

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



The 65th Anniversary of D-Day, the Normandy landing, was celebrated in 2009. WWII American veterans are still living today and they were honored in Detroit on 13 December 2009. Among them, John Pickett, widower of the late Rolande Kirouac. Here he stands with some family members. (Photo: courtesy of Cathy Robinson)

Kérouac 🕻 Kéroack 🏅 Kírouac 💲 Kyrouac 🕻 Kérouack 🧘 Kírouack

Le Trésor des Kirouac

Le Trésor des Kirouac, bulletin of the descendants of Urbain-François Le Bihan, sieur de K/voach, is published four times à year in two editions: French and English; it is distributed to all AFK/KFA members. Permission to reproduce an article must be obtained from the KFA beforehand.

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The Presidents Wood

ver the last few years, we have not written much in Le Trésor about genealogical and historical research. However, it is not due to a lack of documents to work on, but rather for lack of precious time to do so, being so busy with many other projects. Over the past thirty years, at least once, you may have heard someone mention Philippe's famous papers! Quite rightly so, as the Association received a significant number of documents (exactly 291) pertaining to the eldest branch of the family, meaning the descendants of Simon-Alexandre, our Ancestor's first born son.

In addition to this, over the years, I have done some research on the Ancestor's youngest son, Louis, and I have accumulated many most interesting documents pertaining to this younger branch of the family. There are not as many papers for Louis' descendants as for his older brother's descendants, but, nevertheless, they enable us to glean fascinating information on many facets of Alexandre de Kervoach's youngest son's line.

Starting with the next Trésor, number 100, we will present a series of articles about the first generations who settled in New-France. However, we were keen to give you an idea of the importance of these papers relating to our family's oldest branch. You will read about how these papers were accidentally discovered and how our Association came to obtain photocopies of Philippe's papers, adding more this branch of the family's treasure chest.

Onto another subject, in the present issue you will see that one of our two family stars, Jack Kerouac, is still and always making front page news even forty years after his death. This winter, two plays about the famous Franco-

American author have been produced in Quebec, one in French in Quebec City and one in English in Montreal. Thanks to our former secretary, Michel Bornais, the KFA was able to fulfill a request from a member of the English production company in Montreal for much needed reference material.

And of course, the other famous Kirouac, Conrad - better known as Brother Marie-Victorin - year in year out, is in the news. In the following pages you will see a few photographs and read short comments on the trip during which three KFA members followed in *The Footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba* during the third week of February.

In June, you will receive *Le Trésor*, number 100. Already! You may remember that in December 1997 (#50), we published articles written by some of our readers who answered the KFA's invitation sent to all members to submit texts. Included were two stories about ancestral homes written by Raymonde Kérouac Harvey and Hélène Kirouac.

Once more, the editorial board wishes to do the same for Le Trésor #100. Therefore, if you would like to tell us about a member of your family, special family gatherings, births, weddings, graduations, etc., or even some other subject dear to you, please do so. Text must be received by 30 April. This gives you enough time to write and allows us to put together Le Trésor des Kirouac, #100 so that it reaches you before summer. However, to help us plan the content of #100, it would be highly appreciated that you let us have an idea by the end of March on what you wish to write about.



François Kirouac

History is made up of lots of stories so here is one about Le Trésor #100 which is, in fact, the 101st issue of Le Trésor des Kirouac. A first issue was indeed published in June 1983, but the then president Jacques Kirouac, founder of the KFA, wrote about that first issue: "In the theatre world, there are dressrehearsals, and this is like a dressrehearsal but with a difference, there is no guarantee that there will ever be a "première", a 'first'." And, as Jacques recently mentioned to me, the possibility of future issues was so remote that the first issue, or number '0', only included a message from the founding president and the list of KFA members.

So, as you read this, enjoy holding and reading the 100th issue of *Le Trésor des Kirouac* bearing #99. What an adventure and what a long road has been covered in twenty-seven years by those who produced the first hundred issues!

The Editor

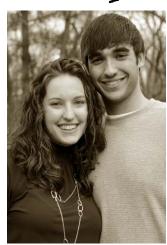
BRIEFLYSPEAKIN



WEDDING BELLS RINGING TWICE AT **GREG AND NANCY'S HOME**

On 5 September 2009, Joseph Samuel Kyrouac, son of Greg (GFK 00239) and Nancy Beckman-Kyrouac, married Kayla Marie Yeagle, daughter of Robert Yeagle and Maria Otto Yeagle Levengood, during an outdoor ceremony in Allerton Park near Monticello, Illinois, USA. The voung couple now lives in Urbana, Illinois. Joseph accompanied his parents to the KFA annual gathering in Sainte-Angèle-de-Monnoir, on Montreal's south shore.

Greg and Nancy are also delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Lilianne Renee (Lily) Kyrouac, to Dylan Charles Downs, son of Charles Downs and Rhonda McDaniel-Downs. The wedding will take place in Jacksonville, Illinois, USA, on Saturday, 19 June 2010.



VOYAGE TO FRANCE

A survey was attached to the last issue of Le Trésor to find out if you would be interested in an organized K/ trip to France. Fifteen people answered positively so the Board entrusted Marie K/ and Jacques K/ to look into the feasibility of such a trip for September 2010. However, various inquiries have shown that we are far too late to plan for next September and, for that reason, costs would be excessive. Therefore the agencies consulted strongly recommended the trip be postponed until September 2011 at a triple benefit to the travellers: more time for planning, much better prices and a longer promotion time. Consequently, Jacques and Marie will carry on their planning work for a trip in September 2011 and they intend to present the program of the trip to France at our family gathering in Sherbrooke next August.

THE EDITOR

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION

The Kirouac Family Association is hereby advising that, as of 19 November 2009, our Family Logo is now registered and protected by the Canadian Copyright Law. The Registering Certificate was granted according to Articles 49 and 53 of the Copyright Act. The Copyright was registered as follows:

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Author: Raymond Bergeron

Consequently, the KFA reminds everyone that it is mandatory for anyone wanting to use the KFA LOGO for whatever reason and use it may be, to request proper authorization from the KFA because the LOGO, the distinctive insignia of the KFA, is now registered.



As this issue of Le Trésor was ready for printing, we learned of the sudden death of Professor Bouchard who had just lived his dream of leading a first group **In the Footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba**. Among the forty-two travelers were three KFA members, Marie Kirouac, Marie Lussier Timperley and Jacques Kirouac. Below, please read the press release from the Montreal Botanical Garden and University of Montreal.

The Montreal Botanical Garden and the Université de Montréal grieve the loss of a very important colleague and scientist

Montreal, March 5, 2010 - It is with great sadness that the Montreal Botanical Garden (MBG) and Research Institute in Plant Biology (IRBV) learned late yesterday afternoon of the sudden death of André Bouchard, who dearly loved the Montreal Botanical Garden. Dr. Bouchard was a professor at the Department of Biological Sciences at the Université de Montréal and a researcher at IRBV.

In 1965, he graduated from Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf with a BA; in 1968, he earned his BSc from Montreal University, in 1970, his MSc in ecology from McGill University (Montreal) and his PhD in conservation of natural resources from Cornell University, Ithaca, NYFrom 1975 until 1996, as well as being a professor and researcher at the IRBV, he was Curator of the MBG. He is credited with the rebirth of the Botanical Garden's



Professor André Bouchard with Marie Kirouac on 5 November 2007, at the launching of his book *Marie-Victorin à Cuba, correspondance avec le frère Léon*. (Photo: François Kirouac)

research mission which culminated with the opening of the Biodiversity Centre at the MBG. In 1975, he co-founded the Society of Friends of the MBG and Botanical Institute, known since 1991, as The Friends of the MBG. In 1994, when Pierre Bourque left his post to become Mayor of Montreal, Dr. Bouchard succeeded him as Director of the MBG.

His research into the history of the MBG and Brother Marie-Victorin brought about the publication of two books, and the current exhibition *Under the Cuban Sun with Marie-Victorin*, as well as the first botanical excursion *In the footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba*. Dr. Bouchard was a specialist in plant ecology, in vegetation integrated management as well as the peri-urban and agro-forest environment. In 1990, ACFAS recognized his internationally acclaimed research and numerous scientific papers on the vegetation of southwestern Quebec and Newfoundland with the Michael Jurdant Prize in environmental science. A brilliant pedagogue with a remarkable gift for teamwork, he led forty-five students into achieving their Master's and Doctorate degrees. He was a model for several generations of young scientists, researchers and environmentalists presently holding leading positions in government, universities and various institutions. Furthermore, he leaves an important legacy through his many former students who are professors in Canadian universities.

In 1992, his book *Journal de voyage en Chine. Une famille Québécoise au Pays du Milieu*, was published by Éditions du Méridien. In 1998, his book *Le Jardin botanique de Montréal, Esquisse d'une histoire*, in collaboration with Mrs. Francine Hoffman, was published by FIDES. Then in 2007 his book *Marie-Victorin à Cuba, Correspondance avec le frère Léon*, was published by PUM (Presses de l'Université de Montréal). In 2005, ABQ, Quebec Biologist Association, awarded him the Georges Préfontaine Prize. In 2006, he was appointed to Montreal Heritage Council and became its Vice-Chairman in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Quebec loses a deeply involved citizen in the preservation of ecosystems. Dr. Bouchard was known for taking up several causes, including safeguarding the Saraguay woodland in the late 1970s, which led to the creation of Montreal's Nature Parks, as well as the protection of many other nature sites. He was a member of the scientific commission to study the management of Quebec's public forests, presided by Mr. Guy Coulombe. From 1995 until 2004, he was Vice-Chairman of the Board of Ste. Justine (children) Hospital. II Born in Montreal in 1946, Dr. Bouchard is survived by his wife, Cecile Fugulin, a daughter, Célinie (1980), and two sons, Antoine (1983) and François (1985). He also leaves to mourn his family, many friends, colleagues, students, and researchers.

The Université de Montréal and the Montreal Botanical Garden offer the family their sincere condolences and unwavering support.

Gilles Vincent, Director, Montreal Botanical Garden

Genealogy of Philippe Kirouac

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

Cap Saint-Ignace 22 October 1732

II

Louise Bernier (1712-1802)

Simon-Alexandre Keroack dit breton 1732-1812

L'Islet-sur-Mer 15 June 1758

Ш

Élisabeth Chalifour (1739-1814)

Simon-Alexandre Keroack dit breton (1760-1823)

Cap Saint-Ignace 18 November 1782

IV

Marie-Ursule Guimont (1765-1820)

Simon Alexandre Kerouack dit breton (1783-1871)

L'Islet-sur-Mer 4 November 1806 Constance Cloutier (1789-1843)

Joseph Kirouack (1815-1881)

L'Islet-sur-Mer 24 February 1835

VI

Catherine Lebourdais (1813-1901)

Simon Alexandre Kirouac (1847-1933)

Saint-Roch-des-Aulnaies 23 November 1869

VII

Marie Henriette Caron (1848-1935)

Philippe Kirouac (1877-1959)

L'Islet-sur-Mer 25 November 1902

VIII

Alma Boucher (1880-1923)

Antoine Kirouac (1922-)

Jonquière Sainte-Famille 12 September 1949 Gisèle Bédard (1929-)

Philippe Kirouac (1952-)

Quebec City Notre-Dame 28 June 1980

IX

Claudine Lelièvre (1955-)

François Kirouac 7 February 2010

Philippe's Papers

By Jacques, François and Marie Kirouac

ver the last thirty years, off and on, you have heard about "Philippe's Papers". But what are those papers? Which Philippe are we referring to? What do these papers exactly include? And who was this Philippe who owned these *famous* papers?

To find answers to these questions, some members of *Le Trésor's* editorial board paid a visit to the present owner of these *famous* papers, Philippe, son of Antoine Kirouac (GFK 02312). On 27 January, we met in Antoine's home, whose father, also called Philippe, discovered these precious papers many years ago. So we asked Philippe and his father, Antoine, various questions and we are happy to share their answers with you, our readers of *Le Trésor*.

Le Trésor: Who was this Philippe who owned these papers?

Philippe: He was my grandfather, Philippe Kirouac (GFK 02311), a farmer who lived in L'Islet from 1877 until 1959.

Le Trésor: Where is he in the K/ family tree? In which branch of the family?

Philippe: He is a descendant of Simon-Alexandre (GFK 01276), our Ancestor's eldest son. Jean-Louis Kirouac (GFK 01351) a.k.a. the Franco-American writer, Jack Kerouac also belongs to this branch. In the other branch, that of Louis (GFK 00002), the Ancestor's younger son, we find Brother Marie-Victorin, born Conrad Kirouac (GFK 00575), founder of the Montreal Botanical Garden.

Le Trésor: What was this Philippe's ascendancy?

Philippe: His father, my great-grandfather, was also called Simon-Alexandre (GFK 02280) like his own grandfather; but his father was called Joseph (GFK 02275).

Le Trésor: What about this Philippe's descendants?

Philippe: My grandfather Philippe had eighteen children, including my father, Antoine. (Editor's note: only two of these eighteen are still living today, Antoine is 87 years old and his sister, Cécile, is 101 years old. A few years ago, *Le Trésor* printed an article about Cécile, in bulletin number 71, March 2003, p.23).

Le Trésor: Where did your grandfather, Philippe, live?

Philippe: At first he lived in his father's house but he only occupied part of it, while his parents lived in the other part. After Simon-Alexandre's death, the house was sold to a Mr. Ménard, and Philippe



Marriage contract between Simon Alexandre Kerouack and Marie Henriette Caron

moved to the village of L'Islet. (Editor's note: The house is now standing in the village of L'Islet where it was eventually moved to.)



Philippe Kirouac with his father, Antoine. (Photo: François Kirouac)







Family of Simon-Alexandre Kerouack and Marie Henriette Caron. First row, l. to r.: Alexandre, Joseph, Joseph-Thomas; 2nd row: Joseph son of Simon-Alexandre, Ernestine Couture holding Blanche Graziella or Albert, Simon-Alexandre, Marie Henriette Caron, Simonne, Philippe (the Philippe who unearthed the documents we are writing about in the present article), Marie-Alma, Alma Boucher; back row: Marie-Marthe, daughter of Simon Alexandre, Blanche, Jeanne, Marie, daughter of Simon-Alexandre and Anne. Photo taken in L'Islet in 1906 or 1907 in front of the family house where the documents were found.

Le Trésor: How did you come by these papers?

Philippe: By chance; a real stroke of luck. My father, Antoine, found



Kerouac family home in L'Islet-sur-Mer. Joseph Thomas, father of the KFA founding president, Jacques who was born in that house. The present owner of the papers is called Philippe who is the son of Antoine (GFK 02312) and the grandson of the older Philippe (GFK 02311), who found the treasure-trove of documents in the attic of his house; these documents are now referred to as Philippe's Papers.

them in the attic of his house many years ago. Towards the end of the seventies, when Raymonde Kérouac Harvey was working on the Album, I told her about this discovery. This is how the Association heard about it. One day, Robert Kirouac from Lévis and I photocopied all the documents for the KFA.

Le Trésor: How many documents are there altogether?

Philippe: Almost 300; exactly 291. The Association carefully identified, labelled and numbered them. (Editor's note: At the end of this interview, you will find a list of these papers, including roughly 169 notary's deeds and various other documents).

Le Trésor: How well preserved are they, e.g. in what condition are they?

Philippe: Generally speaking most documents are legible, however some are very fragile and should not be handled, therefore we have to work with the photocopies made in 1979-1980.

Le Trésor: Where were these papers kept?

Philippe: In a box in the attic of the two houses where my grandfather, Philippe, lived.

Le Trésor: You say: "kept in a box", in what state is that box?

Philippe: It is a pine box that weathered very well in spite of the years. It was most likely made about the middle of the nineteen century.

Le Trésor: How important are such documents for the history of a branch of the Ancestor's descendants?

Philippe: It should enable us to establish how this branch of the family settled in and around L'Islet and its further expansion to other regions. First of all, we will be able to find out about all the difficulties surrounding inheritance, sales of lands and other concerns at the time. We will also see how these families' circumstances expanded.

Le Trésor: Did you find documents dating prior to our Ancestor's arrival?



Wedding photo of Philippe Kirouac (1877-1959) and Alma Boucher (1880-1923) taken on 25 November 1902 in L'Islet-sur-Mer.

Note 1: Amongst the 291 identified documents, most, that is 55 % have to do with land: 44 sales of land, 53 are last payment's receipt (53) or 64 receipts. The other documents can be classified under about forty different headings including more land contracts, either land exchanges (ten) money debts or acknowledgments of debt for land (23). All other documents are related either directly or indirectly to land, like land grants, chainmeasuring and land surveying, rental lease, notice of payment, money procurement, etc. Last but not least, there are six last wills and testaments, four marriage contracts, and seven donation deeds.

This summary analysis of the papers does not pretend to be perfect because it is sometimes difficult to understand some of the documents. However, the global picture is definitely accurate except for a few minor points.

Note 2: As for the families with whom our ancestors did business, we found about seventy. The name Couillard or Couillard-Desprais, is the most often listed, about forty times; then we find: Gamache (13), Chalifour (13), Bélanger (12), Cloutier (11), Caron (10), Guimont (9), Poitras (9) and Duval (9).

This list of names is not absolutely accurate because when analyzing the papers only two names per contract or deed were recorded; the name of the spouse, whether man or woman was not included either in the listing nor was the name of whoever wrote the document.



Philippe: Yes, but very few and they are related to land grants of lots that eventually belonged to members of this branch of the family.

Le Trésor: Anything particularly interesting?

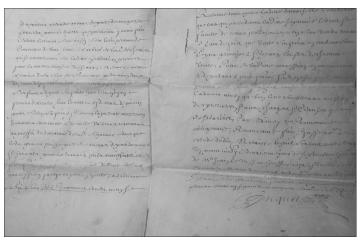
Philippe: Yes, indeed. There are two documents dated 1680 and 1681 written on pigskin tied with catgut. Although most papers are written in French, there is one in English and even one written in Latin.

Le Trésor: Besides our family surname, do you find other families mentioned in these documents?

Philippe: Of course, as so many documents are contracts for sales and purchases. (Editor's note: *A list of some family names follows*).

Le Trésor: How is our own family name written in these documents?

Philippe: Surprisingly enough it varies greatly, at least forty-five different spellings of our family name were found. (Editor's note, see list).



One of the two deeds known to be written on pigskin and dated 1681.

These answers are most interesting and give us a glimpse of Philippe's famous papers. In future issues of Le Trésor, you will be able to read articles about the most important documents.

We are not only very lucky but most fortunate to have these ancient documents. What a tremendous wealth of information about our K/family. They are, in more ways than one, Philippe Kirouac's true treasure . . . and now also part of the KFA treasure and something every member of our family can treasure.

To Philippe and his father, Antoine, our heartfelt gratitude for generously letting us know about this precious mine of information in 1979.

Photo: François Kirouac)



Bottom row, from left to right: Marie Catherine Henriette K. Lebourdais (GFK 02757), Marie Alma K. (GFK 02759), Simonne K., Philipe K. (GFK 02311), and Louis-Jean D'Assylva; top row: Louis LeBourdais, husband of Marie Catherine Henriette K., Blanche K. (GFK 02634), and Alexandre K. (GFK 02283). Photo taken in L'Islet-sur-Mer, on 24 July 1921. (Photo: Collection Jacques Kirouac)

Note 3: As for the spelling of our family name, forty-five different spellings were found; however, how many times each spelling was used was not compiled. The various spellings listed below are exactly as they were found but listed in no special order.

It is worth remembering that in 1727, although our ancestor told the parish priest of Notre-Dame Church in Quebec City that his name was Alexandre de Kervoac'h, CARUNOAC is what was written in the church record! Not really surprising knowing that at the time, and for decades to come, names were very often written as 'they sounded'. And remember, in 1736, in Kamouraska, our ancestor was buried under the name KÉLOAQUE!

KIROUACK KEROAQUE CAROUAK

CROAK

CAROÛACQ

KIROUACK DIT BRETON

KIROICK

KIROACK

KAROUAK DIT LE BRETON

KIROUAK COUROUHAC

KAROUAC DIT LE BRETON

KERROUAC DIT LE BRETON

QUÉROIQUE

KIRCROICK KEROUAC DIT LE BRETON

KAROUACK KUEROUACK

CROUAQUE

CROACK DIT LE BRETON

KIROAC

BERTON

KERROIS DIT LE BRETON

KYROUAC DIT LE BRETON

KYROUACK

BURTON

KYROUACH

QUAROUAC

CAROACH

BRETON

QUERROUAC KERROUACK

QUÉROUAC

KYRIAC

BERTO (?)

KERWACK

KYROY

QUIROUAC

KUEROUAC

KEROUAC CAROUCH

QUIROUAC DIT BRETON

KEROUACK

KEROIKE

THE ORIGINAL NAME AS SIGNED BY OUR ANCESTOR:

Clere and the Duck woach

In the Footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba



A tall ship tied at the pier in Havana where Marie-Victorin's ship would have berthed in December 1938, when he arrived in Cuba for the very first time as he had driven from Montreal to Florida, then ferried his car from Miami to Cuba, with his driver, Mr. Charbonneau, and two of his four sisters, Mrs. Laura Lebel and Mrs. Eudora Laurin. (Photo: Marie Kirouac)



On 26 April 1944, Marie-Victorin wrote to Camilien Houde, then Mayor of Montreal, and his former student: "This morning as I came out of the (San Cristobal) Cathedral in Havana, I stopped to admire the bronze plaque that, thanks to you, was installed by Montreal's Historical Society, on the outside wall of the old church as a memorial to the Longueuil's *enfant terrible*, (i.e. black sheep) - refer to the first in a series!). I thought about you! It is such a small world, indeed! You can imagine the effect this has on the Canadians who stop here while on a cruise and find the name of Camilien Houde in bronze letters in such a place. (...) "



Jacques Kirouac and Marie Lussier Timperley in front of the Terminal Sierra Maestra on the Plaza San Francisco, in Havana. (Photo: Marie Kirouac)



Necropolis Colon is the largest cemetery in Havana where all tombs are above ground. This is the tomb of the Brothers of the Christian Schools - Nuestros Hermanos Fallecidos. Engraved in the white marble are the names of the Brothers who were buried there, including Brother Leon, famous botanist, specialist of the Cuban flora, Marie-Victorin's friend and correspondent . (Photo: Marie Kirouac)





Marie-Victorin stayed at Hotel Vedado on many occasions, now it is called Hotel Victoria. At the time he would have taken the time to admire the beautiful French and Spanish inspired architecture of Havana as well as study its urban flora. (Photo: Marie Kirouac)

Atkins House, where at least three generations of this wealthy American family from Boston lived and developed the land. Starting in 1866, they founded and developed the Jardin botanico de Cienfuegos. Marie-Victorin wrote about one of his visits: "... We were warmly received at Harvard House..." By 1939, some 3000 varieties of palms had been planted in a 220-acre garden. And he added that: "...the sugar refinery is a model of its kind for organization and cleanliness." However, we saw what is left after half a century of neglect: the house is rather decrepit but is still used as some kind of community centre, because the village built by the Atkins for their workers still exists. Of the sugar refinery, only two giant chimneys are still standing like tomb stones.



Jacques Kirouac standing by the beautiful wrought iron gates of the main entrance to the La Salle College located in the Vedado area of Havana. Brother Léon lived and taught there for many years and, whenever Marie-Victorin was in Cuba, he regularly went to the College.

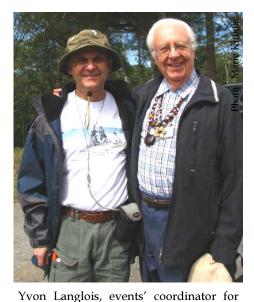


Photo: Marie Kirouac



Photo: Marie Kirouac

To reach this former sanatorium, that was still being built when Marie-Victorin went up the mountain on a field trip in August 1939, we travelled in the back of two ancient Cuban army trucks through the Valle de los Ingenios to the summit of Topes de Collantes. We saw beautiful vistas but what a bumpy scary ride! Picture a dirt road, so narrow it was usually impossible to pass as well as cope with hairpin bends after hairpin bends, sheer drops, either left or right and even in front! Reminiscence of the steepest Russian Roller Coasters in your favourite amusement park. And all that on totally worn out tires looking as old as the trucks! However, at the end of the road, we ate a delicious lunch in an idyllic surroundings. No one asked to be left behind at the ex-sanatorium, now the Kurhotel Escambray, specializing in stress-related illnesses.



the Friends of the Montreal Botanical Garden, proudly showing off his Tshirt, advertising the exhibition Under the Cuban Sun, with the photo of Marie-Victorin, his two sisters and their two friends. Right, Jacques Kirouac wearing many colourful necklaces offered very cheaply to all incoming travellers as they step foot on Cuban soil.



Hundreds of Royal Palms border the central alley of the Jardin botanico de Cienfuegos. A wonderful and knowledgeable Cuban guide took us around the arboretum where of course, all the trees are so different from anything we are used to seeing here. We sincerely hope to have the pleasure of reading Dr. André Bouchard's second nearly completed book about Marie-Victorin in Cuba which he has been working on for the past two years. It would be a great complement to our visit from 14 to 21 February 2010.

Photo: Jacques Kirouac

(Photo Jacques Kirouac)



As we were completing this bulletin, we learned of the sudden death of Dr. André Bouchard at the age of 64. He suffered a massive heart attack on Thursday afternoon, 4 March 2010. Here he is with his wife, Cécile Fugulin in Santa Clara. He was so happy to finally realize his Cuban dream. He showed the way that now others will have to follow. Dr. Bouchard was the inspiration, and the heart and soul of this first organized tour *In the Footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba*.

Proud to stand with our *guide extraordinaire*, Juan Miguel Rivera Rodriguez, a living, walking, talking encyclopedia, who told us almost everything about Cuba, and who would answer any question with passion and patience... a polyglot who speaks impeccable French. With University degrees, he has travelled extensively, and yes, he could have emigrated like many of his compatriots, but has preferred to stay in Cuba because of his love for his country. We were privileged to have him as a guide during our six days in Cuba. His sense of humour, his quick repartees, and his many funny stories were a welcome source of daily laughing during the long bus rides. L. to R. Marie Kirouac, Miguel Rodriguez, Jacques Kirouac and Marie Lussier Timperley.



What an experience to travel in the footsteps of Marie-Victorin! Our sincere congratulations and heartfelt gratitude to Dr. André Bouchard and the Friends of the Montreal Botanical Garden for their painstaking work planning and organizing the journey. Many thanks also to Mr. Yvon Langlois who, among many other things, asked that Miguel be our guide because, while in Cuba last year, he had him as guide and really appreciated his knowledge and personality. A masterstroke!

For us three travelers of the Kirouac family, in spite of our very limited botanical knowledge, it was great fun to watch the experts who were with us. With sophisticated magnifier they would examine every detail of some plants new to them and would discuss the differences and similarities with their colleagues. Others in our group were very keen on flora, or agriculture, or nature in general. I believe that everyone came back with something positive. A second journey in the same region is in the works for 2011 and possibly one in the eastern part of the island in 2012. In the meantime, we all cherish the hope that Dr. André Bouchard's second book *In the footsteps of Marie-Victorin in Cuba* will be published. We will keep you posted. It was only a few hours after writing this, that we learned of Dr. Bouchard's sudden death.

Marie Lussier Timperley, Marie Kirouac and Jacques Kirouac

PRESS REVIEW MICHEL & TI-JEAN

By Marie Lussier Timperley

first at Centaur world Theatre in Montreal. An inspired idea. A two-hour galloping uninterrupted dialogue - at times funny - at times moving - keeping one on the edge of one's seat. A play to be seen again!

This conversation is mesmerizing

This was the title of Pat Donnelly's article, published in Montreal English daily, The Gazette on Saturday, 6 February 2010, and she wrote: "Good theatre, like good teaching, succeeds in evoking a passionate curiosity about something you did not think you could ever find remotely interesting."

"After taking in George Rideout's Michel & ti-Jean at Centaur Theatre on Thursday night, I wanted to rush and read everything Jack Kerouac ever wrote, my previous acquaintance having been limited to his On The Road - a dim memory from the distant past. As for the second author portraved in this bar room tête-à-tête. most of his novels are already on my shelves. And I've seen most of his plays at least twice. No need for conversion there."

It is interesting to note that although the play Michel & ti-Jean is only in English, many Francophone journalists saw it, loved it, and praised it as much if not more than their English-speaking counterparts. La Presse and Le Devoir, Montreal's two main French dailies. published many articles about George Rideout's masterpiece. It would be no surprise to see the play produced across Canada as Tremblav and Kerouac, both giants of the twentieth century literary world, are included in the English literature curriculum of Canadian colleges from sea to sea!

In Le Devoir, 6 February 2010, Odile Tremblav wrote that Rideout's Michel & ti-Jean is "a bridge between two shores. The Texan playwright now living in the Eastern Townships of Quebec imagined a fictitious meeting in 1969 of the young Michel Tremblay, just after the most successful publication of his remarkable Belles-Sœurs (sisters-inlaw), with Jack Kerouac, pope of Beat Generation and author of the iconic On the Road." She praises the brilliant and penetrating dialogue and the amazing performance of the two actors as well as the simple yet very effective direction of Sarah Garton Stanley who co-heads the directing program at the National Theatre School in Montreal.

Michel Bélair, in *Le Devoir*, 30 January, wrote: "This is a stroke of genius to have Jean-Louis 'Jack' Kerouac meet with Michel Tremblay! Particularly as Le Devoir revealed that 'ti-Jean', as the father of the Beat Generation» used to call himself, first wrote in French. Especially also because Tremblay has been living in the Florida Keys for decades and that these two men could well have met in 1969, immediately after the success of Les Belles-soeurs and shortly before Kerouac's death..."

In The Gazette, Pat Donnelly adds: "Alain Goulem's Kerouac is writ large, a galvanizing presence, a Franco-American Brendan Behan in his cups, who does not welcome the younger man's intrusion into his private hell. In contrast, Vincent Hoss-Desmarais, as Tremblay, is sweet, vulnerable, an unabashed Kerouac fan. And oh, so uncannily familiar to anyone personally acquainted with Tremblay. Hoss-Desmarais has nabbed the voice with the skill of an impersonator."



Alain Goulem (Jack Kerouac), in Michel & ti-Jean, a play by George Rideout.

"The America of Kerouac & Tremblav"

"Kerouac softens as Tremblay offers free beer and flatters his way into good favour. Once the so-called King of the Beat Generation gets going, there's no stopping the river of poetry. fatherly advice, and abuse. Tremblay, under Kerouac's "spontaneous writing" tutelage gradually evolves from unassuming foil into full combatant in a friendly war of words. The two men have writing, Québécois-French heritage, mother tongue and mother devotion in common. Kerouac has moved back in with his invalid mom, while Tremblay is still trying to process the loss of his, after six years. Once he has gained sufficient ground with Kerouac, Tremblay asks him to read Les Belles Soeurs, which leads to an hilarious two-man, wordless performance of the iconic Quebec hit, as a pair of cackling hens."

Michel & ti-Jean was pre-approved by Tremblay who recommended it to the Centaur Theatre. He saw the play in early March and loved it.

I

Kerouac and Tremblay's America

In La Presse, 15 February 2010, Alexandre Vigneault described Michel & ti-Jean as "a formidable literary invention presenting French-speaking America through the two giant writers..." He obviously loved the play and praised George Rideout for his idea, yet underlining the fact that the author did not invent the most essential: the importance of both men's French speaking Catholic background as well as the influence of music, their working class background and the permanent maternal presence, on which their respective works is based.

George Rideout, the author of *Michel & ti-Jean*, identified with Kerouac at the age of eighteen when he first read *On The Road*. He has read all Kerouac

and all Tremblay and is a drama professor at Bishop's University, in Lennoxville, near Sherbrooke. His family was from New England but he grew up in Texas and they travelled from one University town to another as his father, a Rhodes Scholar with forward-looking a.k.a. leftist ideas, went from one Professorship to another.

What's more, his mother was a professor of French literature. In Canada, the family lived in various cities before George finally chose Quebec. He has written a number of plays that reflect his fascination with cross-cultural relationships. Is that surprising given that he grew up in bilingual Texas where Spanish and English cultures mingle and now lives in Quebec where French and English cohabit?

As for the readers of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, who have been following the saga of the forged will of Jack Kerouac's mother, imagine the surprise when at the very beginning of the play, as Tremblay and Kerouac are talking about theatre, Tremblay starts talking about his love for Greek tragedy and Jack immediately adds with passion: "My life is a real Greek tragedy!" Did the author know how true this remark is?

Even forty years after his death, Jack is still in the midst of a 'Greek flavoured tragedy'! Is that Intuition, premonition or projection? Anyway, the play *Michel & ti-Jean* is a must see and as for the Greek-style drama, it is to be followed in the pages of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*.



On the left, Vincent Hoss-Desmarais (Michel Tremblay) and Alain Goulem (Jack Kerouac), in Michel & ti-Jean, by George Rideout.



BROTHERS FOUGHT WORLD WAR II BY LAND AND BY SEA

By Mark Pattison, Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)

Jack and Elmer Pickett were two of six Pickett brothers who fought in World War II, and unlike a lot of sons sent overseas, "six of us went in, and six of us came back," Elmer said. "So that's pretty good luck," he added in a telephone interview.

Elmer was a staff sergeant in the Army; Jack, a boatswain in the Navy. Jack, 69, hauled soldiers, including members of Elmer's company, daily for two weeks to the beaches at Normandy during D-Day operations.

June 6 marks the 50th anniversary of D-Day, the day the Allies invaded Europe.

Jack, a member of St. Patrick Parish in Brighton, Mich., was only 19 and returning from Archangel, Russia, in anticipation of going to New York, when he received orders to head to Southampton, England.

"There were hundreds" of ships docked by the time his vessel arrived, Jack said.

For the ferry operation at Normandy, Jack's boat would dock about a half-mile from shore. "The troops would go over the side on those rope ladders and hit the beach. We don't know what happened to them then."

Jack's boat made a trip every day. "In a lot of the trips we were taking, we would give (soldiers) our dinners - C-rations or K-rations - and nobody knew that they were eating their last supper."

His boat got its share of bombardment from Nazi forces. But other boats that could get closer to shore "were getting hurt more than we were," he said.



John Pickett, first on the left, with two friends during World War II



John Pickett, served in the US Navy during WWII. He married Rolande Kirouac (GFK 00880) on 9 May 1953 in Detroit, Michigan.

Still, the Germans scored a hit on Jack's boat. "The concussion blew me out of my gun (turret) and I got a broken nose," he said.

Drafted June 17, 1942, Elmer remembered that date as if it were yesterday. His unit, the 76th Infantry Division, had been reactivated just two days earlier.

After three months of basic training and 13 weeks of advanced training, officers found him to be "full of gung-ho," Elmer said, and picked him for a cadre to train soldiers in winter survival.

Otherwise, "I would've been with my unit," he recalled. As it was, the invasion on D-Day, June 6, 1944, "almost wiped out three-quarters of my unit."

Elmer went through Le Havre, France, two weeks after the invasion. By then, the Allies had not only turned the town into rubble, but they had also bulldozed a path for the soldiers to march through.

"If I never have another bit of luck in this world, that's OK, because I was lucky over there," Elmer said.

"Everything I touched turned to gold. I never got a scratch. Everything I did was the right thing to do. "Some guys made a move, and that was the end of it. Why, I don't know. The good Lord was with me, I guess."

Elmer remembered one time when he was on foxhole relief duty. He offered to relieve one soldier. He declined. Elmer went to a second foxhole. Before he could get there, a shell hit the first foxhole, killing the soldier instantly.

Another time, a fellow staff sergeant, upon hearing that Elmer was a forward observer - part of an advance scouting team to determine the location of enemy guns - told him, "I wouldn't give you 10 cents for your life."

"That same day," Elmer said, "he was riding in his truck and he went over a mine and it killed him. It blew half his truck away."

Being killed in combat "never entered my mind," he said. "I never thought, "I'll be glad to be out of this baby." Today, they couldn't pay me \$5,000 to do that. When you are young and stupid, you do what they tell you to do. You have no other choice."

Elmer may have gotten to Europe and back without a scratch, but no such luck befell him when he went to Luxembourg with other members of his division for a 50th anniversary reunion in May. He returned with laryngitis, bronchitis and an ear infection.

Decorated aplenty during the war, he got yet another decoration when the mayor of a Luxembourg town personally thanked each member of the division for liberating the town.



The reunion was different than he expected. "I saw everything that I saw during the war, but I didn't recognize half of the things I saw." Elmer said. "It was so hard to recognize. But we leveled them.... A lot of changes going on - 50 years, there has to be change."

Elmer's emotional coda came at the cemeteries. "It was very emotional at the cemeteries. Every one of us cried. We could just see these boys falling down" all over again, he said.

"Here we were, doing something for 50 years, and these boys had just been laying there. A lot of the boys who didn't make it (home), their wives came, just to see where their husbands had been buried."



Landing craft similar to those used on D-Day in Normandy on 6 June 1944; at the back, a wheel-house was added to this one.



PRESS REVIEW

JACK PICKETT, WORLD WAR II US NAVY VETERAN, FEATURED IN A DOCUMENTARY IN DETROIT

by Cathy Robinson, Détroit, Michigan USA ckirouacrobin@yahoo.com

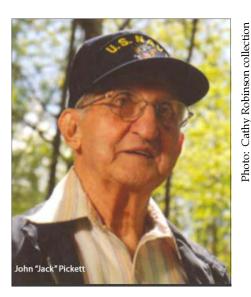
ohn "Jack" Pickett, who was married to Rolande Kirouac (GFK 00880) will be featured in a on Detroit's WWII movie Veterans.

He can be seen on the Internet in the extended movie trailer (1)

Serving in the US Navy, Mr. Pickett became a Boatswain's Mate, 2nd Class, and was a part of both the Omaha and Utah landings returning nine times during that desperate fight. He was in direct line of fire during the heroic landings of D-Day

when he piloted one of the landing crafts that dropped the infantry within a hundred yards of the beach. Immediately upon drop. Pickett each commandeered the LCVP back the ship offshore and back brought another compliment of men.

This movie titled **Detroit** - Our Greatest Generation is a documentary film about common Folks with Uncommon Courage. It will be premiered at FOX Theater USO -Style on December 13th. Detroit: Our Greatest Generation is a primetime, hour long. commercial-free documentary produced by the seven-time award winning Emmy production company Visionalist **Entertainment Productions.**



Director/Producer Keith Famie, through exclusive personal interviews, will capture the emotional realities of pre and post WWII survivors of Detroit.

Who were these men and women that found themselves fighting for our freedom of America and how did their lives impact the city of Detroit?

In this film, we will also feature stories of how some of our various ethnic communities came to be. Some were immigrants in search of the 'American Dream,' others escaped from war-torn countries and concentration camps.

Hosted by American House Senior Living Residences and Metro Detroit Ford Dealers, the evening will benefit the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Michigan Chapter.

The premiere celebration will include a specially



prerecorded message from Mr. Tom Brokaw, author of the The Greatest Generation and Special Correspondent for NBC News. Also, a musical revue of the Andrew Sisters and a special sound off of all the branches of the military, ARMY, NAVY, MARINES, and AIR FORCE lead by Army military band 338 with Mitch Ryder and Stewart Franke.

The VIP reception will include a strolling dinner, meet and mingle, with WWII veterans featured in the film along with a who's who list of political and business community leaders. The VIP attendees will be able to view several displays by the Yankee Air Museum and The Arsenal of Democracy museum as well as view our gallery of enlarged production photos. All VIP guests will receive a gift bag with a variety of special collectables including the 'Year in Production' booklet featuring stories on Detroit's Greatest Generation, certificate for the special collectors 2 hour DVD to be released at a later date, the official films tee-shirt, an 11x17 Greatest poster of the Generation in front of the B-17 Yankee Lady, and a set of custom Detroit's Our Greatest Generation" dog tags.

Channel 4 showed the one-hour version of the movie on December 16, 2009 at 9:00 p.m. and December 25, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.

(www.clickondetroit.com)

(1) Web site address: http:// www.detroitgreatestgeneration.com/



John Pickett, one of the honoured veterans, standing next to a poster of the film



Photo: Cathy Robinson collection

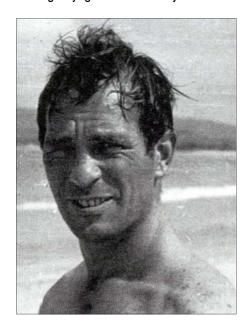
Press Review of:

Route By Compagnie Thomas

etween January 9 and February 6, 2010, in Quebec City, at the Théâtre Premier Acte, a play simply entitled Route, was acclaimed by the critics. The author, Thomas Gionet-Lavigne graduated from Quebec City's Conservatoire d'art dramatique in 2004. and already, he directs his own theatre company: Compagnie Thomas. He is the author of the play and its only actor. He is obviously a very versatile person with a mission, that of driving along the spectator with him on the road to San Francisco as he pursues an imaginary quest for an imaginary manuscript of the pretended only theatre play ever written by Jack Kerouac. According to Jacques Kirouac and Michel Bornais who saw the play, the author-interpreter and his team brilliantly succeeded in their undertaking. Here are a few excerpts from comments printed in local newspapers and on the web.

Impact campus, by Maxime Dumais

Route, as the title of the play says, it is a long voyage. It is the story of a man



Photograph of Jack Kerouac taken by Allen Ginsberg (courtesy of Jacques Kirouac)

a long voyage. It is the story of a man on a guest for answers to his guestions. He goes to San Francisco, looking for an unknown-unpublished play written by Jack Kerouac. The work takes the spectator to the time of the Beat Generation, a period full of dreams, imagination and poetry. At that time, Kate Murray, Kerouac's first (fictional) wife, does all she can to ensure Jack writes. This is her story...

Jack Kerouac, great inspiration

Jack Kerouac is an American writer and poet very well-known for his travels across the USA, and told in his literary works. While Thomas Gionet-Lavigne was writing his play, he was much inspired by Kerouac: "For me, he is a great inspiration. His writing style is unique and it influenced a whole generation. And, as a matter of fact, in the play *Route*, one can feel the Jazzy style of the Beat Generation that, Kerouac created in spite of himself."(1)

Josianne Desloges, special collaboration Le Soleil (Quebec City Daily)

(Quebec City) How can one be left with an empty feeling inside and speechless after hearing so many words, even with the impression of having brushed against the phantom of a generation. Thanks to Thomas Gionet-Lavigne and the producers of *Route*, we lived a wonderful and diverse experience at Théâtre Premier Acte following in the footstep of the writer Jack Kerouac.

...Only one actor on the stage, with a solid presence, showing character, using manly words, slightly heavy movements, and a French Canadian accent. He does not pretend to be Jack Kerouac - talks about him and refers to him as "he" through the first third of the long monologue - similarities are obvious but the actor is looking for



Thomas Gionet-Lavigne

Jack's first and forgotten manuscript in the play entitled Route. To reach his goal he must find and follow a woman, called Kate Murray, the muse and mentor in the legend...

...Stories abound but do not seem like digressions. The action is simple and loops the loop. The text, written by the actor is rich and well improved from the first lecture heard in 2008 at the Carrefour international de théâtre...

...It is a moving trip and really is a journey. Through the play one moves forward and does not get lost in the beat generation, Kerouac nor the poetic-America of the fifties, it is a chapter in a journey to be continued. (2)

By J. A. Michel Bornais

(1) SOURCE: http://www.impactcampus.gc.ca/ article.jsp?issue=2010-01-19&article=Sur-la-

(2) SOURCE: Translation of an article published in French on 20 January 2010; Route: a moving

http://www.cyberpresse.ca/le-soleil/arts-etspectacles/theatre/201001/19/01-940916-routetouchant-periple.php

Passing of a KFA Founding Member

On 6 February 2010 passed away Mrs. Mariette Pouliot, widow of Roland Kirouac. Mariette was one of the fifteen founding members of the Kirouac Family Association.

Born on 25 August 1926 at the Saint-François-d'Assise Hospital in Quebec City, she was the daughter of Napoléon Pouliot and Exilda Godin-Kirouac. Her parents were married on 14 July 1924 and had three other children besides Mariette: Jean-Paul, Jean-Claude and Yolande.

Mariette completed her elementary and high-school studies at the Saint-François-d'Assise Convent in Quebec City. Afterwards she worked in a garment store until her marriage to Roland Kirouac on 24 September 1949. The wedding took place in her native parish. For three years Mariette also worked at the store *Compagnie Paquet Limitée* in Place Laurier Shopping Mall in Sainte-Foy, Québec.

Mariette was a dedicated volunteer in her community; she was a long time member of the *Cercle des fermières* (Province-wide Women's group) in Sainte-Geneviève Parish in Sainte-Foy. She directed a thirty-member choir during four years as well as singing in the choir of the Quebec Symphony Orchestra during eleven years.

Mariette and Roland had six children: Denis, Élisabeth, Claude, Louis, André and Gilbert and nine grandchildren. Her husband, Roland, also a KFA founding member, passed away only seven months ago, on 2 July 2009. In addition he did the auditing of the KFA financial statements from 1986 until 2009.

On behalf of the KFA Board members and all KFA members, I present our deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

François Kirouac President



Mariette Pouliot Kirouac





The 2003 annual family gathering organizing committee, from left to right: René Kirouac, Gabrielle Hurtubise, Ivan Kirouac, Jean-Yves Kirouac, Louis Kirouac and Pierre Kirouac.

Passing of Ivan Kirouac (1920-2010)

It is with great sadness that we have just heard about the passing of Ivan Kirouac (3^{rd} from left in photo). Ivan was a member of the organizing committee of the KFA 25^{th} Anniversary Celebrations in Longueuil in 2003. He took part in the K/ voyage in Brittany in July 2000. He regularly and faithfully attended the KFA annual summer gatherings.

He leaves to mourn his children: Paul, Jacques (Carole Trottier), Céline (Pierre Rancour), and Sylvie (Serge St-Hilaire), his grandchildren: Philippe, Amélie, Julie, Jean-François, Martin, Vincent, and Naomi, his sisters Thérèse and Denise (Gilles Trudelle).

The funeral was held on 27 February 2010 in Longueuil.

Our heartfelt condolences to his family.



KI Family Photographic Heritage

Collection AFK



Charles-Antoine Kirouac (1901-1961, GFK 00594). Photo courtesy of Mrs. Lyse Pâquet.



Édouard Laurin (1890-1969) husband of Eudora Kirouac (1893-1985, GFK 00578) in Bonaventure, Gaspé Peninsula, salmon fishing.

Photo courtesy of Jean-Yves Laurin.





Françoise Gagné and Marcel Kirouac (1812-1880, GFK 00269), were married in St. Gervais, Bellechasse County on 19 October 1841. Original photo - Sylvie Bernard Collection.



Mathilda Kirouac (1890-1980, GFK 00738) and Georges E. Ling (1891-1983) Were married in Warwick, Quebec on 20 October 1914. Photo – owner unknown.

Collection AFK

Lullaby

"Where we have been happy, is where we will eventually go back to, even if it means using our last breath." Gabrielle Roy A Garden at The End of The World.

On 11 May 1914, my grandmother Églantine Léonard married Delphis Jasmin, my grandfather, in Saint-Martin Parish Church on Île Jésus (a large island north of Montreal Island).

Their first daughter was born on 17 January 1916 in Laval-des-Rapides. The family legend says that on this bitterly cold and extremely windy winter day, Delphis, with the lady carrying the small one-day old baby wrapped up in furs, sped along the Back River (called Rivière des Prairies in French) in a sleigh towards Saint-Martin Church, where my mother was christened, Yvette.

Delphis died two years later, struck by the dreadful Spanish Flu epidemic. He was only twenty-years old also leaving a second daughter, Georgette, just a few months old. There are very few photographs of my grandfather but they show a man of great kindness and class. Yvette was a spitting image of her father. His wife, Églantine, never remarried.

In Saint-Martin Church, on 14 July 1914, my other grandfather, Adélard Jasmin, married the beautiful Emma Giroux. And, on 11 September 1916, a memorable day indeed as the Quebec Bridge fell into the

St. Lawrence River, my father, Roland Jasmin, a second son for my grandparents, was born in Lavaldes-Rapides. My father always pretended that his birth had caused the Ouebec Bridge to crash down! No one ever dared contradict him about such a delicate matter. There was no point really, was there? My beautiful grandmother Emma died the same day as Delphis, also a victim of the Spanish Flu epidemic. Adélard re-married Marie-Antoinette Bergeron; she was known as Marie-Louise and she is the grandmother I knew.

Yvette and Roland both lived in Laval-des-Rapides, on the shore of the Back River. As children they listened to the singing of the turbulent and dangerous waters of the Back River. Such a beautiful river but so treacherous; nevertheless it always fascinated us, we the Jasmins of Laval-des-Rapides.

One day Yvette married Roland and, wherever my parents lived, it was always very close to the river, it was part of our lives. They would walk along its shaded shore like lovers do; they would skip stones, watch the ducks swimming. They loved to walk on the *Canadian Pacific* Railroad Bridge to listen to the ice freezing over in the winter and



hear the thundering ice breaking in the spring.

Since 1983 my father has been resting in the Saint-Martin Cemetery.

In 2004, Yvette started her long painful journey; it lasted almost six years. On 13 January, she moved to the C.H.S.L.D. Berthiaume-du-Tremblay, (a palliative care residence), in Ahuntsic, in the northern part of Montreal.

During the night of 18 January 2010, as an answer to prayers, while I held her in my arms, my mother quietly slipped away. From her bedroom window, I could see the Back River, as wild and unpredictable as ever. And as beautiful as ever a river can be, the River that we, the Jasmins from Laval-des-Rapides, loved so much.

It breaks my heart simply to talk about it. But all I need to do is close my eyes to see my father and mother's happiness and to hear our River singing away.

In loving memory of my mother, Yvette Jasmin 17 January 1916 – 18 January 2010

From the Visitation Church, on the shore of the Back River on Montreal Island, to the Saint-Martin Cemetery in Laval-des-Rapides on Ile Jésus, the funeral procession followed the old winding road along the Back River.





Boucher, Fernande Kirouac (1918-2010)

At Fleury Hospital in Montréal, on 9 January 2010, at the age of 91 years and nine months, passed away Mrs. Fernande Kirouac (GFK 00420), widow of Mr. Georges-Étienne Boucher. She leaves to mourn her children: Nicole (Wilfrid Guillet), Serge (Lise Deschambault), the late Ghislain, Lorraine (Laurent Lantagne), and Céline, as well as many grand-children and great-grand-children. Funeral was held on 16 January 2010 in Saint-Romuald Parish Church in Lévis. Quebec.

Jasmin, Yvette (1916 – 2010)

In Montréal, on Monday, 18 January 2010, passed away at the age of 94, Mrs. Yvette Jasmin, widow of Roland Jasmin. She leaves to mourn her daughter, Lucie, her son, Claude, her grandsons, Jean-François and Frédéric, nephews and nieces as well as many friends. Funeral was held on 23 January 2010 at the church of the Visitation in Montreal. Mrs. Yvette Jasmin was the mother of Lucie, a KFA Board member.

Kirouac, Jean-Lionel (1945-2009)

SOUTHAMPTON - Jean-Lionel Kirouac, (GFK 00395) 63, passed away Friday, 12 June 2009, at home surrounded by his family and friends. Born in Albert, France, July 7, 1945, he was the son of Real Kirouac and the late Ginette (Larcher) Kirouac. He was educated in Northampton schools and was a graduate of Northampton High School. He later earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He was a Vietnam War Veteran, serving in the U.S. Navy on submarines. He was a medical technologist at Baystate Medical

N MEMORIAN

Center in Springfield for the past twelve years. Jean-Lionel was an avid runner, participating in twenty-six marathons and qualifying for eight Boston Marathons. He also enjoyed skiing and bicycling throughout Europe. He was a nature lover and loved bird-watching and gardening.

Besides his father, Real Kirouac, of Northampton, he is survived by his wife, Cathleen C. Grady; his stepmother, Barbara (Sanders) Kirouac; three brothers, Alan Kirouac and his wife, Patricia, of Goshen, Kevin M. Kirouac, (see above obituary) of Westfield, and Patrick Kirouac, of Longueau, France; two sisters, Janine Kirouac-Sage and her husband, David Sage, of South Grafton, and Florence Thirry, of Saveuse, France; several nieces and nephews and his three cats, Gabrielle, Tesha and Bria, and his dog, Mattv.

Kirouac, Yvon (1940 - 2010)

At the Granby Hospital on 27 January 2010, at the age of 69, passed away Mr. Yvon Kirouac (GFK 02527). husband of Gaétane Lacoursière-Kirouac from Granby. He leaves to mourn besides his wife, his children: Nancy, Stephen (Caroline Oorlynck), Vicky (Marc Cantin); his grandchildren: Alexandre, Erika, Melissa, Dave and Malena. He also leaves his brother and his sisters, brothers-in-law and sisterin-law, nephews and nieces, other relatives and friends. Funeral ceremony was held on Friday, 29 January in the Chapel of the funeral parlour followed by internment in the Columbarium Girardot & Ménard.

Pouliot, Mariette (1926 - 2010)

At Laval Hospital, in Quebec City, on 6 February 2010, at the age of eighty-three, passed away Mariette Pouliot, widow of Roland Kirouac. Funeral was



on 10 February 2010 in Ste-Geneviève Church in Québec City. She leaves to mourn her children: Denis (Noëlla Levesque), Élizabeth (Jean-Guy Laberge), Jean-Claude (Lisette Fleury), Louis (Célyne Boucher), Gilbert (Anne Boiteau); her grandchildren: Véronique, Jonathan, Jean-Simon, François, Andréanne, Joëlle, Étienne, Mathieu, and Maxime; her brother, Jean-Claude (Suzanne Bolduc) and her sister, Yolande (the late André Marquis): her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law of the Kirouac family: Simone (Laurent Masson), Gabriel (Jeannine Simard), Jean-Marie (Aline Montmigny), Thérèse, as well as many nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

She joined her husband Roland (GFK 00528) who passed away on 2 July 2009, her son, André, and her brother, Jean-Paul (the late Pierrette Dagneau).

Thibault, Léonie (1917 – 2010)

At the Montmagny Hospital, on 26 January 2010, at the age of ninety-two passed away Miss Léonie Thibault from L'Islet. She was the daughter of Philomène Pelletier-Thibault and Joseph-Firmin Thibault. She was the sister and sister-in-law of the late Jean-Charles (Angèle Morin), the late Philippe (Isabelle Chouinard), the late Léopold (Gilberte Deschênes), the late Eugène (the late Thérèse Bissonnette), the late Eugènie, Gisèle (the late Jean-Paul Carrier), Rose-Anna, Marie-Jeanne (the late Jean-Charles KIROUAC — GFK 02163). She also leaves to mourn many nephews and nieces, relatives and friends. Funeral was held on Saturday, 30 January 2010 in Saint-Eugène-de-L'Islet Parish Church followed by burial in the Parish Cemetery.

OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES
TO THE
BEREAVED FAMILIES

PRESS REVIEW

Zachary Richard, AT THE HEART OF THE LOUISIANA BAYOUS

By Marie Lussier Timperley

n its first January edition, L'Itinéraire a Montreal bi-monthly magazine published in French, presents a most interesting interview with Zachary Richard on pages 14-16. Norman Rickert, a street journalist, as he calls himself, met the famous singer-songwriter who, though he has adopted Quebec as his second home, can still smell the odours of the Louisiana marshland and Acadian Cajun Bayous. Still living, half the time, in his grandfather's house, Zachary Richard is the embodiment of those people from Louisiana still feeling deeply for their part of the world where the environment is so fragile. He is a Buddhist by choice therefore feels committed to showing solidarity with people and life."

Zachary regularly buys a copy of *L'Itinéraire* from Mr. Rickert at the Café Brodino, in Outremont (Montreal), where they met for the interview. Mr. Rickert writes that Zachary is a walking encyclopedia about his native Louisiana and that he can explain the historical ups and downs, as well as the current ecological challenges, just as well as any expert on these subjects could do and that he would be a precious resource on Discovery-type TV programmes.

Zachary comments the pernicious effects of the hurricanes on the ecology as well as on the population and talks about the important presence of oil and oil companies. As for the future of Francophones in Louisiana, he believes that the Internet, used more and more by the younger generation, opens up the world for them in a way unthinkable only ten years ago.

KEROUAC: THE SPARK THAT MARKED HIS CREATIVE LIFE

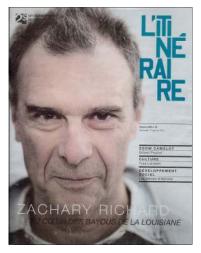
While studying at Tulane University in New-Orleans, he read *On The Road*; it was a milestone in the Cajun singer's

life. About discovering Jack he says: Kerouac was one of the greatest influences on my personal and artistic life. Thus in 1968, Zachary's life was branded by the famous Franco-American writer. He says: "I left Lafayette to go to New Orleans to study and it was a sort of cultural rebirth. I discovered my vocation through the beat (1) writers, Kerouac first, then Allen Ginsberg among others. Their influence was fundamental. And that is when I started to write my first songs and first poems." In his album Coeur fidèle, there is a song entitled Massachusetts, in which the words show clearly Zachary Richard's interest for Jack Kerouac who was born in Massachusetts

Forty years later, i.e. a few months ago, Zachary re-read On The Road. The book is all about travelling. The novel starts with the death of the author's father, something that deeply affected Zachary because his father died in 2005. However, if the musician used to perceive Jack Kerouac as a symbol of liberty, now he connects more with the Franco-American writer, whom he looks upon as someone representing all those people who were uprooted, Kerouac knew that he was being slowly assimilated into the Anglophone culture. "Now I understand better the situation that all north-American Francophones lived through, for example the exodus of so many people forced to look for work in Quebec, or in the New England factories." "For the musician from Lafayette, On The Road studies travelling and the search for one's identity, and presents this quest as an aim, and not as a means. Therefore for Zachary this novel is a very spiritual book symbolizing a personal search."

Since 1968, Zachary Richard is an adept of Buddhism; he was initiated by Allen Ginsberg, one of Jack's friends. «...I meditate according to the Zen tradition. It is a permanent challenge, not to solve ones own problems, but to develop the right attitude when faced by problems, ...in order to be more generous, more committed and if possible to show more solidarity... For him, music is a form of spirituality. When singing, he finds himself in a space filled with spiritual energy... and he adds: To meditate is for me a commitment, and singing is a gift from heaven."

To read the whole article (in French only) visit: www.itineraire.ca or visit Zachary Richard's bilingual Web site at www.zacharyrichard.com.



Front Page of the printed edition

(1) **Beat**: The Beats or beatniks of the fifties were somewhat the precursors of the hippies of the sixties. These free-thinking writers loved philosophy, poetry, jazz and experimenting with anything and everything. Jack Kerouac is often considered as the 'father' of the Beat Movement.

SOURCE: http://www.itineraire.ca/magazine/archives/2010/jan10_1/01jan10.php



Brother Marie-Victorin & the school École de l'Éveil

1935 - Foundation - 75th Anniversary in 2010

By André St-Arnaud, 1st Vice-President of the Cercles des jeunes naturalistes (CJN) (Young Naturalists Club)

t was 1932. The public was still under the spell of the very first natural history exhibition organized by the *Cercles des jeunes naturalistes* (*CJN*) and held at the St. Sulpice Hall following a botanical contest launched in 1930 by Louis Dupire (1) and *Le Devoir*, the intellectual Montreal daily.

One of the contestants, a young woman registered at Montreal University's Department of Sciences, decided to try field work with her 27-month old nephew who was spending the summer months in the countryside with her. Her name was Marcelle Gauvreau. They simply wanted to enjoy themselves together! But in the Autumn, one day, the young Claude Jutras(1) accompanied by his mother(2), turned up at the botanical laboratory looking very serious and reverently carrying his herbarium folder containing



Courtesy of the Cercles des jeunes naturalistes' archives

twenty flowers collected around his grandfather's country house⁽³⁾.

During that particular afternoon, Brother Marie-Victorin had been regularly interrupted, however, once more, he stopped what he was doing, leaving his papers unattended on his desk, to carefully look at the herbarium that little Claude had brought. He somewhat put the little guy through an oral exam! And, one after the other, Claude, then 29 months old, named the various flowers: burdock, plantain, catnip, and each and every one of them adding

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some unexpected details about them.

Brother Marie-Victorin was so moved to see such a young botanist that he wrote on the cover page of the herbarium: Vu et approuvé par la direction de l'Institut botanique, which translates as 'Seen and approved by the Director of the Botanical Institute'. Not only did Marie-Victorin sign the document, but his assistants also did: Jules Brunel and Jacques Rousseau; and, for the fun of it, both men tried to confuse the young pupil, but to no avail. Brother Marie-Victorin had a beautiful CJN diploma prepared for Claude saying that the new recipient of this botany diploma was the founder of the "Cercle des tout-petits" the 'Little-Ones' CJN'...

In 1933, the CJN blossomed out of all expectations. The Mont Saint-Louis College in Montreal, owned and ran by the Brothers of the Christian Schools, organized a splendid provincial exhibition. Two years later, Notre-Dame College, owned and run by the Congregation of the Holy Cross, held the third giant exhibition assuming all the expenses. Hundreds and hundreds of herbariums were



Courtesy of the Cercles des jeunes naturalistes' archives

Courtesy of the Cercles des jeunes naturalistes' archives

sent in from all corners of the Province of Quebec!

And the 'Little-Ones' CJN', founded by Claude Jutras were also invited to exhibit. But this time it was not only one child showing the result of his fieldwork; there were others: Claude's three-year old sister, Mireille, as well as a number of very young cousins including, six-year old Hélène, fiveyear old Pierre(4), and four-year old Jacqueline, were in the Little-Ones' CJN group and they were all members of the same family. Of course, they were under the supervision of their "Tante Marcelle". As a result 'Aunt Marcelle' received many requests from other parents wanting their little ones to be initiated into botany.

Therefore in the Autumn of 1935, one Saturday afternoon, which was usually a day off at the University, someone turned up at Brother Marie-Victorin's office and interrupted his work with a question: "If all these very young ones can study, if so many parents want their children to learn about nature's beauty, why not start a school?" Brother Marie-Victorin, still very young at heart, was thrilled with the idea.

___ This delightful school needs a name, he said, I will look for one.

___ Yes! And it also needs a motto/slogan!...

Of course it is Brother Marie-Victorin, who, quite naturally, found the delightful name "L'Éveil", which means the awakening. He also suggested the slogan that all children recite together at the end of each class: 'I would like to know why all these things are beautiful'.

A lovely drawing was made to illustrate the motto/slogan. A leaflet was printed with the name *L'Éveil* - *Cercle des Tout-petits-naturalistes* (The Awakening - the



Courtesy of the Cercles des jeunes naturalistes' archives

youngest CJN-nature lovers). There was a one-hour class every week; from Spring to Autumn these were excursions in the countryside to collect plants, insects, and minerals for the children to build up their collection.

So, on 15 November 1935, at Hôtel Pennsylvanie in Montreal, was born a new initiative linked to the great *CJN* movement, with Brother Marie-Victorin as Honorary President. It is quite obvious that if Marie-Victorin had not agreed to it, there would never have been an *École de L'Éveil*.

Beginnings are never easy, and it is with great affection that Brother Marie-Victorin watched the little ones searching in the fields! He wanted so much to encourage them that he showered them with all sorts of small rewards, pictures, images, small frames, things fit for their young age. He also added beautiful books to their libraries. Brother Marie-Victorin, himself, gave special talks to the youngsters of L'Éveil. And in 1939, L'Éveil School was granted top honours by being affiliated with the Montreal Botanical Garden. In the building, the locale he chose was the space where the sun shone



most. He was happiest when he could see and hear all these young friends chirping away.

For more info on L'Éveil: http://www.archives.ugam.ca/expositions/ eveil/pages/MG/ecole_eveil.htm



⁽¹⁾ The famous Quebec actor and movie maker Claude Jutra. He dropped the 's' at the end of his name while working in the USA. See biography on Wikipedia.

⁽²⁾ Claude was the son of the well-known Dr. Albert Jutras and Rachel Gauvreau-Jutras, Marcelle Gauvreau was Rachel's sister.

⁽³⁾ Claude Jutra's maternal grandfather was Dr. Joseph Gauvreau, a keen botanist and friend of Brother Marie-Victorin.

⁽⁴⁾ See Le Trésor Number 86, page 19.

GENEALOGY / THE READERS' PAGE

The KFA's computerized genealogical database includes a number of couples where the name of one of the partners is missing.

Answers to the following questions would enable us to complete this data.

You are also invited to consult previous issues of Le Trésor. If you know the answers to any of the questions, please forward them to us and we will publish them in the Readers' Page in future issues.

Thank you very much

François Kirouac

Question 274

What are the names of the parents of Ginette Fréchette, spouse of Denis Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Question 275

What are the names of the parents of Francine Simard, spouse of Gaétan Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Ouestion 276

What are the names of the parents of Diane Marcotte, spouse of Roger Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Question 277

What are the names of the parents of Gaétane Routhier, spouse of Conrad Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Question 278

What are the names of the parents of Pierre Blanchard, spouse of Denyse Gaboury, daughter of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Question 279

What are the names of the parents of Lise Beaulac, spouse of Jean-Guy Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Ouestion 280

What are the names of the parents of Huguette Baron, spouse of Gilles Gaboury, son of Jean-Paul Gaboury and Béatrice Kirouac-Gaboury?

Question 281

What are the names of the parents of Lise Girardin, spouse of André Cloutier, son of Joseph Cloutier and Lucie Kirouac-Cloutier?

Ouestion 282

What are the names of the parents of Julie Bouchard, spouse of Jean Carbonneau, son of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 283

What are the names of the parents of Claude Grondin, spouse of Gina Carbonneau, daughter of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 284

What are the names of the parents of Denis Dusseault, spouse of Lucie Carbonneau, daughter of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 285

What are the names of the parents of Ghislaine Gravel, spouse of Marc Carbonneau, son of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 286

What are the names of the parents of Luce Couture, spouse of Michel Carbonneau, son of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 287

What are the names of the parents of Sylvain Gauthier, spouse of Danielle Carbonneau, daughter of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 288

What are the names of the parents of Jean-Jacques Tremblay, spouse of Louise Carbonneau, daughter of Please send us your genealogical questions; we will try to answer them and the result will be published in a following issue of Le Trésor.

The Editorial Team

Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Question 289

What are the names of the parents of Sonia Laverdière, spouse of Pierre Carbonneau, son of Andréa Carbon-Thérèse Kirouacneau and Carbonneau?

Ouestion 290

What are the names of the parents of Serge Flamand, spouse of Lyne Carbonneau, daughter of Andréa Carbonneau and Thérèse Kirouac-Carbonneau?

Ouestion 291

What are the names of the parents of Marc Leclerc, spouse of Lorraine Nathalie Kirouac, daughter of Maurice Kirouac and Suzanne Carrier-Kirouac?

Question 292

What are the names of the parents of Alice Bédard, spouse of Victor Côté, son of Victor Côté and Philomène Aurélie Le Brice de Keroack-Côté?

What are the names of the parents of Yvonne Germain, spouse of Édouard Côté, son of Alfred Côté and Philomène Kirouac-Côté?

Ouestion 294

What are the names of the parents of Rosario Barette, spouse of Magella Côté, daughter of Alfred Côté and Philomène Kirouac-Côté?

Ouestion 295

What are the names of the parents of Wilfrid Laroche, spouse of Valentine Côté, daughter of Alfred Côté and Philomène Kirouac-Côté?

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

CE lese and the Duch voach

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