIES (OR PHOTOCOPIES) AS THEY PROVIDE PERTINENT INFORMATION TO ENRICH OUR GENEALOGICAL DATABASE AND ARCHIVES.



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR WITH THE HURTUBISE FAMILY*

o you remember the Hurtubise family from Montreal? Germaine Kirouac (GFK 00842) (1891-1935) and Alfred Hurtubise's (1890-1961) children? The same Hurtubises who, at the Annual Kirouac Family gathering in Trois-Rivières in 1993, sang and spread good humor during the Sunday brunch held at the old iron works site (Les Vieilles Forges, now a popular tourist site, a few miles outside Trois-Rivières)! In July 2015 in Drummondville, three of them were still with us: Claire, Monique and Gabrielle, who turned 97 years young on 27 December 2015. Gabrielle is the oldest of the surviving siblings and the oldest KFA member.

Germaine Kirouac and Alfred Hurtubise were married in St. Anthony Parish in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA, on 27 May 1913, but their fourteen children were all born in Montreal between 1914 and 1932. Recently, Claire, Monique and Gabrielle, with their brothers Bernard, Gilles and Robert, told us about their family Christmas and New Year during their childhood; wonderful souvenirs and anecdotes about the "good old days".

Midnight Mass and Christmas Stockings

Christmas at the Hurtubise home, as in all families then, was essentially a religious event and it remained so up to the sixties. When the children were old enough, about ten or twelve, they would attend Midnight Mass. however. it meant attending three masses in a row: the High Mass at midnight immediately followed by two Low Masses. Afterwards back home to enjoy the "Réveillon" called midnight supper in English but eaten well after 2 a.m. Followed by a few hours of sleep to be alert for more festivities on December 25th. Waking up on Christmas Day, each child looked for his/her Christmas stocking hanging at the foot of the bed. It contained an apple, an orange and barley sugar candy. Gabrielle remembers that those who had been good during the year might find a nicely wrapped piece of wood, while those who had been naughty might find a piece of charcoal.

Christmas Day

On Christmas Day, the whole family used to visit Aunt Hélène, their father's sister. Aunt Hélène Hurtubise and Germaine Kirouac,



Alfred Hurtubise and Germaine Kirouac (Photo: KFA archives, X4330-0244)

their mother, had studied together at the same convent school so they knew each other well. The countless cousins present played endlessly, helping themselves to delicious orange wedges sitting in a large bowl on the table.

Baby Jesus Made of Wax

Among their numerous Christmas memories, Bernard cannot forget what his sister Marthe enjoyed reminding him that in 1928, when he was about four years old, he was intrigued by the baby Jesus in the manger under the Christmas tree. It was made of wax but, to a four-year -old, it looked more like candy, so Bernard ate Baby Jesus' nose! The story still makes him smile.

Christmas Tree

As for Gilles, he remembers having made up a Christmas tree using some 2" X 4" boards nailed to a wooden butter crate. On the "trunk", he then attached the fir branches that his father had brought back from the Maisonneuve market



The manger with the Baby Jesus made of wax, and all other characters made of plaster.
(Photo: Anne-Marie Brouillet)

* There are more articles on these Kirouac descendants in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 90, pp. 4-5, and number 97, p. 27)

as, having sold even his last fir tree, that was all that was left. Lights, glass bobbles, tinsels, silver icicles were used to decorate their Christmas tree.

New Year's Day

In the thirties, Gabrielle remembers that their father attended the Midnight Mass at Notre-Dame Basilica in Old Montreal on New Year's Day. Their mother would go to the 6 a.m. Mass while the oldest children would go to a later Mass that morning.

Father's Blessing

Father's New Year blessing is a centuries-old tradition continued beyond the nineteen-fifties. Even asking for this special blessing was a privilege given to the eldest of the siblings who would ask their father on behalf of the whole family. At the Hurtubise home, the honour was Fernande's. After blessing his family, Alfred would distribute the gifts; those were always practical presents and mostly articles for school. Their parents would buy the gifts with the pennies saved from the profits, after expenses, their father had a stall at the Maisonneuve Market in East Montreal, selling fruits and vegetables.

Gifts

At the time, Christmas celebrated Baby Jesus; therefore, children received their gifts only on New Year's Day. Gabrielle remembers that afterwards, the children would present their New Year's letters to their parents. These letters had been written at school in their respective classes. So while the children were examining their gifts, the parents



Rebecca, fancy liquor bottle (Photo: Anne-Marie Brouillet)



Le Moine, the Monk (Photo: Marie Kirouac)

sitting at the kitchen table, would read all those letters. Gabrielle distinctly remembers receiving a large dictionary at the age of twelve.

Here Come the Relatives

New Year's Day morning, Aunt Rosa Kirouac (GFK 00841), their mother's sister, and her husband, uncle Emmanuel Blanchet*, would arrive with their four boys, Mozart, Bertrand, Gustave and Julien, to wish everyone a Happy New Year and, of course, to kiss their four cousins, Fernande, Lucille, Marthe and Gabrielle.

At noon the family would have lunch but without any visitors, as they had to prepare the big dinner for all the uncles and aunts and their families. Being the eldest of his siblings, Alfred Hurtubise would host all his brothers and sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces. And they all came; no one wanted to miss the party . . .

The Hurtubise Relatives

Alfred Hurtubise had one sister and five brothers, notably Arthur, Albert, and Gérard, a priest, all were invited with their families every New Year's Day. Traditionally, Alfred prepared the salads, while the girls helped their mother prepare the other dishes. Aunts and uncles sat at the dining room table while the children ate at the kitchen table. The older children would serve the vounger ones. During dinner, the discussion usually centered on the sermon heard at the Midnight Mass at the Notre-Dame Basilica in Old Montreal!

Rébecca and Ruth

Once the meal was over, Alfred brought out his Rebecca – a rather special bottle containing a mysterious concoction made by Alfred according to his own secret recipe: a mixture of pure alcohol, lemon juice and lemon zest. Alfred served this "homemade liquor" only to the men. In fact, there used to be two bottles: Ruth and Rebecca. Alfred owned Rebecca, while Ruth belonged to his sister Hélène. It seemed that Ruth has disappeared; we do not know if someone in the family inherited it. However, Rebecca still exists and Gilles, 95 years of age, remains its proud guardian; he still brings it every year for the New Year's Day family celebration. And what about the Moine (Monk) a third precious bottle that belonged then to Agésilas Kirouac, Germaine's brother? The Monk is now in the safe-keeping of Marie K/.

After dinner, around seven o'clock, Gabrielle says that their uncle the priest, Gérard Hurtubise, would bless the whole family. Time flew by, singing and dancing throughout the house led by none other than Arthur Hurtubise. Some men chose to play cards during the evening. Around ten o'clock, the ladies would again set the table for another delicious late supper of pies, cakes, delicacies and soft drinks. After so much fun and food, everyone felt ready to undertake the New Year.

^{*}In L'ALBUM, published in 1980 for the first K/ gathering, you can read Agésilas' story, on pp.64-69; on p.65 there is a photo of a young Germaine, and also one of her sister Rosa with her husband Emmanuel Blanchet.



The Hurtubise family plaster angel is a traditional almsbox nodding its head every time a coin is dropped into it. This family heirloom is preciously kept.

(Photo: Anne-Marie Brouillet)

After 1961

After their father passed away in August 1961, Monique, Claire and Robert remember that the holiday celebrations took place at the three-story home on Sagard Street in Montreal. The four older siblings, Fernande, Lucille, Marthe and Yvon, had moved into the apartment above that of Claire and her husband, François Legault. Hurtubise and Kirouac cousins were always welcome at the Legaults on New Year's Day.

The Kirouac Relatives

Marie K/, the youngest of four children of Agésilas and Joséphine Arsenault, his second wife, talks to us with great enthusiasm about New Year's Day with the Hurtubise cousins. Uncle Agésilas, Germaine and Rosa's older brother, never missed coming to Montreal, by train from Warwick, to celebrate with his sister's family, even after Germaine's untimely death in 1935. Even Joséphine, widowed in 1961, and her four children, as well as Julie, Agésilas' adopted daughter, would always celebrate New Year's Day with the Hurtubises.

Rue Sagard, Montreal

In the Sagard Street house, festivities would take place on three floors! The large room in the basement was perfect for large gatherings. Everything took place while singing, even while washing dishes. Before eating, Gilles would give his welcome speech. Each year, according to a tradition established by Fernande, money would be collected by the family for Masses commemorating all the deceased family members from all years. Everyone would deposit his or her donation in the "angel bag"; remember those angels that we would find in the parish mangers and who would wave to us whenever we deposited money? There was such an angel in front of the Hurtubise manger. The manger and the angel still exist and have served their purpose every year since.

Manger and Village

After their mother passed away in 1935, Fernande, helped by Lucille and Marthe, took her siblings under her wing; she was twenty-one and the youngest only three. She would set the manger under the tree. She would also build an impressive village over a period of one month. Fernande would also prepare Christmas gifts for everyone, a task that would spread over the whole year. And there was a gift for everyone present.

Santa Claus

After everyone had enjoyed a delicious and generous buffet, Santa Claus would arrive and distribute the gifts. At first, their father played Santa Claus; Alfred started this tradition when he became a grandfather. After he passed away in 1961, his son Paul took over, then Gabrielle's husband, Paul-Maurice Lafrenière or anyone else who accepted to wear the red outfit, whether uncle, cousin or brother-in-law.



Gilles Hurtubise entertaining the children in the house on Sagard Street in Montréal. (Photo: Marie Kirouac)

The suckling pig

New Year's Day menu at the Hurtubises always included a suckling pig. As it was too big for the oven at home, it was cooked at the Hélène de Champlain restaurant on Ile Sainte-Hélène! When it became difficult to find a whole suckling pig, only a head would decorate the table. To entertain the kids, Gilles had invented a special ceremony: the extraction of the pig's teeth which would be given to the children, but, adds Marie K/, a tooth had to be earned usually by singing a song. There was much joy and laughter and everyone kept his or her tooth as a souvenir.

Song and dance

Singing and dancing for the rest of the evening was led by Gilles. Following one another the line went up and down the three-story house. One of the popular songs was Savez-vous plantez des choux? (Do you know how to plant cabbage?) Gilles started with the question, then invented whatever ways this can be done and everyone had to follow, replicate words and gestures as well. Singing was catching even the ladies washing dishes. At one point, the children, one after the other, would sing a song or recite a poem knowing that they would be rewarded in coins: usually with a quarter but sometimes with a shiny silver dollar, a large sum then! Those coins were apparently preciously saved and even collected! Would anyone still have some?

A little later in the evening, while some played cards in Claire's kitchen, the teenagers would gather in the living room to watch Radio-Canada's Bye Bye on television (this popular show debuted in 1968). Those who preferred peace and quiet would gather in the ground-floor living room to reminisce with the older siblings.

Thus joyfully unfolded the lives of "the Hurt! the Hurt! the Hurtubise!" as they all sang together before saying "aurevoir" until the next year. And the party goes on every year, now with the great- and greatgreat-grand-children.

The Editorial Committee



Every New Year, Gilles Hurtubise pulled the pig's teeth to the delight of the children. (Photo: Marie Kirouac collection)



Gilles Hurtubise leading the singing and dancing up and down the three stories in the Sagard street home. (Photo: Marie Kirouac collection)

FIVE GENERATIONS OF KIROUACS CAPTIVATED BY TOYS

6 1888, Joseph-Arthur Kirouac, proud father of nineteen children, opened the first Kirouac toy store on Saint-Jean Street, within the Old Quebec City walls. Thus began a great adventure in the toy retail business. Over the years a number of *Magasins Kirouac* -toy stores- were managed by various members of the same K/ family. Eventually they started wholesale distribution to enable Canadian retailers to buy their supplies from the Kirouac's. But during the nineteen-seventies and eighties, shopping malls completely changed retail business; therefore the Kirouacs closed their downtown stores and opened specialised ones.

Club Jouet — Toy Club Following the arrival of American warehouse-size toy stores, the K/s decided to follow the lead and developed a warehouse-type store but with 100% Quebec made toys in order to compete with the big names in the toy industry. Thus on 29 October 1992 the very first warehouse-store *Club Jouet* (toy club) in Quebec opened its doors to serve wholesalers as well as the general public. Mr. André Kirouac, present owner of *Club Jouet* explains: "Our toys still show our cultural and linguistic identity. What we have kept from the Club is the concept of selling at the lowest price possible, but without annual fees or membership cards that were restricting public access.

Club Jouet, 1100 Bouvier Street, Suite 153, Quebec, Quebec, Canada G2K 1L9

Please visit the Website: https://www.clubjouet.com/ Email: info@clubjouet.com - Fax: 418-627-8877 - Telephone: 418-624-9451



Ernest Kirouac, the founder's son of *Magasins Kirouac*, with his employees in the store located on the Côte-de-la-Fabrique, one of the steepest streets in Old Quebec City. This store went up in flame in the winter of 1936. (Photo: KFA collection)

You may also want to read other articles about this K/ family and business: LeBris de Keroack, #22, December 1990, pp.3-5; Le Trésor des Kirouac, December 2002, #70, p.8; Le Trésor des Kirouac, June 2003, #72, p.16; Le Trésor des Kirouac, summer 2011, #104, pp.16-18; L'Album, produced in 1980 by Raymonde Kérouac-Harvey, p. 29.

ERNEST GAGNON, The Man Who Preserved Our Traditional Christmas Carols

Historian Jean-Marie Lebel's article entitled Plaisir de se souvenir (Joy of Remembering) was published in French in the magazine **PRESTIGE** in December 2012 and January 2013. Lebel's chronicle, written in French, is reprinted in the French issue of Le Trésor des Kirouac number 119 with the kind permission of the author. Below is the translation done especially for the English Edition of number 119.

uring the holidays, Christmas music broadcast on radio and throughout shopping brings back malls nostalgic childhood memories. But in these days of globalization we often hear the same tunes on every continent. However, in Quebec we fortunately still retain some traditional Christmas carols, such as Dans cette étable, Dans le silence de la nuit, Nouvelle agréable or D'où viens-tu bergère? And this, we owe to Ernest Gagnon. (Translations of title for understanding purposes only = In a manger, In the silence of the night, Pleasant news, Where have you been, young shepherdess?).

BERNARDINE'S PIANO

When hearing the great organs in the old Notre-Dame Basilica in Quebec City, one cannot help but feel the presence of Ernest Gagnon. Gagnon is well remembered, perhaps as the best but not certainly as the most popular the Basilica; organist at reverence for the musical heritage of his people was unparalleled.

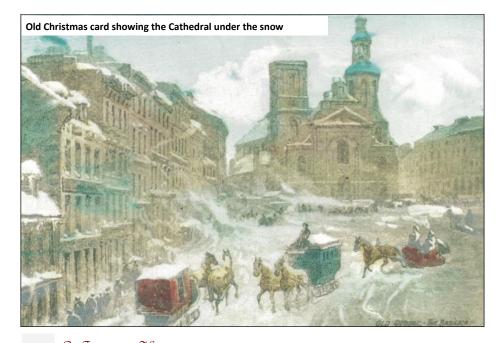
Ernest Gagnon was born in 1834 in Louiseville, (then) a village near Trois-Rivières. As a young child, his life was forever changed when a piano was brought into the house for his elder sister Bernardine. Their father being a notary could afford such a valuable purchase. Little Ernest was so enthralled by the instrument that his older sister, after much supplication, agreed to give him his first piano lessons. His musical training was developed during his studies at the College in Joliette, and later with various teachers in Montreal.

Gagnon was nineteen years old when he settled in Quebec City in 1853. In spite of his very young age, he was appointed organist at the new Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church.

THE BRILLIANCE OF MINUIT, CHRÉTIENS (Christians, it is Midnight)

In 1857, Gagnon went to Paris to further his musical training with the renowned organist, Auguste Durand. During the Midnight mass that year, he sat beside his teacher, in the famous Saint-Roch Church where Durand was the titular organist. And there, for the first time ever, Gagnon heard the famous Minuit, chrétiens, composed a few years earlier by Adolphe Adam, a Parisian composer known for his light operas. Gagnon was so moved by this carol that a year later, back in Quebec, he immediately made it known to his contemporaries.

Gagnon resumed his position at St-Jean-Baptiste Church. However, his growing fame was not to the liking of Antoine Dessane, the cathedral's rather pretentious French organist. Scorching letters were exchanged in local newspapers, as they quarreled over technical aspects of the profession of organist and the restoration of plain-chant. Quebec City citizens, who for the most part, could not make heads or tails of the debate, nevertheless sided with Gagnon. In 1864, the drama ended when a furious Dessane, suddenly quit his post at the Cathedral, and the parish priest hired Ernest Gagnon to succeed him!



A HERITAGE AT RISK

Gagnon knew very well that his homeland's folksongs transmitted orally, had to be preserved. Therefore, notebook in hand, he began to listen to older singers and write down lyrics and music. In 1865, his efforts resulted in the publication of his celebrated book entitled Chansons populaires du Canada (popular folk songs from (French) Canada). À la claire fontaine (e.g. fresh water fountain) is the first song in this book that has been reprinted so many times since.

Given this success, Gagnon decided to extend his work to preserving the local Christmas carols. Over time however interpretation from parish to parish varied so much had that carols become unrecognizable. Gagnon selected the carols, harmonized them for mixed voices, organ or piano. His collection of Cantiques populaires du Canada français (Popular French Canadian Carols) published in 1897 had a great impact in Quebec. Since then, the songs performed in our churches since are mostly those chosen by Gagnon. Later on these carols have been interpreted and recorded by our well known tenors like Raoul Jobin (1906-1974), Richard Verreau (1926-2005), and more recently, Marc Hervieux (1969-).

DANS LE SILENCE DE LA NUIT (In the Silence of the Night)

Besides being a most popular organist, Ernest Gagnon was also a highly esteemed teacher, although a strict one. He taught at the Quebec City Seminary, the Laval Normal School, and the Ursulines Convent. One day when Gagnon was visiting the Ursulines Convent, he heard some young girls practicing a carol he had never heard before. The sweet



Large plaster figurines in the manger in Quebec City Cathedral

meditative melody impressed him. The Ursulines told him it* had been composed by a former chaplain, Father Jean-Denis Daulé who had fled France during the French Revolution and found refuge at the convent. Father Daulé had brought his violin with him. It is Gagnon who made it known to the general public. Two local choirs: V'là l'bon vent** and the Petits chanteurs de la Maîtrise de Québec (Quebec City Boys Choir) have since made brilliant recordings of that song. (**V'là l'bon vent a.k.a. Voilà le bon vent, title of a popular folk song means here is the good wind)

Ernest Gagnon made Quebec City



Ernest Gagnon, the organist

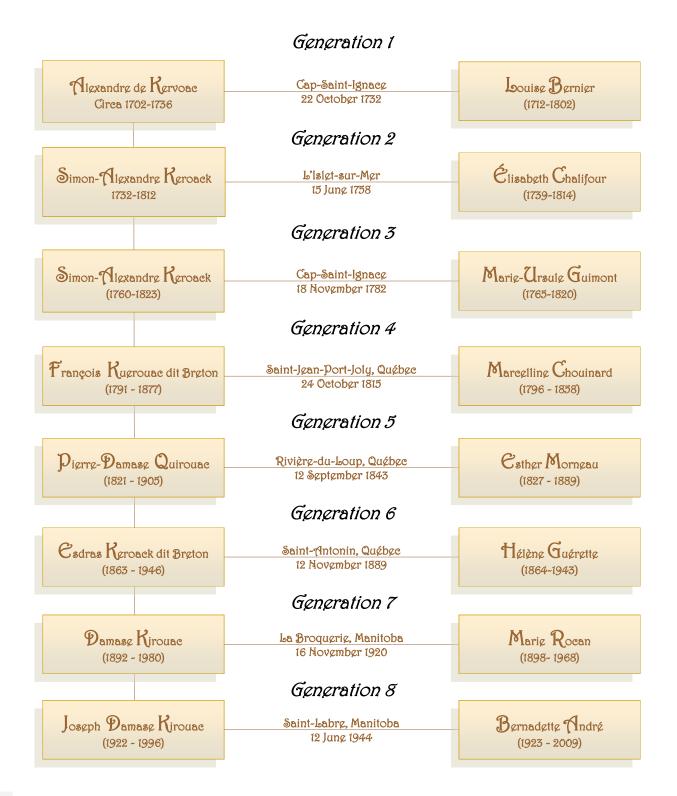
his home. His round, cheerful face was familiar to one and all. He was a self-assured man conscious of his talent; he devoted his spare time to writing books about Quebec City's history. During his lifetime, he was one of the most knowledgeable Quebec City historians. His biography of Louis Jolliet, who discovered the Mississippi, is still widely read today.

Ernest Gagnon spent his last years in his villa Bois-Jolliet on Grande Allée Boulevard. His house later became the Rectory of Saint-Cœurde-Marie Parish. He died in 1915. His brother Gustave took over at the cathedral as titular organist and later, Gustave's son, Henri Gagnon succeeded his father. Thus for nearly a century, from 1864 to 1961, generations of Gagnon climbed the steep, narrow staircase leading to the organ loft at Notre-Dame Basilica to play the music from Old France and New France, so dear to their compatriots.

To our faithful or new readers, I send my best wishes.

Photo sources: The Ernest Gagnon portrait is from the collection of Yves Beauregard. The other scenes are from the author's greeting card collection.

Ascendancy of Joseph Damase Kirouac



Joe & Bernadette Kirouac, Avid Collectors of Old Cars and Trucks

by René Kirouac, from Saint-Constant

Bernadette Kirouac accumulated as many as two dozen vintage vehicles of various makes, models and conditions. They traveled through Canada and the US in their rolling treasures, painstakingly restoring them all through meticulous care and upgraded expertise. They appeared on TV in a CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) special report. The following is but a sketch of their long-lasting passion for motor vehicles of a bygone era.

Joe (Joseph Damase) Kirouac and Bernadette André were born on Manitoba farms in the 1920s. They met in 1943 and were married the following year. In 1950, they moved to northwestern Ontario where Joe carried on his transport business specialized in wood hauling. Soon he bought his own logging trucks and became a contractor. Joe and Bernadette had five children: Yolande, Angèle, Roland, Norman and Gérard (Jerry) who, in turn, married and raised their own families¹.

Working hard, Joe and Bernadette progressively improved the family living conditions. After living in shacks and logging camps, they finally built their first real house in 1961 on Red Lake Road in Kenora, Ontario. In 1965, Joe, ever the keen fisherman, bought his first airplane to fly to remote lakes to fish to his heart's content. In 1972, the couple acquired a cabin on Indian Lake, north of Vermilion Bay. After some improvement, it became their permanent home in 1977.

Now let's talk about cars!

Models

In 1973 Joe bought his first derelict truck for \$125. Over the years, he bought many old wrecks, all Ford vehicles, including three roadsters (open two-seater car of sporting appearance and character; initially, "roadster" referred to an American roofless two-seater, i.e. with no weather protection) dating back to 1929-1931, a 1932 pick-up, a 1933 two-ton truck, a 1935 five-window Coupe, a 1940 two-door deluxe, a 1959 Ford with retractable roof in mint condition, etc.



Preferences

For a long time, their favorite car was their 1931 two-door roadster. Why? Because it was the hardest one to refurbish since it was their first restoration project. But they learned from their mistakes. When, after spending countless hours working, you realize that what you just did was wrong, lesson learned, i.e., experience acquired. Another of their pet cars was the 1940 two-door deluxe, similar to the one they owned when they got married. They drove their 'Honeymoon car' as they used to call it to visit their daughter, Yolande, living in British Columbia.

Patience

First you have to look for original parts from other vintage cars and that search covered all of Canada from New Brunswick to British Columbia. Then a great deal of sanding is needed for matching the pieces, and Bernadette's skilled hands were unparalleled for that job! The painting job was next, followed by the installation of numerous accessories, both inside and outside. To achieve all that, they had a complete body shop in their garage. On average, a whole year was required to remodel each car. For example, a 1931 Ford Model A bought in 1984 in BC took fourteen months of painstaking work. Once ready, its market value reached \$25,350 compared to the buying cost of \$3,500 before 'parts and labour'. That car maintained an average speed of 45 mph, with peaks at 55 mph!

Gaining Experience

Restoring is a skill acquired over time, but what about buying? It is an art you have to acquire, too. The couple learned that lesson

¹ Yolande (two sons), Angela (one son, two daughters), Roland (one son), Norman (one son) and Gérard (a.k.a. Jerry; one son, one daughter).



Joseph Damase Kirouac (GFK 01730) and his wife, Bernadette André with their children around 1988. Left to right: Gerard (Jerry), Roland, Angele, Yolande and Norman.

particularly through one funny situation. They were at an auction, not their first one, but they were quite new at it. Bernadette had spotted the famous 1959 Ford Retractable, and she meant to get it. She motioned her bid just as the auctioneer's gavel was about to fall on the last offer. Only then did she realize she was bidding against her husband.

On the Road

Cars are made for the road, and Joe and Bernadette enjoyed their fair share of travelling. They regularly visited their daughter, Yolande in BC, and made several trips to Las Vegas. They also attended many annual *Kirouac* Family Association gatherings. Also, as members of Dryden's Vintage Wheels Auto Club, they took part in various fairs and exhibitions.

On Television

In the spring of 1988, they appeared in a full TV report filmed by CBC's Break-Away program showing their unique car collection. The public's appreciation for their successful renovations brings them great pleasure and is a great reward. As the proud owner of vintage vehicles Joe produced six or seven illustrated calendars with photos of their yesteryears American beauties.

More Leisure Time

In 1984, as his three sons were more involved in the day-to-day operations of the log-hauling business, Joe semi-retired from Kirouac Contracting

Ltd.². In April 1989, his high management auality was recognized, when the Forest **Products** Accident Prevention Association presented the company with the *Challenge Shield Award*, offered to forestry-related firm achieving 10,000 to 50,000 injuryfree man/days. Roland accepted the prize presented for the first time to a northwestern Ontario region firm. In 1993, Joe sold his company to his sons and fully retired.

Passing on the Collection

"We won't leave our kids much money", Joe said when interviewed by the CBC TV presenter, but they'll get a lot of metal!" Joe died

² "Dad's company started as a logging (tree cutting) and hauling of logs from a small bush camp to the sawmill in Dryden. As contracts increased, more trucks were bought. The business grew well thanks to the sons' work. Eventually they sold their company and retired." (Yolande)

Bernadette André and Joseph-Damase Kirouac, Saint-Labre, Manitoba, 12 June 1944

A friend wrote this poem for Joe Kirouac

NEVER AGAIN!

Why will a man get up at the break of day?
Mess up his clothes without any pay?
'Waller in grease' till his hair turn grey
To try to redo an ole' Model A?

I guess it is love of a different kind,
But if that is love, then love sure is blind.
When I finish this ole' car, I know what I will do,
I am gonna' take it real easy my whole life through.
Positively no work, no odd parts to sand,
Just ridin' around, and look at the land.

Bernadette! Pull over and stop! No, back up away. Yeah, you see that old Phaeton by that big stack of hay? That old man's comin' out 'how y'all doin' today?' 'Say friend, how much you want for that ole' unrestored A?



Ford Roadster 1931, first car restored by Joe Kirouac and his wife, Bernadette as shown on the October page in one of Joe Kirouac's company calendars, Kirouac Contracting Limited.

on 17 December 1996, almost twenty years ago. At the time, the collection included twelve vehicles. Bernadette³, who did not drive, decided to give them away: each of the five children received two, and the remaining two cars (two T-Birds) were sold, the proceeds were distributed among the grandchildren. We cannot

relate the complete story of each and every car, but let's just mention that Yolande, who could not keep hers for lack of space, chose to sell them: one went to a museum in the Netherlands, and the other one, back to Detroit, the city where it had originally been built. For many years, Roland kept the gleaming 1933 two-ton truck with the Kirouac name on it.

We are most thankful to Simonne Verrier, Joe's sister, and Yolande Lecomte, Joe's eldest daughter, for contribution and documenting and validating the content of this article.

³ Bernadette passed away on 1 August

Sources:

Obituary Notices.

Judy McEwan, The Dryden Observer:

- Dreams become reality, June 4, 1985
- Break-Away visits Vermilion Bay (Vintage car collection filmed), May 17, 1988

Note: It is Mrs. McEwan who got the CBC people interested in showing the car collection on television. She recently declared: "Joe and Bernadette were nice people, and their kids were fun to be with".



From left to right: Yolande Lecompte, eldest daughter of Joe & Bernadette, Bernadette André Kirouac, Lise Kirouac-Verrier and Simone Kirouac-Verrier, Joe's sisters. (Photo: Yolande Lecompte collection)



Bernadette and Joe Kirouac during the KFA annual gathering held in Montreal on 23 August 1987



The 1932 half-ton Ford truck restored by Joe & Bernadette illustrating the month of November in one of the annual calendars produced by/for the *Kirouac Contracting Limited*.

KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GATHERING LÉVIS, 10 SEPTEMBER 2016

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Morning visit to the AC Davie Shipyard with historian David Gagné, of Lévis Theme: Napoléon Kirouac and Annie Davie, a love story and ships

Lunch in Old Lévis

Afternoon visit to Musée du Régiment de la Chaudière

Annual General Meeting

Dinner at Musée du Régiment de la Chaudière (location to be confirmed)

Presentation by André Kirouac, Director of Quebec's Naval Museum, and Jean-Yves Laurin, a nephew of Brother Marie-Victorin. Theme: A Lévis Regiment landing in Normandy on D-Day; and one K/ descendant making the ultimate sacrifice on 8 June 1944.

Honorary President of the Gathering:

Alain Kirouac, Lévis resident, under-minister in charge of the provincial capital region in the Quebec Department of Labour and a founding member of the Kirouac Family Association.

To the US cousins: take advantage of the low Can\$ and high US\$ to come to this gathering!



Napoléon G. Kirouac 1864-1938



Annie Davie 1861-1901

Napoléon Georges Kirouac, his second wife, Annie Davie, and their son, Dr. Charles-Antoine Kirouac.

Annie Davie-Kirouac was the granddaughter of Allison Davie (1796-1836), the man who created the Davie Shipyards in Lauzon-Lévis, Quebec. Story on internet - simply enter Allison Davie on a search engine, or go to: http://www.biographi.ca/fr/bio/son 7F.html



Dr. Charles-Antoine Kirouac 1901-1961

20 Le Trésor des Kirouac no 119

o you remember reading the humorous text entitled *Good Manners at the Farm* published in 2012 in Le Trésor des Kirouac number 109, pages 32-33?

Mr. Alain Olmi from Paris, a.k.a. Jean Kersco, his Breton writer's name, a descendant of the Le Bihan of Huelgoat and a regular reader of our family bulletin sent us this entertaining story because it shows a very Breton trait: the habit of 'beating about the bush' in order to avoid a straight answer or explanation'. Excerpt taken from the best known book of Per Jakez Hélias, entitled: Le Cheval d'orgueil 1-2. The author, Pierre-Jacques Hélias, according to the spelling in the French civil registry, was a journalist, writer, poet, folklore specialist, involved in theatre and radio; he collected and told stories in both Breton and French.

On the book jacket it says that Per Jakez Helias "As a child, he was literally educated by his two grandfathers, both unstoppable storytellers, Alain Le Goff³ and Alain Hélias. His maternal grandfather was very well known for his traditional repertoire colored by countless funny additions; however, his paternal grandfather would let his extremely fertile imagination take over and his tales would reach a surrealistic level. All in Breton of course!...

Besides the many stories inherited from his two grandfathers, and because "he was responsible for preparing radio broadcasts in Breton for the benefit of the listeners in Lower Brittany, Per Jakez wrote hundreds of dialogues to illustrate particular Breton traits and mannerisms of the daily life of the Breton-speaking people of Brittany. He criss-crossed Brittany with a tape-

recorder, stopping at farms and village squares, recording local lore and also learning the various dialects of his mother-tongue...

I hope you will enjoy reading about the wedding of the author's parents: Pierre-Alain Hélias and Marie-Jeanne Le Goff (pp. 38-41). However, towards the end of the book (pp. 444-465), there is another chapter about Breton weddings, where traditionally the whole village is invited meaning that at least a thousand guests and more were invited to partake in eating and drinking for three to six days! Only then did I understand why Per Jakez writes that his parents' wedding was "a paupers' wedding because there were only 120 guests". If you wish to know more and can read French, do not hesitate to get the book. The present excerpt is just to whet your appetite!

Marie Lussier Timperley

A PEASANT WEDDING IN BRITTANY IN 1913*

by Per Jakez Hélias

"Before my father asked for my mother's hand in marriage, many hopeful had already proposed and been rejected. Marie-Jeanne had no dowry of course and knew she would never have one. Dowries were available only for girls from well-to-do family, whether landowner or not. However, a poor girl was judged by her work and her behaviour. And as far as that went, no one in the parish could find no fault whatsoever with Marie-Jeanne Le Goff's labour and conduct and everyone in the village was under scrutiny by one and all. So no one could try, or even consider trying, to spread rumours. The truth was known by all. As a matter of fact, she was free to decide for herself. Her father was only too pleased to repeat that she was the mistress of the house⁴ so she was mistress of herself. 'Match-makers' (kouriter) were still around at the time and some still carried a 'baz-valan' i.e. a special stick made of genet, symbol of their profession. My mother certainly did not need such services. My parents met and chose each other without any intermediary. And as sometimes one reads in classified ads: "the two partners' background and situation could not have been more similar", i.e. both families were very poor peasants.



* The photos illustrating the present article all come from Mrs. Marthe Le Clech's book entitled Se marier en Bretagne (Getting married in Brittany) published by Édition Bretagne d'Hier. We are extremely grateful to the author for allowing us to reprint in Le Trésor these photos from her book.

- 1. **LE CHEVAL D'ORGUEIL, Mémoires d'un breton du pays bigouden**, (2) published in France by Plon in 1975, in a series entitled Terre Humaine. (568 pages)
- 2. Book inherited from my uncle, Germain Lussier, a great-grandson of Léon Solyme Le Brice de Keroack, himself a great-grandson of the ancestor of all New World's K/s.
- 3. Alain Le Goff, Sr., used to say: "Being too poor to buy a horse, at least the proud horse will always have a box in my stable. Sub-title: Memories of a Breton from the Bigouden Country, i.e. area or region.
- 4. Marie-Jeanne's mother died very young leaving her father a widower with many orphans. Being the eldest, she took her mother's place, looked after her father and her siblings during many years before getting married!



In the photo above, two trenches were dug, people sat on the ground with their feet in the trenches; note also the middle part left a bit higher and used as a table. There were 2100 people attending this wedding!

"The marriage took place in 1913 and it was a pauper's wedding. There were only one hundred and twenty guests. And each guest had to pay five francs for two days of food and drinks peppered with gavottes, jubidis and jabadaos⁵. Following the tradition, on the third day, the caterer invited the family to eat the leftovers. On the first evening, there was a pitched battle between the young men from Pouldreuzic, my mother's 'country'⁶, and the young men from Plozévet, my father's 'country'. The groom had invited the latter to the dance. And the young women from Pouldreuzic found them better dancers than those from their own parish. It seems that the ladies showed too much their preference for the young men from Plozévet. Bitter comments were exchanged, challenges voiced, fist fights traded, and strong words heard that can only be washed in some blood. Words flew back and forth, some vulgar remarks, rude, colourful but all untranslatable. Eventually, as the youth from Pouldreuzic were in larger number, they chased away those from Plozévet. When the storm blew up, someone sounded the alarm in Plozévet and reinforcements were quickly assembled, preparing a counterattack in the Valley of the Mills. The pursuers were already halfway to the other village when the news reached them so they quickly turned around and headed home. This was sheer torture for my father; just watching when he would have preferred to take part too. Besides having to remain by his young bride, which side could he have chosen? Either, his village, Plozévet, thus offending his new family, or if he helped those from Pouldreuzic, his wife's village, he would be a Judas to his own! So he decided to do like Pontius Pilate.

- 5. Gavottes, jubidis and jabadaos most popular Breton dances.
- 6. 'Country' translates the French word 'pays', i.e. village in the present text; and being from a different village means one is not a 'local' but a stranger, a foreigner, almost an alien.



With his thumbs well anchored into his jacket, he tallied the blows. In spite of all this youthful nonsense, it was a wonderful marriage.

"Tradition also dictated that the newly married couple be left together alone but only on the third night because the first night was dedicated to the Holy Virgin, and the second to Saint Joseph. Let us add another tradition to these: the ceremony, both symbolic and funny, of the milk soup. The recipe for that soup varied from one village to the next according to the imagination of the youth preparing it but it always included a rosary of garlic buds; milk for sweetness in married life and garlic for disappointments to be expected. The young male attendants in the wedding party would bring the milk soup to the newlyweds at the banquet table, singing at the top of their voice the ancestors' song, a sad lament made to bring tears to one eye of a well-mannered bride while her other eye laughed. Here is the first verse as my mother remembered it, translated from Breton into French, then here into English:

This morning we saw you, Kneeling at the altar, Adieu father, Adieu mother, Adieu my brothers and sisters!

"To accompany the grand entrance of the *milk soup*, the *sonneurs*⁷ playing *biniou*⁸ and *bombarde*⁹ would start a very fast-pace tune known to "dry all tears" and provoke loud merriment.

"As a matter of fact, this was only the official public way to carry out a ritual meant to counteract some

- 7. Sonneurs is the name used for Breton musicians.
- 8. Biniou: a Breton bagpipe, different from the Scottish bagpipe.
- 9. Bombarde: a 9-inch flute, deafeningly loud; the musician playing it acts as band leader.
- Close-Bed: a cupboard with a door where people sleep. It is an essential piece of furniture often offered to the newlyweds by the parents.

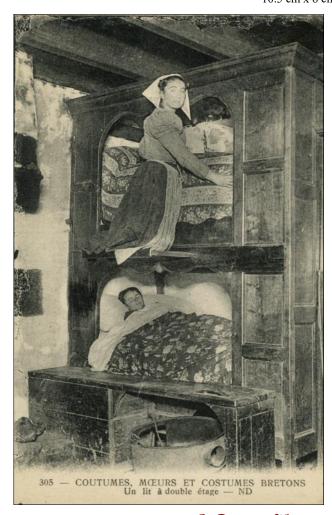
remnant of superstition: the idea being to prevent the soup from turning sour later on, i.e. make sure that disagreement does not take hold in the home. This was meant to mark the end of the celebration, like the exchange of the rings was the great moment in the church.

"Presently, the newlyweds' friends usually waited until the third night when the couple was finally in bed together, to bring them the (in) famous milk soup spiced with anything you may not think of; often accompanied with a shower of tasteless jokes about the third person in the Holy Trinity.

"Because the newlyweds traditionally expected this visit, they entered into their *close-bed*¹⁰ fully clothed, awaiting the arrival of the group carrying the *milk soup* headed by the Best Man. My



Breton musicians are called "Sonneurs". These two are from Plogastel-Saint-Germain. Photo: Joseph Villard, Quimper circa 1867; 10.5 cm x 6 cm



parents declared having been spared this pagan rite. Marie-Jeanne Le Goff loved to laugh and good jokes but as long as they were clean and honest. Her inner dignity fortified by twelve years of daily struggle to insure her family the respect and consideration of all, had built her a solid reputation, therefore, I believe that even the most enterprising village macho would not have dared prepared such a soup for my mother. As for my father, he was a stranger⁶, given that he was born under the bell of the next parish church, it made him a rival. Besides, in those days, the old tradition had become some sort of a joke to the extent that many a young couple did not want to even hear about it. Yet, years later, I personally witnessed it and I must admit that I even took part in it, albeit without much enthusiasm.

"So, on the Thursday, the armoire11 was brought. My paternal grandmother, Catherine Gouret had it built in Plozévet so her eldest son could keep his hemp shirts besides the trousseau that her daughter-in-law had hand-made for herself. The armoire arrived in Pouldreuzic brought in a horse-drawn cart, freshly washed for the occasion and proudly driven by the cabinet-maker himself, all dressed up in his best suit, wearing his best hat. The horse too had been thoroughly cleaned and brushed, its tail plaited and sporting a cockade on its headstall. Arriving on the main square where the young men were waiting for him, he shouted at the top of his voice and was answered by an enormous clamour. On every doorsteps stood every healthy villager. The cart drove up to the bride's house followed by a noisy effusive crowd singing a special song written by someone who knew how to put ink to paper. The armoire was taken out of the cart amid hustle and bustle and mirth as everyone wanted the honour of touching the piece of furniture being feted. It was taken into the house and put in the place of honour where it would remain forever and ever! Alain Le Goff supplied liquid gold (apple brandy?) to thank all his goodwill friends as well as his closest neighbours. Afterwards, the young men accompanied the brave carpenter as far as the last house at the end of the village; he was most likely drunk from too much grateful drink, so it was left to his horse's wisdom to bring him safely back home. That evening, my father spent his first night in his new home. The *armoire*'s price was ninety francs.

Thus speak my parents."





11. Armoire: essential tall impressive cupboard as there was neither closet nor wardrobe then. This tradition crossed the Atlantic with our ancestors. In 21st century France, the armoire is often a traditional wedding gift.

Left: Inside a Breton home. Note the beautifully carved wood furniture, the open fireplace, the beams.



On 12 June 2015, Florence Olmi and her father, Alain Olmi, a.k.a. Jean Kersco, his Breton writer's name. While preparations were ongoing, the bride's father commented that it was going to be a big do - 200 guests. Article and photos show the evolution in costumes and customs over the last century.

Much gratitude to Mr. Alain Olmi, a.k.a. Jean Kersco, his Breton writer's name, for patiently and generously answering all our questions, for his comments and personal photos, and for asking Mrs. Marthe Le Clech's permission to reprint photos from her book: *Se marier en Bretagne*.



Wedding photo of Alain Olmi's maternal grandparents in 1898: twenty-two-year old notary François Guillou and twenty-year old Marie Le Ny. The Le Ny are descendants of the Le Bihan of Huelgoat through the women, hence the link with the K/rouacs of North America. (Photo: Alain Olmi collection)



Florence Olmi and Benjamin Topper, on their wedding day, 12 June 2015, in Paris, France. Do you see the resemblance between Florence Olmi-Topper and her great-grandmother Marie Le Ny? Identical smile? (Photo: Alain Olmi collection)

Kyrouac Family Reunion 2016 Bourbonnais (Illinois) Sportsman's Club Saturday, 6 August 2016

For more information:

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

Email: gregkyrouac@familleskirouac.com or gkyrouac@yahoo.com



Greg Kyrouac, our American cousin is the KFA Correspondent for the US Central Time Zone. He is also a master genealogist and the much appreciated reporter of the Kyrouac reunions in Illinois. He sent us this photo taken in 2014 during their previous large family reunion where over one-hundred 'cousins' enjoyed a fun day and lots of activities and plenty of delicious food.

EGG TOSS*! If you are not familiar with this game, the egg is raw, so do not break it or you lose and it could get very messy! Throwing may not be too difficult but catching it, could be a bit more problematic.

First unwritten rule is: the game must be played outdoors. No cheating using hard-boiled eggs! You would be immediately disqualified.

The lines start out close, maybe a few feet apart, then the one side tosses their egg to their partner. Those who have unbroken eggs then move back for the next throw (toss) back to their partner, and this continues until you have one team remaining with an unbroken egg. Those with broken eggs are out, sometimes to go clean up from the messy egg remains. The game can also be played with balloons filled with water. The rules are the same. It is less sticky and probably even fun on a hot summer day; just like the "dunk tank", however, I am told that the water is rather cold.

There are many other fun games and challenges enjoyed by all during the Kyrouac reunion now held every two years. Grandparents, parents and children would not miss it for the world. For those who prefer less energetic competitions there are always card games to be played under gazebos.

You can read about the 2010 Kyrouac reunion published in the Spring 2011 edition of Le Trésor des Kirouac Number 103, pp. 11-14 and the story of the first *Kirouac* Family Association gathering Kankakee/ Bourbonnais held 18-19 June 2011 was published in Le Trésor des Kirouac, Number 105, Autumn 2011, pp. 10-16.

^{*}Having never heard of this game, I asked Greg to explain; hence the description, rules and regulations particularly intended for the benefit of the French-speaking K/cousins. — Marie Lussier Timperley.

Saving the Kirouac photographic heritage



Québec, 6 September 1947, wedding of Eugène Kirouac & Odiana Janvier, as per number on the photo: 1-Jean Janvier, 2-Odiana Janvier, 3-Eugène Kirouac, 4-Lucien Kirouac, 5-Rita St-Hilaire, 6-Joseph Edgard St-Hilaire, 7-Raymond Kirouac, 8-Georges-Henri St-Hilaire, 9-Joséphine St-Hilaire, 10-Simone Janvier, 11-Gemma Paradis, wife of Philippe Janvier, 12-Raymond Paquet, 13-Céline Kirouac Paquet, 14-Charles Kirouac, 15-Thérèse Jolin, friend of Charles, 16-Marie-Anna Kirouac, Eugène's sister, 17-Jacqueline Kirouac Poulin, 18-Rose Anna Amanda Kirouac, Eugène's sister, 19-Rolland Poulin, 20-Michel Poulin, 21-Cécile Martel, wife of Joseph Kirouac and sister-in-law of Eugène, 22-Joséphine Janvier, mother of Odiana Janvier.



Top row, from L. to R.: Eugène Kirouac (2379) Odianna Janvier, his wife and Michel Poulin, son of Jacqueline Kirouac (2381); centre row, L. to R.: Yvon Kirouac, son of Lucien Kirouac (2385), Lorraine Kirouac, daughter of Lucien Kirouac (2385), Daniel Paquet, son of Céline Kirouac (2380) and France Kirouac, daughter of Lucien Kirouac (2385); bottom row, L. to R.: Gérard Paquet, son of Céline Kirouac (2380) and finally, Gaétan Paquet, son of Céline Kirouac (2380).

Photo: France Kirouac Desgagnés collection

Much gratitude to Mrs. France Kirouac Desgagnés for sending us these two photos. If you have such group photos, why not send us those family photos (photocopies or scanned) for our archives and if you agree, we will gladly print them in future Trésor.

The Editor



IN MEMORIAM



BERTRAND, THÉRÈSE KIROUAC (1930-2015)

Thérèse Kirouac Bertrand (GFK 00585) died on 17 September 2015 at the age of 85. Widow of Fernand Charles Bertrand, she was the daughter of Edgar and Cécile (née Olivier) Kirouac. She leaves to mourn her five children: Jean-François (Fabienne Clément), Hélène Bertrand, Christine Bertrand, Daniel Bertrand (Linda Rondeau) and Valérie Bertrand (Stéphane D'Aoust) and her twelve grand-children: Julie, Marc-Antoine, Éric, Pierre, Béata, Clive, Jean-Charles, Christopher, Morgan, Isabelle, Marie-France and Lina. She was the sister of Ivan (Pierrette) and Gérard; both her two brothers took part in the 'back to the Sources' voyage to Britany in 2000 organized by the KFA. She also leaves her sister. Denise (Gilles Trudelle). Her funerals were held on 26 September 2015 in St-Gabriel Church in Ottawa. Her ashes will be interred in the St-Charles Cemetery in Quebec City at a later date.

BOIVIN, REUL (1923-2015)

At the Roberval Hospital, on 25 November 2015, aged 91 and 11 months died Réül Boivin, widower of Gisèle Dallaire-Boivin. His funeral was held on 28 November 2015 in the Notre-Dame church in Roberval. His ashes will be interred in the parish cemetery. He leaves to mourn, his children including Luce, wife of René Kirouac (GFK 01332) and their son, François Kirouac.

BOLDUC, CHARLOTTE VILLENEUVE (1931-2015)

On 11 November 2015, at the Chicoutimi Hospital, aged 84 years & seven months, died Charlotte Villeneuve, widow of Joseph Bolduc. She was the daughter of Alcéy Gagné and Léonce Villeneuve, and the grand-daughter of Marie Kirouack (GFK 02480). Her funeral was held on 16 November 2015 in Sainte-Claire Church in Chicoutimi. Her ashes will be interred in St-François-Xavier Columbarium in Chicoutimi. She leaves to mourn, her children including Mercédès (née Bolduc) Villeneuve, wife of Marc Villeneuve, and their two sons. Francois Villeneuve and David Villeneuve. Mercédès and Marc are both KFA Board members and responsible for planning/ organizing the K/ gatherings.

CYR, GHISLAINE KIROUACK (1934-2015)

On 15 August 2015, at the Résidence des Années d'Or in Jonquière, PQ, aged 81, died Ghislaine Kirouack (GFK 02469). widow of Alphonse Cyr. She was the daughter of Blanche Pedneault and Ludger Kirouack. Her funeral was held on 19 August 2015 in St-Mathias Church in Jonquière. Her ahshes will be interred in the Arvida Cemetery. She leaves to mourn her children: Roger (Maud Bouchard), Daniel (Lyne Potvin), Bruno (Broni Polasek) and Éric; her grand-children: Simon and Mariève; her siblings: Maripaule (Jean-Paul Arseneault), Lauréat (the late Berthe Savard). Esther (Rodrigue Kerouac), Bertrand (Lucille Lavoie), Solange (Gaston Bergeron), the late Denise, Gisèle (Omer Pelletier), Estelle and Monique (Roy Haydon).

DESROSIERS, SIMONE KIROUAC (1928-2015)

At the Centre D'Anjou in Saint-Pacôme, PQ, on 31 July 2015, aged 87 years and four months, died Simone Kirouac (GFK 01468), widow of Edgar Desrosiers. She was the daughter of Georges and Marie Kirouac. Her funeral was held on 8 August 2015 Sainte-Anne-de-La-Pocatière Cathedral, followed by interment in the Montagne Cemetery. She leaves to mourn her children: Richard (Nicole Lagacé), Réal (Sylvie Ramsay), Rolande; her grandchildren: Jean-Yves, Denis & Johanne Hudon: her great-grand-son: Mathis Hudon: her brothers and sisters-in-law: Gérard (Réjeanne Bélanger), Lucien (Isabelle Dionne), Roland (Mariette Fortin). She was pre-deceased by her siblings: Jean-Baptiste, Ovila, Georges, Anita, Annette and Lucienne.

DU PONT, GILES R. (1932-2015)

Giles "Gil" R. DuPont, 83, of Bristol, Connecticut, beloved husband of Dolores (Masterbone) DuPont, died on 19 October 2015 at the Bristol Hospital. Gil was born in Bristol on 16 March 1932 and was a son of the late Arthur and Antoinette (Kirouac) (daughter of Didace Kirouac GFK 01027) DuPont. He served proudly with the U.S. Air Force as a Staff Sergeant during the Korean War. He was a member of St. Matthew Church, Forestville and a life member of the American Legion Post #2, Bristol. Gil was the founder and President of the Gil DuPont Agency, Insurance and Real Estate in the 1960's. He loved sports and Italian cooking. In addition to his beloved wife of 60 years, "Toot", Gil is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Blair and Jacqueline DuPont; a daughter and son-in-law, Alison and Perry Julius; five grandchildren, Lauren DuPont and her fiancé Matthew Dabrowski, Christopher DuPont, and Anthony, Emma and Steven Julius: his brother-in-law. Harry Masterbone; two sisters-in-law, Sylvia DuPont and Mickey Otto; several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents he was predeceased by a granddaughter. Jessica DuPont and two brothers, Guy and Roger DuPont. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on 26 October 2015 at St. Matthew Church, Forestville, followed by burial with military honor in St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol.

FORTIN, COLETTE (1929-2015)

At the Provincial House of the Servantes du Saint-Cœur-de-Marie in Quebec City, on 11 August 2015, aged 86, including 57 years as a nun, died Sister Colette Fortin (Marie-Réal). She was born in Sainte-Apolline, Montmagny, daughter of Alfred Fortin and Catherine Kirouac (GFK 02273). Funeral was held on 14 August 2015 in the convent's chapel followed by interment in the congregation's cemetery. Among others, she leaves to mourn her sister Solange. She is now reunited with her siblings: Alexandrine, Aline, Réal, Donat and Adrien.

KIROUAC, GISÈLE BÉDARD (1929-2015)

At the long term care centre in Loretteville, on 25 September 2015, aged 86, died Gisèle Bédard Kirouac, wife of the late Antoine Kirouac (GFK 02312). She was the daughter of Alice (née Langevin) and Azarias Bédard. She leaves to mourn her son, Philippe (Danièle Grenier), her daughters: Sylvie (Denis Dionne), Joanne (Yvon Richard), Nancy (Daniel Boucher); her grand-children: Samuel (Christine Péladeau), Geneviève (Dominique Martel), Nancy, Rémy (Lydia Tremblay-Gendron), Éric (Mélanie Saillant Parent); her greatgrand-children: Olivier, Maude, Thomas, Édouard, Charles Alexis and William. A memorial service was held on 3 October 2015 in the Church hall of St-Ambroise-dela-Jeune-Lorette Parish in Quebec City. Her ashes will be interred in the Cemetery in L'Islet-sur-Mer.

KIROUAC, MARC ROYAL (1968-2015)

Marc Royal Kirouac, age 46, died suddenly on 24 July 2015 at St. John Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. He was born in Detroit, on 31 July 1968 the son of Michaël Lawrence Kirouac (GFK 00888) and Sandra Carole Grawt. Marc enjoyed a plethora of outdoor activities and sharing them with his two boys and his grandson who always came first in his life. Marc had a heart of gold and was always mindful of others. He lived life to the fullest. He impacted the lives of all those around him. He will be immensely missed and eternally loved. He was the loving father of Brandon and Arden. Dear son of Mike (Valerie) Kirouac. Devoted grandfather of Bradley. Brother of Michael (Kim), Phillip, Billie Jean, and Lisa. Best friend and fiancé of Tracy Termini. He is also survived by the mothers of his sons; Brandon's Mom, Debra Clark and Arden's Mom, Lindsay Dehenau-Luna. Funeral Services were held at the Funeral Home in Warren on 30 July 2015.

KIROUAC. RICHARD H. (1938-2015)

Richard H. Kirouac, 77 years of Nahant, Massachussets, died 2 October 2015 in a local nursing home after a brief illness. He was born in Manchester. NH, the son of the late Henry (GFK 01047) & Corinne (Ouelette) Kirouac. He was a Marine Corps veteran. He enjoyed football, dancing and he was the life of the party. He was entered in the New Hampshire Hall of Fame for football and track. Mr. Kirouac was a communicant of St. Thomas Aguinas Church and a Eucharistic Minister. He worked at Nashua Wallpaper in Nashua. NH for 35 years. He was a lobsterman and picture framer. In addition to his wife of 53 years, Mrs. Jeanne L. (Snyder) Kirouac, he leaves three daughters: Carolyn & David Romano, Julie and Timothy Smith and Tracy and Edward Cauley; grandchildren, Alison, Nicholas, Katrina, Caitlin and Edward, Jr. He leaves his brothers Donald Kirouac, Louis and Doris Kirouac, his sister, Sister Jacqueline Kirouac. Sisters of the Holy Cross in Derry. NH; his sisters-in-law, Claire Kirouac and Shirley Kirouac both of Manchester, NH. He is the brother of the late Camille and Bert Kirouac. He also leaves several nieces and nephews. Funeral mass was held in St. Thomas Aguinas Church, followed by burial in Greenlawn Cemetery, Nahant.

KIROUAC, RITA AUBUT (1951-2015)

At the Anna-Laberge Hospital in Châteauguay, PQ, on 9 June 2015, aged 64, died Rita Aubut-Kirouac, wife of Michel Kirouac, son of Raymond Kirouac (GFK 01683) and Edna Gagnon-Kirouac. Beside her husband, Rita leaves her son Michaël (Julie Daprile) and her grand-children, Anthony and Khloé. A memorial service was held in St-Constant on 13 June 2015.

RIOUX, RITA DUBE

At the Palliative Care Centre, Maison Desiardins, in Rivière-du-Loup, PQ on 3 November 2015, died Rita Dubé-Rioux, widow of Marc-André Rioux. She was the daughter of Clément Dubé and Rose-Alma Bousquet. Funeral was on 6 November 2015 in St-Arsène Church in Rivière-du-Loup followed by interment in the Parish Cemetery. She leaves to mourn her children including Reine Rioux-Kirouac, widow of Pierre Kirouac, (GFK 00558) and their son, Éric Kirouac.

SEVIGNY, THERESA MERCIER (1922-2015)

Theresa Sevigny, 93, died on 26 September 2015. Born 18 August 1922, she was the daughter of Arthur and Irene (Kerouac, GFK 01546) Mercier. She was predeceased by her brothers, Robert, Paul, Normand and Roger Mercier, her sister, Rita Vigneault; a daughter. Norma Urban: and her grandsons. James Urban and Kris Krajewski. She was known as Aunt Theresa's Candies. She was very crafty. She is survived by her husband, Laurent Sevigny; their 65th wedding anniversary was to be celebrated in December. She also leaves to mourn her children: Frank Urban. and his wife, Donna of Charleston, SC, Stanley Urban and his wife, Jill of Spring Hill, FL, her daughter, Jeanne Krajewski and her husband, Frank of Lisbon, ME; eight grandchildren, Deborah Boutin, Lori Winkler, Frank Jr., David & Elaine Urban, George Long, Brian & Scott Krajewski; fourteen great-grandchildren; three greatgreat grandchildren; and two brothers, Ernest Mercier of Nashua. NH. Hank Mercier and his wife Diane of Spring Hill. FL; and two sisters, Pauline Morello and Janet Dube and her husband, Gerry of Spring Hill, FL; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral Mass was held at St. Theresa Catholic Church, Florida.

VALADE, DENISE KIROUAC (1952-2015)

In Laval, on 17 September 2015, aged 63 died Denise Kirouac-Valade, wife of Gérald Valade. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn, her children: Jacqueline, Jean-François, her grand-sons: Guillaume and Maxime, her mother Marie-Claire Vermette-Kirouac, her brother, Marcel (Thérèse Bourdage) and her sisters, Thérèse (Réjean Ouellet), Gisèle (Renaud Ouellet), Nicole (Jacques Demers), Hélène (Mario Amos) and Johanne (Jean de Bellefeuille). She was predeceased by her father, Robert Kirouac, GFK 01873. Her funeral was held on 26 September in St-Théophile Church in Laval West followed by interment in the Jardin d'Urgel Bourgie Cemetery in Laval (Montreal suburb).

> Our deepest condolences to the bereaved families

GENEALOGY / THE READERS' PAGE

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

Many thanks François Kirouac

Ouestion 519

What are the names of the parents of Roland Parent, spouse of Éva Kirouac, daughter of Louis Lionel Kirouac and Aurore St-Roch?

Ouestion 520

What is the given name of the spouse of Theresa Kirouac, daughter of Louis Lionel Kirouac and Aurore St-Roch? His family name is Zastonski.

Ouestion 521

What are the names of the parents of Lucille Gervais, spouse of Louis A. Kirouac, son of Louis Lionel Kirouac and Aurore St-Roch?

Ouestion 522

What are the names of the parents of Betty Weeks, second spouse of Leo Kirouac, son of Louis Lionel Kirouac and Aurore St-Roch?

Ouestion 523

What are the names of the parents of Dorothy Ellison, first spouse of Leo Kirouac, son of Louis Lionel Kirouac and Aurore St-Roch?

Ouestion 524

What is the given name of the spouse of Wendy Kirouac, daughter of Henri Joseph Kirouac and Laura Bisson? His family name is Keelan.

Ouestion 525

What is the given name of the spouse of Jane Kirouac, daughter of Omer Daniel Kirouac and Rita Nash? His family name is Davis.

Ouestion 526

What are the names of the parents of Rita Nash, spouse of Omer Daniel Kirouac? They were married in Brooklyn, Connecticut, on 17 April 1948.

Ouestion 527

What are the names of the parents of Eugenia Costa, second spouse of Ernest Keroack, son of Alphonse Keroack and Délia Bessette?

Question 528

What are the names of the parents of Charlotte Taber, first spouse of Ernest Keroack, son of Alphonse Keroack and Délia Bessette?

Ouestion 529

What are the names of the parents of Arthur Duhamel, spouse of Lucille Keroack. daughter Napoléon Keroack and Marie-Antoinette Caron?

Question 530

What are the names of the parents of Brian Mish, spouse of Suzan daughter of Francis Keroack, William Keroack and Evelyn Gural?

Ouestion 531

What are the names of the parents of Richard Oinonen, spouse of Kathleen Marie Keroack, daughter of Henri Napoléon Keroack and Dorothea Theresa Downes?

Ouestion 532

What are the names of the parents of Vincent Dion, spouse of Valerie Keroack, daughter of Lucien Louis Keroack and Nora Stepan?

Ouestion 533

What is the family name of Grace, spouse of Louis Keroack, son of Joseph Keroack and Alexandrina Ouimet?

Ouestion 534

What are the names of the parents of Mary Govern, spouse of Arthur Kerouack, son of Lucien Kirouac and Rosalie Bessette?

Ouestion 535

What are the names of the parents of René Blanchard, spouse of Yolande Cloutier, daughter of Maurice Cloutier and Bernadette Kirouac?

Ouestion 536

What are the names of the parents of Jean-Paul Desrosiers, spouse of Rita Cloutier, daughter of Maurice Cloutier and Bernadette Kirouac?

Ouestion 537

What are the names of the parents of Marie Naltchayan, spouse of Jean-Yves Cloutier, son of Maurice Cloutier and Bernadette Kirouac?

Ouestion 538

What are the names of the parents of Dorothy Muraca, second spouse of Raymond Kirouac, son of Joseph Albert Kirouac and Ida Morin?

Ouestion 539

What are the names of the parents of Dianne Kirouac, spouse of Steve Gilbert? Dianne and Steve were married in Ontario on 2 October 1999?

Question 540

What are the names of the parents of Steve Gilbert, spouse of Dianne Kirouac? Dianne and Steve were married in Ontario on 2 October 1999?

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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Merandre Le bris de Roach

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2016 SUMMER K/ GATHERINGS

The Kyrouac Family Gathering at The Sportsman's Club, Bourbonnais, Illinois, on Saturday, 6 August 2016

The 2016 Annual KFA Gathering in LÉVIS, Quebec, SATURDAY, 10 September 2016

To contact us or to receive information about our activities

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