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Number 81

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Bulletin of the descendants of Urbain-François Le Bihan, sieur de Kerboach



Annual Kirouac Family Reunion, Trois-Rivières, September 18, 2005

Photography : Pierre Kirouac

Kérrouac



Kéroack



Kirouac



Kyrrouac



Kérrouack



Kirouack

Le trésor des Kirouac *English Edition*

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>From the New President, François Kirouac</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>From the Secretary's Desk</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>The Association's Annual Family Gathering</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Family Legend of Ti-Blanc le Noir</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Revenues and Expenses of the Trois-Rivières Gathering</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Thank you Jean-Yves !</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>In Memoriam</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Memory or Nostalgia</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Press Review: Eugène Kirouac, from La Broquerie, Manitoba, receives the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Introduction to the Diary of Mrs. Alice Lepage Patry</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Diary of Mrs. Alice Lepage Patry, Family Links</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Diary of Mrs. Alice Lepage Patry</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Gérard Kirouac, descended from Chevalier François Kirouac</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Genealogy of Gérard Kirouac</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>A First – 40 years ago - the installation of the 735-kilovolt line</i>	<i>34</i>
<i>What a Beautiful Cradle !</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>The Readers' Page</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Board Members - 2005-2006</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Regional Representatives</i>	<i>39</i>

FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

As you can see, our association is starting its activities for 2005-2006 with a new president. Indeed, on Sunday, September 18, 2005, after Pierre Kirouac from Trois-Rivières announced that he wished to transfer the presidential duties to someone else, the Board Members asked me to put on the President's cloak and, as some commented, one more hat!

I would like to thank the Board Members for the trust they have shown me by electing me to this post. I wish to thank the outgoing president, Pierre Kirouac from Trois-Rivières, for the magnificent work he has accomplished since 2002. While he was president, his special qualities: calm, thoughtfulness, not to be rushed stance, always proved helpful; he was a man ready to face all eventualities. He proved to be a competent and talented organizer at the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of our Association in Longueuil in 2003 and also in Trois-Rivières in September. His support and advice will undoubtedly be most useful to me in the coming years as he will remain on the Board as vice-president.

I also wish to mention Jean-Yves who, for over thirteen years, has been a member of the Board as Councillor, Vice-President and President. He felt it was time to pass on the torch to someone else. The least we can say is: thank you very much Jean-Yves for your great collaboration, availability and enthusiasm, and accepting various mandates entrusted to you by the

Board during thirteen years.

The present issue of the *Trésor des Kirouac* launches a new venture in the history of our Association. For many of you who are English-speaking, you will receive this number 81 in your mother tongue. Until now all members residing outside the Province of Quebec were receiving a copy of *Le Trésor* in French plus a set of photocopies of the translations done by Marie Lussier Timperley.

Thanks to the collaboration of our regional representative for the American Central Zone, Gregory Kyrourac, who generously offered to do the set-up of the English *Trésor*, our Anglophone members will, from now on, be able to better enjoy reading their copy of the *Trésor des Kirouac* without having to flip from the English loose-leaves to the French copy to match the photographs to the text.

At last, we are answering requests often expressed in the past and we very much hope that this new presentation will make it easier to spread and develop our family heritage. This is, of course, a two-way communication experiment and the invitation is for all our Anglophone cousins to share with us their family history through the pages of the *Trésor*. We are hoping for an increased number of letters and E-mails.

In the following pages, you will read an account of the annual gathering held in Trois-Rivières on September 17-18. As you are presently reading these lines, we still do not know where and when

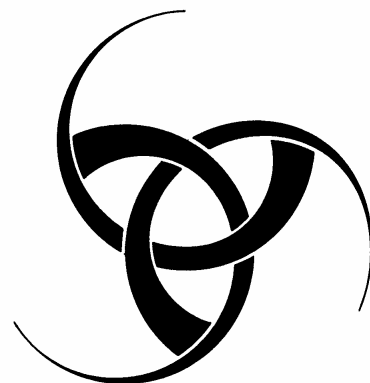


Photo : Studio Les Saules eng.

François Kirouac

the gathering will take place in 2006 and 2007 nor do we have any idea what form it should take. We are open to suggestions and anyone who might be thinking about organizing a gathering or another type of activity, please contact any of the Board Members as we are ready to pass on advice and give you all the support you may need.

François Kirouac, President



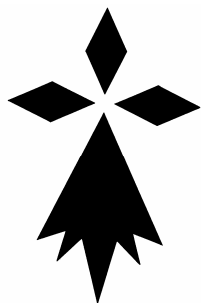
From the Secretary's Desk

2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One councillor's seat remains vacant following the September 18 elections and a candidacy to insure the interim would be highly appreciated. The KFA Board of Directors is now as follows: President, François Kirouac; Vice-Presidents, Céline Kirouac and Pierre Kirouac (also ex-officio); Treasurer, René Kirouac; Councillors, Lucille Kirouac, Marie Kirouac and Marie Lussier Timperley; Secretary, J.A. Michel Bornais.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Guy-Claude Kirouac, deeply regrets that professional duties keep him from continuing as Regional Representative for the Saguenay / Lac-St-Jean area (Region 5). We sincerely thank him for his past contribution and wish to find a replacement for Guy-Claude as soon as possible.



YOUR CHOICE OF *LE TRÉSOR* IN FRENCH OR ENGLISH

Starting with the September 2005 edition, *Le Trésor des Kirouac* has separate French and English editions. Given this new development, your Secretary and Georges Kirouac from Winnipeg have phoned those likely to have to choose between the two editions. As some of you may have been missed in the process, you are invited to notify, as soon as possible, the Secretary if a correction is needed.

PRESERVING FAMILY MEMORIES

Family news and/or articles are always appreciated and warmly received by the Bulletin team. Your contributions are always most welcomed and precious; never hesitate to submit what you would like to see published in *Le Trésor*. May we remind you that the editing team offers its full cooperation for interviewing, writing and translating to anyone who might feel uncomfortable with any steps of the process. So please do not put your Family History at risk of going through a paper shredder or vanishing into a recycling bin. This is always so unfortunate and need not happen when help is available just for the asking.

KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION WEB PAGE

The proposed new home page for the AFKFA Web site has been approved. The rebuilding process continues. We hope the new Web site will be operational by the end of 2005. English texts are now being revised and selection of



Michel Bornais

Photography : Yolande Genest

photographs is underway. A monthly Express News Letter has also been proposed, but there we do not intend to post, on the Web site, articles published in *Le Trésor*.

AUTUMN = FALL = MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

When the leaves are turning, your September *TRÉSOR* will arrive with a reminder to pay your annual membership to the AFKFA. Enclosed with this issue is a renewal form. Please fill it in as soon as possible and return it to the Treasurer with your payment - before December in order to make sure you do not miss any issue of *LE TRÉSOR*.

And why not offer a subscription to another family member as a Christmas gift?

Annual Gathering of the Association Members

Trois-Rivières

17 and 18 September 2005

Everything was in place for a great weekend but the weather suddenly turned sour. Until then the temperature had been ideal but Friday, wind and rain spoiled it all so the organizers had something more akin to catnap than proper sleep during the night of Friday to Saturday as they were rather concerned with the outdoor programme planned for Saturday afternoon. The prospect of touring Old Trois-Rivières on foot doused by cold rain and wind was not very appealing. At least the organizers had a plan 'B' but still hoped not having to use it.

I had agreed with the tour guide that I would phone him between 11 a.m. and noon on Saturday morning to come to a decision. So I did. Given that the weather forecast was so-so and, for the Sunday morning, sunshine, I finally convinced him to do the walking tour. He was not easily persuaded but I told him that the Kirouacs were used to wearing raincoats and carrying umbrellas, having had much practice at that sport during their time in Brittany in 2000. He agreed but on the condition that if the temperature turned too wet, he would cancel the visit. I assured him that it would not rain during the planned three-hour guided tour. Someone 'up above' must have heard because, though it was windy, it did not rain.

Our guide, Mr. Daniel Robert, a professional historian, is the President of the *Société de conservation et d'animation du patrimoine*, the SCAP as we say in Trois-Rivières (Society for the conservation and development of the local heritage). He proved to be a most



Participants during the guided tour in Old Trois-Rivières



Daniel Robert, President of the Society for the conservation and development of local heritage, gives a great introduction to the history of the second oldest French-speaking city in North America and the visit begins ... (Photo : H  l  ne Kirouac)



It was windy by the Saint-Lawrence River. (Photo : H  l  ne Kirouac)

Photography : H  l  ne Kirouac





The annual gathering attracts people from far and wide. From left to right: Gisèle and Bruno Kirouac from Warwick, Greg and Nancy Kyrourac from Ashland, Illinois, Pia Karrer O'Leary from London, Ontario, and Gabrielle Hurtubise Lafrenière from Longueuil, Quebec. (Photo : Marie Kirouac)



Some faithful participants. From left to right: Lucette Lévesque, Ivan Kirouac, Jean-Yves Kirouac, Pauline Beaudoin and Claire Kirouac. (Photo : Marie Kirouac)

pleasant and knowledgeable speaker. He had answers to all the questions; comments heard afterwards showed how much he was appreciated.

In spite of the cool windy afternoon everyone followed him for over three hours through the streets of Old Trois-Rivières! Need we say more about our guide's talent to keep the interest and attention of fifty people for so long, often having to speak louder than the wind. Our congratulations and heartfelt thanks are well deserved for his outstanding presentation. Congratulations also to the fifty 'brave souls' who eagerly listened while braving the elements.

Supper was most welcomed afterwards. Michel Bornais, our Association's secretary, was the emcee throughout the evening. His sister Louise and her husband provided the music. Michel emceed in both languages, switching effortlessly from French to English to make sure our guests from Ontario and the States could follow the proceedings. Michel also proved he is a very good comedian and storyteller. With his sister, he wrote and acted out two sketches. From comments heard after the gathering, the participants appreciated the evening programme especially after spending the afternoon in the fresh air.

The tables were beautifully decorated. Many photos were displayed on the walls. Different people had carefully prepared these displays. One particular display, put together by Marie Kirouac, showed scenes from the trip to Brittany in 2000, when 32 AFKFA members went back to their sources. That was five years ago already!

Sunday morning began with High Mass at the Trois-Rivières Cathedral. The choir *Les Petits Chanteurs de Trois-Rivières* provided beautiful singing



From left to right: André and Rolande Kirouac from Sainte-Croix-de-Lotbinière, Jean-Yves and Claire Kirouac from Laval, Pauline and Paul Kirouac from Brossard, Yvan Laliberté and Brigitte Kirouac from Drummondville. (Photo : Hélène Kirouac)



From left to right: Thérèse Kirouac Lapointe of Sainte-Foy, Bruce McDonald of Chelsea, Outaouais Region, Quebec, Arnold and Françoise Bradley of Stittsville, Ontario, Carmen Kerouack McDonald of Chelsea and Lucette Lévesque of Quebec City. (Photo: Hélène Kirouac)



The pleasant musical programme on Saturday evening was provided by Louise Bornais, sister of our secretary, Michel, joined by André Kirouac for one item. (photo: Hélène Kirouac)

during the Mass officiated by the parish priest, Father Trahan, assisted by Father Gaston Kirouac, brother of Jacques, the AFKFA founding president. Father Trahan acknowledged the presence of the Kirouac Family at the beginning of the Mass and during his sermon.

Around 11:30 a.m. Miss Jeanne d'Arc Tessier, art historian and tour guide, specialist of the Trois-Rivières Cathedral, took us on a guided tour of the Cathedral. In her very own colourful style she described the architecture of the building, the altars, the main one and the lateral ones. She particularly explained the stained glass windows and their remarkable history. In 1923, Bishop F. X. Cloutier of Trois-Rivières wanted to add stained glass windows to adorn the large cathedral nave. To develop the chosen theme and properly illustrate the Loretto Litanies, he needed to find a master stained glass artist who was not only familiar with the Italian Renaissance but also likely trained in Italy.

Hence, Italian born Guido Nincheri, who had immigrated to Canada in 1914 and had settled in Montréal, was chosen. His wife, a talented fashion designer, was a great help to him in designing all the period costumes for the windows. She was also the model for the Virgin Mary in four windows. Two of their children, now deceased, were also models for two of the windows. Over a period of

thirty years, Nincheri produced 125 stained glass windows. Some of them can be admired on the following Web site: http://www.diocese-tr.qc.ca/Patrimoine/Patrimoine_frame.html . On the left side of the web page click on "Cathédrale de T.-R.", then on the next page on the bottom click on "Vitraux de la Cathédrale" for the listing of all the windows.

After this far too short visit, we walked back to the Curling Club for a very nice lunch, most welcomed as it was already after 1:00 p.m.

The Annual General Assembly began around 2:30 p.m. with the officers' reports, followed by the members comments and suggestions and the election of the new Board members.

Our annual gathering came to an end around 4:00 p.m. Though not knowing where our next one will take place, we all said to one another: "Au revoir and see you next year".

Last but not least, I want to highlight the exceptional work done by Jules and his wonderful organizing team in planning and carrying out this second edition of our annual Kirouac family gathering in Trois-Rivières.

Much gratitude to one and all for your support and great work.

Pierre Kirouac



Before Sunday Mass, catching up on the news. (Photography: Pierre Kirouac)



Father Trahan, Parish Priest, officiating at Mass with Father Gaston Kirouac (left on photo). (Photography: Pierre Kirouac)



The Petits Chanteurs de Trois-Rivières Choir. (Photography: Pierre Kirouac)



Miss Jeanne d'Arc Tessier, art historian and tour guide, specialist of the Trois-Rivières Cathedral, gives a talk on the stained glass windows created by Guido Nincheri. (photography: Pierre Kirouac)



The President, Pierre Kirouac, and the Secretary, Michel Bornais, presenting a small token of gratitude to Jules Kirouac from Trois-Rivières, who headed this year's organizing committee. (photography: Pierre Kirouac)



During the annual gathering in Trois-Rivières, the AFKFA Board reports on the previous year's activities during the Annual General Meeting after the Sunday brunch. (photography: Pierre Kirouac)





J. A. Michel Bornais portraying a rail road worker. (Photo: H  l  ne Kirouac)

The legend of Ti-Blanc Le Noir*

Does Ti-Blanc le Noir mean anything to you? No? Well then, here's what I've been told by different members of my father's family where almost all worked for Canadian Pacific.

Ti-Blanc was a "hobo". A vagabond who rode as a stowaway on freight trains. He first showed-up in the Trois-Rivi  res area after the CPR main line between Montreal and Quebec City was completed, therefore in the early 1900s. Every year, at the beginning of autumn, he would jump on the south-bound trains only to reappear the following spring.

In spite of his nickname, he was not black. He was educated, polite, sober and always clean. Not a beggar, he survived by doing small chores. At my grandfather Ernest's home, he would chop and stack the firewood for the winter, clean the shutters, fix the balcony, etc. He was even entrusted with babysitting. My father Lucien, born in 1911, vaguely remembered this unusual personage. It seems that Ti-Blanc vanished when my dad was only about five or six years old, that would be around 1916.

Like all perpetual travellers, Ti-Blanc

was also a great story teller, a fortune teller as well as a magician. My uncles told me various anecdotes ... Ti-Blanc could throw a whole deck of cards at a wall, and all the cards would stick to the wall spread out in a fan-shape. But there is an incident that happened on one of his early visits that made him memorable to those who were working for Canadian Pacific at the time.

In the early 1900s, there were very few trains running between Montreal and Trois-Rivi  res. Ti-Blanc's talents had already won him a certain tolerance from train conductors, trainmen and brakemen. They were happy to see him entertain passengers with stories and card tricks, while travelling from one village to another where he offered his services. Everything went well for him until one day a zealous spare conductor, unaware of Ti-Blanc's reputation, declared that no "hobo" would ride free on one of his trains.

Ti-Blanc had boarded the "p'tit local", e.g. the milk train, at Louiseville or Yamachiche, hoping for a ride to Trois-Rivi  res. Upon arrival at Pointe-du-Lac, the last station before Trois-Rivi  res, he was thrown out *manu militari*, bag and all, onto the platform by the angry conductor. In those days, the "p'tit local" or milk train, would stop at every station, and even between stations, to load and unload the steel canisters used to carry milk from the farms to the dairy companies. Stops were frequent and it was better not to be in a hurry. Ti-Blanc calmly picked-up his bag, walked to the locomotive, looked at the engineer and said: "If I want to be in Trois-Rivi  res on time, I'd better leave right away". And off he went walking in the middle of the tracks right ahead of the locomotive.

Once the handling of the milk canisters was completed, the conductor yelled the traditional "All

aboard" and climbed to pull the cord twice, signalling departure to the engineer: Pssh... Pssh. The engineer would respond by two short whistle blows. But the second blow fainted as if exhausted. Surprised, the boiler man looked at the steam gauges... there was no more steam pressure. He opened the shutters to the coal-fired boiler ... the fire was dying. A few quick shovels of coal made it even worse, snuffing out the last glowing cinders.

That was catastrophic, the engine was dead; this was not an Act of God and no heavenly gift. All ashes had to be dumped, the boiler had to be cleaned and reloaded with wood crusts that first had to be found in the neighbourhood and carried to the engine, then the fire had to be built-up slowly to avoid bending the boiler pipes... in other words, at least two hours lost. By then Ti-Blanc was a speck vanishing on the horizon.

When the train finally reached Trois-Rivi  res, it was just on time to see Ti-Blanc swiftly jump onto the station's platform, turn towards the locomotive and swing a wide welcome curtsy to the engineer. Never after that, was Ti-Blanc thrown off a train ... ticket or no ticket.

Upon what was to be his last visit to Trois-Rivi  res, as a gesture of gratitude for always having been charitable to him, Ti-Blanc gave my grandmother, Marie-Louise, a small ring with a tiny stone. He told her that as long as she would wear the ring, she would never be out of money. My grandmother never knew financial worries until her passing at a very old age. As for the ring, I have no clue what happened to it nor if the good spell is still attached to it.

As told by J.A. Michel Bornais on September 17, 2005, at the annual Kirouac Family Gathering in Trois-Rivi  res.

**Literally translated it would be "Lil' White the Black". Nicknames like this often had nothing to do with a person's real name or race. In this particular instance, no one seems to know where it sprang from.*



Some descendants of Urbain François Le Bihan met in Trois-Rivières. Left to right - first row: Nancy Eileen Beckman, Marie Lussier Timperley, Gemma Morin-Keroack and Aimé Keroack. Second row: Gregory Kyroutac, Brian Timperley, Pia Karrer and Luce Gauthier.

(Photography: Pierre Kirouac)



Members of the Trois-Rivières Gathering Organizing Committee. From left to right. First row: Louise Richard Kirouac, Suzanne Kirouac, Hélène Kirouac and Suzanne Lemay. Second row: Claude Kirouac, Louis Kirouac, Michel Bornais, Jules Kirouac and Pierre Kirouac. (photography: Pierre Kirouac)



Members of the Board elected during the AGM on September 18, 2005, in Trois-Rivières. Left to right: Michel Bornais, Marie Lussier Timperley, Céline Kirouac, François Kirouac, Lucille Kirouac and Pierre Kirouac. Absent from the photo: Marie Kirouac and René Kirouac. (photography: Pierre Kirouac)

Revenues and Expenses

Trois-Rivières 2005 - Annual Family Gathering

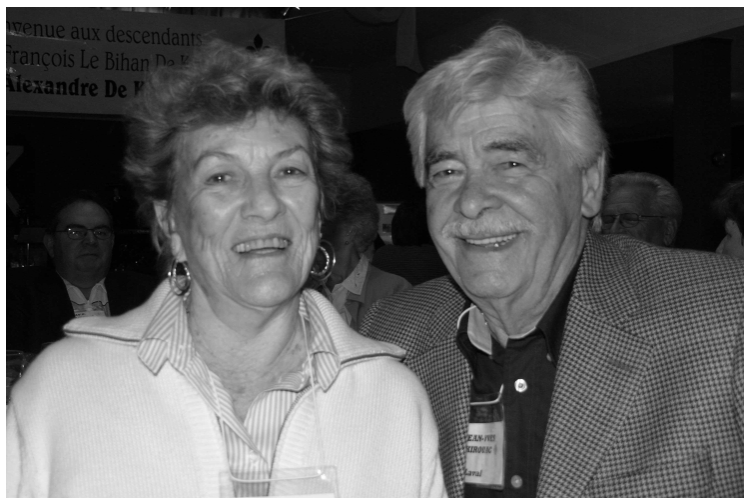
REVENUES					
	Price	Number	Sub-total		
Registrations - 2 days	\$55.00	39	\$2,145.00		
Registrations - Saturday	\$38.00	21	\$798.00		
Registrations - Sunday	\$20.00	10	\$200.00	\$3,143.00	
Gift				\$45.89	
Raffle - Books				\$134.00	
TOTAL REVENUES					\$3,322.89
EXPENSES					
Reimbursement (registration)			\$55.00		
Hall Rental			\$270.30		
Old Trois-Rivières Guide			\$100.00		
Cathedral Guide			\$30.00		
Musicians			\$300.00		
Gift to Organizer			\$57.46		
Postage			\$175.30		
Printing			\$55.16		
Bank fees			\$35.00		
Photography			\$61.63		
Decoration			\$27.61	\$1,167.46	
Catering:					
Saturday (58 meals)			\$1,234.22		
Saturday (3 meals for musicians)			\$63.84		
Sunday (50 meals)			\$470.00	\$1,768.06	
TOTAL EXPENSES					\$2,935.52
Surplus					\$387.37

THANK YOU JEAN-YVES !

It was sad to hear that Jean-Yves would not be renewing his mandate as a Board Member of the Association des Familles Kirouac inc. He has been a member from the very beginning of the Association. For the first time in 1992, he accepted a position on the Board and, until today, held a position on the Board. In 2001, he was elected President after André Kirouac, from Sainte-Croix-de-Lotbinière, left the Board for health reasons.

Through the years, Jean-Yves always promoted the use of English during our gatherings and also in our bulletin because he felt it was important to know our English-speaking cousins better and improve our relationships with them. At the first Board meeting he attended on September 3, 1992, he underlined the importance of having English articles published in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*. Later, in October 2002, he suggested that the English translations be mailed with the bulletin.

As Vice-President, he was responsible for everything concerning our American cousins; he was responsible to find



Claire Robert and Jean-Yves Kirouac, September 17, 2005, Trois-Rivières. (Photography: Hélène Kirouac)

American regional representatives and actively participated in the organization of the gatherings in the USA. I remember very well in Trois-Rivières in 1993, when touring the site of the Old Ironworks, he was translating the French speeches into English for the benefit of the English-speaking Kirouacs.

He strongly believed that regional representatives had an important role to play. He made constant efforts to contact them to find out what they expected from the AFKFA Board Members.

He left his mark on the life of the Association and we are deeply grateful to him for the orientation he contributed to give to the AFKFA. We also wish to express much gratitude to his charming wife, Claire Robert, who always discreetly accompanied Jean-Yves wherever he went. Her happy

dispositions and wonderful smile were a ray of sunshine during our Saturday morning meetings. We will miss you both but we are looking forward to meeting you again at our future annual gatherings.

In my name and in the name of all those who had the pleasure and privilege of working on the AFKFA Board, I extend to you our deepest appreciation.

Pierre Kirouac from Trois-Rivières



in memoriam

DEROY, JEAN-MARIE

At the Villa Saint-Jean in La Pocatière, July 2, 2005, aged 84 years and 9 months, Father Jean-Marie DeRoy passed away. The funeral took place at Saint-Gabriel-Lallemant Church in La Pocatière on July 8, and burial was in the parish cemetery. Father DeRoy leaves to mourn his sisters, Thérèse s.s.c.m. and Laura s.s.c.m., as well as his brother, Gilles (Thérèse Gamache). Born in Saint-Cyrille-de-L'Islet on September 20, 1920, he was the son of Freddy DeRoy and Elmina Kirouac. He completed his secondary schooling at the Sacred Heart Seminary in Saint-Victor-de-Beauce and his theological studies at the Grand Seminary in Quebec City. He was ordained to the priesthood at the Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière College on June 13, 1948, by Bishop Maurice Roy. In 1949, he was appointed auxiliary priest at the Lévis College. From 1950 to 1956, he was assistant to the parish priest in Sainte-Perpétue. From 1956 to 1962, he was professor at the Agricultural College in La Pocatière. From 1962 to 1965, professor at the Sainte-Anne-de-La-Pocatière College. From 1956 to 1966, he was also chaplain of the Lacordaire Movement for the diocese of La Pocatière. In 1966, he studied family and workers pastoral in Lille. In 1967, he was appointed Director General for the Catholic Action Movement. In 1969, he was appointed Parish Priest at Saint-Gabriel-Lallemant. From 1980 to 1986, he was Parish Priest in Sainte-Perpétue and Sainte-Félicité. In 1986, he was appointed auditor for the Quebec Ecclesiastical Tribunal.

DESCHÊNES, ANTOINE

In Villeneuve, Alberta, on August 27, 2005, Antoine (Tony) Deschênes, husband of Marguerite Keroack, passed away at the age of 74. He was the brother-in-law of Aimé Keroack (01227) from Dorval, Quebec. Antoine was buried on August 30. He leaves to mourn, besides his wife, three daughters and two sons, Carmen (Derry Vale), Suzanne (Dave Rokos), Lise, Paul (Liana Scott) and Joseph (Lisa Bowen) as well as nine grandchildren.

DROLET, ROGER

In Saint-Jérôme, Quebec, on June 27, 2005, Father Roger Drolet, s.j. passed away at the age of 88 after 66 years of religious life. He was a nephew of Brother Marie-Victorin. Born in Quebec City on February 5, 1917, son of Blanche Kirouac (00577) and Arthur Drolet, he studied at the Jesuit College in Quebec City and entered the Jesuit order in 1938. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1950. He taught at the Jesuit College in Quebec City from 1952 until 1972. He was in charge of purchases at the Villa Saint-Ignace in Chicoutimi (1973-1997) and chaplain for the Ursulines Sisters at the Mérici College in Quebec City (1987-1996). Father Roger Drolet was also a missionary in Taiwan during the 50s. He received the Medal of Honour of the 350^e Anniversary of Saint-Charles-Garnier College (Quebec City) on August 24, 1987. Besides his colleagues of the Jesuit Order, he leaves to mourn his brothers, Maurice (widower of Lucille Poirier), Lucien (Thérèse Bédard), his sisters Madeleine (widow of Daniel Létourneau), Cécile (Jean Girouard), Monique (Julien Parent). Funeral was celebrated on Thursday, June 30, 2005 in Saint-Jérôme.

KEROACK, ANTONIO DENIS

In Peterborough, Ontario, on May 14, 2005, Antonio Denis Keroack (01235) passed away at the age of 77. He was the son of Albert Joseph Keroack (01218) and Emma Baril from Saint-Boniface, Manitoba, and from Edmonton, Alberta. He was the grandson of Aimé-Maximilien Le Brice de Keroack (01208), formerly of Saint-Hyacinthe (Quebec) who had later settled in Saint-Boniface, Manitoba. Antonio leaves to mourn, his companion, Lynn Palleshi, his brothers and sisters: Thérèse, Jeanne (widow of Tharcis Forestier), Simone (Charles Émile Joly), Richard (Lynn Mercereau), Marguerite (Antoine Deschênes - see above) from Alberta, Aimé (Gemma Morin) from Dorval, Quebec, and Bernard (Annette Lemay) from

Vancouver, British Columbia, as well as many nieces and nephews.

KIROUAC, GUSTAVE

On July 29, 2005, Gustave Kirouac (00887), aged 90, died in Brooksville, Florida, where he had been living for the past five years when his son and daughter-in-law had moved following their retirement from work in the Detroit area. Gustave, who emigrated from Quebec to Detroit with his family while a youth, worked for a time in Detroit's automobile factories, then made a career as a truck driver for the Wayne County (Detroit), Michigan, Road Commission. He was the husband of the late Barbara (Bessie) Grzechowiak. He is survived by his son, Michael (00888), his daughter-in-law, Valerie, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was the last surviving son of Philippe Kirouac (00846) and Alphonsine Jolicoeur. The line ended with three deaths in the past year: Jeannine Kirouac Pattison, 78, on September 13, 2004; Rolande Kirouac Pickett, 95, on May 5, 2005, and now Gustave Kirouac, who was Mark Pattison's godfather.

MAYNARD, GEORGE

George Maynard, a retired contractor from East Taunton, died Sunday, August 7, 2005, at Marian Manor following a lengthy illness. He was 74. He was the son of the late Ernest and Eva (Boucher) Maynard. He leaves to mourn, his wife Claire Marie Hallsworth, daughter of the late Rose Alma (Kerouac*) Hallsworth-Roy. (*Descended from Louis Kerouac (00022) and Angèle Gendron) In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Roger of Marathon, Florida, Paul of East Taunton and Donald of Taunton; three daughters, Irene Sylvia, Jacqueline Presbrey and Jeannine Maynard, all of East Taunton; one brother, Ernest Edward of Somerset; one sister, Rita Saulnier of Florida; four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was the father of the late Raymond and the brother of the late Leo Maynard and the late Lillian Gaspar.

Memory or Nostalgia?

by Clément Kirouac

July 2005, 5th anniversary of the Kerouac/Kirouac Return to the Sources in Brittany. Leafing through the photo album, some will recognize themselves, but all will relive the emotions felt during those “blessed” two weeks. Lanmeur, Huelgoat and Quimper welcomed us as only our Breton cousins know how to do it.

Wearing the 18th century costume, like Urbain-François Le Bihan would have done, one of these young Bretons seems to be saying: “It is me *Le Bihan* ! The other one is *Le Bris* ... who went away.”

Born only a few meters from the Chaos de Huelgoat and baptized in the Church of Saint-Yves, Urbain-François seems to be saying to us: “*You, who walk by the Chaos Mill, come and see the magnificent granite plaque that my North American descendants put up in my honour, 280 years after I left in 1721.*”

Situated at the edge of the *Monts d'Arrée*, the town of Huelgoat, the *Haut-Bois*



The Argent River flowing under the bridge and Saint-Yves Church in the distance.

Photography: Clément Kirouac



Mr. Kofi Yamgnane, deputy for Finistère, Mr. Robert Cleuziou, Mayor of Huelgoat with Clément Kirouac, AFKFA President.

Photography: Marie Kirouac



Watercolour by an unknown artist

(wooded area), surrounds the *Lac d'Argent* (Silver Lake). The area's landscape is tormented and strewn with giant granite-like rocks. The *Rivière d'Argent* (Silver River) takes its source in the *Lac d'Argent* (Silver Lake) and, close to the *Chaos Mill*, it runs under the *Berrien bridge*. This bridge was rebuilt in 2003 and, where the water overflows, can now be seen more effectively. It is on the hand-rail, right by the precipice, that the plaque dedicated to our Ancestor's memory was unveiled in 2000.

Under a typical Breton-grey sky, worthy of Laporte's paintings, and in spite of a rather annoying drizzle, the North American Kerouacs were there to witness the unveiling of a commemorative plaque to the memory of their Ancestor. This square piece of blue Brennili granite bears an unwritten message: “Here we are”. On this July 9, 2000, the Mayor of Huelgoat pulled off the Breton flag wrapped over the granite plaque, engraved in gold with the name Urbain-François Le Bihan de Kervoac and also with two meaningful symbols, the Breton Ermine and the Quebec Fleur-de-Lys.

On July 9, pennants in hand, the Kirouacs met with their history, in



In front: (2nd) J.F. Pellan, President of Conseil Général du Finistère, (3rd) Alain Olm, Le Bihan descendant, (under umbrella) Greg & Nancy Kyrouac, Illinois. (Photo: Marie Kirouac)



François-Joachim Le Bihan de Kervoac, our ancestor's father, paid for renovating the old church in 1699. (Photography: Marie Kirouac)



This white granite stele is located at the crossroads of the de Kervoac Street and the main regional road. In 2005, it will be moved to be more visible. (Photography: Marie-Claire Botte)

front of the Church of St-Yves and the old Le Bihan house. The valiant pioneer, Gabrielle Hurtubise (4th) and Ivan Kirouac (behind) show their pride in being there and, in spite of the unpleasant weather, the group was intensely living this very happy historical moment: "What a joy to be there ... where he was".

At 11 o'clock, the Mass was celebrated by Father Kerouanton, the Parish Priest, especially for the Kirouacs and the people of Huelgoat delighted to have in their mist these very special visitors. Intense emotion during the sermon when the Parish Priest told the assembled Kirouacs that: *"Under the stone floor of the church, on the Epistle side, rest your ancestors, Laurens and François-Joachim Le Bihan de Kervoac, as well as their spouses, Anne Calais and Catherine Bizien"*. What a surprise, at the very end of the ceremony, when the celebrant started singing *"Gens du pays!"* (Popular song composed by Gilles Vigneault often used as if it were the Quebec anthem).

The day before, Saturday, July 8, in a Lanmeur suburb, the Kirouacs walked on the Kervoac land, where the family name originates. The Mayor of Lanmeur, Jean-Luc Fichet, unveiled a stele in the name of Jack Kerouac, to replace the name of the former *Rue de Kervoac* (Street). The travellers' bright smiles show their great pride. Among this group, Mrs. Patricia Dagier, the Breton genealogy expert is the fourth on the left.

After the unveiling of the stele to Jack Kerouac, there was a feast at the farm of Annie and Jean-Michel Le Coat, brother of Maryvonne, the wonderful Breton lady who organized the get-together. The Le Coat family were absolutely marvellous, they even went to the trouble of putting up a great tent, just in case ... In a very old original building, some ladies from the village came to turn the « rosette » in order to cook the real Breton crepe (paper-thin pancakes) served with delicious Breton Cider. **To the people of Kervoac, again, a million thanks!**

After Lanmeur and Huelgoat, Quimper, the capital of Cornouaille, welcomed us. *Le Conseil général du Finistère* (The



In front: Clément Kirouac, Mayor Jean-Luc Fichet, Maryvonne Le Coat and Jean-Michel Le Coat. (Photography: Marie-Claire Botte)



Daniel Créoff, President of the Conseil général du Finistère, Clément Kirouac, Patricia Dagier, author, Hervé Quéméner, co-author of the book, and Éliane Kirouac. (Photographie : Marie-Claire Botte)

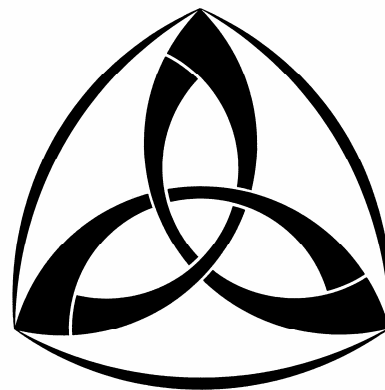


Hélène Kirouac from Warwick, who designed the AFKFA crest, with François Kirouac, secretary of the Association. (Photography: Marie-Claire Botte)

Finistère General Council) organized an official reception for the Kirouacs. Nothing was forgotten. *Biniou* (Breton Bagpipes) and *bombarde* (rather loud flute); cider and Kir (white wine with blackberry juice); delicious appetizers and petits-fours (fancy bite-size cookies), followed by speeches and gifts exchange. Finally, the President, Daniel Créoff, presented the Finistère Medal of Honour to Clément Kirouac, the AFKFA President at the time.

The Celebrations in Huelgoat ended by the presentation of gifts to Mrs. Patricia Dagier as a token of the AFKFA's gratitude for her exceptional work. Hélène Kirouac thanked her in the name of our group. Then François Kirouac, our Association's secretary, presented the genealogist with a particularly symbolic painting representing Cap Saint-Ignace, the village where our ancestor was married in 1732. The painting was a gift from Louise Kirouac*, renowned painter of our Quebec villages. Wonderfully meaningful !

*To see her paintings on various website, type "Louise Kirouac" on www.google.ca



PRESS REVIEW

A resident of La Broquerie, Eugène Kirouac, receives the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award

LA LIBERTÉ, August 31, 2005, Volume 92,
Numéro 20 - Model Citizen.

By Christianne HACAULT



Recipient of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, Eugène Kirouac (left) and his wife, Lucie Kirouac, with the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, John Harvard.

Part of that caring tradition has created a series of Caring Heroes in Canada. We're a country where we make national heroes out of ordinary people who give freely of their time to make a better society and a better world, remarked John Harvard, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, during the August 23rd ceremony at Government House, when presenting these awards to three Manitobans, including Eugène Kirouac of La Broquerie, on behalf of Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson, to acknowledge the gratitude and admiration of a grateful nation.

Deeply moved by the gratitude shown to him, Eugène Kirouac was hard put to express himself. "We were really surprised. We did not expect anything like this" declared his wife, Lucie Kirouac. "There are many people in La Broquerie who deserve this award. We wish to thank those who submitted his name and we will keep on helping others. There is always something to be done, projects to be completed."

Even though life on the farm left

him precious little spare time, Eugène Kirouac has always been devoted to the parish and rural community of La Broquerie. A sexton for 23 years, Mr. Kirouac also takes care of the church and the cemetery. As a member of the Knights of Columbus, he has collected money for over 15 years for local charities, including the Heart and Stroke Foundation. Mr. Kirouac and his wife organize numerous activities for the senior citizens' club. Both give generously of their time and energies to community projects in La Broquerie.

Eugène Kirouac says that volunteering for his community is part of his family tradition. "My father taught me to help others, as he did all his life. Doing something for others makes you feel good. I owe it to life."

This award was established in 1996 by then Governor General Romeo LeBlanc as a way of recognizing the outstanding voluntary contributions Canadians make to their community. Usually the recipients have been active for years and, in most cases, their work has never been recognized by any honour or awards either provincial or federal.

Besides the article published in LA LIBERTÉ, on the web one can find the official press releases from Rideau Hall, Ottawa, and Government House, Winnipeg, as well as in THE CARILLON NEWS of Steinbach, a village next to La Broquerie, where there is a wonderful article about retired volunteers, like Eugène Kirouac.

On April 14, 2005, Radio-Canada (French CBC) presented a news release by Jean-François Nadeau on Eugène Kirouac, the French-speaking Manitoban, who has been volunteering in La Broquerie for

decades. Eugène was interviewed and he tells us in his own words what he does and especially why he does it and we also learn that a friend of his, Albert Vielfaure, submitted his name for the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award. Albert says that Eugène deserves to be thanked His name does not hit the front page ... but his devotion and contribution to his community and parish deserve to be acknowledged."

Every morning, it says, Eugène Kirouac goes to the parish church in La Broquerie, cleans and prepares it for Mass, funerals or other religious services; and when the priest arrives for Mass, the church is warm. At 73, Eugène is a very precious help to the parish priest: "He takes care of everything", underlines Bishop Albert Fréchette.

Eugène Kirouac volunteers not for honours but to thank life itself. He says he made a deal with the Good Lord: "As long as God keeps me alive and healthy, I will keep on working."

Many times a week, Eugène Kirouac also goes to the RCMP office in Steinbach to do some filing for the police. Sometimes he will have to draw the list of people in jail and write down the doings while in detention. "If he did not do this work, we, the officers, would have to do it, and it would prevent us from being on the road. It would eat away at the time needed for investigations ... adds Sergeant Adrian Anderson interviewed by Radio-Canada.

To complete this portrait here is the article published in THE CARILLON NEWS, Steinbach on January 1, 2004.

Volunteers boost RCMP bottom line

It seemed fitting that the Steinbach RCMP paid tribute just before Christmas to three southeast senior volunteers who have selflessly given their time and efforts to serving the detachment. According to Staff-Sgt. John Olbort and Sgt. Bryan Walker,



October 2004, Eugène Kirouac's family celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary. Left to right. First row: Nicole, Lucie (Gagnon), Eugène (01671), Ginette. Second row: Louis, Rolande, Liliane, Roger, Monique, Jean. (Collection of Eugène Kirouac)

the dedicated efforts of **Eugene Kirouac**, Emil Senkiw and Gerard Tetrault over the past dozen years have greatly boosted the Steinbach RCMP's bottom line. "It's (all of the volunteer hours the men have donated) in excess of six months up to one year of full-time employment," said Sgt. Walker, "Think of all the money they have saved the taxpayers."

The staff sergeant explained that the work **Kirouac**, Senkiw and Tetrault did always had to be done in the first place and if they hadn't, it would significantly cut into the policing time of the Steinbach officers. During an interview with Olbort, Walker and the volunteers at the Steinbach detachment, office manager Lucille Rivard noted that the bottom line extends far beyond the financial benefits.

Rivard, who oversees the Senior Volunteer Program, stated that the three men have proven themselves to be an invaluable resource in many ways since January 1992. "They're incredibly loyal, rain or shine, even when they're sick, through appointments we always knew they'd be here Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday." On those days, they would work for one to two hours, depending on what was needed to be

accomplished. Their tasks would run the gamut from administrative file work, guard duties (over and above their regular hours), photocopying, to odd jobs around the building, such as minor repairs to furniture like shelves and chairs.

Walker joked that their expertise sometimes veered towards "search and recovery" that is trying to locate missing files.

Worthwhile

Emil Senkiw started working with the Steinbach RCMP after he sold his business, Steinbach Dry Cleaners. "I was retired, needed something to do and thought this was something worthwhile to get involved with." While Tetrault, who retired after selling his La Broquerie trucking business in 1988, echoed Senkiw's sentiments, **Kirouac** said a family connection brought him to the job. "My daughter-in-law was working here as a constable and she suggested to me that it would be a good thing to come in" he related. He used to farm in the Steinbach-La Broquerie area.

Since all of them are leaving, a reporter asked them to look back and reflect on their time spent at the

detachment. "I'm very proud to have worked here. I've listened to other volunteers who work at other detachments and they are envious of my working environment" **Kirouac** related.

Senkiw said he liked how RCMP staff valued him and treated him with respect. "I feel very appreciated here; the members gave us a royal treatment, they were absolutely unbelievable. Lucille Rivard was a lot of help, really helping us get the hang of the administrative work." Tetrault has a more humorous view of his experiences. "For the first time in my life I've worked for 12 years at the same place and never had a reprimand" he jokes.

Rivard said their presence gives her a boost when she needs to help at the front desk, or help an officer with a file. "And they know their duties well, certainly better than the new constables" quipped a good-natured Rivard whose co-workers responded with hearty laughter.

Walker said it was a bonus that their volunteers are very highly thought of throughout the Southeast; their presence also gave the detachment stability over the years. "The transition (of new staff coming in and out of a detachment) is constant, but they have provided continuity that better serves the community." Rivard added that they would be missed. "It's been really wonderful having them here, we rely on the extra help" said Rivard, noting that people in the detachment aren't ready to think about life without them. "You could say we've been spoiled."

The articles end with an invitation to "Those who would like to volunteer for the Steinbach RCMP should call the detachment at 326-4452."

INTRODUCTION TO MRS. ALICE LEPAGE PATRY'S DIARY

Claude J. Doiron

The Diary reproduced here, was written by Alice Lepage who was married to Joseph Patry, a civil employee of the Quebec Provincial Government. This is the first instalment of her Diary published in the *Trésor des Kirouac*, number 81, September 2005.⁽⁰¹⁾ On June 9, 1903, Alice LEPAGE, married Joseph PATRY, the son of Joseph-Hilarion PATRY, owner of a hardware store in the Saint-Sauveur District of Quebec City, and of Marie-Louise Aurélie KIROUAC (00565). Therefore Alice LEPAGE-PATRY is the daughter-in-law of Marie-Louise Aurélie KIROUAC-PATRY (1855-1938).

I found the manuscripts of Alice Lepage-Patry's Diary in the vault of the François-Xavier Garneau House⁽⁰²⁾ in Quebec City's Latin Quarter when I bought the house from her daughter, Gabrielle PATRY, in 1988. The first manuscripts date back to 1920 and the last one ends in 1945.

It is from the Garneau House, bought by Joseph Patry in 1920, that Alice Lepage-Patry writes her diary, day in, day out and, at the end of each month, she eagerly mailed it to her brothers and sisters who did not live in Quebec City in order to tell them the latest local news as well as her daily whereabouts, life in her large house with her large household where, besides looking after her husband, Joseph, and their children, Simone, Gabrielle, Laurent and little Monique, she took in boarders as early as 1927.

Mrs. Lepage-Patry was very busy indeed given her many household activities and demanding social life which she made a point to record in her diary. However, it seems that she decided to start this diary and correspondence when her dear sister Phine (short for Joséphine) was transferred from Quebec City to Montreal. Phine, by then known as Mother Sainte Julie, was a nun in the

Congregation of Notre-Dame.

Mrs. Lepage-Patry had two other sisters in the Congregation of Notre-Dame: Mother Saint-Alexandre and Mother Saint-Donat. Their brother, Alexandre, would become the Parish Priest in Deschambeault from 1914 to 1953⁽⁰³⁾.

Going from one family member to another, the precious documents would finally land at William's, their brother living in Newport, U.S.A. After reading them, William would dutifully send them back to his sister Alice who promptly tied up these letters in small bundles to be carefully stored in the vault of her house. Without missing a single day, she kept up this correspondence during almost twenty five years.

Combined together these documents would make up a rather large volume; and presently this is an ongoing project. But I think that the extracts concerning the Kirouac side of the family, which you are herewith given the exclusive privilege to publish and read, will give you the opportunity to discover behind-the-scene stories of life in Quebec City during the last century as well as enjoying the lively penmanship of Mrs. Alice Lepage-Patry.

Enjoy reading, Claude J. Doiron

(01) Translation by Marie Lussier Timperley for the *Trésor des Kirouac*, September 2005, number 81



Garneau House

(02) François-Xavier Garneau House: located in the Vieux-Québec, the Old Quebec City at 14 Saint-Flavien Street, a large bourgeois (Victorian style) 19th century house where the historian François-Xavier Garneau lived (1809-1866). Website of the house: <http://www.louisgarneau.com/fra/maisonfxg.asp?option=5>

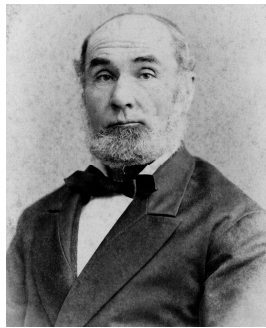
The numbers in parenthesis following many names within the text refer to the numbers of these individuals as found in the **Généalogie des descendants de Maurice Louis Alexandre Le Brice de Keroack** published in 1991 by the Association des familles Kirouac inc.

Some notes were added to the text in order to help the reader better understand the period therefore better appreciate Mrs. Patry's text. The research for these extra notes was done by Céline and François Kirouac, both members of the AFKFA Board.



Photography: Jacques Kirouac

Work session on October 29, 2004, Claude J. Doiron, Marie Kirouac and Céline Kirouac.



François Kirouac
1826-1896



Marie Julie Hamel
1830-1915

*DIARY OF MRS. ALICE LEPAGE PATRY
FAMILY TREE*

Frédéric Patry

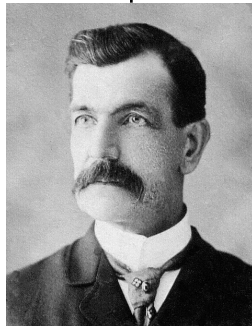
Luce Courteau

Joseph Lepage

Marie-Julia Thurber
1840-1895



Aurélie Kirouac
1855-1938



Joseph Hilarion Patry
1847-1917



Alice Lepage
1876-1947

Joseph Patry

Joséphine Lepage
Sister Sainte-Julie

? Lepage
Sister Saint-Alexandre

? Lepage
Sister Saint-Donat

Alexandre Lepage
1871-1960

William Lepage

Adolphe Lepage

Simone Lepage

Gabrielle Lepage

Laurent Lepage

Monique Lepage



DIARY OF MRS. ALICE LEPAGE PATRY

Thursday, January 20, 1927

Yesterday evening, I wrote a birthday letter to our brother William, instead of simply including a few friendly lines with the manuscript. Our beloved brother, born on January 20, 1873, is 54 today. This morning at Mass I lit a candle⁽⁰⁴⁾ to Saint Joseph for him. May Heaven look after him, keep him and bless every day of his 54th year. Life is so vain and short and it is so important to prepare oneself for the everlasting life.

Coming out of the church, I fell down the icy steps; a young girl with an angelic face helped me get back on my feet again. Thanks to my Guardian Angel⁽⁰⁵⁾ who protected me I did not break any bones. Finally, I was able to go to Bellevue⁽⁰⁶⁾ to visit our dear little sister, Mother Saint-Alexandre. I spent the whole afternoon in her small music room, where everything is artistic and as clean as a pin. Our sister is slimmer; she seems in better health, her colouring is good. She looks better. She no longer complains of rheumatism, the climate does her good.

To avoid meeting other people in the corridors, we went through the chapel. Mother Madeleine saw me, so she quickly turned the lights on in the crèche; she is a vestry nun with good taste. I admired the altar's decoration and the crèche of the Small Child King. Mother Saint-Jean -

Chrysostôme knocked on the door and walked in with light refreshments, fruit cake and soft drinks. It is easy to see that Mother Saint-Alexandre is making friends in Bellevue like everywhere else. We enjoyed talking freely while admiring the beautiful scenery. I did not leave until 5:30 p.m. The Mother Provincial arrived only at 5 p.m. There was singing of the *Veni Creator*. The Mothers Sainte-Sabine and Saint-Léandre came for a short visit and gave me letters to drop at the post office.

I met Mr. Pagé who was buying sweets for Mother Sainte-Julie, I believe. We shook hands and he offered me his wishes for the New Year. I called at the *Jeffrey Hale (Hospital)*⁽⁰⁷⁾, Mr. Gillespie suffered from rheumatism until 5 (a.m. or p.m.) and did not get any rest until the morning.

He invited us to pay him a visit, Gabrielle also wished him a good evening. We took advantage of the nice and more clement weather to go and spend the evening at Mrs. Patry's house, the children's grandmother. Marie-Louise had gone out to do an errand. Yvonne had already gone to her room, to bed. Does she really sleep that much? These would be very long nights? She often feels peculiar but she looks after herself.

Charlie Kirouac (00594)⁽⁰⁸⁾ a medical doctor now, will marry his young widow⁽⁰⁹⁾ in the spring and will live in the house on Chemin Sainte-Foy (Road). That will be a nice home for the little woman, a clerk⁽¹⁰⁾ now lodging somewhere on Saint-Jean Street.

Uncle Napoléon Kirouac (00580) and his wife,

(03) Deschambeault: (founded in 1713) 30 miles south-west of Quebec City on the Saint Lawrence River. English Website: <http://www.municipalite.deschambault.qc.ca/> or enter 'Deschambeault' on: www.google.ca

(04) Lighting candles was and still is a strong tradition in Catholic Churches.

(05) Another strong tradition among Catholics: daily prayers to their Guardian Angel for protection.

(06) Bellevue: The Notre-Dame-de-Bellevue College was one of many schools established in the Quebec City area by the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre-Dame, the congregation founded by Marguerite Bourgeois in Montreal at the end of the 17th century. In 1864, the sisters bought the Belle-Vue Estate at the top of the Côteau Sainte-Geneviève (promontory), "on the road to Sainte-Foy". The name 'Belle-Vue' goes back to the previous century and probably was chosen because of the beauty of the site on a promontory overlooking the picturesque valley of the Saint-Charles River. There in 1874, the sisters established the Notre-Dame-de-Bellevue College. (French text found on the Quebec City website). The college closed its doors in 1996 after 122 years.

(07) *The Jeffrey-Hale Hospital*, inaugurated in June 1901 in the Old Quebec City, has been since the nineteen-fifties located at the corner of Chemin Saint-Foy and Côte Saint-Sacrement. At the time when Mrs. Lepage-Patry is writing, the hospital was located on the Saint-Cyrille Boulevard (now renamed René-Lévesque Boulevard) facing what is nowadays the Grand-Théâtre of Quebec City.

(08) Charles Antoine Kirouac (00594) (1901-1961), son of Napoléon Georges Kirouac (00580) and Annie Davie. Napoléon Georges was Joseph Patry's cousin, therefore Alice Lepage's cousin by marriage.

(09) Germaine Baillargeon, widow of Louis Philippe Soucy, married Charles Antoine Kirouac on February 28, 1927, in the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec.

(10) Low office clerk.

Georgianna, have bought a house on Grande-Allée⁽¹¹⁾, across the street from the Franciscan Fathers; what a change and a great move for them. Aunt Napoléon⁽¹²⁾, always kind, good, and pleasant, had the genealogy of the Kirouac family written up and bound in a book - including (Kerouartz), a marquis with a castle⁽¹³⁾.

She sent a copy to Mrs Kirouac-Patry, which is very kind of her. She is presently visiting in Montreal and will see Juliette, Mother Marie-Aurélié, at the Bon Pasteur (Convent)⁽¹⁴⁾. She is getting better; her mother is convinced that she will be cured and is waiting for this to happen to present a statue of Saint-Theresa-of-the-Infant-Jesus to the religious community to which she belongs.

Tuesday, February 4, 1930

Mass at 7:00 a.m. Getting back into my good habits will be great indeed, if only I can manage to wake up in the morning. I sent a letter of congratulations to uncle Jules Kirouac (00655), Parish Priest of Sainte-Justine on the occasion of his receiving the honorary title of Itinerant Canon⁽¹⁵⁾ granted to him by his holiness the Pope Pius XI for his 61st birthday. I read in the papers that his parishioners

(11) The property bought by the uncle and aunt Napoléon was located at 305 de la Grande-Allée in Quebec City (corner of Taché Street). The house's address is now 401 and is, since 2004, the headquarters of the *Quebec Symphony Orchestra*.

(12) The aunt Napoléon Kirouac was born Georgianna Boivin, she was Napoléon Georges' third wife. They were married on June 16, 1902, in Montreal's Cathedral. Using the husband's Christian name to identify a woman was normal at the time.



Collection of Claude J. Doiron

.Loretteville - 1932; Mrs. Alice Lepage Patry with her children, Simone, Gabrielle, Laurent and little Monique.

organized a special celebration for him.

Assembly of the Holy Family⁽¹⁶⁾. Miss Bisson was the soloist,

she sang the *O Salutaris* by Gabriel Fauré. She sang in the choir with us, it was a most

(13) At the beginning of the 20th century the oral tradition in the Kirouac family pretended there was a link between the ancestor of the North American Kirouacs, *Maurice Louis Le Bris Sieur De K'voach dit Alexandre de Kervoach*, and the Marquis of Kerouartz in Brittany. The Marquis strongly denied any such links. The enigma of the Kirouac ancestor's origin was finally solved by Patricia Dagier and Clément Kirouac in 1999.

(14) Bon Pasteur: Crèche = Holy Shepherd Orphanage where children born out of wedlock were placed awaiting adoption. The Sisters of the Holy Shepherd had convents in Montreal, Quebec City and many other towns.

(15) Itinerant Canon, (vicaire forain in French). This itinerant canon was a priest put in charge of a number of parishes in an area. His role was to promote and coordinate the pastoral action within that area. He made sure that religious ceremonies were celebrated according to the pre-scribed rites. He also supervised the decoration and cleanliness of churches, the furniture and sacred vases, particularly for the Eucharistic celebrations. In addition, he made sure that the parish records were correctly filled in, kept up to date and safely stored. He also made sure that all church properties were well administered.

(16) The Quebec Bishop created the Holy Family Association at the very beginning of the French Regime.

welcomed help. Yesterday, Mrs. Thivierge, one of the three sopranos, did not turn up. Someone else took her place, I stood beside that person and could hear nothing. This always happens when people do not show up for practice.

It is cold and humid. Simone took Monique and Michel out⁽¹⁷⁾. The children took their shovels onto the ramparts⁽¹⁸⁾. She came back to the house after only half an hour because it was too cold.

Cousin Berthe Gaudreau, who has gone to visit her family in Montmagny, wrote to me a lovely short letter. She invites me and also Gabrielle to visit them. Cousin Arthur Gaudreau sent me a New Year's card to thank me for the one I sent him. Gabrielle went to the meeting of the *Société du parler français* (French Speaking Society) at the (Laval) University, with Miss Fillion and Miss Tremblay. She was ready to serve them coffee at home on the way back but they did not stop by; too bad, as Gabrielle unfortunately broke one lovely small fancy cup and the creamer, and all that effort for nothing.

Wednesday, February 12, 1930

I attended the 7:00 a.m. Mass. I took Holy Communion. I lit a candle especially for the intentions of our sister Joséphine and our brother Joseph whose birthday it is today, Wednesday, 12th. Both of them have now gracefully entered their 60th year, is it possible?? I say this without thinking that I am already well over 55 years old. I will soon be there myself.

I got Monique all dressed up and took her with me to the 9:00 a.m. Mass for the Golden



Golden Wedding Anniversary of Amanda Lemieux and Joseph-Arthur Kirouac.

Collection of Céline Kirouac

Wedding anniversary of uncle and aunt Arthur Kirouac (00494)⁽²⁰⁾. Monique had promised to be nice and quiet, and she behaved herself very well. I cannot tell you how moved I was by this religious ceremony. The altar was beautifully decorated. Jules Kirouac (00655), the Curate, Arthur's brother, presided the Mass. He is the Parish Priest in Sainte-Justine but came for the occasion. Curate Lagueux⁽¹⁹⁾ was sitting on his throne wearing his Canon cassock. There were lots of people, it is a large family. Napoléon Kirouac (00580) was the witness for his brother Arthur, who was celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary and Ernest (00499), the eldest son, was witness for his mother⁽²⁰⁾. The singing was very beautiful. Mr. Gravel sang the *Panis Angelicus* by Cesar Franck. Cécile Kirouac (00500)⁽²¹⁾, the honoured couple's granddaughter sang with Mr. Gravel. The young Talbot boys, Robert and Henri, also cousins of the Kirouacs, played the violin and the cello. The photographer took pictures of all

the guests present at the 50th wedding anniversary ceremony.

I went back to the reception given in the afternoon. Everything was organized to perfection, the house⁽²²⁾ was full of yellow roses, the 'ladies' were all wearing their best Sunday dresses, the table was laden with food. I greeted and

(17) Simone's son, therefore Mrs. Alice Lepage-Patry's grandson as Simone is her daughter.

(18) The ramparts are the fortifications encircling Old Quebec. They were erected between the 17th and the 19th centuries. Since 1985, the historical Quebec area, thus surrounded, is listed among the UNESCO World Heritage.

(19) Curé Robert Lagueux was the Parish Priest of Saint-Roch Parish in Quebec City from 1910 until 1933.

(20) Amanda Lemieux (1860-1940).

(21) Cécile Kirouac (00500) a few years later, will become Sister Saint-Robert-Marie in the Congrégation de Jésus-Marie, a Quebec City religious order. See related Websites.

(22) This residence was located on Grande-Allée Boulevard in Quebec City across the street from the Saint-Dominique Church. It was demolished and replaced by an apartment complex.

kissed my uncle Arthur (00494), my godfather and cousin who became my uncle by marriage and was my witness at my wedding, because my brother, Adolphe, arrived too late. I was so pleased to meet the whole family. I saw the photographs that were taken this morning, they are excellent, and everyone can be seen very distinctly in the group-photo where I am in. These two dear old people are such a wonderful example of what it means to be conforming to God's will! This admirable mother has raised twenty-one children. Ten are still alive, four sons and three daughters are married, and there are two nuns and a spinster living with her parents.

At all times, this brave woman's expression has always been the same. Even on the worst days, she always looked calm and

serene. It is so marvellous to be able to face life squarely taking things as they come, as God gives them! This exemplar mother grew up an only child and was the best musician around. I have always noticed

her house in order and well kept. When came the time for the children to leave home, the father, having suffered heavy losses on the stock market, became mentally sick (had a nervous breakdown in today's terms-T.N.), but she became his guardian angel, looked after him and supported him every single day of his life.

How many times when going to church, I saw her holding his arm supporting him. It moved me and saddened me every time. This dear aunt went through it all as if there was nothing the matter. The secret is in their religious attitude. For both of them, life's greatest difficulties are not senseless or meaningless, they face them so well.

I saw the Parish Priest who will come to our house tomorrow. I also met cousin De Blois, dressed up like a duchess, but looking quite altered. Mrs. Pruneau (sister of Dentist Lemieux) was also serving tea and ice cream.



Residence of Joseph-Arthur Kirouac at the corner of Des Prairies and Bishop Gauvreau Streets in the Saint-Roch district of Quebec City.

Collection of Céline Kirouac



Present at the Golden Wedding Anniversary. Standing, left to right: Lauréat Lesage, friend of Cécile K., 2 (?), 3 (?), 4 Marie-Paule Kirouac St-Cyr, 5 Albert St-Cyr, 6 Odilon Kirouac, 7 Alphonse Lemay, 8 Marie-Anne Simoneau. Seated at the table, from left to right: 1 Cécile Kirouac (granddaughter of Arthur and Amanda) 2 Robert K., Cécile's brother, 3 Graziella Kirouac, 4 (?), 5 Germaine K.; Seated at the table, in front, left to right: 1 Marie-Anne Chalifour, 2 Juliette Bilodeau (family friend), 3 Léontine Marois. (collection of Céline Kirouac)

Sunday, February 16, 1930

It is a beautiful and very cold day but that did not worry Gabrielle who went to Bellevue⁽⁶⁶⁾ to see her aunt (Mother) Saint-Alexandre. Monique would have liked to accompany her but stayed with her grandma "We will have fun together; what are we going to do? Dance, sing, eat candies, we will have a really good time!" She was soon comforted. Simone did not go out because of Michel's cold. We were alone for dinner; that had not happened in a long time. I showed Monique the song and dance (a round) "*Mademoiselle voulez-vous danser, la bastringue, la bastringue du temps passé?*" (Miss would you like to dance with me in the old fashioned way). She learned ever so quickly. I kept starting over and over again naming everyone in turn, Monique enjoyed it very much. Miss Paradis came; she brought me the *Propagation of the Faith* book. Monique sang for her. Laurent went skiing all afternoon. This evening he was invited to play Bridge at Cécile Kirouac's (00500). Mrs. Des Rochers was invited for supper at *Kerhulu*⁽²³⁾.

As we did not have a babysitter, Monique came with us to Simone's. She was absolutely thrilled. Michel was already in bed fast asleep. Monique fell asleep as soon as we got there. I had made sure she had done her prayers and given her heart to God before leaving; she is a good girl and so reasonable. When the game of Bridge was over Simone went to pick her up.

Michel was sitting in his high-

chair. He woke up and turned up in the lounge in his pyjamas, his mother put his dressing-gown on him and his moccasins; he and Monique were enjoying each other's company!! Dear Mother Saint-Alexandre sent a small box of candies to Monique who said "How nice of aunty! Isn't she kind to think of me like that?"

Wednesday, April 2, 1930

I received a letter from Mr. John T. Ross, including a \$20. cheque for the crèche⁽²⁴⁾ with a kind word and wishes for success in the great work I am doing. There was also a letter from uncle Napoléon Kirouac (00580) saying that two ladies had come to his house and he had given them money, but signed: 'a friend'. I phoned him and explained that having not seen his name, I thought that, this year again, he was away. He was very polite and kind. This \$20. will be added to the money collected by Mrs. Thivierge on the south side of Saint-Pierre Street. I made many more phone calls; it is always delicate (to ask) for money that does not belong to you. I try to be as tactful as possible. Gabrielle deposits the money in the treasurer's account at the *Caisse d'Économie* (Economy Co-op); she brings the receipt back to me and I forward it to Mrs. Lavoie. I thanked the president, Mrs. Lessard, for her kindness towards me for naming me honorary lady at Mrs. Henry's (Bridge) card table. I explained myself and asked her to cross out my name. I will do all I can but without being an active member. I told Mrs. Henry and she accepted my help for her table but was sorry I did not accept to be part of it.



Collection of Claude J. Doiron

Aurélie Kirouac, daughter of the Chevalier François Kirouac and mother-in-law of Mrs. Patry.

Tuesday, April 29, 1930

I could not find a free moment to write this morning. I like to take about ten minutes to write a few lines in my diary, but often I cannot do it. From now on I will dial the (phone number) 2-5571W, but no longer call the 2-4839W. I call Simone every day to say good morning; Michel recognizes my voice and before his mother arrives he says "Good morning grandma" and babbles on in his jargon so sweet to the ears and heart of a grandmother. Mass at 7:00 a.m. this morning.

Yesterday evening, Mrs. Mathieu phoned me. The President of the Women's League asked the Parish Priest for a High Mass to be sung by the *chorale de la Sainte-Famille* (Holy Family Parish Choir) because she has heard so much good about

(23) *Kerhulu*, very famous French restaurant in Old Quebec City, opened at 22 Côte-de-la-Fabrique in 1925 but, after over fifty years, unfortunately closed its doors. See related Websites.

(24) Probably the Orphanage of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd - 1901-1972.

it. Mother Saint-Ermel is in Quebec City. It is a great joy for Mrs. Mathieu who entertained her at dinner. I received an invitation and programme for the Alumna's gathering at the Saint-Roch Convent on May 18. I do hope the Mothers Sainte-Julie and Saint-Alexandre will be there again this time as well as Mother Saint-Donat ?? ... Will she be able to take part in the festivities too?? ... It would be so wonderful. I will enquire and see if it is possible. Could she come and cover her expenses??

Mother Saint-Bernardin from the Crèche telephoned me to thank me for my ninth gift of \$10. She phoned me yesterday and told me that the sisters had received a fountain for the newly baptized given by Mrs. Napoléon Kirouac. When she asked me if I knew her, I told her that she was my aunt. She could not find enough words to say how generous and distinguished the lady is. Uncle Napoléon (00580) gave \$100. at the blessing of the new wing of the Crèche. Cousin Charlie (00594) also gave \$100. I was not surprised by their generosity; I know them well.

I surprised Simone with a gift for Michel. I called Mr. Leblanc at *Paquet* (store) and asked for linoleum⁽²⁵⁾ for Michel's bedroom. Simone thought that the employee was making a mistake. He was sure he had not made a mistake as he had stopped here first to be paid by me. Grandma's gift made Michel very happy. Mr. Huot installed the linoleum, the pattern is very nice. I was right to trust Mr. LeBlanc. In the evening I went to see for myself. I did not do much, pictures needed to be hung but I did not want to be nosy so I left early and came back home by 10:00 p.m.

Girls named Kirouac who studied at the Collège Notre-Dame-de-Bellevue in Sainte-Foy

Kirouac, Adelcie :	1893-1895 (Sister Marie-des-Anges, r.j.m., 1902, Sillery)
Kirouac, Anna :	1915
Kirouac, Anne-Marie :	1893-1894
Kirouac, Béatrice :	1901-1911 (56 Chemin Sainte-Foy, Québec)
Kirouac, Bernadette :	1883-1887
Kirouac, Blanche :	1888-1891
Kirouac, Émeric :	1907 (Gr.) (Mrs. J.-H. Lavoie, 514 Saint Cyrille Street Québec)
Kirouac, Éva :	1888-
Kirouac, J.A. :	1916 (Gr.)
Kirouac, Jeanne :	1901-1911 (56 Chemin Sainte-Foy, Québec)
Kirouac, Julia :	1915
Kirouac, Julie-Anna :	1916 (Gr.) (deceased)
Kirouac, Laura :	1902-1903
Kirouac, Lauretta :	1895-
Kirouac, M.-A. :	1888- (Mrs. M.-L. Dubois, deceased in 1938)

SOURCE : <http://nosracines.bibl.ulaval.ca/Q9K/web/Q9Kb0119.jpg>

Wednesday, May 7, 1930

I attended the 7:00 a.m. Mass at Saint-Joseph's altar whose annual feast it was. Mrs. Vocelle worked here all day. She ate a good lunch. When she comes here I think she eats for two days. She particularly likes soup. If I leave some in the kitchen, I know the soup tureen will be empty when I come back.

I had to make a real effort to get dressed and hurry up to go to the (AGM) meeting at the Bon Pasteur Crèche⁽²⁴⁾. As I arrived at the convent so did the Cardinal⁽²⁶⁾ with his retinue, hence I waited to go in until after him. Abbé Cyrille Gagnon⁽²⁷⁾ officially welcomed the Cardinal, and then Miss Latterrière, the secretary, read the annals of the previous year. She did that very well. Mrs. Lavoie, (Dr), the treasurer for as long as I can remember, has to resign because of health problems; she presented the Crèche's financial statement for the year. The President, Mrs. Lessard did very well; she is really up to her position. She is dignified, calm,

good, affable and tries to please everyone.

I had the pleasure of greeting Mother Sainte-Louise who recently was at death's door but recovered - but is still very frail. She did so much at the Crèche. The Cardinal spoke like a Father, and the religious man which he is, about the Crèche being the most beautiful work of charity among all the charity works. The dear little ones, who have gone to heaven, look after us and pray for us." The Cardinal gave us his blessing as a symbol of the heavenly blessings. There was ~~the ceremony of the blessing of the~~

(25) A square or rectangular piece of patterned linoleum put in the centre of a room instead of a carpet.

(26) The Archbishop of Quebec City was then Cardinal Félix-Raymond-Marie Rouleau who succeeded Archbishop Paul-Eugène Roy. He became a Cardinal on December 19, 1927, and held this post until his death on May 31, 1931.

(27) Abbé Cyrille Gagnon (1897-1945), ordained in 1906, was Dean of Laval University from 1943 to 1945.



August 24, 1930 — Aurélie Kirouac and Jean ; (Collection of Claude J. Doiron)

Holy Sacrament in the chapel, such a beautiful and rich chapel. The nuns sang very well. I met aunt Napoléon Kirouac⁽¹²⁾ in the parlour; she introduced me to the Superior General. I also met Mrs. Lavoie (Dr), she is on the invalid's list with a broken leg. She says she is very nervous and looks it too.

Coming back I took the trams⁽²⁸⁾, I stopped at the corner where the post office is and I joined Simone in the small park where I found her sitting all alone on a bench. She was watching the children playing in the grass. The sky was blue and reflected in the (Saint Lawrence) River's blue water. The boats were as white as snow. There were also white birds diving into the water. We finally walked back home, but only at 6:00 p.m. going over the ramparts because the view is so beautiful from there. I had brought a small bag of sweets for the children. As soon as they saw me from the garden, they ran towards me happily shouting

and laughing!

Miss Duquet with the Misses Cremail came after the Rosary service⁽²⁹⁾. Miss Duquet asked me to be at the church to sing *Holy Virgin* by (...) tomorrow evening. I will ask Laurent to baby-sit at home; he usually goes out every evening.

Friday, May 23, 1930

I completely forgot my hour of adoration in front of the Holy Sacrament this morning. I did not wake up. I went to the 7:30 a.m. Mass. Cousin Lavoie was alone at 8 a.m. when I went to light a candle.

It was nice and warm all day. I took advantage of the lovely weather to open all the windows and sit the children by the window with Togo (the dog) between them. The children from the Boys Choir School and the students, who attend the Sisters' school at the corner of the street, are very interested by what is going on at the window. The little girls were dancing around the telephone pole and singing *Entrez, entrez à la danse, faites le signe de révérence, saluez de vos beaux yeux celle que vous aimez le mieux*, - (*Join the dance, please curtsy, please graciously salute, with smiling eyes let her know that you like her best*).

Monique was singing at the window and Michel also was enjoying watching from the window. This morning the corporation employees broke the asphalt in order to repair it. Monique did not like that at all and said: "Come and see grandma; I am very upset, they have broken the street." Michel is very reasonable and is no trouble at all. If he were alone, we would never hear him but,

with Monique, he becomes excited and noisy just like her.

More good news from the hospital. Simone is really looking forward to going back home. Mrs. Ernest Kirouac (00499)⁽³⁰⁾ phoned me to congratulate me on our beautiful singing on Thursday, that was only yesterday morning but it already seems to be a long time ago. She said the voices were beautiful, enunciation clear, rhythm precise and everything perfect. She used to be the choir director herself so she knows what she is talking about, so I am very pleased with her appreciation⁽³⁰⁾. I had told Gabrielle that I would take the children to the park. I killed time until 5:00 p.m., then I got the children ready to go out with Togo of course and Monique brought along her doll and pram, Michel his stuffed rabbit. We walked on the ramparts to meet with the children's aunt. Gabrielle came and we sat on a small terrace facing the river; we stayed there until 6:00 p.m. The children had fun playing with pram and cart; the dog too seemed to enjoy his freedom rolling in the grass.

Saturday, May 24, 1930

It is the Queen's birthday so Gabrielle is off work and took the opportunity to visit Simone in the hospital. She brought Michel along after washing him, brushing his hair and dressing

(28) Mrs. Patry is referring to the electrical tramways used in the streets of Quebec City from 1897 until 1948. These tramways were the property of the *Québec Railways Light and Power* (original English name).

(29) Traditional daily evening recitation of the Rosary during the month of May.

(30) Mrs. Ernest Kirouac, née Alice Bolduc (1888-1962), was a musician and a piano teacher.

We invite you to look up *L'Album* by Raymonde K. Harvey, from page 24 onwards, where you will find more photographs of some of the people mentioned in Mrs. Lepa-ge Patry's story. (Editors' Note)

him. Aunt and nephew were like two new shining pennies! Poor Gabrielle she went to such trouble, she does so much, maybe too much so she was tired and her face was red. This is excellent practice for her, if God wants her to get married?? It is a good thing for her to test her patience as she quickly reaches her limit!

As for myself, I went to Bellevue with Monique to pay a birthday visit to dear aunt (Mother) Saint-Alexandre. Next Monday, the 26th, is her birthday. Monique was looking lovely in her little beige dress. Gabrielle would have liked a fancier dress. I believe in dressing properly but simply, without fuss. Dear Mother Saint-Alexandre was waiting for us outside on the balcony! The weather was nice and warm, the countryside beautiful and calm. Mother Saint-Alexandre said that the little Irène Soucy (whose widowed mother is remarried to cousin Charlie Kirouac), is a good and pleasant girl and she proved it by the way she looked after Monique when she was with her; her manners were kind and proper. She made sure Monique enjoyed herself and took her to see her school mistress and the Mother Superior. She gave her a banana and aunt (Sister) Saint-Alexandre gave her some gingerbread.

Monique had a lovely outing just as she likes them. Irène gave her a bunch of wild violets. I kept them precious to bring them to Simone as a souvenir from her convent. Mother Saint-Alexandre suffers from a bad cold and was all red from the suffocating heat. I must have been quite red in the face myself as it was so hot and I was rather tired.

Wednesday, August 6, 1930

What beautiful weather today, not a cloud in the sky and the sun is as bright as could be! I phoned Simone to ask her about her poor dear little Michel. He had a good night's sleep but he refused breakfast this morning and did not look too well. I did my housecleaning as fast as I could then picked him up to walk along the ramparts with Monique. I cannot tell you how lovely the city was, the blue river, the green trees. I went to church with the children to light two candles in front of Our Lady of Mercy, asking her to protect the dear little ones from all illness and accident. Michel and Monique put the money into the alms' box themselves; they were in a good mood, talking and laughing. I took them to the *Kirouac Store*⁽³¹⁾ where I bought them each a ball. I also found a nice small holy-water fount for Michel, to put his holy-water in. He was ever so happy. I kept him for lunch with Monique. Afterwards I put him on the sofa where he slept for an hour, until his dear mother, Simone, arrived.

I went to the park⁽³²⁾ with her and the children. It was cold, Michel asked to go back home to go to bed; he had a bit of fever and Monique too. I also found the wind a bit cool.

A Mrs. Cole, a stranger, talked to me. She is from Scotland, lives in Toronto and is in Quebec City with her husband because their only son works in a bank here during the summer months. Togo made everybody laugh; he stole a little girl's cookies and created quite a stir in the group! The grandfather could not pick up the cookies fast enough; Togo found them delicious and ate them all. It was very funny to watch. Togo loves children. His big tongue is always hanging out and he licks the little ones. What a pantomime! Some are frightened and cry, others laugh and run after the dog. Even if Togo steals his candies and cookies, Isidore Black loves the dog and the little boy laughs and keeps running after the dog on his short unsteady legs. He has eyes only for Togo. It is funny to watch all these little ones together.

Uncle Jules Kirouac (00655)⁽³³⁾, Parish Priest in Sainte-Justine, came to visit; he spent an hour with us. He looked very well in spite of his 200 pounds weighing heavily on his legs. Gabrielle and I are warmly invited to visit in Sainte-Justine. With the bus service, it is so much easier nowadays.

(31) Toy and novelty store of Joseph Arthur Kirouac located on the Côte de la Fabrique, across the street from the Quebec City Hall.

(32) That is the Montmorency Park on the Côte-de-la-Montagne.

(33) Uncle Jules Kirouac: often mentioned in reference to the 'nobility legend' in the family. Please refer to Clément Kirouac's conference presented at the SGCF on January 10, 2001. English text on the bilingual Kirouac Family website can be reached at : <http://www.genealogie.org/famille/kirouac/Our%20ancestor.htm>



Gérard Kirouac (00621) descendent of Chevalier François Kirouac

Let us start off this biography by introducing Gérard as a great-grandson of the Chevalier François Kirouac (00474) (1826-1896). His grandfather, Philippe-Eugène (00595), was a son of the Chevalier (Knight). Gérard, the son of Paul-Henri Kirouac (00618) and Cécile Lagueux, was born on May 31, 1933, at the Saint-Sacrement Hospital in Quebec City. He spent his early childhood in the Saint-Malo district, west of Saint-Sauveur where the Chevalier François was the last mayor before the area was incorporated into Quebec City at the end of the 19th century.

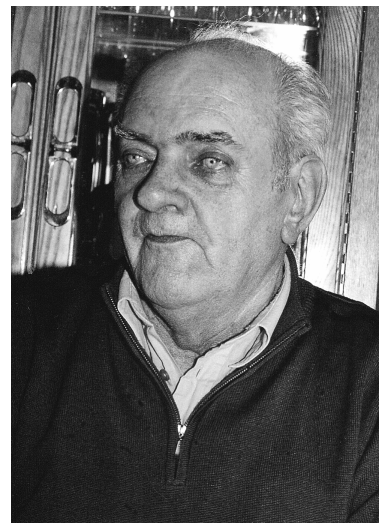
His grandfather, Philippe-Eugène, ran a grocery store on Saint-Vallier Street in Quebec City, while Lauréat Kirouac, his father's half-brother, ran the adjoining hardware store in the same building. Today, the location is occupied by the Latulipe store specializing in hunting and fishing gear and outdoor equipment.

One day, Gérard's grandfather had to sell his store as business was declining because Philippe-Eugène, contrary to his nearby competitors, refused to sell beer. Of course nowadays, a convenience store refusing to sell beer would also certainly rapidly go out of business! So he sold his business to the Latulipe family who kept in their employ as their accountant, Yves, Philippe-Eugène's son. Yves held that position for over fifty years. He passed away in 2004

and was the father of Alain, who was one of the fifteen founding members of our Association and, for many years, one of the Board members of the AFKFA.

After selling the store, the family moved to L'Ancienne-Lorette where Gérard did his elementary schooling; though he did his first and last year of primary schooling in the Saint-Malo Parish in Quebec City. He remembers very well that Édouard Laurin, his father's first cousin by marriage, and the President of the Paquet Company, would regularly bring him to the School in Saint-Sauveur on his way to work. Let's just point out that Édouard Laurin was married to Eudora Kirouac, one of Conrad's five sisters; Conrad Kirouac who was already well known by his religious name of Brother Marie-Victorin. Gérard returned to l'Ancienne-Lorette to do the first two years of secondary high school then was a boarder at the College in Saint-Raymond-de-Portneuf. However, he finished his studies in Quebec City in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Parish school.

It was already the mid 20th century and the Korean War was on. Gérard was only seventeen and adventure beckoned him so he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. The training camp was in Aylmer then, a small town in southern Ontario near Saint Thomas where he could enjoy spending his weekends in nearby Detroit just on the other side of the US border. From Aylmer he was transferred to the Base in



Gérard Kirouac,
Stoneham, January 2005

Photography: Marie Kirouac



Paul-Henri Kirouac

Collection of Nicole Kirouac



Philippe Eugène Kirouac

Collection of Nicole Kirouac

Genealogy of Gérard Kirouac

I

Urbain-François Le Bihan
Sieur de K/voach
Around 1703-1736

Cap Saint-Ignace
October 22, 1732

Louise Bernier
(1712-1802)

II

Louis Keroack
dit breton
1735-1779

Cap-Saint-Ignace
January 11, 1757

Catherine Méthot
(1739-1813)

III

Pierre Keroack
(1777-1866)

Montmagny
Saint-Thomas
October 17, 1797

Marie-Anne Joncas
(1775-1816)

IV

Louis-Grégoire Kérouack
(1801-1890)

Saint-Pierre-de-Montmagny
January 10, 1825

Catherine Picard
(1803-1878)

V

François Kérouack
(1826-1896)

L'Ancienne-Lorette
June 6, 1848

Marie-Julie Hamel
(1830-1915)

VI

Philippe-Eugène Kirouac
(1866-1948)

Québec
Saint-Sauveur
May 24, 1897

Georgianna Poitras
(1875-1961)

VII

Paul-Henri Kirouac
(1903-1968)

Québec
Saint-Jean-Baptiste
July 17, 1928

Cécile Lagueux
(1904-1986)

VIII

Gérard Kirouac
(1933-)

Lévis
Christ-Roi
October 8, 1955

Louissette Poulin
(1932-2001)





Lévis, October 8, 1955
Louisette Poulin and Gérard Kirouac
(Collection of Nicole Kirouac)



Gérard Kirouac and his brother, Jean-Paul,
with their mother, Cécile Lagueux
(Collection of Nicole Kirouac)

Trenton, Ontario, to follow a three-month English course. After that he was sent to Borden, Ontario, another camp where he learned plane mechanics, but before he went into "*contact training*" he had to take a course in technical terminology. Unfortunately for him, he would not be able to complete the course because, having complained about professors calling him *frog*, he was transferred to Clarenholm, Alberta, about 80 miles (128 kilometres) from Calgary. On the other hand, it was a chance for him to visit Banff, Lake Louise and some small French-speaking towns like St. Albert and Morinville near Edmonton.

In 1955, after spending over five years in various air force bases in Canada, he came back to Quebec, where, during three years, he worked for Anglo-Pulp & Paper Co., a company founded in Quebec City in 1927. His knowledge of English, learned during his years in the air force, were a real asset and opened wide the company doors. Later he worked for the Metropolitan Insurance Company for two years.

At the beginning of the sixties, he joined the Sûreté du Québec (Quebec Provincial Police) where he was posted in the investigation department. Of course he observed some highly confidential cases which, forty years later, are still just as secret. While investigating he got very close to the underworld where criminals are often hazardous partners-in-crime! Hence, after a few years of this work, he decided it was better to change career and he became a fireman at the airport in Sept-

Iles. (North-shore town on the Gulf of St. Lawrence River)

So working for Transport Canada, he was rapidly promoted at the airports in Sept-Îles and Quebec City where he became the Interim Fire Chief. This position gave him the opportunity to witness firsthand the *crash* of the Québecair F-27 that attracted a great deal of media attention in the nineteen mid-eighties given the size and circumstances of the disaster.

In 1983, he started travelling, first to Hawaii, where he met Ben Kokua, the Hawaiian actor from the TV series *Hawaii 5-0*, who showed him around the island as well as the ever famous and infamous Pearl Harbour. In 1985, on many occasions he went to Freeport in the Bahamas and also visited Acapulco, Mexico. There he realized that he might as well learn Spanish as it would be most useful. So he bought a Spanish course on cassettes and learned a third language.

In 1986, he visited Haïti. Duvalier was in power then and the more he saw of his regime, the least sympathy he had for it and decided never to go back. In 1987, he went to the Dominican Republic for the first time, to Samana in particular. The following year, his second visit there, he could already understand the language and express himself in Spanish. Since 1988, he has been regularly going back to the Dominican Republic and also often visits Cuba where he has made many friends. He does not like to live in large hotels and prefers to be with ordinary folks. He is very interested in these two countries, their people, customs and traditions as well as their history. He loves to meet and

Philippe-Eugène and his seven sons



From left to right, below: Conrad, Lauréat, Philippe-Eugène, Paul-Henri and Georges;
above: Yves, Jean-Charles and Roger (Collection of Nicole Kirouac)

talk with older persons in order to better understand their way of life under the successive various political regimes.

This is the on-going story of the interesting life led by the 72-year-young Gérard. He retired fifteen years ago but, as we can see, challenges never fazed him and still bring him pleasure. He never takes anything for granted. Perhaps there is a certain love of adventure in him just like in many people of his generation. The K/rouac Family Association wishes him many more pleasant years which he will certainly enjoy given his shrewdness and wonderful sense of humour.

The Editor



Gérard Kirouac and his three daughters. Left to right: Nicole, Johanne and France. (Collection of Nicole Kirouac)



735 Kilovolts - A First, Forty Years Ago

By J.A. Michel Bornais. Including quotes from Patrick d'Esparbès' article published in **HYDRO-PRESSE**, mid-November 1985.

"On September 21, 1965, after a failed first attempt because of a short circuit, it was a world's premiere when an electrical current of 735 kilovolts went rushing through a power line: 55,000 tons of steel, 675,000 insulators, 7,000 km (over 437 miles) of conductor wires and 1,400 pylons of various types, assembled by a few thousand men and women --- e.g. the first power

my pocket, I was immediately appointed as construction inspector to the worksite of the first 735 KV crossing of the Saguenay River, near Tadoussac. From 1964 to 1969, I was regularly shuttled between the Manic-Outardes generating complex and Montréal to various worksites: Saguenay River, Ile d'Orléans and the Quebec Bridge over the St. Lawrence River.

I must say that, with no experience of heights, my first climbing of the fast growing pylons had an accelerating effect on my heartbeats. As I learned from my

then, auditioning to enter their school would have been relatively easy. (photo caption: High-wire walks or strolls!)

What follows is my own testimony to journalist Patrick d'Esparbès and published in **HYDRO-PRESSE** on the occasion of the 20th anniversary celebrated in Trois-Rivières in 1985.

THE EQUIPMENT BROKE DOWN BEFORE WE DID

"Michel Bornais, presently commercial adviser with Customers Services, Mauricie Region, and construction inspector with Energy Transportation Projects in 1965."

"What stays with me from this adventure of the first 735 kilovolt line (=735,000 volts), is the extraordinary friendship and solidarity that made it possible for the various teams to cope with the work and complete the project well within the planned deadlines. We were spread out over the entire grid that we were building, but we always managed to meet either while moving from one worksite to another, at meetings and even somewhere along the roads. The work sites and living quarters dotted the map along the intended line but, for everyone everywhere, the goal was the same: succeed in building what seemed extraordinary at the time."

The amazement of foreign visitors, who were so impressed by the fast rate of progress, used to greatly amuse us. No matter how cold or stormy the weather was, nothing would stop us from working. Machinery usually gave up before people did and work came to a halt only when the engines refused to start. Thousands of anecdotes could be told and written. But one in particular still makes me laugh: one guy from Boischatel (near the worksite) made a bet with some



Ile d'Orléans, Québec, September 1965 (Collection of Michel Bornais)

line out of Manic-Outardes! --- carried, at a never-before-reached tension, the electrical current from the North Shore to the larger cities in the Province of Québec." A premiere for a *Made in Quebec* achievement that honourably received world-wide attention.

Hired by Hydro-Québec in 1964, right out of the classrooms at the *Institut de technologie de Trois-Rivières* (e.g. Trois-Rivières Technical College, now (CEGEP) Trois-Rivières College) with a diploma as electrical technician in

first division head, J. Roger Martin (of whom I keep an excellent souvenir), training technique was rather simple: "No problem... you just climb along as the new steel girders go up."... all the way up to 551 feet, 10 ½ inches with, as a bonus, an helicopter to travel from one side of the River to the other, cable-car rides and even walking trips (high wire act!) in the four wire bundle (conductors are spread 18 inches apart), with a spectacular view down the funnels of the ships sailing under. I am convinced that if *Le Cirque du Soleil* had existed



Collection of Michel Bornais

A moment of rest on the 'high' road for Michel Bornais.

Quebec Provincial Police officers, that he would cause the largest traffic jam ever on the anniversary of Ste-Anne (July 26) in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. He climbed up the structures onto the conductors of the first river crossing that links the main land (north-shore) to Île d'Orléans and walked along it for over an hour. Immediate result: In Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, all traffic came to a halt on a three-kilometre stretch of the three-lane highway. And, net result: He won his \$10 bet with the QPP plus a 48-hour observation stay in a psychiatric hospital for routine testing!"

On that very day, I was on another worksite, on the south side of Île d'Orléans, and nobody there among the linesmen felt like volunteering to answer the QPP's invitation to get the guy down from his roost. We all knew that it was Michel X, and that, in spite of all appearances, he was in no way suicidal and, given that he had made his way up 300 feet and above Sainte-Anne Boulevard, he knew very well the way down. After taking a number of pictures and smoking a few cigarettes, he decided to keep moving ahead and climb the 32-foot long insulator chain along the suspension tower (378 feet high), thus adding to his spectacular performance. Of course there was a welcoming party when he came down. While being handcuffed by a QPP Officer, Michel X reportedly said to him: "You owe me ten bucks." ... Hydro-Québec kept, as a souvenir, copies of the negatives of the photos taken from above and confiscated by the QPP. I hate to imagine the drama such an incident would create today. But any clown tempted by such a climb would need to know when the line is off or... get roasted.



Final inspection by Michel Bornais of a 735kV suspension insulator on a tower over the St. Lawrence River, spring 1966, near the village of St-Laurent, Ile d'Orléans. (Collection of Michel Bornais)



Collection of Michel Bornais

Look ma ... No hands!



What a Beautiful Cradle !

Unveiling of the Pioneers Monument at the Kamouraska Cradle

By Lucille Kirouac

On Sunday, July 31, 2005, on a beautiful bright sunny day, the *Kamouraska Cradle* welcomed, I would say, about 150 people representing some founding families plus those responsible for creating this wonderful heritage site.

The (French) website of the Municipality of Kamouraska presents the heritage site known as *Le Berceau de Kamouraska*, literally translated it is *The Kamouraska Cradle*.

The *Kamouraska Cradle* is located about three kilometres east of today's Municipality of Kamouraska. For a century, between 1692 and 1791, this area was the heart of the village; the first two churches and presbyteries of the Seigneurie were built there. The first local cemetery, traditionally located next to the church, is also located there where, to

this day, the remains of over a thousand settlers rest.

A field-stone memorial chapel now stands guard and wooden crosses indicate the site of the long gone presbyteries and churches. Within the walls of the chapel, memorial plaques have been put up by various family associations in homage to their ancestors and we note: Michaud, Levasseur, Malenfant, Kirouac, Raymond dit Phocas, Roy dit Desjardins, Dionne, Albert and Thériault. The landscaping of the sanctuary was designed by Mrs. Chantal Prud'Homme. On Sunday, July 31, 2005, the Corporation of the Kamouraska Cradle inc. presided by Mr. Guy Drapeau, unveiled a monument to the memory of over 1300 pioneers buried in the original cemetery. For everyone present, the ceremony was very moving and yet very simple. It started at 9:30 a.m. by a Mass presided by Monsignor Dorilas Moreau, Bishop of the Diocese of Rouyn-Noranda, himself a descendant of one of the Kamouraska pioneer families.

Mr. Guy Drapeau spoke with emotion about the monument being unveiled as it constitutes the last step but one in the development of



The entrance to the Kamouraska Memorial Garden where our ancestor is buried. (photograph: Lucille Kirouac)



Memorial Chapel erected on the site. (photograph: Lucille Kirouac)

this exceptional memorial site dedicated to our ancestors. The various founding families are now invited to put up a monument to their ancestor or ancestors buried in this cemetery. The Paradis Family has already installed its own. Others will certainly follow. Mrs. Chantal Prud'Homme, the landscaping architect, spoke as well as Mrs. Réjeanne Boulianne, Director of the *Federation of Quebec Founding Families*. Mr. Alain Dionne, the stone sculptor, explained his artwork. Mr. Dionne managed to make his



Commemorative plaque placed in 1980 during the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the ancestor's arrival (photography : Lucille Kirouac)



During the July 31, 2005 ceremony, our association was represented by Alberte Garon-Kirouac, Jacques Kirouac, Lucille Kirouac-Boulet and Jacques Boulet. Photo taken in front of the monument erected in homage to the pioneers, a stone sculpture by Alain Dionne. (Collection of Lucille Kirouac)

granite monument look light and elegant by the use of shapes, lines and positioning of the granite blocks and adding a copper high relief. The family names of the pioneers buried in this cemetery are etched on two granite blocks of different sizes, the smallest one representing the first chapel built on this location and the largest one stands for the first church. Our ancestor is there under the name *Kirouac* with the number '1' next to it as he is the only one of our family buried there. But to the right of the family name, Ouellet for example, is the number '65' because sixty-five members of that family are buried there.

Looking at the high relief from the base up, you can see waves, furrows, bulrushes, a child's face and the faces of a couple, praying hands pointing to the sky and a bird taking flight. Everything signifies a fresh start, the beginning of the cultivation of the land by the Saint Lawrence River, the work of families taking roots whose hard work, full of hope, gave birth to the people of Quebec. Monsignor Moreau blessed the monument, witness to the past, and blessed the participants presently working to see the future fulfilment of today's hopes and promises.

The two parish priests, Alexandre Paradis and Onésime Lamonde, the initiators of the project as well as those who are carrying forward its realization, the Corporation of the Kamouraska Cradle and the Wardens of the Parish of Kamouraska, deserve to be warmly congratulated and sincerely thanked for an exceptional achievement. The visit is well worth the detour.



GENEALOGY / THE READER'S PAGE

Question 13

Answer from Phillis Kirouac of Douglastown, niece of Allan Kirouac:

Allan Kirouac born in Douglastown in 1904, who died in 1919, was the son of John Kirouac and Élizabeth Blondin.

Question 14

Answer from Phillis Kirouac of Douglastown, niece of Malvina Kirouac:

Malvina Kirouac, born in 1906, who died in 1917, was the daughter of John Kirouac and Élizabeth Blondin who were my grandparents.

Question 24

Answer from Paul Keroack, Stratford, CT, USA:

Louis Keroack of Stanbridge, 1879, is my great-great-grandfather, baptized Louis-Henri in St-Pierre-de-la-Rivière-du-sud in 1817, son of Louis-Marie K. and Angèle Gendron. Louis married his cousin Adeline Blais at Henryville in 1841.

The census of 1871 lists, in the township of Stanbridge, Keroack, Louis, 53, cultivateur (farmer); Adeline, 46; and children Delima, 16, Joseph, 14, Philomene, 12, **Napoleon, 10**, Paul, 8, Alphonse, 6 and Severe, 1. Of course there were older children who had since left home.

Napoleon (1861-1938) was my great-grandfather, who emigrated to Connecticut in 1879, along with several

brothers and sisters.

Louis and Adeline later lived in retirement in New Bedford MA with their son Joseph. She died in 1893 and he in 1907 and are buried in the old Sacred Heart Cemetery there.

Reference: In the *Généalogie* published in 1991, pages 76-77, in English, the story of Louis Keroack and Adeline Blais; text prepared by Paul R. Keroack, dated April 21, 1990.

In the voluminous genealogical database of the AFKFA, there are a number of couples where the name of the spouse is missing. Answers to the following questions would fill the voids. (François Kirouac)

Question 34

Who is the mother of Gabrielle Cayouette, wife of Fernand Cayouette and mother-in-law of Yvan Kirouac, son of Lionel Kirouac and Lilian Baker?

Question 35

Who is the husband of Ruth Kirouac, daughter of Émile Keroack and Jessie Haines?

Question 36

Who was the mother of Alfred Dupuis, who was the husband of Lucille Kirouac, daughter of Honoré Kirouac and Agnès Granger?

Question 37

Who was the mother of Randy Kandall, husband of Rolande Kirouac, daughter of Eugène Kirouac and Lucie Gagnon?

Question 38

Who was the mother of Roxane Lansard, wife of Roger Kirouac, son of Eugène Kirouac and Lucie Gagnon?

This page has been created at the request of some of our readers to exchange information on family genealogy. We intend to regularly publish the questions and answers that will be sent in.

The Editors

Question 39

Who was the wife of Laurent Kirouac, son of Émile Kirouac and Denise Turgeon?

Question 40

Who was the wife of Gérard Kirouac, son of Joseph Damase Kirouac and Bernadette André?

Question 41

Who was the wife of Hubert Bélanger, father of Cyriac Bélanger, husband of Marie-Rose Kéroack, daughter of Hilaire Kéroack and Agnès Lebreux?

Question 42

Who was the mother of Marie-Rose Daigle, wife of Joseph Kirouac, son of Alphonse Kirouac and Marie-Louise Tremblay?

Question 43

Who was the wife of Mark Kéroack, son of Roger Kéroack and Lorette Drouin?

Question 44

Who was the second wife of Roger Kéroack, son of Roland Kéroack and Cécile Fréchette?

Question 45

Who is/was the mother of Daniel Decaëns, husband of Ginette Kirouac, daughter of Jean-Paul Kirouac and Marie-Paule Normand?

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Our ancestor's signature on a request addressed to Governor Beauharnois in November 1733.

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