

Summer 2017

Number 124

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Alexandre de K/voach
Witness to Kirouac activities since 1983



On 1 August 2015, Louis Kirouac, singer songwriter, and his bride, France Grenier (Photo: Louis Kirouac collection)



Kirouac
Kirouack



Kérouac
Kérouack



Keroac
Keroack



Kéroack
Kyrouac



Breton
Burton



Curwack
Curwick



Le Trésor des Kirouac

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Authors and Contributors to the Present Issue (in alphabetical order)

Jacqueline Arruda Soarès, Christine DeRoode Matimba,
André Kirouac, François Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac,
Jean-Louis Kérouac, Karine Kirouac, René Kirouac,
Roxanne Kirouac, Gerald Nicosia, Marie Lussier Timperley

Graphic Design

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

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Layout

French Edition: François Kirouac
English Edition: Greg Kyrourac

Translation for this issue

Marie Lussier Timperley

Proofreading /Editing English Edition

(in alphabetical order)
LeRoy Curwick, Greg Kyrourac,
Mark Pattison, Marie Lussier Timperley

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Table of Contents

Le Trésor des Kirouac n° 124

The President's Word	3
Departure from the KFA Board	4
Michigan Wedding	4
Fourth Edition of Suzanne Kérouac's Book <i>La pensée infirmière</i>	5
Camping with Marie-France Bornais	6
Meeting Louis Kirouac, Quebec singer-songwriter	7
Ascendancy of Louis Kirouac	8
Florida Botanist's Research in Montreal University Archives	13
KFA Financial Result for 2016	15
Financial Report - <i>Jacques Kirouac Funds</i>	17
Ancestry of Rebecca Lynn DeRoode Day	18
Rebecca Lynn DeRoode Day, Horses, Becky's lifetime passion	19
The Victory Torch in Canada	25
Finding the <i>Beat generation</i> and Jan Kerouac	28
Tales of the <i>Joan Anderson Letter</i> and the Jack Kerouac Estate	29
Saint-Yves, Celebration of the Patron Saint of the Breton in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly	35
EXPO 67 - 50 Years on, 50 Outstanding Souvenirs and other best kept secrets	38
Annual KFA Gathering in Montreal in September 2017	39
In Memoriam	40
Genealogy and Readers' Page	42
KFA Board Members for 2016-2017	43
Regional Correspondents	43
Permanent Committee Members	43

The President's Word

In this second issue of *Le Trésor* this year you will notice a variety of subjects but all related to our K/ family. Of course it is difficult to avoid writing about our family icons, like Marie-Victorin, Jack Kerouac and his daughter Janet Michele, as they are regularly in the news. So we hope you will appreciate reading articles sent from California, Minnesota, Florida and Brazil.

Many descendants of our common Breton ancestor make important contribution to life here, all over North America, and around the world. It is wonderful when their achievements and stories are sent to be published in the *Trésor* thus enriching our family heritage and encyclopedia.

We are really indebted to our readers who follow the events and news and send these stories. We are very grateful to those who, over the years, have been on the lookout for stories and take the time to share them. We are always eager to hear news about what K/ family members are doing, so, if you have any, do not hesitate to get in touch either with the regional representatives or directly with us in Quebec. The more people share news of what is happening in their neck of the woods, as they say, the more interesting our family bulletin will be for one and all.

For those of you who, once in a while, visit our KFA website, you will have noticed that our VIP section presents more personalities. Besides what is available about Brother Marie-Victorin, Jack Kerouac, Abbé Jules-Adrien Kirouac and Mrs. Marie-Huguette Morin-Karrer, we have recently added a special issue of the *Trésor des Kirouac* on Sister Cécile Kirouac of the Congregation of Jésus-Marie from Sillery, Quebec, including everything published about her since 1999. We also added her ascendancy, many photos taken during past KFA events, and one of her numerous music works composed in 1931. This special *Trésor* will enable visitors to the KFA website to know her better and appreciate this remarkable woman and musician. Presently available in French only, the new English website is still in the making.

As mentioned before, all information regarding our family heritage put online and/or printed in the *Trésor*, is made possible when family members contribute material, hence your contributions are absolutely essential. I am convinced that many of you know some K/s who are, or were, musicians, singers, painters, photographers, doctors, lawyers, artists etc., who should be among the important K/ descendants presented on our website. Please let us know. We would be delighted to present them in the pages of the *Trésor* and also on our website to make us all proud.



Collection François Kirouac

François Kirouac

By now, you should have received the invitation to our KFA annual gathering. Mrs. Gabrielle Hurtubise Lafrenière, our senior KFA member who will be 99 next December, will be the Honorary President of our gathering. In the 2007 winter issue of the *Trésor* (#90, p.5), appeared an article about her 35-year contribution to *La vie montante*, a spiritual and apostolic movement. Mrs. Hurtubise-Lafrenière was also part of the K/ delegation who went to Brittany in July 2000 during that famous 'return to the sources' trip to the ancestor's birth place. Since 1980 she has attended most KFA annual gatherings.

I wish everyone a pleasant summer and I look forward to seeing you all on Saturday, 9 September 2017, at the Montreal Botanical Garden to enjoy Marie-Victorin's Garden of Eden and a lot more.

Enjoy reading!

DEPARTURE FROM THE KFA BOARD

At the last Kirouac Family Association Board meeting, on 18 March, André Kirouac was very sorry to announce that he had to resign from the Board; and we were equally sorry to hear this.

As Director of the Quebec Naval Museum, he has to travel abroad on business very often, for that reason he feels that he must resign as he can no longer find the time to look after the KFA social media as planned. He is rather sad to have to abandon the post he has held since 31 January 2015.

His work at the Naval Museum takes all his time and more. Besides, he knows how important it is to balance time between family and work and given that he is now the proud grandfather of two new grandchildren, he wants to be able to enjoy being a grandfather... Of course we understand very well why he resigned from the KFA Board, but we are no less sad to see him go.

During his mandate, besides looking after the social media, he spent a great deal of time planning our wonderful 2016 KFA annual gathering in Lévis. As a resident of Lévis for many years, he knows the town very well and was a great help to Mercédès and Marc in organizing some of the activities as well as being a wonderful and knowledgeable tour guide. Those lucky enough to attend our gathering last year, fully appreciated his historical comments about the places we visited.

In spite of the reasons given, André assured us that he would remain available to fulfill whatever special task the KFA might need him for on a short-term basis.

His happy disposition, sense of humour, experience in organizing activities, his very large contact network, and, when faced with different questions or problems at the KFA board meetings, his pragmatic approach was most helpful and will be missed. However, he assured us that this may be only a temporary AU REVOIR. We certainly hope so and we told him so.



André Kirouac, Director of the Quebec Naval Museum and former KFA counsellor.
(Photo: André Kirouac collection)

Well, André, good luck as you pursue your career and a gigantic thank you for all you did for our family association. We are impatiently awaiting your return.

François Kirouac
On behalf of the KFA Board Members



Michigan Wedding

On 17 March 2017, in Ferndale, a Detroit suburb, Brook Kirouac, youngest daughter of Stephen Michael and Neysa (née Hawkins) Kirouac wedded John Ciambelli, son of Anthony and Grace (née Caracausi) Ciambelli.

Stephen and Neysa were members of the organizing committee for the KFA gathering held in Detroit 19-21 July 2013.

We wish the newlyweds a long and happy married life together!

Fourth Edition of Suzanne Kérouac's Book

La pensée infirmière

The publisher Chenelière Éducation, just announced the publication (in French only) of the fourth edition of Suzanne Kérouac's book ***La Pensée infirmière***. The third edition of this book presenting "new reflections on nursing" came out on 18 August 2010.

Suzanne Kérouac is the sister of Raymonde Kérouac Harvey, KFA co-founding member and author of **L'ALBUM**, published in 1980.

The Editor

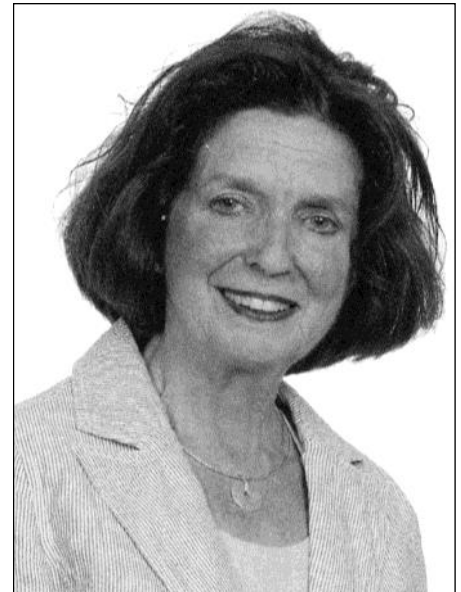
"Suzanne Kérouac's career has been most fruitful and the list of her accomplishments is long and impressive. She is known not only for her very positive influence on the nursing profession but also for her outstanding human qualities: she is open-minded and a patient listener, all wrapped in her warm personality.

"Suzanne Kérouac entered the Nursing Faculty of University of Montreal in 1974 and was its Dean between 1993 and 2000. She has been known for her new and visionary ideas; she was involved in the development of research and promotion of nursing sciences and the creation of the Desjardins Chair in nursing care for the elderly and

their family. She contributed much to the creation of a joint doctoral programme between Montreal's two major universities, Université de Montréal and McGill. This was greatly appreciated and, in addition as dean and professor-researcher she also contributed to the foundation of the *Centre d'excellence pour la santé des femmes* (Centre for better health for women).

"In this era of globalisation, she became the ambassador of new ideas like knowledge sharing; she also created exchange programmes with universities in other countries in order, among other things, to export the nursing sciences master's degree programme, notably to Switzerland and Lebanon. Her researches are equally important for their scientific exactness as for their social impact. We owe to Suzanne Kérouac the first study carried out in Quebec on the health of women victim of violence and on the health of their children; that study brought to light the magnitude of the problem and its repercussions. Her researches also brought her to study nursing procedures and management as well as the causes of health problem of nurses at work.

"Suzanne Kérouac leaves an important inheritance to the nursing



Suzanne Kérouac (official photo from the 2009 achievement contest: *Lauréats des prix Reconnaissance 2009*)

profession in the French speaking world. With some colleagues, she published ***La pensée infirmière***, a book presenting questions and answers about nursing, training, care and care management, and research.

"A very well known and appreciated personality in the nursing world, this "great lady in a delicate frame but with such a vivacious intelligence" is loved by all for her rich and unaffected personality. Her contribution to the development and enrichment of nursing is priceless."

French Source: Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec, insigne du mérite 2006, - Quebec order of nurses (male & female), 2006 highest decoration. Translated for Le Trésor #124, Spring 2017, by Marie Lussier Timperley.

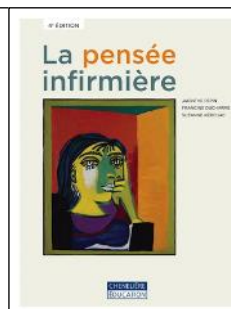
Website reference: <https://www.oiiq.org/lordre/prix-et-distinctions/insigne-du-merite/recipiendaires/recipiendaire-2006>

Le Trésor des Kérouac no 124

PRÉSENTATION OF THE FOURTH EDITION OF LA PENSÉE INFIRMIÈRE

"This fourth edition facilitates even more than ever before the study of the principles of nursing by illustrating them with concrete examples. Through the chapters, questions are asked inviting the readers to think seriously, dialogue with their colleagues about how to best integrate the basic notions into a fast mutating professional practice. The fourth chapter also presents a new changing clinical situation where some nurses apply new concepts different from normally accepted idea of nursing. In addition, graphics were all thoroughly revised and a new visual presentation was devised to bridge the gap between the main ideas presented in the book."

Authors: Jacinthe Pepin, Francine Ducharme, **Suzanne Kérouac** (In French Only)
ISBN13 : 9782765051749, Copyright: 2017, Number of pages: 224.



CAMPING WITH MARIE-FRANCE BORNAIS

Photo : © Amie Thériault Roussel



During the 2016 Quebec spring book fair, Marie-France Bornais launched her first book entitled **Escapades américaines** (American Escapades). It was a pleasure to publish in **Le Trésor des Kirouac** an interview with Marie-France then; at the end she did not say 'no' when asked if she would publish another book. She kept her word. Author and journalist for the *Journal de Québec* (Quebec City daily) since 1989, Marie-France now offers us her second book entitled **Le Québec en camping**.



7 April 2017, Marie-France Bornais with Ève-Marie Lortie, host of the popular morning TVA TV programme **Salut-Bonjour week-end** (Hello, Good Morning, week-end)
(Photo: courtesy of Marie-France Bornais)

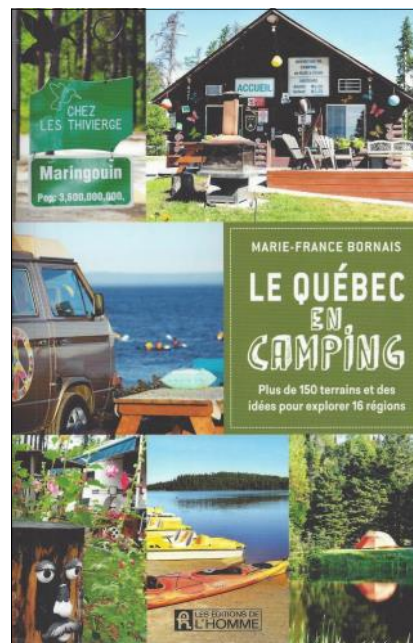
Camping fanatics will simply love her latest book launched last April at the *Salon du livre de Québec**. And for those who are still thinking or dreaming of camping one day, her book is essential to discover where, when and how to enjoy camping in the province of Quebec. What more can we say? (*annual book fair held in Quebec City every spring)

The following is a translation of what is printed on the jacket of the book. This is how to discover the best campings and identify the not-to-be-missed nearby activities. [...] She presents over 150 campings she fell in love with. They are located in every areas of the province, from the Gaspé Peninsula to the Montérégie (Montreal-south-shore), from the Eastern Townships to Abitibi, including of course the Magdalen Islands, she visited and describes sixteen Quebec regions for the benefit of her readers.

The guide is divided by region. There are descriptions of campings, walking and cycling trails, and a variety of regional festivals not to be missed. Something for everyone and every taste, so why not enjoy it all.

True to her philosophy, as presented in her first book, the grand-daughter of Léona Kirouac-Bornais (GFK 00331) also recommends to her "fans" some particularly good restaurants where one can indulge in local specialities. She personally tried all sites described and recommended. Marie-France has been camping with her family since she was a toddler and benefited from her parents' lifetime experience, Yolande (née Genest) and Michel Bornais, a former KFA secretary.

"Whether you travel with a tent, a camper or an RV; as a family, with friends, as a couple or alone; whether you want a friendly experience, a lively camping ground or a peaceful forest retreat; rest or action, in Marie-France's



Le Québec en camping
Les Éditions de l'Homme,
288 pages, \$29.95 (In French only)
ISBN : 978-2-7619-4779-4

guide you will find plenty to plan memorable holidays while exploring a lovely corner of our province!" (translation of text on book jacket)

On 7 April 2017, Marie-France presented her book on the very popular morning TV programme **Salut-Bonjour**. She mentioned then that there are over 800 campings in the Province of Quebec and all are very well organized and equipped; number of camping sites have also been increased and amenities for children have been so much improved rejoicing both children and parents.

If the adage is still true: 'never two without three', what is Marie-France preparing for the future? It will be a pleasure to keep our readers of the **Trésor** informed of whatever Léona's grand-daughter will eventually publish. "I believe that my grandmother would be very happy but my grandfather Lucien would be even more so as he was a great traveller."

The Editor

Louis Kirouac

Singer Songwriter from Rouyn-Noranda, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Quebec, Canada

By Karyne and Roxanne Kirouac
Regional Correspondents for Montreal-Outaouais-Abitibi

Twenty years after launching his first album entitled *Tournant*¹, Louis Kirouac renewed with his public when launching a second one². As you read Louis' answers to our questions during this interview, you will find out that Louis is a multi-talented gentleman.

K & R: Karyne and Roxanne
LK: Louis Kirouac

**Louis Kirouac, retail business development counsellor
for the town of Rouyn-Noranda in Abitibi, Quebec**

K & R – To start with, could you please tell us where you are from?

LK - I was born in Val-Saint-Gilles in north-west-Abitibi. My parents owned a local store there but when I was only a year old the family moved to La Sarre, to live on my maternal grand-parents' farm. When I was nine, we moved to Rouyn-Noranda. Recently I moved to Saint-Bruno-de-Guigues in the Témiscamingue (next to Abitibi), because my spouse, France Grenier, is from that town.

K & R - We recently discovered that you are a counsellor in retail business development for the (CLDRN) Rouyn-Noranda local development centre (or RNLDC). How did that happen and why?

LK - Life is full of surprises. When this job was offered to me, I was working on a new project with some RNLDC counsellors, setting up a company to provide sales and services to customers. My twenty-five years of sales experience in the media world, as representative and sales director, (NRJ-RNC³), and my knowledge of local merchants were great assets for the position. It was the happy result of a string of events in my professional life and not of any career plan.

Louis Kirouac, singer songwriter

K & R - As well as your job with the town of Rouyn-Noranda, you are a singer songwriter. As we researched your career and read your press file, we learned that, in 1979, you won



Louis Kirouac, singer songwriter from Rouyn-Noranda
in Abitibi (Quebec)
(Photo: Louis Kirouac collection)

the first prize at the **Abitibi-Témiscamingue Singing Festival**. How did this victory affect your personal and professional life?

LK – Well it all started when I took part in the International Singing Festival in Granby,

¹ In 1983, Louis launched his first vinyl (45 LP) and in 1986, an album of ten songs. (Source: Marie-Hélène Paquin, *La Frontière, Le Citoyen*, published on 22 May 2015)

² Published on 22 May 2015.

³ NRJ-RNC is a radio station in Rouyn-Noranda.

Ancestry of Louis Kirouac

Generation 1

Alexandre de Kervoac
Cirea 1702-1736

Cap-Saint-Ignace
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712-1802)

Generation 2

Simon-Alexandre Keroack
(1732-1812)

L'Islet (Québec)
15 June 1758

Elisabeth Chalifour
(1739-1814)

Generation 3

Simon-Alexandre Keroack
(1760 - 1823)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Québec)
18 November 1782

Marie Ursule Guimon
(1765 - 1820)

Generation 4

Joseph-Gabriel Kurovuc
(1787 - 1864)

L'Islet (Québec)
7 February 1809

Marguerite Bourgault
(1790 - 1840)

Generation 5

Damas Kurovuc
(1816 - 1870)

L'Islet (Québec)
10 February 1846

Rosalie Bélanger
(1820 - 1851)

Generation 6

Joseph Kirouac
(1846 - 1932)

L'Islet (Québec)
9 January 1872

Alphonse Berger
(1846 - 1925)

Generation 7

Andréas Kirouac
(1876 - 1958)

Saint-Eugène-de-L'Islet (Québec)
8 January 1901

Azilda Caron
(1879 - 1971)

Generation 8

Albert Kirouac
(1902 - 1997)

Taschegrau (Québec)
11 November 1925

Yvonne Laroche
(1907 - 1936)

Generation 9

Gérard Kirouac
(1928 - 2010)

La Sarre (Québec)
14 August 1952

Thérèse Gervais
(1926 - 2011)

Generation 10

Louis Kirouac



Business card

Eastern Township (Quebec). Later on with two musician friends, Yves Savard and Daniel Loisel, I started a group called **En Portage** (portaging) and we gave shows in various *boîtes à chansons**, name given to popular venues in the province of Québec during the seventies and eighties. (*Quebec folksy bars and pubs where people gathered to listen to upcoming French-speaking singer songwriters) I greatly enjoyed travelling and singing through Quebec, from Rouyn-Noranda in Abitibi all the way to the Magdalen Islands and stopping at **Les Deux Pierrots**⁴ in Old Montréal and at **Les Raftsmen**⁵ in Gatineau (Hull-Ottawa) for example. That part of our lives produced strong human experience. Real friendship

developed between us up to the present day, as proof, these two musicians were the heart and soul of my last album.

K & R - Where do you get this passion for music and what does it bring you?

LK - I could not really say but I always knew that one day I would play the guitar. When I was only six or seven years old, I begged my parents to buy me a guitar. However, their limited financial means, with seven children to feed, they decided, and rightly so, to wait a bit. So I decided to make a guitar by myself! The result was not quite what I expected but it convinced my parents who gave me my first guitar when I was twelve. With some of my scout friends and others too, I learned to play my first chords and my first songs. At the time it brought me a lot of satisfaction, an escape and life-lessons too. I discovered that one has to work hard to learn anything but it is really worth it. The pleasure to play brings

results, and the results encourage one to practice more, and practice brings pleasure and so on.

K & R - How did your parents and friends react when you aired your artistic interest?

LK - Not so simple! Particularly when I told them that I was quitting school in order to tour the singing venues. Because I had excellent grades in school, so my parents felt I was destined to spend my life in so-called liberal professions, like medicine, law or something similar. Nevertheless they always supported me. And for this, I thank them from the bottom of my heart. I am very grateful to them for letting me follow my dream.

K & R - While reading the booklet accompanying your most recent album published in 2015, we noted that you wrote the words and the music of most songs. We would like to know how you proceed; how do you do it, which comes first, words or music?

⁴ Les Deux Pierrots (the two clowns) popular show venue, pub type in Montreal

⁵ Les Raftsmen a popular beer garden in Hull-Gatineau popular with singer songwriters.



Louis Kirouac singing at the annual KFA gathering held in Amos, Abitibi, on 4 August 2007
(Photo : Pierre Kirouac)

LK - I have no real method. Generally, the text comes to me in my head according to what I want to denounce or disparage and, afterwards, I create the melody.

K & R - Where do you find your inspiration and which artists inspire you?

LK - I find inspiration in all artists I listen to. However, what pushes me to write are various events, those that force us to think, look beyond ourselves, beyond what we are inside.

K & R - What kind of music do you regularly listen to?

LK - I listen to all styles of music, but folk music is my favorite. I like to be surprised by a musical programme: from old to new, from souvenirs to most recent including the classics. However, it depends on whatever I need that determines my musical choice on the spur of the moment: rock, jazz, blues, classic, etc.

K & R - Why did you wait twenty years between your first and second album?

LK - Because I was involved in a career in radio from talk show host, to production manager, and publicity sales manager. A fascinating and stimulating creative world.

K & R - How would you describe / categorize your music?

LK - It is always difficult to answer that question. Even if I usually write words and music, I

pay great care to the text. Rather the opposite of the present tendency which demands rhythm first. I leave it to the listener to decide if they listen to my songs for the ambiance created, to think, or simply to be carried by the melody.

K & R - Can we hear your songs on radio? If not, how do you reach the public? Do you think that radio-stations are more interested in airing popular music leaving out other styles?

LK - Well, when you choose to do the kind of music I do, you deliberately choose not to be aired on commercial radio-stations. Too bad! Of course I would like my songs to be aired. There are so many good and great talents that are never heard on radio. Listeners would greatly benefit from hearing these songs because they are the soul of the people. They talk about our roots. It was like that, still is, and will always be.

K & R - Are there any songs you wish you had written?

LK - There are so many, I do not know what to say. However, I quite like Jean-Pierre Ferland's idea for his latest album. But today I would say *Le Déserteur* by Boris Vian sung by Serge Reggiani⁶, Now you know which generation I belong to! Nowadays, in this world we live in, I think we really need to speak against war crimes and for peace.

K & R - Besides Gylles Légaré, Daniel Loisel and Yves Savard, have you worked with other artists?

LK - I collaborated with Ponto Paparo. A friend of mine, a very

⁶ Sergio Reggiani (1922-2004) French actor and singer of Italian origin. In 1954, he sang *Le Déserteur* (the deserter), written by French author Boris Vian (1920-1959) denouncing war. (Source : Wikipédia).



Photo: Press kit of Louis Kirouac

Louis Kirouac interviewed by Louis Poulin host of the TV programme aired on TVC9 in Abitibi (Quebec). The 25-minute programme can be seen at: <https://vimeo.com/123765161>.

talented English speaking author songwriter with whom I did an album in 1999.

K & R - With which singer, man or woman, dead or alive, would you like to sing in a duet?

LK - I have no preference.

K & R - How did you meet Serj Rodrigue, the painter who created the jacket for your latest album?

LK - Serj is also from Abitibi and we have been friends for the past thirty years. He is also a musician and we played together on a few occasions, we even shared an apartment for awhile.

"... And The Nobel Prize For Literature Went To Bob Dylan"

K & R - Last October (2016), the Swedish Academy awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature to the American author and singer songwriter Bob Dylan; a rather controversial decision. What do you think about it? If Quebec were to award a similar prize, who would you give it to?

LK - He was awarded that prize because of the impact his songs have had on readers around the world. It is good to see that artists can have a great influence.

In Quebec, there would be many. Again it is important to consider the period we live in and what we like to listen to. Singer songwriters like Gilles Vigneault (1928-), Félix Leclerc (1914-1988), Claude Léveill   (1932-2011), Jean-Pierre Ferland (1932-), Cl  mence Desrochers (1933-), etc. had a definite impact on their contemporaries.

These artists awoke in their compatriots the sense that they could be who they are with their qualities and failings. During the seventies, music and texts sprang up that portrayed the Quebecers, song by two groups **Harmonium** and **Beau Dommage** and singer songwriter Richard S  guin⁷. Today there are other artists also singing who and what we are adding their images and vision of the world.

K & R - Looking at it from a different angle, what do you think of TV programmes like **Star Acad  mie**, **La Voix** and **La Voix junior** (Star Academy, The Voice, and The Junior Voice = French-speaking Quebec equivalent of similar American or Canadian programmes)?

⁷Richard S  guin (1948-), probably the greatest artist from Abitibi and one of Quebec's greatest poets, as written in a Montreal daily in May 2017.

Some important dates
in the career of Louis Kirouac

1975

First shows given in local Rouyn-Noranda "bo  tes    chansons*" popular pubs and bars. Duet with Gylles L  gar   with whom he starts writing original songs. He will be touring various pubs and bars in the province of Quebec until the beginning of the 1980s with a group called **En Portage** including Luce Chartier, Yves Savard and Daniel Loiselle. (*translator's note: literally translated 'box of songs', where aspiring singer songwriters would perform and where many careers were launched).

1979

Winner of the Abitibi-T  miscamingue Singing Festival Competition. This will lead him to take part in the Granby Singing Festival Competition followed by a tour in the Outaouais region* and in Abitibi-T  miscamingue. Michel Normandeau, a former member of the known singing group **Harmonium**, was the director of the tour. (* La rivi  re des Outaouais in French is called the Ottawa River in English! The south-west region of Quebec, on the north side of the Ottawa River is also called Outaouais.

1983

First recording of a 45 LP entitled **La plume et la Lune** (pen & moon), produced by Louis Valois (Bassist with the group **Harmonium**).

1986

First 33 LP entitled **Tournant** (turning point), produced by Louis Valois.

1996

Louis plays the guitar with Ponto Paparo and with him created three pieces for the album **Ponto** produced in 1998.

2000

Creation of the group "**Les QU'A-T**" *with Jean Racine, Ga  tan Roberge and Laurier Lebel. The group presents a show of songs written by local singer songwriters, Jacques Michel, La Chicane, Rao  l Duguay, Gildor Roy, etc. (*the four).

2015

With Yves Savard and Daniel Loiselle, his long-time friends, his second album is produced and launched.

From Louis Kirouac's press file.

LK – These popular shows enable us to discover some very good talents; however, I do not buy into the public voting part of it. As far as I am concerned the only valid vote for an artist is the number of albums sold and the number of people paying to see their performances.

K & R - Which new artists do you appreciate most?

LK - All those who have the guts to create in any style.

K & R - What advice would you like to give to the upcoming artists?

LK - Follow your dreams!

Community Involvement, future projects and philosophy of life

K & R - In January 2016, you took part in the telethon entitled *Resource* in Rouyn-Noranda. Why do you find it important to get involved in community work?

LK - When you live in the regions, like ours for example, we learn very early the importance and need of being involved. Mutual aid is an integral part of the mentality of people living away from big cities and involved in discovering and developing regional projects. Just consider the number of festivals and variety of activities sprouting everywhere in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue area. None would ever be possible without volunteers, lots of them. There are so many worthwhile causes deserving our support. At first, the telethon *Resource* was part of the (provincial) *Cerebral Palsy Telethon*. But now the money raised by *Resource* remains in our area and provides services locally.

K & R - Are you involved in other artistic endeavours?

LK - No.

K & R - What is your philosophy of life? Do you have a personal motto?

LK - Life is short so make the most of it now! As they say: seize the day!

K & R - What are your professional projects for the coming years?

LK - Give public performances so people can discover my songs.

Conclusion

Very loyal with a most generous heart, Louis Kirouac is a man who strongly believes in community spirit. As well as working as counsellor for the development of retail business for the town of Rouyn-Noranda, he is a fully involved artist well worth discovering. We are very much looking forward to listening to his new productions in the coming years. Meanwhile, we wish him much success and, especially, to keep following his dreams.

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[<https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boris_Vian>](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boris_Vian)

Research in the Archives of the University of Montreal on Botany in the Caribbean

Presentation and translation by Marie Lussier Timperley

Professor Javier Francisco-Ortega is passionate about Marie-Victorin and his botanical findings. He decided to come to Montreal to pursue his research in the Archives at the University of Montreal and chose to come in March because it is the spring break in Florida. However, he was not aware that north in Quebec March is infamous for its cold stormy weather. The cold nearly knocked him out as he set foot on Canadian soil at Dorval airport. The next day he had his photo taken all dressed up in heavy boots, woolen tuque and hooded parka. I can well imagine his colleagues smiling and laughing when they saw this picture. Professor Javier Francisco-Ortega plans to come back in 2018 to carry on reading Marie-Victorin's journal in the Caribbean; however, not in March!

The Fairchild Blog

Welcome to The Fairchild Blog. This is the best way to keep up-to-date with what our scientists and horticulturists are up to all over the world and for the most practical 'how-to' information for the DIY gardener.

Here is his blog published on March 23, 2017.

“Javier Francisco-Ortega, a member of the Science Department of the Garden and tenured faculty of the Department of Biological Sciences of Florida International University traveled to Montreal between March 12-18 to conduct botanical history research in the Archives of the University of Montreal. He was hosted by **Luc Brouillet** and **Geoffrey Hall**, both



Javier Francisco-Ortega in front of the main entrance of Montreal University in mid-March 2017.
(Photo: courtesy of Javier Francisco-Ortega)



Bonaventure Hotel in Montréal, 17 March 2017, left to right: Javier Francisco Ortega, professor of Botany in the Department of Biological Sciences of Florida International University, Geoffrey Hall, assistant-curator of the Marie-Victorin Herbarium and coordinator of the Herbarium collections, Marie Lussier Timperley from the Kirouac Family Association and professor Luc Brouillet, Curator of the Marie-Victorin Herbarium. (Photo: Javier Francisco-Ortega collection)

from the Herbarium of the Montreal Botanical Garden; by **Monique Voyer** from the University of Montreal Archives; and by **Marie Timperley** from the Kirouac Family Association.

“The research focused on the documents and photos that resulted from Brother Marie-Victorin's trips to Florida, the Caribbean Islands, and Colombia, they took place between 1931 and 1942. Brother Marie-Victorin was a member of the Catholic congregation of La Salle. He was the founder of the Montreal Botanical Garden, and the father of modern botany in Canada.

“A main highlight of this research visit was the discovery of the travelogue produced by Brother Marie-Victorin during his 1941 trip to Trinidad, Jamaica, and Barranquilla (Colombia). The study of these documents and photos is part of projects involving colleagues from Canada, Florida and the Caribbean Islands. During Javier's visit, Montreal was under the most severe snow storm of the last 10 years. The trip was sponsored by the Kimberley Green Latin American and Caribbean Centre of FIU and the College of Arts and Sciences of FIU.”

First page of Brother Marie-Victorin's travel-log during his trip to Jamaica, Trinidad and Colombia; copyright: Montreal University, Documents and archives Dept (E0118)1FP04166.

TRIP TO TRINIDAD AND JAMAICA APRIL-MAY 1941

Thursday, 24 April 1941

I leave Havana at six a.m. My driver Juan abandons me, in the middle of an empty street in the Vedado. The motor pops and bangs, and dies: Arms up he repeats: - Que fatalidad!

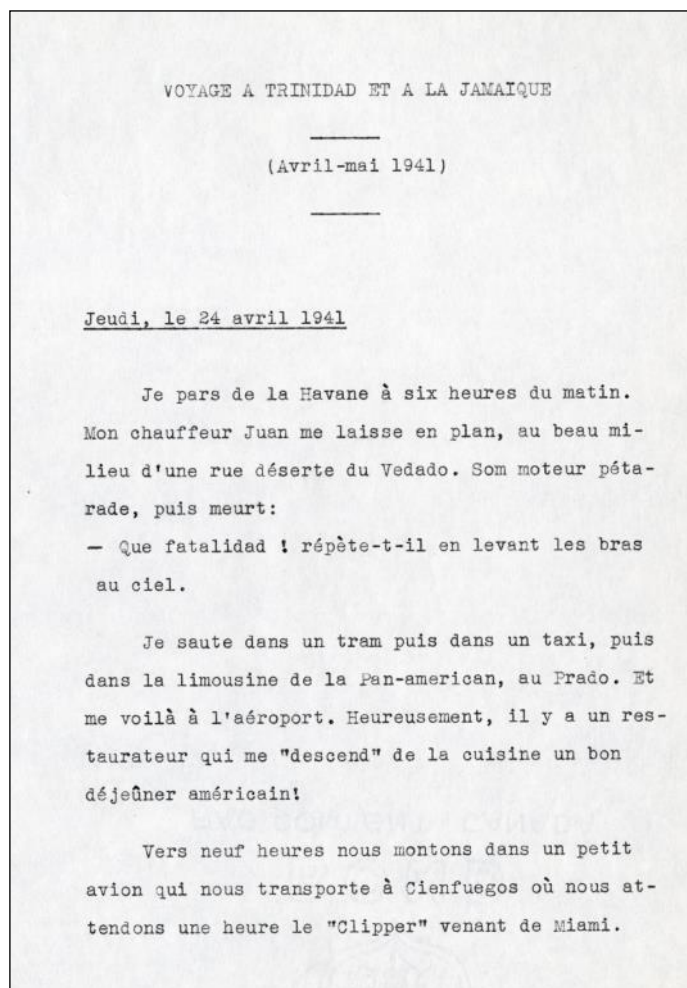
I hop onto a tram, then into a taxi, and finally at the Prado, into a Pan-American limousine. At last I reach the airport. Luckily a restaurant brings me, down from the kitchen, a good American breakfast! Around nine o'clock we climbed on board a small aircraft that takes us to Cienfuegos where we wait about an hour for the “Clipper” arriving from Miami.

Source:

<http://www.fairchildgarden.org/news-pressroom-media-center/blogs/artmid/761/articleid/1690/caribbean-island-botanical-history-research-at-the-archives-of-university-of-montreal>



Photos taken by Brother Marie-Victorin in Haïti during his stay in 1939; copyright: Montreal University, Documents and Archives Department. (E0118)1FP04166.



FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR 2016 (Unaudited)

René Kirouac, Treasurer

The financial results for 2016 show a surplus of revenue over expenses of **\$12.95**. Membership this year stands at 137: e.g. eleven less than in 2015.

The income for 2016 decreased by \$356.90 over last year. This is

due mainly to a decrease in membership and also to a lower exchange rate between US and Canadian dollars. However, there was a small increase in the sale of promotional objects. Expenses, were as modest as in 2015 (approximately \$3,051.48)

enabled us to cover part of the web site cost by \$1,200.00 and also to fully pay the cost of François' book, \$1,068.60; so all in all it means that the revenue slightly exceeded the expenses.

REVENUES

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS	2016	2015
Regular members (102) (119)	\$2,260.00	\$2,634.00
Benefactors (29) (25)	\$783.00	\$675.00
Sub-total	\$3,043.00	\$3,309.00
PREMIUMS AND INTEREST		
Exchange on US currency	\$316.43	\$407.71
Interest earned	\$1.89	\$1.88
Sub-total	\$318.32	\$409.59
GIFTS AND RECOVERED AMOUNTS		
<i>Jacques Kirouac Fund</i> - Interest	\$701.92	\$729.69
Gifts towards administrative expenses	\$481.40	\$445.00
Gifts towards research expenses	\$30.00	\$35.00
Recovered amounts	\$96.60	\$12.15
Sub-total	\$1,309.92	\$1,551.23
ANNUAL GATHERING		
Surplus from annual gathering	\$393.79	\$199.11
Sub-total	\$393.79	\$199.11
PROMOTIONAL ITEMS SOLD		
Genealogy 1991 edition (0) (2)		\$20.00
Le Trésor Bulletins (12) (1)	\$48.00	\$5.00
K/ Crests (0) (5)		\$19.00
Book about Jan Kerouac, A Life in Memory (1) (0)	\$20.00	
Book - One and Only (3) (0)	\$60.00	
K/ Buttons	\$5.00	\$2.00
New book about Ancestor by François K (4) (5)	\$135.00	\$175.00
Sub-total	\$268.00	\$221.00
TOTAL OF REVENUES	\$5,333.03	\$5,689.93

EXPENSES

ADMINISTRATION	2016	2015
Canada Custom & Revenue (2012 Annual Return)	\$34.00	\$34.00
Insurance, general responsibility (12 months)	\$16.00	\$16.00
FFSQ membership @ \$1.75/member/year	\$301.07	\$262.00
Bank book & bank fees	\$131.65	\$188.64
Sub-total	\$482.72	\$500.64
LE TRÉSOR BULLETIN (no 120- 122) (117 - 119)		
Printing	\$602.70	\$721.41
Handling	\$178.35	\$165.21
Postal expenses (Canada)	\$306.76	\$324.70
Postal expenses (US)	\$340.97	\$345.51
Sub-total	\$1,428.78	\$1,556.83
KFA SECRETARIAL EXPENSES		
Postage stamps	\$269.08	\$406.73
Photocopying	\$267.34	\$123.89
Stationery, envelopes and cards	\$14.53	\$112.71
Sub-total	\$550.95	\$643.33
GENEALOGY		
Genealogical research		\$35.79
Subscription to Ancestry	\$448.86	\$368.39
Sub-total	\$448.86	\$404.18
SUNDRY (KFA Publicity and Promotion)		
Annual fee for Web Site and name	\$78.57	
Amortization of cost for new Website (balance \$1,835.00)	\$1,200.00	\$1000.00
Amortization of cost of FK's new book (balance \$0.00)	\$1,068.60	\$1000.00
Kiosk rent at Salon FFSQ		\$350.00
Microsoft Hotmail plus		\$34.00
Other (gifts)	\$61.60	\$167.54
Sub-total	\$2,408.77	\$2,551.98
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,320.08	\$5,656.96
SURPLUS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$12.95	\$32.97
BANK ACCOUNT		
Balance as of 31 December 2014	\$9,694.42	\$6,728.72
Revenues from 1 January to 31 December 2015	\$5,391.50	\$6,161.54
Expenses from 1 January to 31 December 2015	\$6,201.72	\$3,195.84
Balance as of 31 December 2015	\$8,884.20	\$9,694.42

Expenses related to the publication of *Le Trésor*

This table shows the expenses for the three bulletins published in 2016

Bulletin number	120	121	122	TOTAL
Production cost	\$400.34	\$494.93	\$533.51	\$1,428.78

Report of the *Jacques Kirouac Fund*

Investment of \$20,000 at the Caisse populaire Plateau Montcalm from 8 June 2004 to 31 December 2016

REVENUES OF THE *JACQUES KIROUAC FUND*

Note concerning the *Jacques Kirouac Funds*

Also included, please find the financial report for the Jacques Kirouac Funds since its inception. As you can see it has had an important impact on the KFA's yearly financial results as well as during the latest period.

The report below shows the impact of the *Jacques Kirouac Funds* on the yearly KFA financial results over the past decade.

1st investment: five-year term deposit, from 8 June 2004 to 11 June 2009, at a rate of 4.25%

2nd investment: convertible term deposit from 12 June 2009 to 30 October 2009, at a rate of 1.5%

3rd investment: permanent shares issued by Caisse populaire Desjardins on 30 October 2009, at 4.25%

Note: For 2015, from 1 January to 30 June, the rate was 4.25% and from 1 July to 31 December, the rate was 3.5%.

Year	Interest	Return on investement	Total
2004	\$425.00		\$425.00
2005	\$850.00		\$850.00
2006	\$850.00	\$106.49	\$956.49
2007	\$850.00	\$91.78	\$941.78
2008	\$850.00	\$86.66	\$936.66
2009	\$687.11	\$35.44	\$722.55
2010	\$850.00	\$40.85	\$890.85
2011	\$850.00		\$850.00
2012	\$852.33		\$852.33
2013	\$850.00		\$850.00
2014	\$850.00		\$850.00
2015	\$774.39		\$774.39
2016	\$701.92		\$701.92
Total	\$10,240.75	\$361.22	\$10,601.97

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION

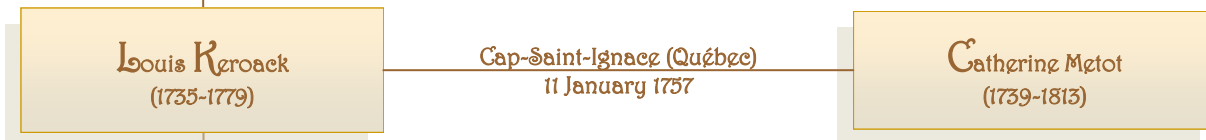
Year	Revenue	Expenses	Revenue - Expenses	Financial Results without the <i>JK Fund</i>	% <i>JK Fund</i> on Total Revenues	Number of members
2004	\$6,085.57	\$5,694.78	\$390.79	(\$34.21)	7.0%	167
2005	\$5,990.91	\$4,404.87	\$1,586.04	\$736.04	14.2%	171
2006	\$6,887.64	\$7,424.34	(\$536.70)	(\$1,493.19)	13.9%	163
2007	\$5,667.63	\$5,275.23	\$392.40	(\$549.38)	16.6%	165
2008	\$6,767.90	\$6,710.98	\$56.92	(\$879.74)	13.8%	161
2009	\$5,218.30	\$4,484.59	\$733.71	\$11.16	13.8%	152
2010	\$6,065.88	\$4,627.34	\$1,438.54	\$547.69	14.7%	156
2011	\$6,173.67	\$5,282.47	\$891.20	\$41.20	13.8%	178
2012	\$7,399.94	\$7,256.21	\$143.73	(\$708.60)	11.5%	178
2013	\$8,563.59	\$8,527.74	\$35.85	(\$814.15)	9.9%	158
2014	\$5,009.70	\$4,962.32	\$47.38	(\$802.62)	17.0%	134
2015	\$5,615.54	\$5,606.96	\$8.58	(\$765.81)	13.8%	148
2016	\$5,333.03	\$5,320.08	\$12.95	(\$688.97)	13.2%	137
		CUMULATIVE	\$5,225.77	(\$5,376.20)		

Ancestry of Rebecca Lynn Marie DeRoode

Generation 1



Generation 2



Generation 3



Generation 4



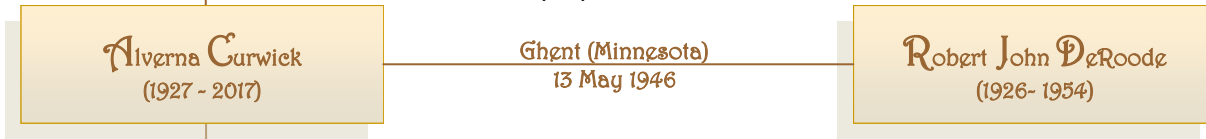
Generation 5



Generation 6



Generation 7



Generation 8



Rebecca Lynn Day (née DeRoode)

Cougirl of All Cougirs

by Christine DeRoode Matimba

One common bit of knowledge we share about Becky, we, her immediate family and friends who live in the “far ends of our North American continent” is her passion for horses and life out West. As her elder sister, I hope to bring Becky’s passion to life for those who never knew her.

Rebecca Lynn Day, age 67, of Sterling, Colorado, died unexpectedly on March 13, 2016. She was born on May 16, 1948 in Ghent, Minnesota, to Robert John DeRoode and Alverna Josephine Curwick. Her death was unexpected while she was living in Illif, Colorado, with her beloved daughter Emily, son-in-law Ryan Parry and ten-month-old grandson Ransom. She treasured Ransom.

Becky came into this world with a love for horses and all things western, it ran through her blood. Ghent, Minnesota, a village of about 350, populated primarily by

Belgian immigrants and a few French-speaking Canadian ones, fed her strong independent spirit and enabled her to live out her pull toward all things equine.

Geographically, Ghent was located among the vast open prairies of southwestern Minnesota. The sky spread over us and reached down over rich farmland and prosperous family farmers and townspeople, down to where the horizon meets the earth. Few trees grew, in spring and summer, the hot sun beat down upon us all, including the animals. Many days the wind would blow fiercely, sometimes gently. In the event of a thunderstorm, thunder would rumble, and lightening would follow out of the sky in a strike that would come right down to the horizon and disappear into the earth.

We lived on Main Street in our family home and our father’s adjoining business, Ted’s Bar and

Off Sale Liquor Store. Across from us on Main Street (Highway 58) stood the Ghent Elevator and a cow pasture. From there farm fields and country roads stretched on forever and eventually would lead into the next town.

Becky and I would often spend our days outside and explore the town and countryside from early morning until the town hall whistle would call us home for lunch or supper. In our wandering we would encounter aunts and uncles, cousins, nuns and the parish priest, young and old. All inhabitants including the farmers knew one another. In that setting we were so secure, for the most part, to be out and about. What fertile ground for our spirit and imagination.

Once elementary school began, our freedom was somewhat curtailed. So it seemed until we realized student life at St. Eloi’s School and being taught by the Sisters of St.



Photo : collection Christine DeRoode Matimba

Rebecca and her mother, Alverna Curwick DeRoode



Rebecca (Becky) nine years old
Photo: Christine DeRoode Matimba collection

Joseph of Carondelet enriched our minds and nurtured our spirit. We thrived with a new freedom as we learned not only our history and cultural past, but the world and peoples.

Our father's death in a car-train accident on April 23, 1954, changed our world further as I was just seven and in first grade at that time; Rebecca who was five years old would turn six on May 16, 1954.

Before he was killed, our father did leave Becky and I a legacy. He had taken us two, along with mother, to Mexico for six weeks in January and February 1954. A memory of an adventure Becky and I had on that trip stays with me to this day; I shared it at Becky's memorial last year.

"Word came of your death. Memories surface. The trip to Mexico in 1954 with Dad and Mom. We were five and six years old. Images of the two of us riding on Pablo's burro on the beach in

Veracruz come to mind. I remember how we unlocked ourselves from our hotel room while Mom and Dad were dining in the hotel restaurant. We found our way there via the dining room's back stage, walked out across the stage and down to their table." (Chris' letter to Becky for her memorial, March 22, 2016).

With this loss and left with six daughters (one of whom was one month in her womb), mother in her inimitable strong and resilient way carried on, raised and cared for her six daughters for life. Never once did she complain or give even a hint that she felt burdened.

It is with this backdrop that Becky found opportunity to discover a world of horses.

Going west, one mile out of Ghent, was a small farmhouse with a small barn, more like a stable. The owners did not live there, but did own and keep two small horses in the stable. Somehow, Becky landed there and this tiny section of land became her world.

Truthfully, I do not remember the exact details of how and when this happened. Practically every day, she would walk to the farm and tend to the horses giving them feed and grooming. Eventually she would ride them. Becky considered "Sparky" her horse. Sparky was a reddish brown Shetland. The other horse in residence was "Corky", a black and white pinto pony. Cousin Brenda, who lives in Ghent to this day, told me the story where she was out at the farm with Becky one



Photo: Christine DeRoode Matimba collection

afternoon. They were about ten years old. Suddenly the sky turned very dark, the air became very still, and then fierce winds blew. Brenda's father, Uncle Marc showed up in his car and instructed the girls to get into his car immediately, a tornado was coming. Becky would not leave the horses, she refused to get in the car over and over, she wanted to stay with the horses in their barn and not let them alone in the storm. Uncle Marc ultimately had to physically force Becky into the car. The horses did survive the tornado.

I, too, would follow Becky to the farm to hang out with her and the horses. Unlike Becky, I had great difficulty getting onto and staying on the horse. You would think she was the elder sister.

Living in Ghent, Becky also had grand times where she could go to visit neighboring farms and ride the horses. She even began riding horses in parades throughout the county.

Again, life took a new turn when Mother moved with us girls to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in June 1960. It had been six years since Daddy's death. Mom bought a home in southeast Minneapolis, blocks from the University of Minnesota so that she and her daughters could pursue studies at the UMN. Rebecca begged to be able to remain in Ghent with her horses and our relatives. Grandpa and Grandma DeRoode agreed she could stay with them through the summer but must return to Minneapolis for her seventh grade at St. Lawrence School. Aunts and uncles rallied to help care for her until fall. While it was painful for her to leave Ghent, she did flourish in Minneapolis. She went on to St. Anthony of Padua High School after 8th grade where I was a sophomore. She graduated from St. Anthony in 1966 and entered a rather glamorous and exciting time in her life.

She was hired into a retail job in an upscale Scandinavian design shop in Dinkytown by the university where she uncovered a strong artistic talent. She undertook art classes at the university and got into painting and drawing. She had such an eye for beauty and color and friendships grew with a circle of artists.

While I had a love and appreciation for art, music, beauty and languages, Becky, in her way, would expose me to even more; we would listen together to records by Charles Aznavour, Jacques Brel and Edith Piaf.

She also worked for an ad agency, in a law firm as legal secretary, and was a nanny in wealthy households and was able to travel with these families. One family took her to Aspen and Vail, Colorado, on skiing trips. She was hooked.



Becky, the teenager playing tennis in Minneapolis.
Photo: Christine DeRoode Matimba collection

In the early 1970s, Becky moved to the Loveland Ski Resort area and worked as an executive secretary. While there she met Richard Day who was a chef at the Holiday Inn in the area. Eventually, they married and at a later date opened their own restaurant *Les Juers* in Georgetown, Colorado. During their marriage, they were blessed with the birth of a beautiful daughter, Emily Dawn. But Becky and Richard's marriage ended in divorce, and Becky moved to Sterling, Colorado, with young Emily in 1984. From that moment, Becky, as a single parent, devoted herself to raising and caring for Emily with unconditional love and unbelievable strength in the face of great struggle and challenge. She would never move back to Minneapolis again.

While Becky worked in a variety of positions and services, I want to take this opportunity to focus on her life endeavors she most loved, her work on ranches and with horses. One ranch experience most dear to her was her time spent with Merle and Clifford, an elderly couple

with whom Becky and Emily were able to live and where Becky worked. As a ranch hand, Becky would break in the young colts and other horses, she would feed, exercise and groom them. She would also clean the barns and do repairs needed on the ranch buildings and fences. She would also assist with planting and harvesting crops. Over time, Becky and Emily grew incredibly close with Merle and Clifford where she was like a daughter to them and they surrogate parents to her. This, in itself, is a kind of love story.

Is this not a love story?

The last time I visited Becky in Colorado, she lived in a small house alone, on a ranch/farm several miles outside of Sterling. The ranch owner did not live on the farm, instead he rented his farmland to someone and then rented the house and its grounds to Becky. Near her house was a barn and shed where several horses were kept. In fact, Becky had bought a horse for her daughter Emily, who followed in her mother's footsteps by being enamored with horses, and kept the

horse there. Again Becky cared for the horses and maintained upkeep of the house, barn, shed and the house's grounds. She kept a garden planted and weeded. During that time, she also cared for neighboring ranchers' horses and cattle, and help them with field work, in order to earn some income.

She was most at peace here and in nature. Becky would take for the canyons for hours nearly every day, and walk and walk and mostly just be. I truly believe the canyons were heaven for Becky. She loved Colorado so much that though she suffered from loneliness at times, financial difficulty living on the edge of poverty, serious health problems, due to an accident as she was driving her truck, it was stampeded by a herd of cattle who had broken free of their pasture. She sustained a lifelong debilitating brain injury. Unimaginable challenges confronted her. Nonetheless, she held fast to that love and refused to return to Minneapolis so her family could help. I quote from a letter I wrote for her funeral, "I am in awe of your deep love for Colorado and its

canyons, and how you held fast to that love for the past forty-five years, in spite of the struggles life presented. Often when you called, you did so while you were actually wandering the canyons."

In spite of these many challenges, Becky accomplished a feat which she and Emily could be and were very proud. As a student at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Becky "...was one of the first non-traditional students to graduate with her associates in Equine Science." After her memorial, of course I had to research on-line what equine science is all about. At the end of this article a postscript briefly explains the field and profession of equine studies.

The study and training in this field is so demanding and far-reaching that it astounds me. It particularly humbles me as I remember Becky and her deep affinity for horses, her experience with them and her scholarship. She was totally dedicated to her passion for horses just as she was wholly dedicated to her beloved daughter at the same time.



Rebecca working on a farm in Sterling, Colorado
Photo: Christine DeRoode Matimba collection



Rebecca Lynn Day, née DeRoode, is a descendant of Polycarpe Kérouac and Suzanne Bellegarde, who were married in Bourbonnais, Illinois on 3 March 1862.

Becky was, and is, so much bigger than life and my becoming aware of this only after she is gone moves me to tears as I write. Yet there were moments in reflecting upon and writing about Becky when I felt her presence and experienced visions of her beauty. Perhaps heaven will be a place where we can encounter our loved ones and friends and do so with the deep wisdom and appreciation we gain for them once they leave us for the next life.

To conclude, I leave you with a quote written by Emily and read at her mother's memorial service on March 22, 2016: "I really want to share and tell you again how thankful I am God made you my mother. I did not tell you enough how much I love you and how thankful I am for all you did for me. I wish I had. You were an amazing woman who was so strong. I know you went through a lot in your life, but I know the Lord never gave you more than you could handle. That is why you were so strong and resilient! I truly believe everyone you came into contact with was touched by your beautiful spirit. Friends that ran into me after they met you always said the same thing - "Your Mom is such a sweetheart!" I love that because you are."

Practical Applications for Equine Studies

The study and knowledge of horses applies to, and engages, many fields in the area of agribusiness / industry and financial management. It can enhance competency and management to farmers, ranchers and others working in the realm of agricultural management or sciences, buyers and purchasing agents, production agriculture, rural business entrepreneurship, practical nursing and licensure.

Here is some information about the course Becky followed in Colorado as found on the Web by Christine. A similar program is offered in French in La Pocatière, Québec (as described in the French edition of Le Trésor #124. Both university schools recommend internships 'abroad'!

The Art and Study of Equine Science

Having researched the Equine Studies Program of Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado, I can offer a cursory overview of what the study and application of equine science entails. *The following information that is taken, much of it verbatim, from the website for NJC in Sterling, as provided.*

Basically, the program provides students with basic skills and background knowledge necessary for entry-level employment as trainers and assistant trainers in the horse industry. Application to the program involves an oral interview as well as a practical riding test before admission is granted.

The first portion of the program focuses on horse training and freshmen students are assigned young horses that have already been through the colt class at NJC. In second semester as freshmen and sophomore, students start and train a young horse for themselves. The program is treated as a training facility responsibility for the student which means:

General care of assigned horse on a daily basis including billing and any necessary health care; provides students access to business, economic, technical and general education classes necessary to become competent managers; practical experience in many classes; internship

Work activities during the program and with employment in the industry include: train animals, care for animals; clean work area or facilities; monitor health or behavior of people and/or animals; an added area of study and preparation for students lies in their acquisition of competency as animal trainers, training animals for riding, harness, security, performance, or obedience, or assisting persons with disabilities; accustom animals to human voice and contact, condition animals to respond to commands; train animals according to prescribed standards for show or competition; train animals for pack loads or work as part of a pack team; conduct training programs; feed or exercise animals or provide other general care such as cleaning or maintaining holding or performance areas; observe animals' physical condition to detect illness or unhealthy conditions needing medical care.

Rebecca Lynn Day, née DeRoode
Photo: Christine DeRoode Matimba collection



Emily Day, Becky's beloved daughter, and
granddaughter of Alverna (née Curwick) DeRoode.
Photo: Courtesy of Christine DeRoode Matimba.

The Victory Torch in Canada

by André Kirouac, Director of the Quebec Naval Museum

On 5 May 2017, *Le Soleil*, Quebec City daily, published an article by Annie Mathieu about the **Victory Torch** which was recently found in Chartwell Manor, Churchill's private family residence in Kent, England. The article announced that this precious artifact would be exhibited in Quebec City this summer.

Ms. Mathieu mentioned that, thanks to the initiative of **André Kirouac**, the **Quebec Naval Museum** finally managed to recover this WWII symbol now considered a "national treasure of the highest importance". So we immediately asked André if he would write an article for *Le Trésor*. He kindly accepted to do so especially for our readers.

The Editor

An unlikely quest

Sometimes historical research take us where we could never imagined going. In 2014, the Quebec Naval Museum bought a historical yacht, the **Jeffy Jan II**. Given that it served during WWII, it was presumed that Sir Winston Churchill who came to Quebec City for the 1943 Quebec Conference might have traveled on it. The yacht was found by chance and that in itself was an incredible piece of luck, besides representing the last naval witness of WWII in Quebec. During the Second World War, the yacht belonged to the Royal Canadian Navy and was known as HMC HC54, a rather poetic name.

It was used to ferry dignitaries and officers, hence implying a link with Churchill. However, researches proved that although many important personalities sailed on that yacht, including Lord Mountbatten, so far it seems that Churchill did not.

However, a surprise awaited us around the corner. While reading through newspapers of the time, one article said that in 1941 the yacht carried a torch, THE VICTORY TORCH! Well, what is that? As months went by, we discovered that the TORCH in question is THE symbol representing the war effort of the Canadians, that it crossed Canada from town to town and that on July First 1941 it was personally delivered and handed to Prime

Minister Winston Churchill at 10 Downing Street in London, England!

What a story!

During WWII, the Canadian government invited the population to contribute financially to the war effort by buying *Victory Bonds*. In order to maximize the investments, the government organized nine fundraising campaigns across the country, encouraging celebrations to increase the interest in the *Victory Bonds*.

In 1941, the National Committee set up its first financial campaign by raising money through the sale of *Victory Bonds*. The campaign needed a uniting theme and a strong symbol something all Canadians could identify with. The chosen slogan was *Help finish the Job*, in reference to Churchill's call to the Americans on 9 February 1941, when he said: *Give us the tools, and we will finish the job*. Hence, **THE VICTORY TORCH**, a most evocative and well chosen symbol was created for the campaign.

For the 1941 campaign, the idea was to build a symbolic torch and to take it across Canada from west to east. So it was done, the torch was transported by a war plane and accompanied by men of the three arm forces, air, navy and land. The delegation stopped in 27 Canadian cities where parades and patriotic ceremonies took place. Then the

Torch was flown to Great-Britain where it was received by Churchill on July First 1941, Dominion Day, with the money raised through the campaign. The objective was \$600 million. (yes, you read well, 600 million Canadian dollars at that time.)

THE VICTORY TORCH is a wooden sculpture, with a maple base and an upper part made of Canadian pine¹ (other sources mention that it was made of bronze² and others still, that it was made of metal with an aluminum base). Its height was five feet, six inches (other sources mention four feet, five inches), covered with 23 carats gold



*The Victory Torch as found in the basement of Chartwell Manor in Kent, England.
(Source: British National Trust)*

leaf and weighing approximately 55 pounds (other sources say 38 pounds ³).

The torch was designed by Frederick Stanley Haines and Ted Watson. The carved inscription in the wood structure is a direct reference to the campaign slogan and Churchill's speech to the Americans, and clearly represented the Canadian contribution to the war effort. Was also carved on it: *PART OF THE TOOLS – CANADA'S VICTORY LOAN 1941*.

With the torch there is a large parchment signed by the mayors of all the towns visited, the provincial Lieutenant-Governors and the Premiers of each province, as well as the Canadian Governor General, the Canadian Prime Minister and the Chief of the Opposition. A smaller parchment accompanied the large one bearing the signatures of all the officials from the towns not visited by the Torch.

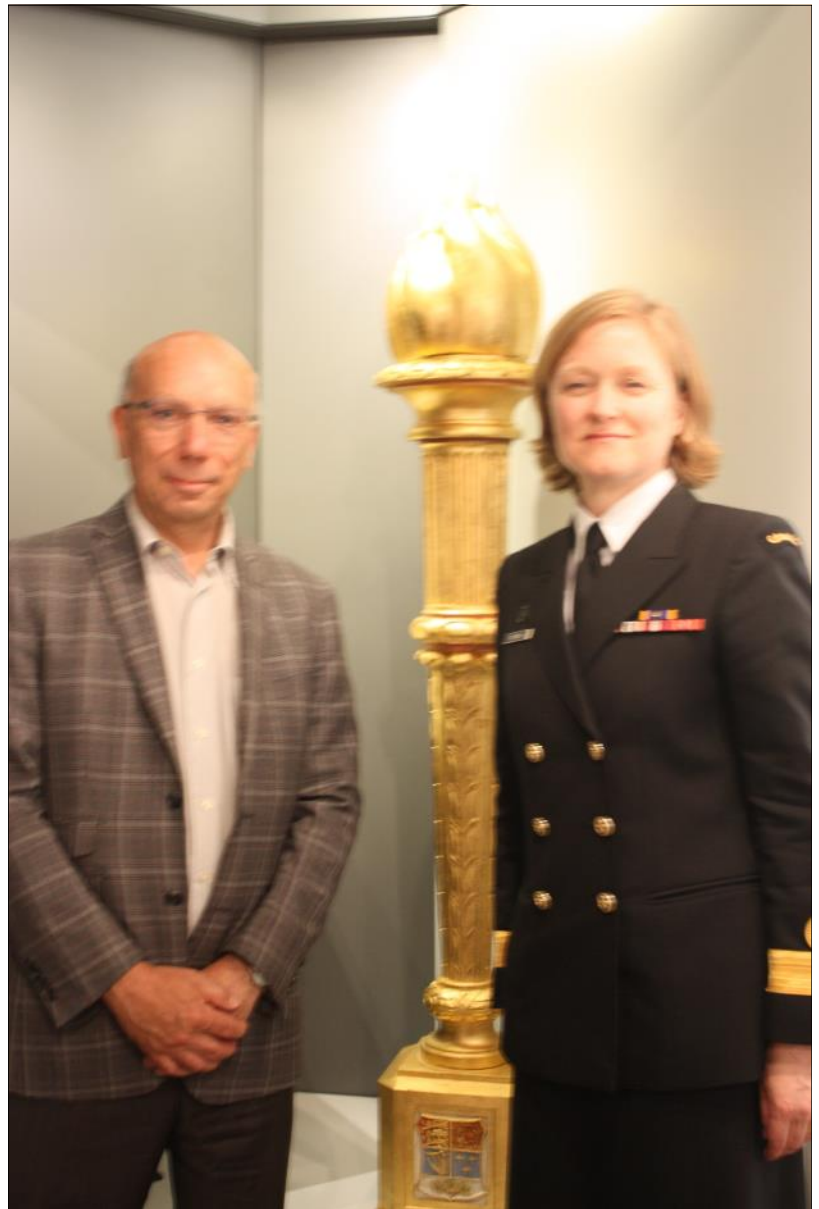
Wherever the Torch went during the fundraising campaign⁴, small lapel pins were distributed. The pins, a red flame on a golden base, were given to those who bought Victory Bonds. The result of the campaign was well over the initial goal of \$600 millions. The 968,259 people who participated raised a total of \$836,820,250 Canadian dollars.

The Torch was then transported to Great-Britain in a specially designated wooden crate, bearing the recipient's address: RT. HON. WINSTON CHURCHILL – VIA ATFERO.

The VICTORY TORCH stopped in 27 towns. In the province of Quebec, it was the centrepiece in a parade in Montreal on 12 June 1941, in Trois-Rivières and Quebec City on 13 June, and in Sherbrooke on 14 June. It was flown across the Atlantic to be handed to Prime Minister Winston Churchill on July First with a contribution of well over \$836 million dollars! (about \$8 billion in today's money).

The ceremony was filmed, of course and, afterwards, the TORCH was stored. But where, oh where?

Knowing that the TORCH was in Great Britain somewhere, we contacted every museums and places where it could possibly have been stored.



Commodore Marta B Mulkins, Commander of the Naval Reserve of Canada and André Kirouac, Director of the Naval Museum of Québec on June 19, 2017 before the Torch of Victory. (Photo: Naval Museum of Quebec courtesy of the National Trust of the United Kingdom.)

Nothing! And no trace of it in any catalogue either. Rather desperate but still determined, we decided to search through the Internet. By using an international Churchill blog we could reach the globe within a few days. Surprise, a volunteer at Chartwell Manor, Churchill's former

¹ The Pioneer, 30 May 1941. *The World War II Home Front In Summerside Prince Edward Isle*

On line at <http://www.wyattheritage.com/homefront/images.asp%3FImageID=575.html>

² L'Action Catholique - 12 June 1941.

³ *Op Cit.*, L'Action Catholique – 12 June 1941

⁴ Torch Pin, Sask History Online at <http://saskhistoryonline.ca/islandora/object/castend%3A80>

family home, suggested that we contact the archivist at the Manor telling that person to look in one particular room in the Manor's basement.

Thus finally, the VICTORY TORCH was discovered in Chartwell Manor, in Kent, the former private residence of Sir Winston Churchill, now a museum opened to the public from March to October.

At long last we had found the greatest symbol of the Canadian war effort. The object that brought all Canadians together inspired by the flame of hope.

Then began negotiations with the British National Trust who, now, considers this object as a most precious national property. For the first time since WWII, this symbol is coming back to Canada.

The VICTORY TORCH is now at the **Quebec Naval Museum** from 20 June to 31 October 2017, in Quebec City, as part of a special display entitled *War Effort*. While the Torch is in the Quebec Naval Museum, the yacht, the *Jeffy Jan II*, is docked in Lévis at the Canadian National Historical Site at the A.C. Davie Shipyard.



A 1943 Canadian nickel showing the Victory Torch.
Source: Quebec Naval Museum

How better to commemorate Canada's participation and great war effort during the Second World War than by displaying and discovering new and never seen before artifacts.



Roland Cantin, the last owner of the *Jeffy Jan II*, with André Kirouac, director of Quebec Naval Museum in 2014 when the ownership of the yacht was transferred to the Quebec Naval Museum. Photo: Courtesy of the Quebec Naval Museum

Finding the *Beat Generation* and Jan Kerouac

by Jaqueline Arruda Soarès

Jaqueline Arruda Soarès was born in Campinas, Brazil, in 1992. She moved to São Paulo in 2004, where she carried on her studies and, eventually, graduating in Fashion Design at Senac University in 2014. Her Final Project was a comparison between *The Beat Generation* and her own generation, taking into consideration the different backgrounds, decades and local influences (See *Le Trésor* 117, p. 20, spring 2015). Through this project, she fell in love with Jan Kerouac and decided to get involved in new projects related to Jan. Since her graduation, as a Fashion Designer & Marketing Assistant, she has been able to collaborate with many agencies abroad which allows her to enjoy new cultures and explore the world.

She writes: “My interest in the *Beat Generation* began in 2014, when I was looking for a topic to explore in final project to get my degree. Ted Polhemus suggested me to read *On the Road*, so I could understand better the concept of youth and the lifestyle behind it. When I was reading it, in my mind the comparison between the *Beat Generation* and my own generation was developing organically.

“So I realized that I had found my topic and the research began. During the whole year, I was reading a lot about it, getting deeper and deeper on the subject and its characters. That is how I found Jan Kerouac. The name Jan Kerouac was always related to her father Jack. So it was hard to know more about Jan herself. I bought her books *Baby Driver* and *Train Song*. And I fell in love with her passion and talent in writing. Jan made her mark in a field dominated by men, writing about her travels and experiences with different cultures abroad. She is still a big inspiration for any woman exploring this giant world.

“Jan did not need to be related to her father to have her talent recognized. I was looking for more information about her on the internet, like articles, pictures, websites ... anything about her life but I found almost nothing. So I got in touch with her friend Gerry Nicosia, who put me in touch with other friends of hers and I was able to know more about Jan. Learning from her loved ones.



Photo: Jaqueline Arruda Soarès collection

Jaqueline Arruda Soarès in Gand (Ghent) in Belgium in March 2017

“Gerry did a great job putting together the book *Jan Kerouac: A Life in Memory*. It is a very inspiring book where you can know Jan through stories shared by her friends. And he is also writing a new book called *The Last Days of Jan Kerouac*, where people will know more details about Jan’s life and career.

“When I met her half-brother, David Stuart, he told me he was working on some projects to bring Jan’s works back to life and to promote them. So I asked if I could help and I kept doing whatever I could to help him. We created a website with many photos never seen before of Jan Kerouac, we digitized the books to get digital versions of them and David was looking for publishers and working on a new biography of Jan, while I created a Facebook page to promote Jan’s works and new projects about her.

“I am so glad to be involved and to be part of these great projects. Jan inspired many people with her great charisma and talent. And we will never let her be forgotten.”

Links - Jan’s website: <http://jankerouac.yolasite.com/>

Jan’s Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/JanKerouac>

Tales of the *Joan Anderson Letter* and the Jack Kerouac Estate

as of May 30, 2017*

by Gerald Nicosia

The *Joan Anderson Letter* seems fated to create a never-ending series of problems, just like the Jack Kerouac Estate itself. Jack Kerouac once said there was some sort of curse on his family, from which troubles, health problems, money needs, and all sorts of personal suffering seemed to issue endlessly. The *Joan Anderson Letter* seems to have picked up that curse by association.

Last summer (2016), the remaining four parties claiming ownership - the Sampas family, the Cassidy family, Jean Spinosa, and the heirs of Gabrielle Kerouac (the Blake family and Jan Kerouac's heirs, John Lash and David Bowers Stuart) - had taken the letter to Christie's to be auctioned. The lawyers had



John Sampas and his brother-in-law, Jack Kerouac in 1968 in the Sampas family home at 2 Stevens Street in Lowell, Massachusetts. (Photo: courtesy Gerald Nicosia)

insisted on the greatest of secrecy concerning the letter, although a picture of it and some details were printed in the Christie's auction catalogue a month or so before the auction. Still, many people in the Beat world, Kerouac fans and so forth, knew nothing of the auction. The letter itself had been shown in a couple of museums, behind glass, without much access for viewing. So little was still known of its contents.

Despite all these dampening factors, the letter still received a high bid of \$385,000. at Christie's. The lawyers, however, considered

this too low, and refused to accept it. They removed the letter from auction. After much searching, the lawyers decided to let the letter be auctioned by Heritage Auctions in Dallas, Texas. Once again, however, it was all secrecy and silence surrounding the letter. No further public shows of the letter were held. No writers were invited to write about it. The contents of the letter were again kept well-guarded. On March 9, 2017, the auction was held in Dallas, and the high bid was \$165,000. The lawyers accepted it, thus having deprived their clients of over \$200,000. With total fees, the buyer - who so far



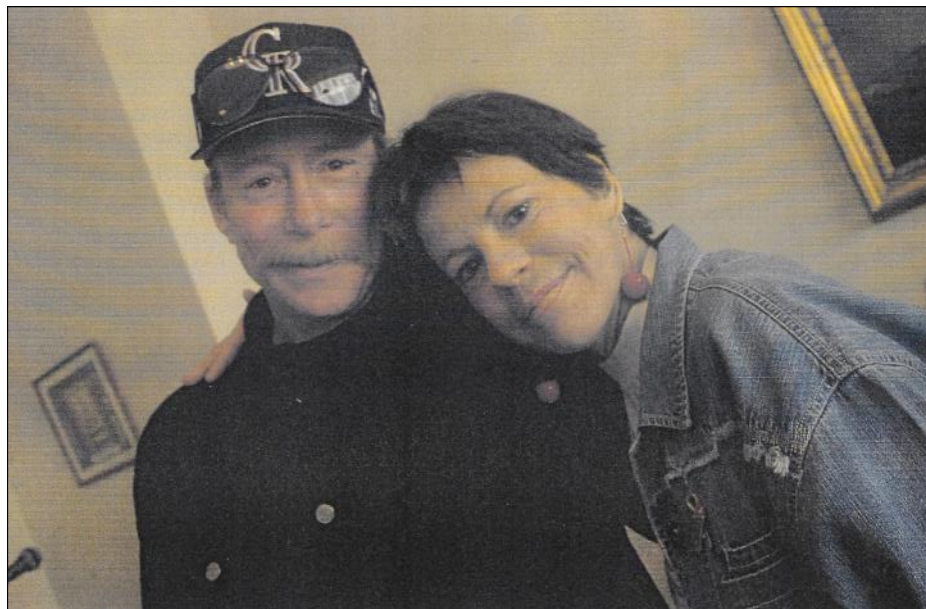
Neil Cassidy circa 1955.

(Photo: courtesy of Anne-Marie Santos)

*Should you wish to read the whole story as published in *Le Trésor des Kerouac*, please refer to *The Neal Cassidy Letter that is Turning the Jack Kerouac World Upside-Down*, by Gerald Nicosia, number 117, p.22, spring 2015; and *The Odyssey of Neal Cassidy's Letter Approaches a Conclusion*, by Gerald Nicosia, number 120, p. 21, spring 2016.

remains undisclosed - had to pay a total of \$206,250. The amount to be divided among the four owners is \$165,000.

We are, of course, most concerned with how the Blake family will fare. Paul Blake, Jr., is Jack Kerouac's closest living blood relative, the only child of Jack Kerouac's sister Caroline "Ti Nin" Kerouac. Blake, who is now 69 years old, is in poor health and in great need of dentures. He is cared for by his son Paul Blake III, who is 41, and Paul III's grown daughter and her fiancé. The whole family, comprising six people, lives in two small trailers across from each other, one rented and one which they own, in a small town in Arizona. Paul III was told by his lawyer, Alan Wagner, that half of Gabrielle's share must go to Jan's heirs, John Lash and David Bowers Stuart, even though they opposed Jan's lawsuit. Because of a deal that Lash and Stuart had made with John Sampas, they fought to get me dismissed as Jan's literary executor, and succeeded in doing



Paul Blake Jr. and Jan Kerouac photographed at the San Francisco Press Club in March 1994. (Photo: Courtesy of Gerald Nicosia)

so in 1999, in order to keep Jan's case from going to trial. Now they will benefit from Jan's lawsuit to the tune of almost \$10,000 each. But because Paul Blake, Jr., has had no money all these years to pay his lawyers, the lawyers (Bill and Alan Wagner) required him to sign a 55% contingency agreement, meaning the Wagners will keep 55% of Blake's share. What this means is that the Blake family will be lucky, when all is said and done, to receive a check for \$10,000.

But as of this writing (end of May 2017), the Blakes still, inexplicably, have received no check, even though the other parties, including the Cassadys, have already received payment for their share.

The Cassidy children were told that once the letter was sold, they would be free to publish the *Joan Anderson Letter*, since the copyright belongs to the author, Neal Cassidy, and was passed along through copyright law to Neal's children. As soon as they

were legally able to do so, the Cassadys sent me a copy of the letter. Jami Cassidy, who has been a friend of mine for about forty years, said that she wanted me to write the introduction when the letter was published. The Cassadys hired a literary agent in Berkeley, Laurie Fox, to represent the letter to publishers, and they put me in touch with Laurie.

Laurie then began to connect me with publishers to whom she was showing the letter, so that I could answer their questions about it and offer suggestions for how it should be published. Ms. Fox herself had some good plans to republish two of Neal's earlier books, *As Ever*, which contains Neal's letters with Allen Ginsberg, both sides of the correspondence, and *Grace Beats Karma*, Neil's letters to Carolyn, (only his, not hers) while he was in San Quentin Prison, so that the publication of the *Joan Anderson Letter* would coincide with a fuller appreciation of Neal Cassidy's overall literary importance.

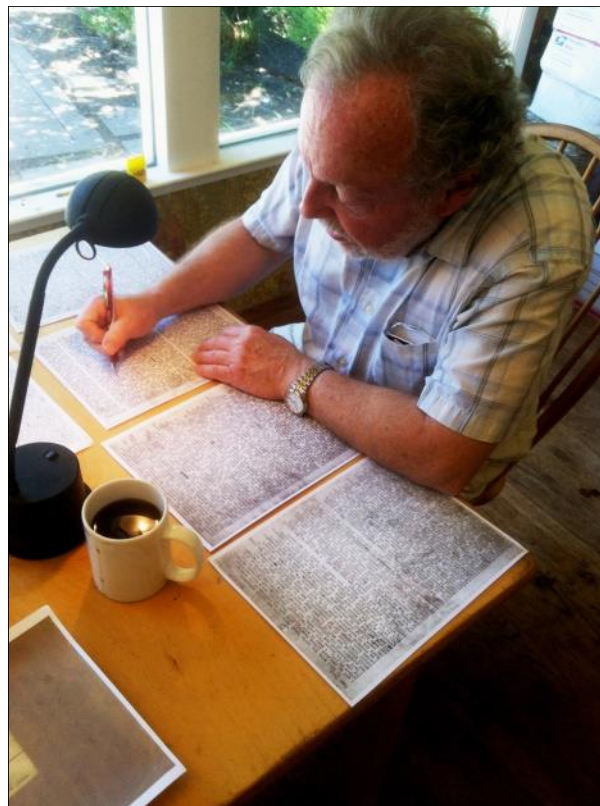
Photo: Gerald Nicosia



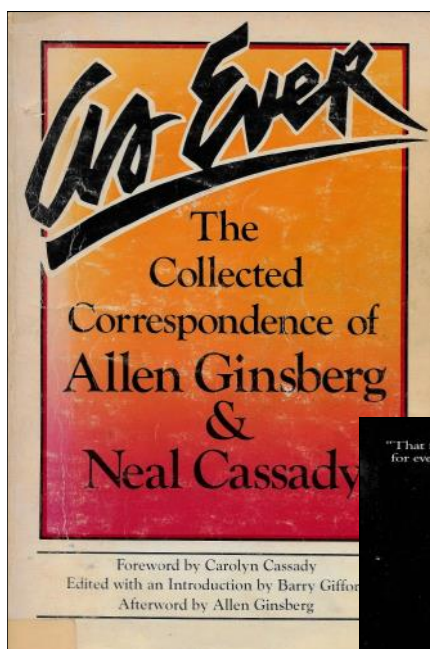
Jami Cassidy and her husband Randy Ratto in North Beach, San Francisco.

When I received the *Joan Anderson Letter*, I was like a kid in a candy-store, who could not stuff the candy (the letter) into my eyes (not my mouth) fast enough! I began taking notes immediately, and I found very many connections between Jack Kerouac's writings and the letter. I even found phrases in the letter, written by Neal Cassady, that were later used in Jack Kerouac's own writing, often without Jack attributing the source! The most interesting thing for me was that there were connections in the *Joan Anderson Letter* not just to *On the Road* but to some of Jack Kerouac's other novels as well.

The editor who was most interested in publishing the letter was Peter Blackstock at Grove Press. I thought this would be a very appropriate outcome, since Grove Press was one of the first publishers to publish Jack Kerouac, and it was definitely the publisher with whom he felt most in harmony. Grove Press, after all, had courageously published the early works of Henry Miller, William Burroughs, Samuel Beckett, John Rechy, Hugh Selby, Jr., and many other revolutionary writers, often incurring criminal charges and difficult legal cases as a result .



Gerald Nicosia working on the Joan Anderson Letter. (Photo: Ellen Nicosia)

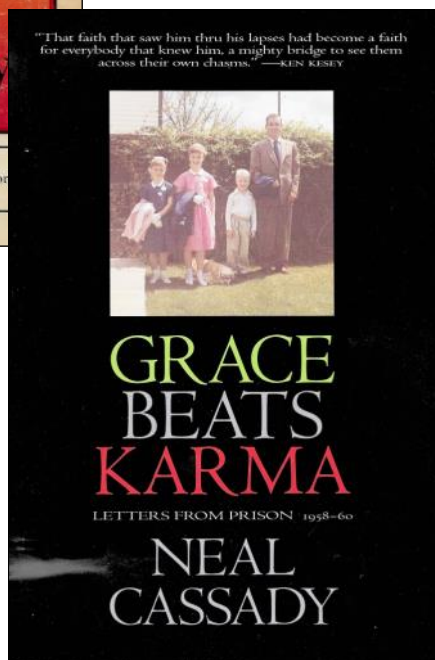


Front cover of *AS EVER*, correspondence of Neal Cassady and Allen Ginsberg.

I had a couple of long phone conversations with Blackstock, giving him my ideas for publication of the letter. I suggested a thorough literary and historical introduction, which I would write, putting the letter in context and explaining in detail how it affected the work of Jack Kerouac. We agreed there should be a wealth of footnotes too, since Neal's letter referenced hundreds of people, places, books, and so forth that might not be known by general readers and especially by the younger generation. In addition, I suggested adding other unpublished Cassady letters, some of which are held by collector friends of mine, who bought them from John Sampas, as well as many unknown photos of Kerouac and Cassady that have recently come to light.

Then trouble started again. The Cassadys did not realize when they hired Marc Toberoff as their lawyer, to help them gain possession of the letter, that Toberoff was not only taking 40% of their earnings from the sale of the letter, but that he also included a clause giving him

Front cover of *GRACE BEATS KARMA*, Neal Cassady's letters to his wife while he was in prison. The cover photo taken in 1957 shows Neil with his three young children: to his right, his son, John, and his two daughters, Cathy and Jami.



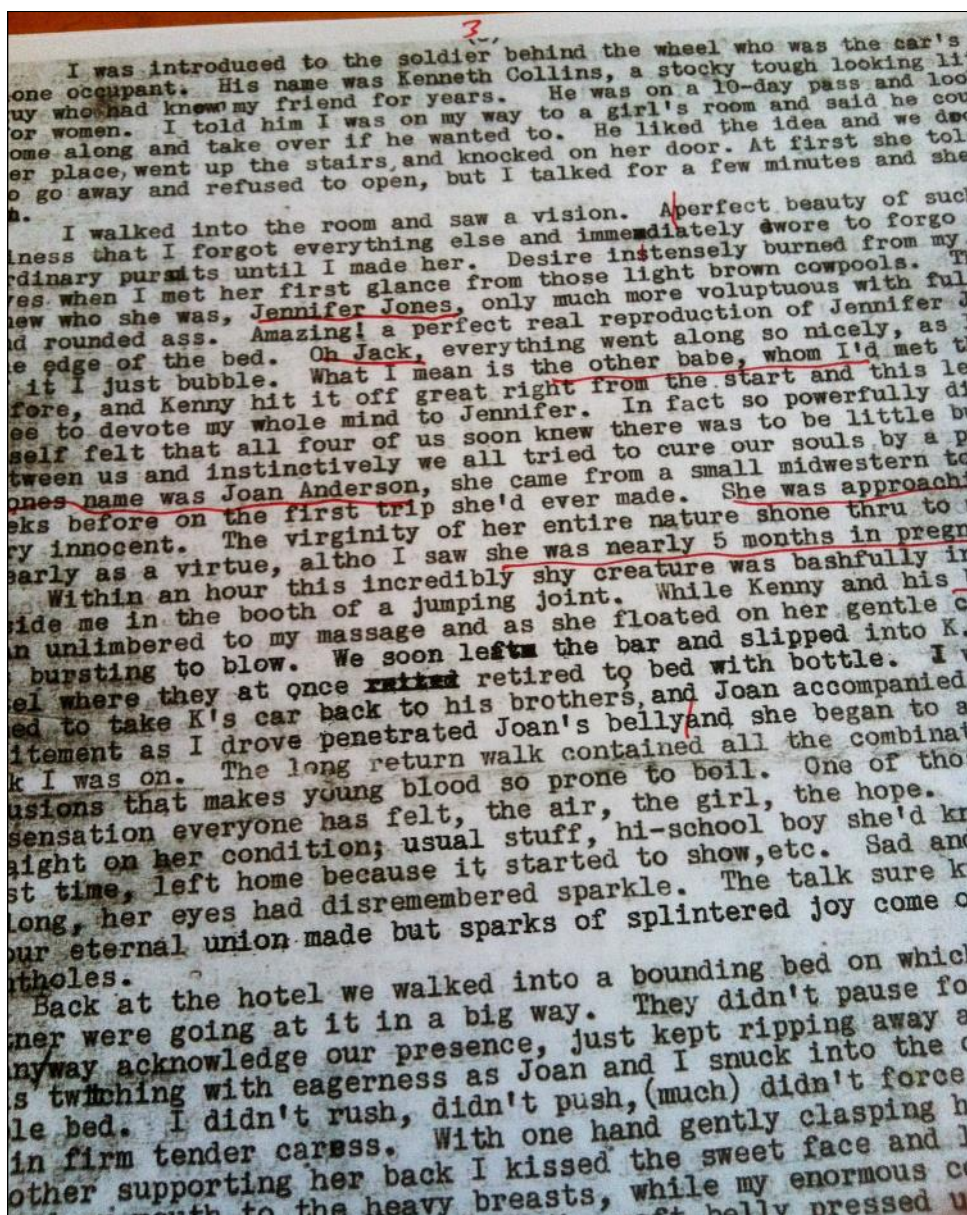
exclusive control over publication of the letter. Laurie Fox was told she could no longer serve as agent for the letter, and Toberoff attempted to negotiate his own publication deal. According to Jami, this meant that I would not be the person to write the introduction to the letter, despite all the work I had done on it. What seemed especially ironic to me in this scenario was that I had been the person who had talked Marc Toberoff into taking the case, since when I initially approached him, he

was extremely skeptical about the letter's historical and literary importance as well as of its financial value. I worked very hard to persuade him to represent the Cassadys, since at the time there were several parties, including the Sampas family, with high-powered lawyers who were fighting legally to lay claim to the letter. I felt the Cassadys needed an equally powerful lawyer of their own.

The Cassadys were angry at this situation, especially since it

deprived Neal Cassady's own family of a say in how the letter was published. It even began to look like the Cassadys might end up suing their own lawyer. At the last minute, Toberoff bowed out, graciously admitting that the Cassadys knew the Beat world a lot better than he did. In an effort to make peace, he told them, "Go with whomever you think is best."

At present, it looks like the original team is back in place: agent Laurie Fox, Grove Press editor Peter



A page from the Joan Anderson Letter

Blackstock, and myself as the one to introduce the letter.

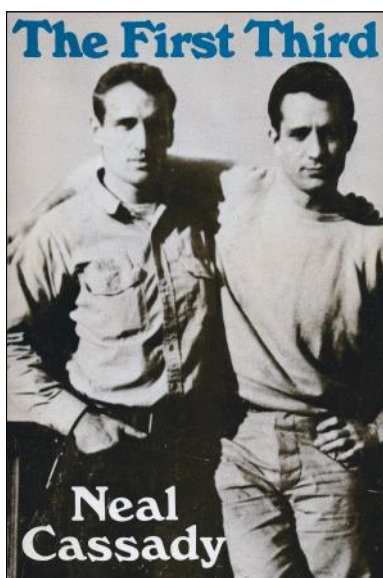
The matter of publishing the *Joan Anderson Letter* is still complicated, however, by the fact that many years ago City Lights Publishers published a small excerpt from the letter in Cassady's memoir *The First Third*. Because of its past role, City Lights is now making the claim that it should be the publisher of the full letter. They may attempt to block the Cassady family's deal with Grove Press.

The day after Heritage House sold the *Joan Anderson Letter*, John Sampas died. He was 84 years old and living in a large home that he had bought for his adopted son in Greenwich, Connecticut. For well over two months, the Sampas family attempted to keep his death out of the public eye. Only a few close friends knew of it, though one of them informed Kerouac biographer Brad Parker, which was how I learned of it. I immediately phoned the *San Francisco Chronicle* and recommended they do an obituary piece. The article, written by Sam Whiting, which relied mainly on information from Sampas's lawyer George Tobia, was the only public notice of his death until the *Boston Globe* ran a piece on May 23, which again relied mainly on family sources.

The secrecy around Sampas's death has left a lot of important questions unanswered. The biggest question, of course, is who is now going to make all the vital decisions about Jack Kerouac's



Gerald Nicosia teaching about Jan Kerouac to an honors class from the Harker School, a private school in San Jose, California. The photo was taken near the site of Jack Kerouac's old cottage in Mill Valley, California. Photo was by Charles Shuttleworth (the teacher). The teacher had brought his whole class to Mill Valley to hear Gerald Nicosia read from *THE LAST DAYS OF JAN KEROUAC* and also to lecture about her life. This was on March 14 of this year (2017).



properties and publications? John Sampas was known to be very difficult to deal with on the matter of permissions to quote from Jack Kerouac, which often hampered scholarship and scholarly writings about Kerouac. Permission to see Jack Kerouac materials was often restricted with equal severity by Mr. Sampas. There is a big question as to whether the new person in charge will be more cooperative with scholars and writers, which is of course dearly to be hoped for.

The First Third was a collection of Neal Cassady's writings published by City Lights Books in San Francisco in 1971. A very small excerpt from the Joan Anderson Letter was included in this book. Although the full Joan Anderson Letter was lost at that time, a short passage from the letter had been copied by Neal's friend John Bryan, a journalist and newspaper publisher, before Neal died. It was this short excerpt that was included in **The First Third**. But because City Lights had been the first publisher to publish part of the Joan Anderson Letter, they are now claiming that they have the right to publish the full letter.

According to Jami Cassady, there is a rumor - not verified - that John Sampas's nephew James "Jim" Sampas will take over as executor for Stella Sampas's estate, which comprises almost all of Jack Kerouac's literary properties. Jim Sampas is a film and music producer, and last October he acknowledged the importance of Jan Kerouac as a writer, though he did not say more about her. One hopes that he will oversee a warming of relations between those who control the Kerouac estate and the actual Kerouac family.

One forthcoming change is that Jack Kerouac's final house in St. Petersburg, Florida - the house where he was living when he died in 1969 - is about to be sold by John Sampas's adopted son, John Shen-Sampas. The house has drawn visitors from around the world, who often stand on the lawn taking pictures. Jan Kerouac had hoped the house would become a museum of her father's life, but it is unknown what specific plans Shen-Sampas has for its sale.

There is a chance now to make many strides forward in Kerouac scholarship and in our understanding of the work of Jack Kerouac.



Jack Kerouac's house in Saint Petersburg, Florida
(Photo: Gilles Latulipe)

But many problems persist, in that the issues of commercial ownership and financial profit once again threaten to eclipse the full human and literary appreciation of Kerouac - what he stood for, and what he wanted to see as his legacy, which surely did not have to do with making money. There is also the unresolved issue of the injustice that was done to Kerouac's own blood family, and one can only hope that too will find resolution in the coming months and years.



Mrs. Gabrielle Hurtubise Lafrenière
Honorary President
of the 2017 Annual KFA Gathering

Montreal Botanical Garden
on Saturday, 9 September 2017

Saint Yves, Traditional Breton Celebration in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly by Jacques Kirouac

Saint Yves is the patron saint of the Bretons. It is also the name of the parish in Huelgoat where our Ancestor was born. In Brittany, Saint Yves's anniversary is celebrated every year on the third week-end in May. For the fifth year, on 21 May 2017 in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly near Quebec City, thanks to Mrs. Michèle Youinou, Saint Yves Day was celebrated on the main square and on the church steps in one of the most scenic Quebec village located on the south shore of the Saint Lawrence River. It all started in the summer 2013 as an occasion to mark the tenth anniversary of the opening of Mes Youinou's crêperie named *Du côté de chez Swann**, a Breton restaurant specializing in crêpes bretonnes, those deliciously thin pancakes. (*Near Swann's place, title of the first of thirteen books known in English as *Remembrance of Things Past* written by Marcel Proust (1871-1922))

The Saint Yves Day celebration starts in the morning and lasts the whole day. Traditionally, in Brittany the day starts with Holy Mass. In St-Antoine it usually starts with a visit of the heritage church. And as you come out of the church, you cannot miss the large top under which musicians and dancers are giving their all. There are also many stands where one can buy Breton handicrafts and sweet specialties, crêpes (thin pancakes), apple cider and local products.

All through the day, Breton crêpes are available at the crêperie located in a historical house built in 1834, located on the main square. In 2003, this is where Mrs. Youinou opened her crêperie and where she is still making crêpes today.

Mrs. Michèle Youinou is from Douarnenez, a famous town in Brittany on the Golf of Morbihan. She grew up there and after



Mrs. Michèle Youinou owner of the CRÊPERIE, (Breton restaurant) called *Du côté de chez Swann* in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly, 'imported' the traditionnal Breton celebration of the Saint Yves Feast Day in her adopted parish on the south shore of the Saint-Lawrence River near Quebec City . (Photo : François Kirouac)



At all Breton get-together, of course there are Breton specialties to eat, especially the famous crêpes, thin pancakes, available in Mrs. Youinou's restaurant but also at outdoor stand like this one photographed by François Kirouac.



completing her high school she went to Vannes, a nearby town, to train as a "crêpière" that is a professional Breton pancake maker. It is an art and it takes time and practice to learn. She had no idea how handy this would be someday. And, how she came to Quebec is a rather unusual story.

About thirty years ago, she decided to visit the United States alone and on her own. Her travel eventually brought her to Quebec. It was love at first sight! So much so that as soon as she got back to Brittany, she initiated the process to come back with a work permit. So she worked at the St-François d'Assise Hospital in Quebec City as a psychomotricity therapist. She had to go back to Brittany again in order to eventually

cross the Atlantic once more but, this time, with her permanent residency in hand and that document was granted to her because of her training as a professional Breton crêpes maker. It is an art! She loved Quebec City, such a beautiful town, however, when she found herself expecting, she wanted to find a place more like in her native Brittany, close to the ocean. She settled for Les Fonds, a small village east of Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly where the St. Lawrence is very wide indeed.

As Quebec people love Breton crêpes and knowing that she knew this art, the locals asked her to make them for family gatherings. The demand was so great that she opened a "crêperie" in the village.

Then, one thing leading to another, why not celebrate Saint Yves Day? As they rightly say, pun intended, it takes a lot of hands to prepare such an event and Mrs. Michèle Youinou gets help from many, among others, the Lotbinière Local Development Centre, the town of Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly, the local Caisse Populaire (Desjardins Bank), the Promutuel Insurance Company, many other partners and lots of enthusiastic volunteers; she coordinates all.

She is already planning next year's Saint Yves gathering to which all KFA members are invited. So mark the date on your calendar: Sunday, 20 May 2018.



The crêperie *Du côté de chez Swann** the Breton restaurant in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly on 21 May 2017 during the *Fest Deiz* (Day Feast in Breton) "where music, dances and crêpes are essential". (*title of the first book of Marcel Proust's long novel entitled: *À la recherche du temps perdu* = Looking for lost time) (Photo: François Kirouac)

The 78th Regiment on Foot also known as the 78th Fraser Highlanders was an infantry regiment raised in Scotland in 1757. In Quebec City, the regiment is known as the Olde Forte St. Andrew's and is one of thirteen such garrisons in North America. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting local and Scottish history. The Pipes and Drums corps is invited to most public events in and around Quebec City. Thus the three bagpipers playing in St-Antoine-de-Tilly who, by the way, are all French speaking Quebecers! In the province of Quebec, the Frasers are often referred to, in French, as 'Fraises'! i.e. Similar sounding words but also because 'fraises' is French for strawberries, the very colours of the Regiment's attire! (Photo : François Kirouac)





A favourite moment during this *Fest Deiz (Day Fest)* in Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly on 21 May 2017, the group *Crépiscule (Twilight)* were much appreciated at dinner time. No one will ever forget the sparkling atmosphere they created!!! (Photo: Michel Dionne)

For more info, see the *Facebook* page: <https://www.facebook.com/festdeiz.stantoinedetilly>



Mrs. Michèle Youinou and Jacques Kirouac during the interview she kindly granted the representatives of *Le Trésor des Kirouac* on 2 June 2017. (Photo: François Kirouac)



The lovely smiling Breton girl, Michèle Youinou (Photo: Michèle Youinou collection)

EXPO 67 - 50 YEARS ON, 50 OUTSTANDING SOUVENIRS

and other best-kept secrets

by Marie Lussier-Timperley

This is my English translation of the title of what I consider the best book written about EXPO 67 to mark its fiftieth anniversary. Out on 4 April, the second printing followed a month later! A well-deserved success. In Canada, particularly in Quebec, mention EXPO 67 and souvenirs flood back to one's memory. Everyone remembers something. We, involved in *Le Trésor*, unfortunately forgot to ask you, our readers, to send us your souvenirs of EXPO 67. Did you visit it? Did you work at EXPO? Or do you know some K/s who did?

We recently learned that Géraldine Madeleine Kirouac (1940-2017) was a Hostess at EXPO. She always claimed that it was the highlight of her career (see her obit p.41). Her biography will appear in the next *Trésor*. As you can read in the President's Word, François invites everyone to write about the present and the past for the benefit of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. One day, they will be grateful. ... So how old were you in 1967? What do you remember?

What first prompted me to write about EXPO 67 was Stéphane Laporte's article in *La Presse*, Montreal's largest French daily; on 6 May 2017 he wrote that he remembers EXPO as the six-year old he was then. I remember too, but differently as I was 24. I had just been living in Europe for two years when my parents insisted I come back home to discover EXPO. So I did and was surprised and amazed. Even driving from the airport was a shock, I could not recognize the brand new thorough-fares! Two eyes were not enough to take everything in. Then I could not see enough of EXPO 67 built on two new islands in the middle of the Saint-Lawrence River made the best ever venue because even on the hottest days, there was always a cool breeze.

EXPO 67, designated an exhibition of the 'First category', was the first ever to be held in North America. It was the focal point of Canada's centennial

celebration. *Man and his World* ran for six months. Famous architects designed most innovative pavilions. The multi-screen cinematographic projections were stunning particularly cross-crossing Canada on a 360 degree screen! It was not only surprising but, often, even overwhelming.

I thought I knew the story of EXPO! Not so, I discovered while reading about *the other well-kept secrets*. Luc Désilets, son of famous photographer Antoine Désilets who was the official EXPO photographer, wrote THE book on EXPO 67 and illustrated it with many of his father's photos, and many others never published before. The author's forte is to put EXPO into the economic, political and cultural context; add to this, the numerous references to so many books published about EXPO 67 in the past fifty years. The book reads like a novel.

If a photo is worth a thousand words, as they say, Luc Désilets' text is priceless because he tells *the well-kept secrets*, i.e. the behind-the-scenes stories. To me, I find that the stories behind the

official history are always juicier, and far more captivating than whatever we were made to believe. Bravo Luc Désilets.

As a parting note, let me quote Alain Gignac, director of the *Society for the Celebrations of Montreal's 375th Anniversary*, writing in the Montreal Senior Times: "For Montreal's 375th anniversary, it is important to highlight an event that left an indelible mark on Quebec and Montreal. It is an incredible opportunity for every generation to relive this important moment in Montreal's history. Those who experienced it can delve into their memories. Younger people can discover this major milestone, which was a forerunner of a knowledge base rich in innovations and that left a legacy that endures fifty years later. After all these years, we can still see the permanent traces EXPO 67 left in many fields, such as architecture, design and fashion, as well as an openness to the world and the ability to live together in harmony that are so typical of Montreal. It is a priceless legacy.



EXPO 67 - 50 ANS, 50 SOUVENIRS MARQUANTS et autres secrets bien gardés. (256 pages) (so far in French only) ISBN : 9782897582500 - \$29.95; Guy Saint-Jean éditeur. (Photos: courtesy of the editor)



ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2017

MONTREAL BOTANICAL GARDEN

- 8:30 am Registration
- 9:00 am Annual General Meeting
- 10:30 am Guided Tour of the Marie-Victorin Herbarium
- 12:00 noon Free time for lunch at the Botanical Garden's Restaurant
- 1:30 pm Free time to visit exterior gardens and greenhouses
- 3:30 pm Guided Tour of Marie-Victorin's old office and the CJN office
In the Botanical Garden's Administrative Building; and
Outdoor archeological remains linked to Marie-Victorin
- 5:00 pm Cocktails under the big top followed by
- 5:30 pm Dinner under the big top
- 8:00 pm At dusk and dark: stroll through the illuminated gardens::
Around the Chinese Pavilion — 25th season of Chinese Lanterns
Around the Japanese Pavilion for the 3rd season
And, for the 1st time, in the Garden of the First Nations
- 9:30 pm Au revoir!

See you next year in Quebec City for the KFA's 40th Anniversary!



Photo: KFA collection

SUNDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2017

VISIT TO SAINT JOSEPH ORATORY OF MOUNT ROYAL



Photo courtesy of L'Oratoire Saint-Joseph

11:00 a.m.

High Mass in the Basilica, with the boys choir, Petits Chanteurs du Mont-Royal, under the direction of Andrew Gray; accompanied at the organ by Vincent Boucher.

12:30 p.m.

Free time for lunch at the Oratory's cafeteria and choice of visits: Way of the cross in the exterior gardens, the first chapel (1904); interior guided tour including the crypt, lower church, saint Brother André's tomb, ex-votos Chapel, Museum, etc.

3:30 p.m.

Organ concert in the Basilica followed by a private visit of the organ loft with Vincent Boucher, the Oratory's organist in residence. The Sunday afternoon free organ concerts started in 1960 when the von Beckerath organ was installed, one of the biggest and best in Canada.



IN MEMORIAM



BURTON, WILLIAM G. (1926-2017)

William G. Burton, 90, of Bradley, passed away 10 March 2017 at home. He was born on 30 July 1926 in Manteno, IL, the son of the late **Roosevelt (GFK 02736)** and the late Mathilda (née Longtin) Burton. Bill married Joan Moody on 16 June 1945 at St. Rose Catholic Church in Kankakee, Illinois. Joan died on 28 November 2010. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Bill was a fixer-upper. Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Alex Sandra, of North Liberty, Iowa; one son, Scott Burton, of Independence, Mo.; one brother and sister-in-law, Gordon and Mary Ellen Burton, of Bourbonnais; four grandchildren, Amy (Randy) Short, Joanna (Rod) Short, David (Jenny) Sandra and Alexandra Burton; and six great-grandchildren, Kelly, Katie, Calvin, Ryan, Evelyn and Claire. He was also preceded in death by one brother, Maynard Burton. **Funeral Mass was at St. Joseph Catholic Church, his parish in Bradley, followed by burial in All Saints Cemetery in Bourbonnais.**

DRAPER née TOBENSKI, BONNIE (1960-2017)

Bonnie Tobenski Draper, 57, of Kankakee, died 15 April 2017 at home. She was born 10 March 1960, in Kankakee, the daughter of Floyd and Geraldine (née Denault) Tobenski, and the **great-granddaughter of Philip Kirouac (GFK 02732)**. Bonnie was a caseworker employed for Illinois Department of Human Services. She was a volunteer with various area organizations. She enjoyed crafts and gardening. Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Candace and Brett Longtin; her mother, Geraldine Tobenski; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Pamela Kennedy, and her twin sister, Connie and Rex Dionne, two brothers and sisters-in-law, Dennis and

Janice Tobenski, and Randy and Jill Tobenski; two grandchildren, Cameron Longtin and Landon Longtin; and her nieces and nephews, Dennis Tobenski, Denton Tobenski, Kalee Pair, Tony Tobenski, Nikki Clark and Tobey Dionne. Preceding her in death were her father; one brother-in-law, Bill Kennedy; and one sister, Vicky Hensley. Funeral was at the Clancy-Gernon funeral home followed by cremation. Bonnie is Dorine Tobenski Cowan's niece, see obituary in *Le Trésor* #123, p. 27.

GRINSTEAD, MARVIN T. (1937-2017)

Marvin "Duke" T. Grinstead, 79, of Bradley, died 7 March 2017 at home. He was born 4 October 1937 in Chebanse, the son of Isaac and **Blanche (Curwick) Grinstead**, and the **great-grandson of Policarpe Kérouac dit Breton (GFK 00178)**. Duke married his sweetheart, Sandy Neese, on 17 August 1963 in Springfield, Ill. They celebrated 53 years of marriage. Duke served in the U.S. Army from 1961 to 1966 as a PFC, receiving recognition as a skilled marksman. During his tour, he was stationed at Fort Dix, N.J., during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He was a master automotive mechanic, owning his own garage, Duke's Transmissions. In the 1970s, Duke owned and drove stock cars at the Kankakee Speedway, later hiring the young talented Tommy Kroll to drive his Mercury Cougar number 88. Together, they dominated the circuit. He also enjoyed gardening and was known to produce and share some of the best tomatoes around. Surviving are his children, Larry Grinstead, and Julie (John) Kokolus, his grandchildren, Christopher Grinstead, Christina Grinstead and Emma Kokolus; and brother, Max Grinstead. Preceding him in death was his loving wife; parents; and brother, Ray "Sam" Grinstead. Marvin struggled with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

(COPD), congestive heart failure (CHF) and colorectal cancer for many years. He donated his body to medical science to support research. No service held at this time.

HENSLEY, née TOBENSKI, VICKI (1949-2016)

Vicki L. Hensley, née Tobenski, 66, formerly a Kankakee County resident, died 7 January 2016 at Avow Hospice, Naples, Fla. Born on 22 December 1949 in Kankakee, she was the daughter of Floyd and Geraldine (née Denault) Tobenski, and the **great-granddaughter of Philip Kirouac (GFK 02732)**. Vicki married Robert A. Hensley on 10 June 1995 in Bourbonnais. She leaves to mourn, besides her husband, her mother, two sons and two daughters-in-law, Christopher (Aimee) Hensley, Robert (Jillian) Hensley, one daughter and son-in-law, April Lynn (Eric) Lueder, three sisters and one brother-in-law, Pamela Kennedy, Bonnie Draper, and Connie (Rex) Dionne, two brothers and sisters-in-law, Dennis (Janice) Tobenski, and Randy (Jill) Tobenski, and eight grandchildren; also her mother-in-law, Norma Hensley, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Sue Ann (David) Carmen, Brian (Roberta) Hensley, Michael Hensley, along with several nieces and nephews. Preceding her in death were her father; father-in-law, Robert Hensley Sr.; and brother-in-law, Bill Kennedy. Funeral Mass was at St. James Church in Irwin, followed by cremation. Vicki was a graduate of Herscher High School, Northern Illinois University, received an M.S. in Education from Olivet Nazarene University; Certificate of Education Administration from Illinois State University; and had been studying for her doctorate at the University of Illinois. Vicki was a retired Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Kankakee and Iroquois Counties for seventeen years; Chairperson for

Professional Development for the State Board of Education for ten years; taught at St. Joseph School, Bradley, and Shabbona School in Bourbonnais. She was coordinator of the Gifted Program for Bourbonnais School District.

**KENNEDY, WILLIAM R.
(1940-2014)**

William R. Kennedy, 74, died 8 March 2014 in Joliet, Michigan. Born 5 October 1939 in Chicago, to the late Eileen Brock, he was adopted by William and Loretta Kennedy. He is survived by his loving wife of twenty years, **Pamela (nee Tobenski) Kennedy, great-granddaughter of Philip Kirouac (GFK 02732)**; children, Thomas (Susan), Kellie (Steve) Chasten, and Tanya (Mike) Earing; eight grandchildren, Christopher (Melissa) Chasten, Hannah and Nathan Kennedy, Kelsie Chasten, Madison, Kylie, Taylor and Sydney Earing; great-grandson, Jacob Chasten; siblings, David (Mae Rose) Kennedy and Patt (Tom) Thompson; son-in-law of Geraldine Tobenski; brother-in-law of Vicki (Robert) Hensley, Denny (Janice) Tobenski, Randy (Jill) Tobenski, Bonnie Draper and Connie (Rex) Dionne. He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Floyd Tobenski. Funeral Mass was at St. Ann Catholic Church; interment in Woodlawn Memorial Park in Joliet, Ill. He retired in 1999 from Amoco Chemical following 38 years of service as a Safety Superintendent and Fire Chief. He was a volunteer for 43 years at the Channahon Fire Department (Ill.), and currently Captain. He was a member of the Police and Fire Commission, and in the 1970's was one of the original officers for the Channahon Police Department; and a member of Will County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Ill.

**KIROUAC, CLAIRE DUGAL
(1930-2017)**

On 31 March 2017 at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Quebec) at the age of 86, died Claire Dugal, widow of **Guy Kirouac (GFK 01975)**. She leaves to mourn her daughters Thérèse

(Germain) and Joanne (Pierre), her grandson Sébastien (Julie-Anne), her sister Fleurette (Cleveland), brothers-and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces. At her request, a private ceremony will be held at a later date.

**KIROUAC, GERALD WILLIAM
(1943-2017)**

Gerald William Kirouac (GFK 00873), 74 of Chesterfield, Michigan, died on 16 April 2017. He was a retired Local 80 Sheet Metal Journeyman. For over forty years he was a member of the Knights of Columbus 3rd and 4th Degree. He was an usher and adult alter server at St. Mary Queen of Creation for many years. Gerald's passions included golfing, bowling, and hunting. He played hockey as he was growing up, as well as coaching hockey and baseball for many years later in life. Loving husband of fifty-two years to Mary Frances; cherished father of Jerret G. Kirouac, Stephanie A. (Pierre-Marc) Pellegrinelli, and Craig W. (Holly) Kirouac; beloved grandfather of Troy, Sophia, Corbin, Matteo, Micah, and Malachi; proud great-grandfather of Harper; dear brother of Janet Kirouac, and Judith Hart. Gerald is preceded in death by his parents, **Philippe and Leona Kirouac**; and siblings, Phyllis Kirouac, and Robert Kirouac, and James Kirouac.

**KIROUAC, GERALDINE MADELEINE
(1940-2017)**

Peace came to Geraldine on 24 May 2017 in her seventy-seventh year at Argyle Hospital & Residence in Sherbrooke. Geraldine, the only child and beloved daughter of Fernand (**GFK 01089**) and Leona (Shard) Kirouac, was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1940. She spent her early years in Rouyn-Noranda, Abitibi, QC. The family later moved to Sherbrooke, Eastern Townships, where she graduated and did a secretarial course. She worked in Montreal, Bermuda and Sherbrooke with the **highlight of her career being a hostess at Expo '67**. She leaves to mourn many friends from far and wide, especially the congregation of St. Andrew's Church and members of the

Royal Canadian Legion in Sherbrooke. A service was held at St. Andrew's Church in Lennoxville-Sherbrooke, on 30 May 2017 followed by burial of her ashes, next to her mother's, at Elmwood Cemetery in Sherbrooke, Qc. (Her biography will be published in *Le Trésor* # 125)

**KIROUAC, RICHARD
(1947-2017)**

Richard Kirouac (GFK 01394) died at home in Sayabec, Quebec, on 1 May 2017, at the age of 69. Born on 6 August 1947, he was the son of the late Gilbert W. and the late Lucille (née Marier) Kirouac. He loved life and his work, was the jovial type always ready to lend a hand and his family knew they could always count on him. He leaves to mourn his siblings: Michel, Pierre, Lucille, Germaine, Christine, Martine; nephews and nieces, many relatives and friends.

**VINCENT, MARCEL
(1921-2016)**

Marcel Vincent died at Sainte-Thérèse, north of Montreal, (Canada) on 4 September 2016 at the age of 94. He was the husband of **Gisèle Kirouac (GFK 00679)**. Besides his wife, he leaves to mourn his children: Daniel (Claudine) and Nicole (Mario), his brother Claude (Danièle), other relatives and friends.

**VINCENT, GISEÈLE née KIROUAC
(1927-2016)**

Gisèle Vincent, née Kirouac (GFK 00679) died at Sainte-Thérèse, north of Montreal, (Canada) on 17 September 2016 at the age of 89, just thirteen days after her husband Marcel Vincent. She leaves to mourn her children: Daniel (Claudine) and Nicole (Mario), her sister Lucille, her brother Guy, her brother-in-law Claude, her sisters-in-law: Danielle, Claire and Irène, nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends.

OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO
THE BEREAVED FAMILIES

GENEALOGY / THE READER'S PAGE

The computerized genealogical KFA 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*

Question 602

What are the names of the parents of Roméo Kirouac who married Lili St-Gelais on 15 July 1994 at Chicoutimi (Quebec)? And what are the names of Lili St-Gelais's parents?

Question 603

What are the names of the parents of Joseph Kirouac who married Marie Charlebois on 11 June 1994 at Sainte-Foy (Quebec)? What are the names of Marie Charlebois's parents?

Question 604

What are the names of the parents of Jacques Kirouac who married Diane Landry on 23 July 1994 at Chicoutimi (Quebec)? What are the names of Diane Landry's parents?

Question 605

What are the names of the parents of Gilles Kirouac who married Huguette Lecours on 11 June 1994 at Sainte-Justine (Quebec)? What are the names of Huguette Lecours's parents?

Question 606

What are the names of the parents of Nathalie Kirouac who married Luc Poulin on 6 August 1994 at Saint-Joseph, Quebec? What are the names of Luc Poulin's parents?

Question 607

What are the names of the parents of Marie Julie Kirouac who married Denis Lacharité on 21 May 1994 at Drummondville (Quebec)? And what are the names of Denis Lacharité's parents?

Question 608

What are the names of the parents of Nicole Marceau who married Réjean Kéroack on 30 April 1994 at Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville (Quebec)?

Question 609

What are the names of the parents of Line Paradis, spouse of Guy Kirouac, son of Léopold Kirouac (GFK 01602) and Jeannine Castonguay?

Question 610

What are the names of the parents of Wellie Kirouac who married France Plourde on 4 November 1978 at Saint-Hyacinthe (Quebec)? What are the names of France Plourde's parents?

Question 611

What are the names of the parents of Germain Kirouac who married Francine Campbell on 14 July 1984 at Cowansville (Quebec)? What are the names of Francine Campbell's parents?

Question 612

What are the names of the parents of Denis Kirouac who married Ginette Huot on 26 June at Montreal (Quebec)? Year and parish are missing. And what are the names of Ginette Huot's parents?

Question 613

What are the names of the parents of Carole Lessard, spouse of Sylvain Kirouac, son of Venant Kirouac and Dolorès Sirois?

Question 614

What are the names of the parents of Richard Kirouac who married Gale Renwick on 10 March at Montreal (Quebec)? Year and parish are missing. And what are the names of Gale Renwick's parents?

Question 615

What are the names of the parents of Pierre Kirouac who married Lise McCann on 2 August at Saint-Jérôme (Quebec)? Year and parish are missing. And what are the names of Lise McCann's parents?

Question 616

What are the names of the parents of Pierre Kirouac who married Louise Guillet on 11 December (year?) at Sainte-Foy (Quebec)? Year and parish are missing. And what are the names of Louise Guillet's parents?

Question 617

What are the names of the parents of Hélène Boies who married Michel Kirouac (GFK 01460), son of Gérard Kirouac and Réjeanne Bélanger on 9 July 1977 at Arvida (Quebec)?

Question 618

What are the names of the parents of Jean-Pierre Kirouac who married Abjette Marie Jean Michel on 20 December 1979 at Verdun, Montreal (Quebec). And what are the names of the parents Abjette Marie Jean Michel?

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

KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2016-2017

PRESIDENT

François Kirouac (00715)
31, rue Laurentienne
Lévis, (Québec) Canada G6J 1H8
Telephone: (418) 831-4643

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MEETING SECRETARY

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

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Marc Villeneuve
140, rue de la Victoire
Chicoutimi (Québec) Canada G7G 2X7
Telephone: (418) 549-0101

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

COUNSELLER

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

COUNSELLER

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

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REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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QUÉBEC, BEAUCE-APPALACHES

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

Region 2

MONTREAL, OUTAOUAIS, ABITIBI

Karyne and Roxanne Kirouac
755, rue de Chevillon, # 5
Laval (Québec) Canada H7N 6J3
Telephone: (450) 933-5820

Region 3

CÔTE-DU-SUD,

LOWER ST. LAWRENCE, GASPE PENINSULA & MARITIMES

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

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MAURICIE, BOIS-FRANCS, EASTERN TOWNSHIPS

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

Region 5

SAGUENAY, LAC-SAINT-JEAN

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

Region 6

ONTARIO AND WESTERN CANADA

Georges Kirouac (01663)
23 Maralbo Avenue East
Winnipeg (Manitoba) Canada R2M 1R3
Telephone: (204) 256-0080

Region 7

UNITED STATES

EASTERN TOME ZONE

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

CENTRAL TOME ZONE

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

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for our KFA Annual Gathering
on
Saturday, 9 September 2017
at the
Montreal Botanical Garden

To contact us or to receive information about our activities:

Main office
3782, Chemin Saint-Louis
Québec (Québec)
Canada G1W 1T5

Internet Site
www.familleskirouac.com
E-mail: association@familleskirouac.com

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

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