

Autumn 2020

Number 134

# Le Trésor des Kironac

Bulletin of the descendants of d'Alexandre de K/voach  
Witness to Kironac Activities since 1983



Doncaster River, Sainte-Adèle in the Laurentians, north of Montreal (Quebec)  
(Photo: Yves Kéroack ©)



Kironac  
Kironack



Kérouac  
Kérouack



Keroac  
Keroack



Kéroack  
Kyrouac



Breton  
Burton



Curwack  
Curwick



## ***Le Trésor des Kirouac***

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# The President's Word

The year 2020 ends pretty much the way it started, in solitude caused by the pandemic. For the first time since 1985, there was no annual family gathering this year. Therefore, the chance to meet and exchange news and hugs is postponed. We all hope that this exceptional situation is only a one-off and that, before we meet in 2021, the scientists will have found a vaccine against the dreadful virus.

Although it was impossible to meet, we made sure to keep in touch with one and all through *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, our family encyclopedia, and by updating our Web site. This year again we were able to add new galleries of photos as well as a whole section on Jan Kerouac. Make sure to look at these many new pages.

Also, a new service will soon be available online: electronic payment. It will be easier for all to renew a membership or pay a new one, possibly buy books and K/ mementoes. A number of people explained that an electronic service would simplify their life: no more cheque, envelope, or stamp! As soon as it is available we will let you know.

Besides preventing us from holding our annual gathering last September, the pandemic forced the Board to rethink its working habits. For the first time since the creation of the KFA in 1978, we held a virtual

meeting to take care of the KFA's current affairs. At first we anticipated some difficulties, but it went very well and, most likely, we will repeat the exercise, certainly as long as distancing is recommended for health reasons.

## New Administrator on Board

I take great pleasure in announcing that the KFA Board now has a new member. On 10 October 2020, during our first virtual board meeting we officially welcomed Jean-Louis K  rouac on the KFA Board. His nomination was done according to the KFA's Rules and Regulations, (article 6.06 & 6.10 3) allowing the board to pass a motion naming an administrator.

Jean-Louis also accepted to take part in a special committee, made up of Eric Waddell, responsible for the Jack Kerouac Observatory, and myself in order to create a project to mark Jack Kerouac's birth centennial in 2022. In this issue, number 134, you will read how Gerald Nicosia is ahead of everyone in celebrating Jack and his daughter, Jan.

In its forty-two years of existence, our association accumulated an impressive amount of documents as well as various objects, including a trophy! One question



Fran  ois Kirouac

Photo: Fran  ois Kirouac collection

foremost in our mind: what should be kept and what should be discarded.

First, should what we have be kept into the KFA's archives? Photos, books, documents, etc., and various odds and ends? How long should these documents or objects be kept? Is our classification method adequate? How should the KFA archives be preserved? Digitally or physically? Or both? Where should they be kept? In the home of one of the Board member or in a rented space? How do we make them easily accessible? This, in short, is what Jean-Louis will be working on for us all.

## Other Available Posts on The KFA Board

This is a new call for candidates to fill two more posts on the KFA Board and two regional representatives.

The KFA also needs a secretary. Once more, I want to underline the fact that Céline volunteered to be meeting secretary temporarily but that was ten years ago! We also need one person, to look after promotional objects, books, *Le Trésor*, publications, KFA crests, enjoying selling is not a prerequisite but could be helpful.

Why don't you join our team of young-at-heart? In spite of our years, our heads and hearts are full of projects. It is with everyone's involvement that our Association will remain alive and fruitful. All the KFA Board members and *Le Trésor's* editorial team are very keen on carrying on.

In 2020, it was not the end of the world, but the end of "A" world, the one we knew before the pandemic.

As my  
closing words,  
may I wish everyone  
a wonderful Holiday Season  
in spite of the present limits,  
and, may we, in 2021,  
see the return to  
a more normal way of life.  
TO ALL,  
A HEALTHY NEW YEAR!



#### KFA TWO VACANT POSTS

**Regional Representative – one for Montreal, Outaouais, Abitibi**

**Regional Representative – one for Mauricie, Bois-Francs, Eastern-Townships**

##### Functions:

- Promote the Association to relatives and friends;
- Once a year, help with membership list upgrading in the region; encourage people to renew their membership and inspire others to join;
- Suggest and/or organize a gathering in one's area and collaborate with the KFA board member responsible for said gathering;
- Look out for notices, newspaper articles about K descendants achievements in one's area.

#### KFA BOARD MEMBERS (two vacant posts)

##### Functions:

- Take part in two or three annual board meetings to carry out the administration of the KFA's assets and activities;
- Carry out any ad hoc function either suggested by the Board or a board member related to the KFA's goals.
- To propose your candidacy: please contact: [association@familleskirouac.com](mailto:association@familleskirouac.com)



# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

As in the past years, **OUR YOUNGER TREASURES**, Alexandre de Kervoach's descendants, hope you enjoy a very special Holiday Season, likely different this year, and wish you **HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY** in 2021!



Ella Betty



Henri Réginald



Rey



Aurélie, Arianne and Laurent



Léa



# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

As in the past years, **OUR YOUNGER TREASURES**, Alexandre de Kervoach's descendants, hope you enjoy a very special Holiday Season, likely different this year, and wish you **HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY** in 2021!



Thomas



Nev



Maéva



Éva



Silas, Teddy, Ellie, Selah, Serena and Samuel

## Traditional New Year Song in the Louis-Georges and Lydia Cloutier Kérouac home

In our previous issue of *Le Trésor*, number 133, on page 8, in Jean-Louis Kérouac's story, you read about a New Year tradition in his family. Each year, in Saint-Eugène-de-L'Islet, Louis-Georges and Lydia's family sang together *Mon Dieu, bénissez la Nouvelle-Année!* (O Lord, Bless The New Year!) At that time, everybody listened to the song on the radio interpreted by Georges Hamel, a popular Quebec country singer who did a lot to spread this French tune.

Being the end of a rather trying year, to say the least, we think it is appropriate to publish this song not only to perpetuate a family tradition where faith was very important, but also to encourage us to re-evaluate our priorities as well as, hopefully, give us, among other things, hope that the work of the scientists will be successful in 2021 in defeating the pandemic afflicting us.

We wish you and every member of your family a New Year filled with health and happiness.

As they say: *It's going to be OK!*

The Editorial Team

### O LORD BLESS THE NEW YEAR!

Author: Eugène Lapierre \* *Translated by Marie L. Timperley for Le Trésor 134*

O Lord, bless this New Year;  
Make our parents and  
friends happy;  
The New Year is all yours,  
you give it to us  
To earn a place in paradise!

Man is predestined; however, life  
has not been given to him to put his  
heart into earthly things, but  
As a man in exile, to walk towards  
The Eternal Land without  
ever stopping.

O Lord, bless this New Year;  
Make our parents and  
friends happy;  
The New Year is all yours,  
you give it to us  
To earn a place in paradise!

Can anyone count  
how many instants are left  
To conquer heaven,  
how long one has left?  
Of the New Year,  
we see dawn, day break,  
But will we see the end of the day?  
See the sun setting?

O Lord, bless this New Year;  
Make our parents and  
friends happy;  
The New Year is all yours,  
you give it to us  
To earn a place in paradise!

Please, O Lord, bless  
this New Year;  
May your celestial love  
en-wrap every day!  
So that not a moment lost,  
nor an hour wasted  
should ever sully its course!

O Lord, bless this New Year;  
Make our parents and  
friends happy;  
The New Year is all yours,  
you give it to us  
To earn a place in paradise!



\***Eugène Lapierre**, Born in Montreal, was a renowned organist, professor, composer, writer. He was director-administrator of the National Music Conservatory at Montreal from 1927 until his death in 1970. Source: Wikipedia

\* To see and hear Georges Hamel sing this song in French, go to You Tube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CL5Fqr36Oio>



A New Year photo taken in 1960 at the Kérouac home in Saint-Eugène-de-L'Islet. From left to right, behind: Louis-Georges Kérouac (1913-1992), his wife, Lydia Cloutier (1914-1999), their four daughters: Raymonde, Suzanne, Carmen and Marielle; in front: their two sons, Jean-Louis and Conrad.

(Photo: Jean-Louis Kérouac collection)



# IAN LAFRENIÈRE, A DE KERVOACH DESCENDANT, IS THE NEW QUEBEC MINISTER OF INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS



On 9 October 2020, Ian Lafrenière, a 28-year veteran of the Montreal police force, was appointed the Quebec's new Minister of indigenous Affairs. His grandmother, our eldest KFA member, Gabrielle Hurtubise-Lafrenière, will be blowing 102 candles on her birthday cake on 27 December.

On this photo, Ian Lafrenière (left) and his brother Cédric (right) with their grandmother proudly wearing a scarf she bought in Brittany during the KFA *return to the sources* voyage 3-18 July 2000.

One more stimulating position for a man who thrives on challenges as noted in the past and reported in previous issues of *Le Trésor*<sup>1</sup>. We wish him the very best in his new functions.

<sup>1</sup> See *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 123, Spring 2017, p. 4 and *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 128, Autumn 2018, p. 35.



## NEW KFA BOARD MEMBER

We are very happy to announce that the KFA has a new Board member. Mr. Jean-Louis Kérouac, son of Lydia Cloutier and Louis-Georges Kérouac (GFK 02071). He is the brother of Raymonde Kérouac-Harvey, the author of *L'Album*, who was a KFA board member from 1978 to 1982 and then KFA secretary from 1982 to 1989. He has officially started in his new function.

To know more about him, we invite you to read again the article about him, his family and career published in the 2020 Spring edition of *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, no. 133.

Welcome Jean-Louis!

François Kirouac, for the KFA Board

## ONE KIROUAC BRANCH IN WARWICK (QUEBEC)

Augustine Lemay and Émile Kirouac's family in Warwick (Quebec) in January 1957. From left to right, seated: Fernand, Émile and Augustine, and Roger; standing: Richard, Marthe, Monique and Bruno.

Émile, son of Joseph Kirouac and Henriette Leclerc, was a first cousin of Marie-Rose and Alice Rousseau, the daughters of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac and Mathias Rousseau whose stories appear on pages 16 to 36 in this issue of *Le Trésor*. Bruno, standing at right, was one of the founding members of the Kirouac Family Association, is the father of François, genealogist and current KFA president. (Photo : Bruno Kirouac collection)





## MARIE-AUDREY KIROUAC

### Wins a Scholarship from *Association de planification fiscale et financière*

During the 2020 virtual congress and cocktail party of the Association de planification fiscale et financière (APFF) (tax & financial planning association) scholarships were presented to the students who wrote the best essays on a fiscal subject.

Among the winners, we are proud to underline the success of Marie-Audrey Kirouac, a notary, originally from Warwick (Quebec). Marie-Audrey is studying at Sherbrooke University for her master's degree in taxation. One of her essays won her a scholarship for excellence. As well as the scholarship, her essay will be published in a specialized journal on taxation.

As part of her studies for her master's degree, Marie-Audrey analyzed the rules of eligibility for federal fiscal taxation applying them to a particular case, that of *La Presse*, Montreal's largest French-speaking daily, in order to verify *La Presse's* eligibility to the new federal government measures. Her sixty-page essay is entitled: *La fiscalité au soutien du journalisme: analyse des mesures fiscales fédérales adoptées en 2019 et de l'admissibilité du journal La Presse à celles-ci*. Which translates as: Journalism supported by taxation: analysis of federal fiscal measures adopted in 2019 and *La Presse's* eligibility to benefit from said measures.

Marie-Audrey is the daughter of Christian and Doris (Côté) Kirouac from Warwick (Quebec) and the granddaughter of Gisèle (Bergeron) and Bruno Kirouac (GFK 00714), one of the KFA founding members.

Congratulations to Marie-Audrey!

The Editor



Marie-Audrey Kirouac, notary and taxation specialist (Photo: M.-A. Kirouac collection)



## COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis

### BENEFICIAL ISOLATION

#### FISHING WITH DAD AND GRANDDAD'S LURES



John Ciambelli fishing with his daughter, Rey  
(Photo: John Ciambelli collection)

Excerpts from an article published in the **Detroit (Michigan) Free Press** on 14 August 2000

#### Isolating to Get Closer

John Ciambelli had always planned to teach his daughter, Rey, how to fish, just like his dad did with him during family vacations decades ago. But then the COVID-19 pandemic arrived which had the effect of speeding up the tutelage and also helping forge some inter-generational family ties.

*"She is using my dad's fishing lures to catch these fish, which makes me happy," said Ciambelli, who inherited a stockpile of fishing gear after his father, Anthony, died last year. "And she is like, 'That is Grandpa's lure.' She was almost three when he passed away, and she remembers him. I want her to remember all the fun things he did. My goal is to keep his memory alive."*

## Creating conservation funding

More Michiganders turning to fishing to safely get outdoors during coronavirus pandemic. In Michigan the sale of fishing licenses soared this year compared with 2019 and the *Michigan Wildlife Council's* chair points out that purchases of licenses, and not state taxes, fund conservation projects throughout the state.

John Ciambelli, 46, remembers his last fishing trip with his dad in 2009; after a two-year apprenticeship as an electrician, working almost every day, he says: *"We really did not catch anything that day except for memories, but it was the first time I could relax in nearly two years"*. Today, his outings with Rey are a way to relieve the stress of living through a pandemic.

After coronavirus cases started to rise this spring, Ciambelli took leave from his job as an electrician at the Detroit Wastewater Treatment Plant and temporarily relocated with his wife, Brook Kirouac, and Rey from their Ferndale residence to the more isolated lakeside vacation home they bought last year near Durand.

*"I was around too many people,"* he said. *"If I catch it, then I am going to bring it home and Brook is going to catch it, and it would be very bad. I will go back to work when things calm down, but it is too big of a chance. We are not going to risk it."*

The Ciambellis practice catch-and-release fishing. While waiting for a nibble, Rey will entertain herself by looking for turtles and birds and *"asking fun questions like 4-year-old do,"* her father said. She hauls in about one fish per outing. *"The other day she caught a large bluegill, probably eight inches,"* Ciambelli recalled. *"She loved it. I had to take it off the hook for her, of course, but then she wanted to touch it. So she touches it, and she says, 'OK, put it back in the water.' And then we will always say, 'I will catch you again later.'"*

They release the fish and tension but keep the happy memories.

More information on fun outdoor activities in Michigan, and the role hunting and fishing play in helping make them possible, is available at the website of the **Michigan Wildlife Council**, which can be found at [www.HereForMiOutdoors.org](http://www.HereForMiOutdoors.org).

In Quebec too, a lot more people flocked to nature centres and provincial parks outside city centres. Did this happen in your state? Did you take advantage of the countryside to enjoy fresh air and isolate during the pandemic? If so, let us know about it and how it benefited you and your family.



Rey Ciambelli, daughter of John Ciambelli and Brook Kirouac. Granddaughter of Stephen and Neysa Kirouac (GFK 00907), proudly showing her catch of the day, a large bluegill.





## COVID-19 Pandemic

### To Wear or Not to Wear a Mask! A Recurrent Question!

by André Kirouac, Quebec City, 19 June 2020

**P**ERSONAL OPINION / I am not a specialist of sanitary questions nor am I a medical anthropologist, but for decades I have been involved in studying wars, particularly their impacts on people and notably on human behaviour in large conflicts.

About the COVID virus, we often hear expressions like "the invisible enemy" or "fight the virus." These expressions I understand of course. Are you going to ask me if there is a link with wearing or not wearing a sanitary mask?

The link has to do with human behaviour because human behaviour is radically modified when a majority of people is afraid to die and/or because people are afraid that close relatives may die. In time of war, a person might be ready to die to ensure their loved ones and descendants do not die and to protect their family.

Let us look at what happens close to home. What are the authorities doing to encourage us to stop smoking or to drive carefully? They publicize the risks of dying from cancer or in a horrible car accident. They also publicize the advantages of not smoking or of driving

carefully. In both cases, the idea is to protect others as well as ourselves, and it is the same with wearing a mask, it is more to protect those we meet than to protect ourselves.

As COVID and masks are concerned, in general people are not afraid to die and they seldom clearly understand how wearing a mask will prevent other people from dying. As far as I am concerned, neither the government's hesitations nor social behaviour or other reasons are responsible for people not wearing a mask. I believe it is the lack of fear, the "no-fear" of dying or killing other people.

Why? Because the emphasis - with good reason, I may say - is put on the number of deaths in the long-term care facilities, the Quebec CHSLD, and seniors' residences. The authorities and the media talk only about that. It is right to talk about it but, as a result, the population thinks that the danger is essentially in those residences and that the risk is very low outside.

Therefore, there is no risk, or very little risk, of dying from COVID for my family; consequently, I do not need to wear a mask.



André Kirouac  
(Photo: André Kirouac collection)

A society changes when the survival of a large proportion is assaulted and all people feel threatened deep inside. How about turning the discourse around, and for a while show sick younger people in their 30s, 40s or 50s, and repeatedly give out death statistics for families in that age group. Describing where they caught COVID, at the grocery for example, and you will see that everyone will wear a mask. At the same time, let us not underestimate what is happening in Quebec's long-term care facilities, let us keep talking about it, because even if the number of deaths decreases, each case is unique and causes great pain to an ever-larger number of relatives and friends.



In 2020, we were looking forward to meeting in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli in September. But uninvited COVID turned up first and blocked all roads! We hope very much for a vaccine in 2021 which would enable us to meet again every year.

As in Longueuil in 2003 when we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Kirouac Family Association*. Here is the traditional photo of all the participants taken in front of Saint-Pierre-Apôtre church.

Were you there? Are you on this photo? To revive happy memories of past gatherings we invite you to visit the many photos of our various family reunions on the KFA Website. Go to:

<http://kirouacfamilies.com/photos/gatherings.html>

OCTOBER 26 - VIRTUAL LAUNCHING OF  
**TOUT EST POSSIBLE, ANDRÉ LECLERC, FONDATEUR DE KÉROUL**  
René Kirouac's First Book

On 26 October 2020, René Kirouac's first book, *Tout est possible, Biographie d'André Leclerc, fondateur de Kéroul*; (*Everything is Possible, Biography of André Leclerc, Founder of Kéroul\**), was launched on line due to the pandemic.

René is the son of Maurice Kirouac (GFK 00934) and Monique Pelletier, from Warwick (Quebec). You may remember René the emcee! On many occasions he was master of ceremonies for KFA gatherings, starting with the very first one, and the largest ever, in August 1980 at L'Islet-sur-Mer. (photos on KFA website).

After working in the travel industry all his life, René retired. In 2016, André Leclerc asked him to write his biography, a dream on his bucket-list. Through sheer determination, André Leclerc *changed tourism in the province of Quebec by making it accessible to all*.

It took René four years to complete his research and do a hundred interviews to present both André Leclerc and his organization: KÉROUL. André Leclerc is an outstanding man who transformed his own personal battle - cerebral palsy - into a collective service for all those with physical limitations enabling, even wheelchair bound people like himself, to travel comfortably in Quebec and around the world. It is a biography far more fascinating than a novel about a work always in progress.

Congratulations René for carrying out this terrific project enabling everyone to learn about the astonishing career of an awe-inspiring man who proves that everything is possible and nothing is impossible.



The Editor

\*KÉROUL comes from: KÉ as in Kébec, Quebec, in Algonquine, and ROUL as in rouler = French for driving.

All profits from book sale (in French only) go to KÉROUL and help forward André's mission.

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## *Serge Kirouac New Director General of the Montmagny District Home Services Cooperative*

Serge Kirouac is a special person all municipalities dream of: dynamic, enterprising, concerned with people's well-being and always ready to take on a good cause. I think this is a correct description of the New Director General of *Montmagny District Home Services Cooperative* (*Coopérative de services à domicile de la MRC de Montmagny*).

All area seniors who want to grow old in their region can definitely trust Mr. Serge Kirouac to defend their interests and provide them with the support they need.

In his life he has worn many hats, and this is one more added to all the others he proudly wore to better develop his region, support and defend the interests of various groups of workers. Therefore, we think that the extended Kirouac family should discover one of their own profoundly involved in his community.

Lucille Kirouac

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### **Autobiography of Serge Kirouac**

I have been asked to talk about my life, from birth to the present. After some reflection, here it is.

I am Serge Kirouac, son of Conrad Kirouac and Carmelle Caron; I have an older brother, André<sup>1</sup>. I was born at Chibougamau<sup>2</sup>. My father was from Saint-Cyrille-de-Lessard, and my mother from L'Islet-sur-Mer, where they were married and soon after left for Chibougamau. They did not stay there very long because my father died of cancer in 1962. I was only fifteen months then. My mother decided to return home at L'Islet-Sur-Mer, to bring up my brother and I near her family.

I spent my youth with the Caron family. My aunt Annette lived just two houses away from ours and I was very often at her home.

I did not get to know my Kirouac grandparents. My father was one of the



Serge Kirouac at his desk at the Montmagny Regional Cooperative of Home Services.  
(Photo: Stéphanie Genest)

youngest children in his family and his siblings all had children, but I was most likely the last one of that generation. To give you an idea, my aunt Yvonne Kirouac would have turned 120 years old this year so, just imagine how old my grandparents would be.

On the Kirouac side, we were very close to aunt Lauretta, usually called Laurette, and to Aunt Yvonne, who lived in Saint-Cyrille-de-Lessard where the traditional New Year family party was held for so many years. There I would usually meet Aunt Antoinette and Uncle Maurice Kirouac. These two members of the Kirouac family were very special to me. Thinking back about that time, I can see that the age gap with my aunts and uncles did not help close relationships. For example, I was often told about Aunt Marie-Paule, who was a nun and who "talked to the birds". I would have loved to know her but she died before I was born. Uncle Maurice was a model I was very proud of. He helped build and develop the Lake-Saint-Jean region and, when visiting the Métabetchouan Musical Camp, I was so proud to see two halls named in his and Aunt Antoinette's honour. Again because of the age gap, I did not get to know them as they died when I was still quite young.

As for my training, I earned a bachelor's degree in administration, with major in marketing. After completing my studies, I was determined to come back to the area I grew up in. In 1984, most students completing their marketing studies in a university town thought I was a nut case, as essentially, they wanted to work in Montreal.

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<sup>1</sup> Serge Kirouac is the younger brother of André Kirouac, Director of the Musée naval in Quebec City, and a KFA board member from 2015 to 2017. See *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Spring 2015, number 117, pp 5-6 and also *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Summer 2017, number 124, p. 4.

# Ancestry of Serge Kirouac

## Generation 1

Alexandre de Kervoac  
(circa 1702-1736)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Québec)  
22 October 1732

Louise Bernier  
(1712-1802)

## Generation 2

Simon-Alexandre Keroack  
dit le Breton  
(1732-1812)

L'Islet-sur-Mer (Québec)  
15 June 1758

Élisabeth Chalifour  
(1739-1814)

## Generation 3

Simon-Alexandre Keroack  
dit le Breton  
(1760-1823)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Québec)  
18 November 1782

Marie-Ursule Guimont  
(1765-1820)

## Generation 4

Simon-Alexandre Kurovace  
dit Breton  
(1783 - 1871)

L'Islet-sur-Mer (Québec)  
4 November 1806

Constance Cloutier  
(1789 - 1843)

## Generation 5

Firmin Kirouac  
(1807 - 1873)

L'Islet-sur-Mer (Québec)  
21 October 1828

Marie-Marthe Lebourdais  
(1809 - after 1873)

## Generation 6

Ansime Kurovace  
(1849 - 1921)

Saint-Cyrille-de-Lessard (Québec)  
28 January 1873

Domithilde Boullet  
(1853-1935)

## Generation 7

Wilfrid Kirouac  
(1876 - 1952)

Québec (Québec)  
14 May 1917

Marie-Anne Caron  
(1880- 1955)

## Generation 8

Conrad Kirouac  
(1920 - 1962)

L'Islet-sur-mer (Québec)  
29 September 1958

Carmelle Caron  
(1925- 2020)

## Generation 9

Serge Kirouac



I worked less than two years at the *Auberge du Faubourg* in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli. The idea was to attract groups and organizations to hold their convention there. In 1986, the inn had serious problems so I lost my job. Thus I went to work at *Plastiques Gagnon Inc.* in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli, where I worked for six years.

In 1992, *Plastiques Gagnon Inc.* decided to abandon the printing division which included *Promo Plastik*, a section producing and selling promotional articles. *Plastiques Gagnon* gave me the mandate to find a buyer. And, in 1992, this is how the cooperative adventure started for me<sup>3</sup>.

I must admit that I had no idea that a company manufacturing plastic objects could become a workers' cooperative. At the time, I thought a cooperative was a grocery store or a *Caisse populaire* (banking service).

Promo Plastik, as a workers' coop, made promotional objects; among many the very famous Bonhomme Carnaval for the world-renowned Quebec City winter carnival as well as the luminous badge for the Quebec City Summer Festival<sup>4</sup>. It gives you an idea of the Coop's production. The Coop is still going strong and will be 28 years young by November First 2020.

This is how I first got involved in coop movement and, a little later, in social economy. For fourteen years I was on the board of the *Québec-Appalaches Regional Development Cooperative*. I left the board position to become the first President of L'Islet's Health Cooperative (*Coopérative de santé de L'Islet*).

<sup>2</sup> Chibougamau, see location on a Quebec map: northwest of Lake Saint-Jean and southeast of James Bay.

<sup>3</sup> See *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, Summer 2011, Number 104, p. 4.

<sup>4</sup> Discover Quebec City's winter carnival virtually: on a search engine type: *Bonhomme Carnaval* and he will take you there.

I was also president of a federation of workers' cooperatives called *Le Réseau* (Fédération des coopératives de travail). Before that, I was on the board of another group of workers' cooperatives, when I met and befriended Mr. Claude Béland, a former president of the (Mouvement) Desjardins banking group.

The funny thing is that at some time I became president of the board of the Caisse Desjardins in L'Islet. Mr. Béland and I rarely spoke about Desjardins Group. We usually talked about social economy thus at one point I became president of the board of the Regional Social Economy Round Table for Chaudière-Appalaches. Here it is important to know that we were facing governments' budget cuts then; nevertheless, we managed to pull through. In September 2019, Mr. Béland and his wife, Lise, invited me to visit them during my holidays. I promised to go after, but sadly he died two months later. This year would have marked twenty years of friendship. I keep wonderful memories of our exchanges.

In January 2020, my mother learned that she had terminal cancer. She died two weeks before the pandemic hit. Like a lot of people, when I found myself home, out of work for two months at the beginning of the lockdown, I had plenty of time to think about my future during those eight weeks. After twenty-seven years as the head of *Promo Plastik*, I decided to quit my job and see if there was something else I could take on. It was a surprise and a shock for many people but, given all that was happening, I said to myself, why not find something new. At the end of the lockdown I went back to the coop but only for two weeks. On the second day there I learned that the Montmagny District Home Services Cooperative was looking for a new Director General, so I



Photo: Courtesy 24 heures Archibald du Lac Beauport

Serge Kirouac, taking part in a charity fundraiser very special to him, the 24-hour *Archibald Race* at Lake Beauport. He walked 114 km, three years in a row: in 2015, 2016 and 2017; and 107 km in 2018.

applied for the post and got it. I started in my new functions on 22 June 2020.

I can honestly say that I love my new job. It fills all my foremost wishes, I keep living in my home in L'Islet, work is close to home, I am still involved in social economy, I am involved in a cooperative and my work is about the care and the well-being of the elderly. I know something about that as my mother lived with me until the end; she died at 92.

My present commitment is to prepare the future for all those who wish to keep living at home, in their apartment or their house, as long as possible. It is a great and beautiful challenge, and I am really motivated to help everyone who wishes to do so, to achieve this legitimate wish that a cooperative of home services can make possible.

The preceding text took you from my birth to my life today. An interesting road well travelled.

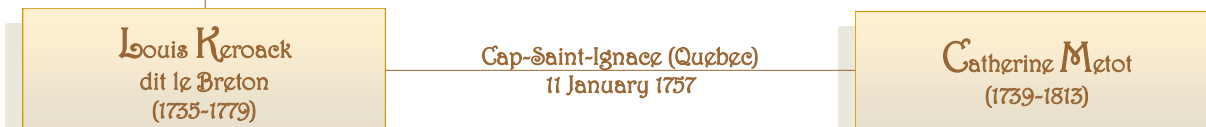
Serge Kirouac

# Ancestry of Irène Carbonneau

## Generation 1



## Generation 2



## Generation 3



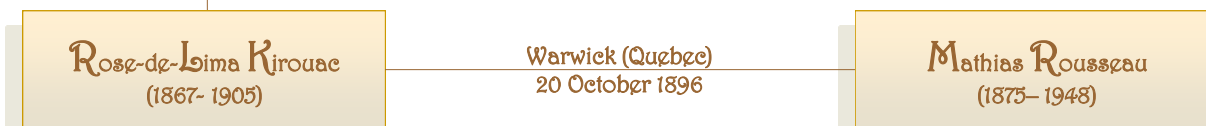
## Generation 4



## Generation 5



## Generation 6



## Generation 7



## Generation 8





*A de Kervoach Descendant*  
***First Lady of New Hampshire***  
*by François Kirouac*

**I**rene Carbonneau (1926-1993) is a de Kervoach descendant through the female line, she was the daughter of William Carbonneau and Alice Rousseau, born in Warwick (Quebec). Her mother, Alice, born on 28 September 1899, was the daughter of Mathias Rousseau and **Rose-de-Lima Kirouac (GFK 00777)**. When Irene married Hugh Gallen on 16 October 1948, she could never have imagined that thirty years later she would become the *First Lady* of a New England State when her husband would be elected the 74th New Hampshire Governor in November 1978.

Thanks to her husband's important position we were able to find out more about Irene as various American newspapers at the time wrote about her. We are quoting from one article published when her husband was campaigning for the Democrats and another one after he was elected New Hampshire's governor.

#### **Irene Carbonneau Gallen's family origin**

Irene Carbonneau belongs to the younger branch of the Kirouac family, that of Conrad Kirouac, Brother Marie-Victorin. Her great-great grandparents, Louis-Grégoire Kirouac and Catherine Des-Trois-Maisons dit\* Picard, were also the great-great-grandparents of Marie-Victorin, that makes them third degree cousins plus one generation. (\*known as).

Louis-Grégoire and Catherine, were pioneers of the village of Warwick when they settled there in 1858. They brought up their family on a farm and nine of their eleven children reached adulthood, four sons and five daughters. So far we have found over 1,850 of their descendants spread over all North America and our search is far from ended. Not only some of them settled in New Hampshire, like Irene's grandfather, but many other Kirouac families went to Michigan, in the Detroit area.

In this family branch, there are many important persons who left their mark in various fields. To start with, let us mention the eldest son of Louis-Grégoire and Catherine, Chevalier (Knight) François Kirouac (1826-1896), a very prosperous merchant in Quebec City; Brother Marie-Victorin (f.é.c., De La Salle congregation), born Conrad Kirouac (1885-1944), famous, among other things, as founder of the Montreal Botanical Garden; Agésilas Kirouac (1887-1951), one of the pioneers of the Caisses populaires Desjardins (banking institution) in the Centre-of-Quebec region; Onésime Kirouac (1876-1954), industrial, founder of the Warwick Woolen Mills, one of the most prosperous industries in Warwick during the 20th century. Among many others, let us mention some artists, singer-songwriter Jacques Blanchet (1931-1981) and singer Anne-Renée Kirouac whose career spanned the 1960s and 1970s.

Irene's grandmother, Rose-de-Lima Kirouac, was born at Warwick (Quebec) on 3 June 1867. She married Mathias Rousseau<sup>1</sup> on 20 October 1896 in



Hugh Gallen, 74<sup>th</sup> Governor of New Hampshire and his wife, Irene Carbonneau, granddaughter of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac-Rousseau from Warwick, Quebec.

Warwick's parish church Saint-Médard. She died very young, aged only 38, on 26 October 1905 and was buried two days later in the parish cemetery. She brought into the world five children, one son who died very young and four daughters, the twins: Marie-Ange (1898-1899) and Marie-Rose (1898-1953), Alice (1899-1980) the only one who will give her descendants, Alphonse (1901-1918) and another Marie-Ange (1903-1904).

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<sup>1</sup> Born in Warwick on 17 October 1875, he died in Littleton, Vermont, in 1948, where he is buried.

After Rose-de-Lima's death, Mathias Rousseau took a second wife, Laudia Montambeau, daughter of David Montambeau and Sophronie Drapeau. They were married on 7 May 1906 in the church of Saint-Patrice at Tingwick (Quebec). They immigrated to the USA; hence the children grew up in New England, settled there and one day, one granddaughter became First Lady of New Hampshire. Mathias Rousseau and his family arrived by train at Newport, Vermont, on 10 November 1908. Mathias and Laudia had a daughter, Aurore, born on 8 September 1912 at Berlin, New Hampshire.

Ten years later, on 12 September 1918, Irene's grandfather, Mathias, was drafted into the American army because of the First World War. On his application form, it says he is a machinist for Pike Mfg. on Highland Street in Littleton. The family then lived at number 149 Union Street in Littleton. When living in Warwick, Mathias was first a farmer, then a merchant. On 11 June 1919, he signed a letter of intent to become an American citizen, therefore definitely cutting links with his homeland, Canada.

Mathias and Rose-de-Lima's daughter, Alice Rousseau, married William Carbonneau on 16 February 1920 at St. Rose-of-Lima Catholic Church in Littleton<sup>2</sup>. William Carbonneau, born in Worcester, Massachusetts, was the son of William Carbonneau, senior, and Léda Poiré. William, junior was born on 7 April 1898 and died in a car accident at 3:30 p.m., on 28 March 1964 on Oregon Road at Concord, Vermont. His wife, Alice Rousseau, died at Littleton on 2 March 1980. Alice and William are the parents of Irene, the future First Lady of New Hampshire<sup>3</sup>.

#### Irene Carbonneau's husband:

##### Hugh Gallen, 78th Governor of New Hampshire

Irene Carbonneau, the granddaughter of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac, married Hugh Gallen in 1948. Hugh born on 30 July 1924 at Portland, Oregon, was the son of Hugh Gallen and Mary O'Kane. In 1930, the family moved to Medford, Mass. After graduation from Medford High School, he studied diesel engine repair under the federally sponsored National Youth Administration. Gallen entered the Civilian Conservation Corps, building roads and campsites on Mount Kearsarge in Warner, N.H. He also worked in the Littleton area as a truck driver, paper mill laborer and carpenter. A good athlete, Gallen at one point had a successful tryout with the Washington Senators and played a year in the minor leagues before his baseball career was cut short by arm trouble.

From 1948 to 1958, he worked for a Buick dealer in Littleton. Then he joined Northern Garage Inc. as a salesman. In 1960, Gallen purchased 25 percent ownership of the garage and assumed full control in 1964. The business prospered, becoming one of the largest General Motors dealerships in northern New Hampshire.



Alice Rousseau-Carbonneau and her granddaughter, Kathleen Gallen-Ross. (Photo from Kathleen Gallen-Ross)

*From 1962 to 1965, he served on the Littleton, New Hampshire, Planning Board. In 1967, he was a member of the Small Business Administration's New Hampshire Advisory Council and the National Advisory Council. He served as director and chair of the New Hampshire-Vermont Development Council from 1969 to 1972, and from 1967 to 1970 as the director of White Mountain Community Services, a nonprofit agency established to provide mental health care. From 1971 to 1972, Gallen was Democratic state chairman, and he was a delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention. In 1973 Gallen became the first Democrat to serve as a state representative for Littleton since 1932.*

*He entered the 1978 Democratic Party primary for governor, won, and then won the general election because of a split in the Republican Party. ... In 1979 Governor Gallen called out the National Guard to protect Seabrook Power against anti-nuclear demonstrators. Gallen's strong action won him reelection against*

<sup>2</sup> What a coincidence, Alice was married in the church of St. Rose-of-Lima; her mother's name was Rose-de-Lima Kirouac.

<sup>3</sup> She was New Hampshire's First Lady from 1978 to the end of 1982.



Thomson in 1980, but a year later 9,200 state employees struck for higher wages. In negotiations Gallen agreed to a 9 percent raise; the Republican-controlled legislature would only agree to 6 percent. Gallen vetoed the state budget prepared by the Republicans, but he would not support a state sales tax or income tax to help pay for the contract he had negotiated with state workers.

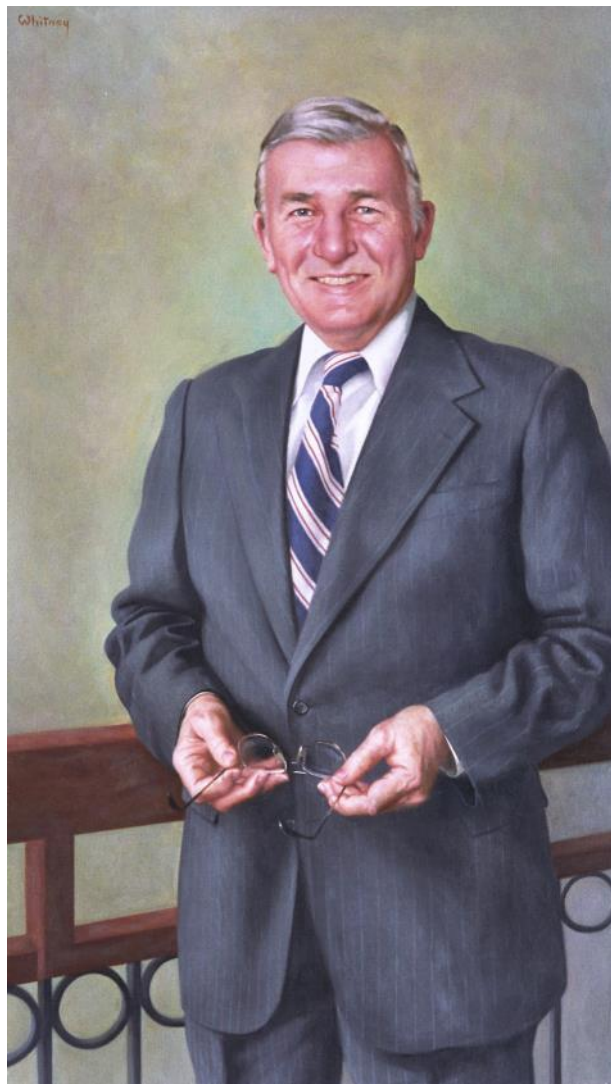
He had no way to pay for the state employees' contract. In 1982 Gallen ran unopposed in the Democratic primary, while John Sununu won the Republican primary for governor. During the campaign Gallen refused to pledge that he would not introduce a new sales tax or income tax to pay for the employees' contract; this cost Gallen the election. Shortly after the election Gallen contracted a rare blood infection and died of it December 29, 1982, eight days before the end of his term<sup>4</sup>.

### Irene Carbonneau-Gallen

#### The Woman Behind The Man: Irene Gallen Discusses Role

On 14 August 1976, in the *Nashua Telegraph*, Cynthia Jones writes that Hugh Gallen, Democratic candidate for governor, has a great asset in his wife, Irene. A slender woman with an unassuming manner, Mrs. Gallen has a warm smile and pleasant demeanor, and it is a genuine treat to meet and talk with her. She is in perfect accord with her husband's political ideologies. "I hate to sound like a bore," she said, "but because of our backgrounds, our philosophies are the same."

This is Gallen's second bid for the Democratic nomination for governor of New Hampshire. In 1974, Gallen lost by 3,000 votes in a three-way race for the nomination. Mrs. Gallen is far more



Hugh Gallen, 74<sup>th</sup> Governor of New Hampshire. (Source: Richard Whitney/CC BY-SA (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>))

<sup>4</sup> Source: <https://www.nga.org/governor/hugh-j-gallen>



Wedding photo of Irene Carbonneau and Hugh Gallen, who were married at St. Rose of Lima Catholic church in Littleton, New Hampshire on 16 October 1948. From left to right: William Carbonneau, the bride's brother; Kelly Carbonneau-Eaton, the bride's of the bride; the newlyweds; Raymond Carbonneau, the bride's brother of and a non-identified gentleman. (Photo: courtesy Kathleen Gallen-Ross)

actively involved in this campaign than in the first one and she finds it at once both tiring and exciting.

"It is tiring because campaigning means beginning the day before 6 a.m. and continuing until midnight." Mrs. Gallen said it is also exciting because the recognition factor is so much better this time around, and further, she is getting to know the state and its industries. "It is interesting to me to find out how the various industries are operated and how products are manufactured," she said.

Because her husband has to be a dynamic and energetic man, she was asked if she had any

difficulty keeping up with his activities. He has continued to be active in community politics in Littleton where they live and served for one session in the legislature. It would appear that stability in the home ranks high in Irene (Carbonneau) Gallen's life, but she has other interests. She likes to sew, and she plays golf and skis Cannon Mountain in the winter.

An interest to which she has devoted a major portion of her time in the past seven years has been the public health agency in Littleton. The agency was a one-nurse operation when she first became a board member, but in the following years, the agency merged with 14 other communities. It now is able to offer more services and programs of preventative medicine, clinics and homemaker home health aids. *"It was hard, frustrating work with many problems, but we are in great shape now and Concord looks on us as a very successful agency"* she said.

Mrs. Gallen is enthusiastic about the homemaker health aids and the clinics and said there is a great need for these services in the north country. She said the agency is a tremendous asset to the area. Mrs. Gallen resigned from the board so she could help in her husband's campaign. She explained that both of them have always been involved in community services to people. Since the "system" has been good to Gallen, he believes he should reciprocate in kind, according to his wife. She described her husband as a compassionate person and the frustration of trying to accomplish his endeavors for other people led him to run for governor.

Placing the emphasis on the affirmative, Mrs. Gallen said when, not if, her husband becomes governor, she does not expect it will make that much of a change in their personal lives. *"I want to make a comfortable home for him. I know he will be busy and I will fill in whenever there is need, but we are not social-minded and only want the simple things in life"* she explained. Mrs. Gallen also has concern for her invalid mother<sup>5</sup> and considers her responsibilities in this area when discussing the future.

In the *Boston Sunday Globe*, 25 March 1979, Christopher Lindsay writes that Irene *still fixes lunch at home for her husband almost every day, although "home" these days is owned by the state and her husband is now the governor.*

*Lifestyle has changed for Hugh Gallen since he was elected governor last November. But he can still slip away from the State House at lunchtime and make the three-mile ride home, as he did during the 20 years he was running his Littleton General Motors dealership. Irene Gallen usually has soup, a sandwich and a cup of tea waiting for him.*

*In a recent interview, a relaxed Mrs. Gallen smiled and laughed easily as she spoke of the changes in their lives. Soft-spoken and expressive, she seems fully at ease in her role, although the crush of appointments make evenings at home together rare. Even dinner with friends is now booked by an assistant at the State House.*

*But the Gallens still find time for 2½-year-old granddaughter Stephanie, whose life also has been changed by the election. "Abraham (the family*

*dog) goes 'meow, meow', right Stephanie?" the 54-year-old governor teases.*

*"No, grandpa. Dogs don't say that", answers Stephanie. "Yes, that's what they say", insists the governor. "Then: "Grandma, grandpa's wrong about Abraham . . . but that's all right, 'cause he's the governor."*

Stephanie, perched on her grandmother's shoulder, also gets to visit her grandfather in the capital. She loves it, and it is obvious Irene Gallen enjoys being the wife of the governor after two unsuccessful campaigns for the office. She was confident her husband would win on his third try - *"I would have been shocked if he didn't."* But it still was an electrifying, once-in-a-lifetime thrill when he did win, and she and her husband and family were escorted into Representatives Hall at the State House January 4, to face a thundering reception by the Legislature. *"I felt like Cinderella", she recalled. "It was like a dream."* It still is. Although she and the governor have tried to retain some of their Littleton lifestyle, changes were unavoidable.

An accommodating wife, she often accompanies her husband on his appearances around the state. But one day she was driving home to Littleton in her station wagon, following her husband in the chauffeur-driven black sedan that goes with being governor. *"We were going 55 or 60 or so", she says, and frequently other cars*

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<sup>5</sup> Editor's Note: This is Alice Rousseau, who died in 1980, daughter of Rose-Délina Kirouac, four years after the publication of this article. Alice thus lived through the electoral victory of her son-in-law in 1978.



would speed by her but then discreetly pull in behind the black Chevrolet ahead, its license plate clearly stamped GOVERNOR. It wasn't until Mrs. Gallen pulled out and drove by, waving to her husband, that other cars passed him too, she said. Thomson had a penchant for stopping motorists who had the audacity to pass his sleek green Lincoln Continental.

While Irene Gallen is enjoying her life as the governor's wife, she knows someday the chauffeur, the state residence and the recognition will be gone. She and her husband will return to Littleton, her home town and the place where they were married in 1948. The town of 5300 had been their home until her

husband was inaugurated in January (1978). Their children grew up there – Kathleen, 26, married to Ralph Ross, and parents of Stephanie; Michael Gallen, 24; and Sheila Gallen Derosier, 22. Ross and Michael work for the Gallen car dealership in Littleton and Sheila and husband Duane, live in St. Johnsbury, Vt. *"Littleton is a good place to bring up a family. There's a lot of room up there,"* Mrs. Gallen says.

### Conclusion by François Kirouac

As previously mentioned, since 2013, I have been researching, almost on a full-time basis, the family genealogy in order to revise the accumulated data published in 1991 and add as much as possible to the *Genealogy of the descendants of Alexandre Le Brice de Keroac'h*.

In the 1991 K dictionary, female lines were frankly non-existent, but now they are very important. So, what a surprise when I came across Irene Carbonneau, a granddaughter of the youngest sister of my great-grandfather, Joseph Kirouac (GFK 00690). Irene's father, Mathias Rousseau, after losing his first wife, Rose-de-Lima Kirouac in 1905, remarried and immigrated to the States with his second wife. Thus the links between Warwick and the Franco-American cousins were lost. It was wonderful to discover this distant cousin of my father, Bruno Kirouac (1926-2019).



Kirouac family home in Warwick (Quebec) in 1898. Rose-de-Lima Kirouac was born in this house on 3 June 1867. She will become Alice Rousseau's mother, so the grandmother of Irene Carbonneau who, in 1978, will become the First Lady of New Hampshire. Rose-de-Lima Kirouac-Rousseau is also the mother of Marie-Rose Rousseau, Sister Marie-Paul, whose biography you can read from next page on.

Standing on the balcony: left, Adélaïde Gingras and her husband, Louis Kirouac. At right, stands Émile Kirouac, nephew of Rose-de-Lima Kirouac and a first cousin of Alice Rousseau. In 1905, Émile inherited the house and family land at the age of 17, when his father Joseph died. (Photo: Bruno Kirouac collection)

## In memoriam

# Sister Marie-Paul, née Marie-Rose Rousseau (1898 - 1953)

From the archives of the Petites sœurs de la Sainte-Famille (PSSF) (Congregation of the Holy Family Sisters)

### Introduction

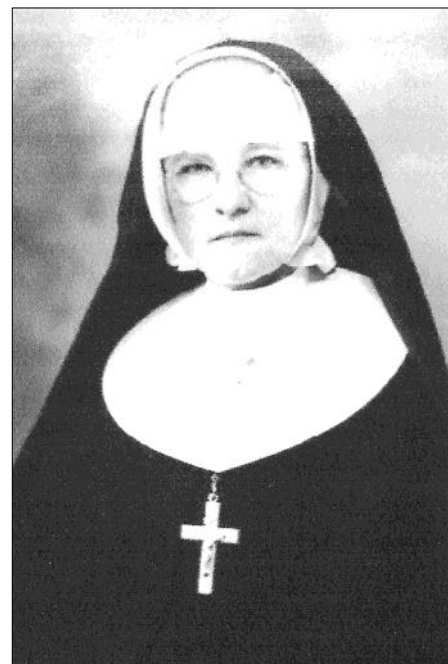
**W**e present to you the biography of Marie-Rose Rousseau, Alice's sister, whose mother was also Rose-de-Lima Kirouac from Warwick (Quebec). The text is long and the language outdated, but it contains so much information on the lives of these two Kirouac descendants that we hasten to offer it to you in full. Read it to the end bearing in mind that it was written in 1940; recounts the life of almost a hundred years ago, when religion was central to everyday life; moreover, everything is written in the style of the religious obituaries of the time.

*This story opens a window on the difficult life of two very young orphan girls. It tells of their not very happy youth following their father's second marriage, as well as the religious career of the eldest, who dedicated her life to the service of priests within the congregation of the Little Sisters of the Holy Family.*

**O**n 3 July 1898, in the beautiful parish church of Saint-Médard in Warwick, Quebec, our hero was born, and she was not alone in bringing laughter to the home of Mathieu Rousseau and his wife, born Rose-de-Lima Kirouac<sup>1</sup> who had been married just a year. On a hot July morning, as a first blessing from heaven for their marriage, the happy parents welcomed a first gift from heaven - a double gift - of two little angels, two lovely babies. Without any delay, the same day, the two were carried to the parish church where the regenerating christening water was poured on

their foreheads making them new Christians. One daughter would later become our good Sister Marie-Paul, receiving with sanctifying grace the Christian name of Marie-Rose. Her baby sister was named Marie-Ange. Back home, the happy godparents proudly presented these charming twins to their mother so she could kiss the pure foreheads of her children who were now forever members of the Church.

Alas! It was noticed that Mrs. Rousseau's tears were falling on her babies' faces, and she looked sad. It was easy to conclude that she was crying for joy but, also possibly because her happiness hid a bitter pain. But what could be the cause of that deep pain, quite inexplicable at such a time, when any mother in similar circumstances would have been so joyful? Well, while the double baptism was taking place at the church<sup>2</sup>, at home there was a family council presided over by the father and the twins' two grandmothers who decided that, given the new mother's distressing health, the girls, who had entered life so close together, would now be separated for an indefinite time. It was there and then decided that Marie-Rose, who seemed to be the strongest of the two, would be left with her mother, whereas Marie-Ange, who seemed to lack only a pair of wings to immediately take off towards paradise, would be entrusted to the good paternal grandmother. Thus, the new father very painfully parted with one daughter in the hope that his dear beloved wife would be able to regain her health.



Sister Marie-Paul  
(Photo: Archives of the PSSF Congregation)

However, just a year after this double birth, the Rousseau home welcomed another little baby girl who was baptized Alice. As you will later read in this obituary, a rather exceptional series of trials and hardships was the lot of our regretted Sister Marie-Paul. Hence, Marie-Rose and Alice were destined to become and be known as the two inseparables. At that time, the older sister, Marie-Rose, could not really appreciate the gift that Jesus was granting her. However, Marie-Rose understood enough to rejoice in the event and already wanted to pet her baby sister Alice when she cried or slept in her cradle. This

<sup>1</sup> Number in the 1991 GFK dictionary: 00777.

<sup>2</sup> The family council referred to must have been held either before or after the christening ceremony as father and both grandmothers were in the church during the double christening ceremony.

# Ancestry of Marie-Rose Roussau

## Generation 1

Alexandre de Kervoac  
(circa 1702-1736)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)  
22 October 1732

Louis Bernier  
(1712-1802)

## Generation 2

Louis Keroack  
dit le Breton  
(1735-1779)

Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)  
11 January 1757

Catherine Metot  
(1739-1813)

## Generation 3

Pierre Keroac  
(1777 - 1866)

Montmagny (Quebec)  
17 October 1797

Marie-Anne Joncas  
(1775 - 1816)

## Generation 4

Louis-Grégoire Kérouac  
(1801 - 1890)

Saint-Pierre-de-Montmagny (Quebec)  
10 January 1825

Catherine Picard  
(1803 - 1878)

## Generation 5

Louis Kirouac  
(1827 - 1902)

Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly (Quebec)  
19 February 1855

Adélaïde Gingras  
(1834-1913)

## Generation 6

Rose-de-Loima Kirouac  
(1867- 1905)

Warwick (Quebec)  
20 October 1896

Mathias Roussau  
(1875- 1948)

## Generation 7

Marie-Rose Roussau  
(1898 - 1953)

François Kirouac, November 2020



new presence seemed to fill the hole left in Marie-Rose's sensitive and affectionate heart by the absence of her twin sister, Marie-Ange, who was still being looked after by the generous paternal Rousseau grandmother.

But earthly joys often do not last for a long time. So, when the Good Lord gave Marie-Rose her little sister, Alice, He followed it with a first painful event, and, as we will see reading this biography, there will be many additional hard knocks. A few weeks after the birth of Alice, sweet little twin, Marie-Ange, was suddenly plucked from the cold earth where she did not even had time to take root. Marie-Ange was transplanted in the celestial nursery; thus, as her name suggests, she became a true sister of the angels. Parents and grandparents were devastated,



Photo: Bruno Kirouac collection

Adélaïde Gingras and Louis Kirouac, maternal grandparents and godparents of Marie-Rose Rousseau when she was baptized on 3 July 1898 in Warwick's parish church (Quebec).

especially the good grandmother who, after helplessly watching her granddaughter's very brief illness, had to bring Marie-Ange's mortal remains back to her parents, this daughter and granddaughter who so rapidly went from cradle to tomb. However, as Sister Marie-Paul later wrote: *God in his infinite goodness, in his infinite Providence, knew the little girls would very soon lose their mother and that two orphans were enough to cry over such an important loss.*

Not long afterwards, the sisters Marie-Rose and Alice welcomed another baby sister who quickly passed from this earth and soon left to join the seraphic phalanges<sup>3</sup>. Eventually, a fifth child was born and this time it was a boy, who was baptized Alphonse.

Mr. and Mrs. Rousseau started off as farmers but eventually decided to leave the countryside and move to the village of Warwick, where they opened a store. The future looked very promising. Business was flourishing and soon the new merchant had to enlarge his general store and hire additional help. First a young woman was hired as a clerk and she gained his trust. Mrs. Rousseau's fragile health required that an additional servant be hired to assist with the household workload. Despite their young ages, five and six at the time, it was also decided that Marie-Rose and Alice would start school.

As Mrs. Rousseau wanted her two daughters to be good Christians, she had already taught Marie-Rose and Alice to read and study their catechism. On a beautiful early September morning the two sisters, holding hands and carrying their picnic basket, left home for the nearby village school. These sisters were always so happy to get back



Rose-de-Lima Kirouac, Mrs. Rousseau, mother of Marie-Rose Rousseau, later Sister Marie-Paul, PSSF; and also mother of Alice Rousseau-Carbonneau. (Photo: Bruno Kirouac collection)

home after school and would affectionately hug their mother and father. With enthusiasm these children would talk about their first successes in school, show their good grades and rewards they had won. Of course, sometimes, the sisters had to humbly admit mistakes, and show the not-so-good grades, which made them a little bit sad, but it is easy to understand such behaviour from such young pupils.

This quiet and happy family life was short lived. Only a month after the start of school upon their return home the sisters were greeted by the servant, who looked really sad, and told the girls to be very quiet; not to make any noise when entering the house because their mother was very ill. Soon after the father in tears, picked up his little ones and took them to the room

<sup>3</sup> Rose-de-Lima Kirouac (Mrs. Rousseau) died, at the age of 38, on 26 October 1905, and was buried two days later in the Parish cemetery in Warwick (Quebec). She was dressed in the official brown Franciscan Tertiary formal gown.

where his young wife was dying. The father placed his daughters near the bed. Their mother, a very Christian woman, was resigned to her fate; she did not cry although it was time for the final adieu (À Dieu). She kissed her beloved daughters and gave them her last recommendations. This is how Sister Marie-Paul recounts the sorrowful scene: *I remember very well, she writes, the day my mother died, I was six and Alice was five; and my little brother could barely walk. Mama indicated to us to move as close to her as we could and made us promise to always be obedient, especially faithful to our prayers. She said: If God wants it, I will come for you...*

But, the dear Sister adds, *our crown would have been too light; the Good Lord wanted it to be a lot more beautiful than it would have been just then if we had died at such a young age. Mother was buried in her Franciscan Tertiary gown<sup>4</sup>. I was very moved when the white cord was put around her body. Later, when thinking about that particular detail, because the cord was perfectly white, it so suitable as my mother was so pure. The funeral ceremony was magnificent; however it was all the more painful for my dear father, who understood more than anyone else how deeply affected we were by this loss. Of course everybody knew our father as he owned the general store and our mother whom everybody referred to as "the good Mrs. Rousseau". The church was full. The weather was really beautiful and I remember that, with father, we followed the hearse on foot from the house to the church, and from the church to the cemetery. Father was holding the hand of Alphonse, our little two-and-a-half-year-old brother, while Alice and I held on to his other hand, afraid to lose him in the crowd. People were crying seeing*

*this and I still cry today when I describe it; I have never been able to talk about my mother without crying. When I lost my mother, I lost my family happiness. Yes, as my dear father used to repeat so often since, business was too good, everything was going too well, the good Lord, who wanted to sanctify us, visited us with his cross.*

And our regretted colleague carries on: *A few days after my mother's funeral, the house was completely emptied. My little sister, Alice, and I were sent to live with an aunt; our Rousseau grandparents adopted our little brother, Alphonse. Of the two servants, the one who used to look after the house was no longer needed, so she was let go. As my father had decided to close his house, he took room and board outside.*

However, he kept the other young woman who was the clerk at the store<sup>5</sup>. And of course, what was easily foreseen happened; our father was lonely and missed his three children, decided to remarry in order to have us live with him at home. He chose his store clerk who had managed to win his trust and his love in spite of her character. The wedding was celebrated<sup>6</sup> as a real happy day for the family, but happiness was very short-lived indeed because this "alliance" was the source of much trouble.

By marrying again, our father was confident that, once more, he would provide us with a warm, secure nest for us all so he came to fetch Alice and I. But in less than a week, it was decided that we would be better off boarding with nuns in a convent. We were very unhappy at this prospect, but we had no choice. So we accepted our fate, believing that the convent chosen would be the Sisters of the Assumption convent in our village. Once more our hopes were dashed:

*our stepmother convinced my father to send us to Mont Notre-Dame Convent in Sherbrooke, arguing that the training there would be better than that provided by the Sisters of Assumption at Warwick.*

*So we spent a first school year in Sherbrooke but had to go back home for the summer holiday. We felt really uncomfortable at home and we were pining for the beginning of the next school year. It was during that second school year that fire destroyed the store and adjoining buildings as well as my parents' house. It was so dangerous that they had to escape the flames in their night clothes, bare feet*



West view of Mont Notre-Dame College, a high school founded in 1857 at Sherbrooke, Quebec. (Source: Dxr, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

<sup>4</sup> Seraphic phalanges: In the Bible, one reads about angels, archangels as well as seraphim, celestial creatures with three pairs of wings who stay around the throne of God. Each phalange is lead by an archangel. There are many seraphic phalanges in heaven. Hence the two deceased little sisters, little angels being in a seraphic phalange.

<sup>5</sup> The young woman was 24-year old Laudia Montembeau, born on 3 April 1882, she was the daughter of David Montembeau and Sophronie Drapeau, a family from Tingwick, a village near Warwick.

<sup>6</sup> The ceremony was held on 7 May 1906 in the parish church of Saint-Patrice in Tingwick (Quebec).



This house, located at number 6 Hôtel de Ville Street in Warwick, was built for the Rousseau family in 1908 on the site of the general store after it was destroyed by fire in 1907. In 1909, Mathias Rousseau exchanged, with Pierre-Amédée Kirouac (his wife's uncle), this house for another one in the same village.

It is also in this house that Agésilas, Pierre-Amédée's son, and his wife, Amanda Baril, lived and operated a clothing and shoe store until 1911, when they moved to Edmonton, Alberta. They came back to Warwick in 1914.

Source: *History and Heritage of the old Warwick*, by André Moreau, published in French by the Warwick Historical Society in 2020, pp 382-383. ISBN : 978-2-9809055-6-8.

*in the snow<sup>7</sup>. As soon as they made it down the stairs, the house collapsed behind them. The Good Lord was good to us as he used our stepmother to save our lives; had we been at home, most likely we would not have been able to escape the flames. Divine Providence knows how to use events, inscrutable to us, to permit loving goals to be successfully reached!*

*Soon after this tragedy, my father, having lost everything, could no longer afford to pay for our education, so he took us out of Mont Notre-Dame. We were only seven and eight years old then; our education was barely started but suddenly terminated. Our dear father did not bring us back home but took us to the dear aunt who had looked after us for a short time after our mother's passing. This arrangement lasted two years; then it was decided that we would board at the convent in Warwick, especially to prepare for our first communion. Already both of us, my little sister and I, had chosen what we wanted to be in life when grown up. Indeed, when we were asked what we wanted to be later in life, my*

*sister Alice immediately answered: "a nice lady living in town", while I had decided to become a nun. On 26 May 1909, we finally had the great happiness to walk to the altar rail and take holy communion for the first time. I was ten years old and my little sister was nine.*

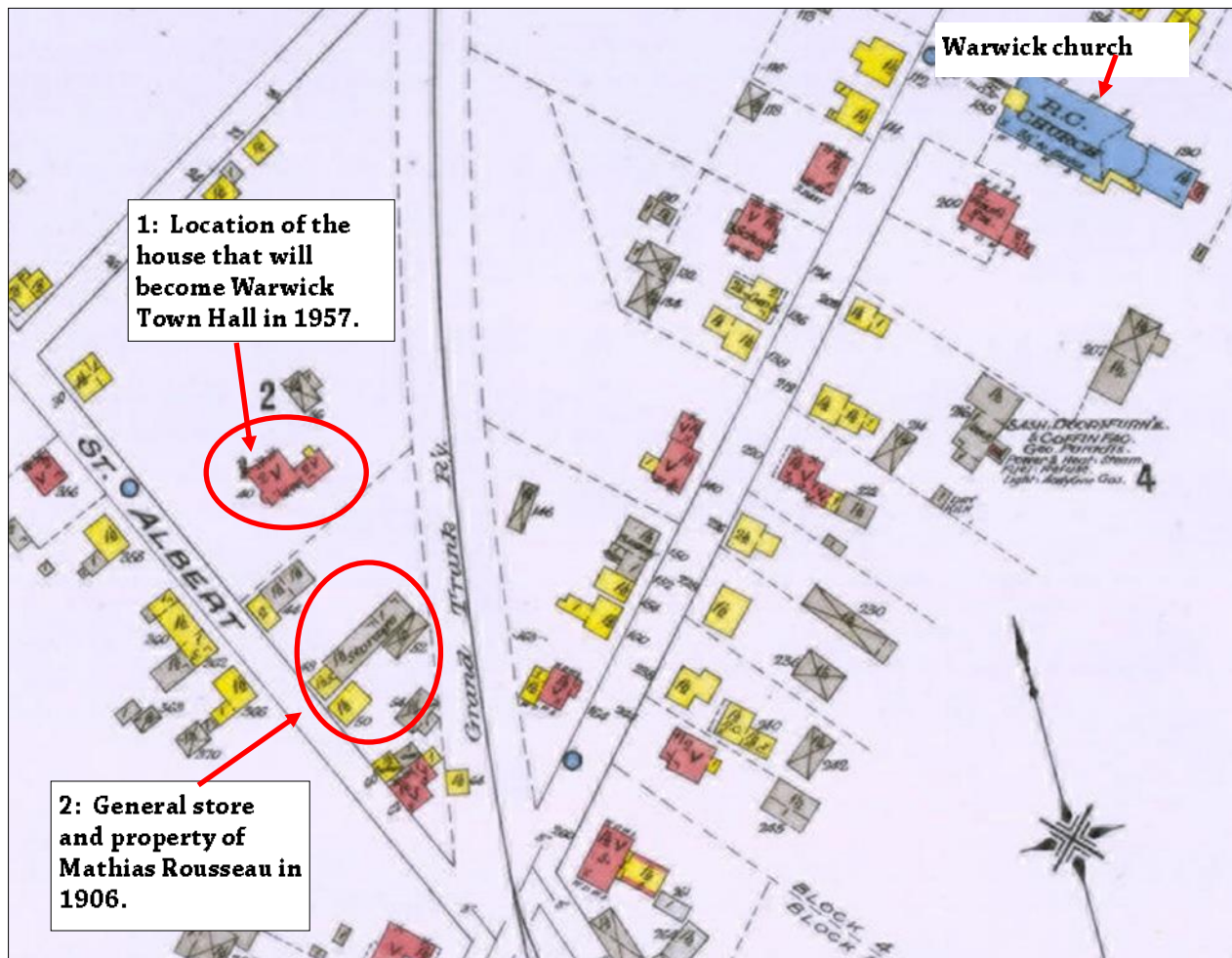
As we can see, the good Lord had prepared the little girls, Marie-Rose and Alice, for this first and sublime meeting of their soul with Jesus in the holy host through a life of contemplation and prayers at the boarding school. Normally at that time, all children referred to this event as "the most beautiful day of my life". However, for the two orphans it was not to be without a deep sorrow. Like all their friends, the sisters hoped that after the ceremony they would be going to their parents' home and be feted on this special and memorable day, but it was not to be. Other parents had triumphantly witnessed this ceremony. After the nuns had served a breakfast-banquet, one by one all of the other first communicant girls went home with their respective parents. Only Marie-Rose and Alice Rousseau were left behind at the convent. Can you imagine the tears the two poor girls shed on that memorable day? Alas! It was something they had somewhat expected. There would be many additional tears to be shed in the future. These sisters had lost their mother, and now they saw that their father was being held back from expressing the warm affection he felt in his heart for his beloved daughters who were deprived of maternal love. All these sisters could remember was their mother's smile when they were very young. From then on, thanks to the devout custom learned from their mother, whom they lost far too early to heaven, the two orphans started considering the Holy Virgin as their real mother, and it is to the Holy Virgin that from then on, the sisters went to share their deepest emotions and feelings, unburdening their heart and looking for the understanding and affection they so badly needed.

The school year of 1909 was special as Marie-Rose and Alice also received the sacrament of confirmation. And, again, the sisters spent the school holidays at their hospitable aunt's home. In September, they went back to the local school, but, for one reason or another, the two orphans often missed school days because they often had to help sometimes their uncle, sometimes their aunt. This went on for two or three years. During that time, Mr. Rousseau and his second wife decided to immigrate to the United States to find work. They settled in Berlin, New Hampshire.

Here, once again, we will let our late colleague tell her story by copying her notes: *As soon as they settled in the United States, our father found a job in a (cotton) mill and worked day and night, if I may*

<sup>7</sup> *L'Union*, a local newspaper, on 25 October 1907, wrote that the general store and the family home burned to the ground on Monday, 21 October 1907: *A few minutes after ten o'clock in the evening, in seconds the fire spread to the whole store as well as Mr. Rousseau's house. He and Mrs. Rousseau, fled bare-feet in their night clothes, to stay alive. Mrs. Rousseau's face suffered some burns on one side. It was a loss of many thousands of dollars, partly covered by the insurances.*





Plan of part of the town of Warwick (Quebec) in 1906, the year before the fire destroyed the property of Mathias Rousseau, father of Marie-Rose, Sister Marie-Paul, and Alice Rousseau-Carbonneau.  
(Plan: Quebec National Library and Archive, in collaboration with André Moreau, Warwick Historical Society)



**Number 1** on the above 1906 plan: This house constructed near the site of Mathias Rousseau's general store was built for Dr. Étienne Valcourt and completed in 1899. Later, between 1937 and 1957, it was the home of Lionel Kirouac (see *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, no 106, p. 34). Later it became the Warwick City Hall, the address is 8 rue de l'Hôtel de Ville, i.e., City Hall Street.

(Photo: Warwick History Society)

**Number 2** on the above 1906 plan shows where the home and general store of Mathias Rousseau stood until 1907. It was the home of Agésilas Kirouac (photo below) built in 1908, one year after the fire that destroyed Mathias Rousseau's property. On the preceding page, top left, the same house as it looks in 2020. And its address is: 6 Hôtel de Ville Street and is next to the City Hall.



Photo: Marie Kirouac collection



Mathias Rousseau and his two daughters, Alice and Marie-Rose, photographed at Littleton, Grafton County, New Hampshire. (Photo: Bruno Kirouac collection)

*say, to bring a bit of comfort at home. But money melted away. At one point, his health was seriously affected and his strength so diminished that he could no longer put food on the table and cover all the ever increasing expenses because two more children were born since he had remarried, and they were in rather poor health, hence the weekly expenses kept increasing. So, one day, Alice and I received a letter from our stepmother inviting us to live again in the paternal house, promising we would be welcomed. Given that deep down, in our sensitive and loving heart, we always wanted to live at home happily, both of us decided to leave our charitable aunt and uncle who had generously looked after us for many years. Learning of our decision, both were surprised and sad, especially our aunt who was by now very fond of us and to whom we were very useful. It was also very difficult to leave behind our younger brother, who lived nearby with our grandfather Rousseau. He was still too young to work and come with us. So with heavy hearts we left Canada without him. Nevertheless, it*

*turned out to be better like that because he lived a much happier and quieter life than what was coming to us.*

Once in Berlin, N.H., a whole new life began for the two young ladies. At first, Marie-Rose and Alice stayed in their father's house in order to help their stepmother, whom they called *mother*. However, after one month at their parents' home, the sisters had to look for work outside in order to earn a bit of money to contribute to the family expenses and the newcomers were clearly told that was the real reason why they had been invited. But where to find a paying job? Not knowing any English, it would be difficult to get a job in a manufacturing plant. Fortunately, Providence was looking after the two orphans. Recommended by a friend, they were hired at the Berlin Hospital run by the Grey Nuns of Saint-Hyacinthe. Although the salary was a modest \$5 per month, it was very little but definitely better than nothing at all. And they could also expect better in the future. For the time being, the sisters scraping by, managed to bring home most of their hard pay and saved a few pennies to buy themselves decent clothes.

For nine months, the two inseparable sisters managed to attend daily Mass and even take communion as often as they wished. For Marie-Rose, who already liked the pious and calm life of a convent, this existence was quite to her liking and, as she wrote in her notes, it was a prelude to her religious vocation that would soon be hers. As for her sister, Alice had other ideas and felt she was suffocating between four walls.

In October 1915, Mr. Rousseau left Berlin and moved to Littleton, also in New Hampshire. Our future Sister Marie-Paul and her sister Alice followed their father in his new home. There again, their father, already affected by many problems would be facing additional difficulties. Again the two orphans would shed many tears. As soon as the sisters arrived in Littleton they easily found work with a better pay than as servant in a Hospital. Marie-Rose and Alice were able to get work in a shoe factory, earning a dollar a day to start with but expecting increases in the future. These were good times, as people said then. So each week the two girls, now 15 and 16 years old, brought home their pay envelopes still sealed, and dutifully gave them to their stepmother.

Mrs. Rousseau thought the girls' salaries quite insufficient so she decided to send them back to Canada, saying it was to cut down on house expenses. Mustering their courage, the sisters asked their boss to increase their wages. It was easily granted. So happy of their success and sure that a better salary would now satisfy their stepmother, Marie-Rose and Alice hurried home to share the good news with their parents. It was all to no avail. Sending these sisters back to Canada had been decided and they had to leave. Their dear father's heart was



bleeding because his two girls were so precious to him but felt he could do nothing; he simply cried and wasted away.

However, a charitable neighbour, a woman who was their stepmother's sister, realizing something was wrong in the family, went to her brother-in-law and said to him: *Do not let your daughters leave for Canada. If you cannot keep them at home, please let me look after them. I will give them room and board and treat them like my own.* It was accepted by all. And, ever so sad, the two orphans once more left their father's house to live nearby, with strangers. Sister Marie-Paul says that this sad departure took place a Sunday immediately after High Mass. They even left home without eating, bringing with them not a penny and carrying each a small suitcase nearly empty. But they were young and healthy and full of courage. Knowing that they would be able to keep working and earning a few dollars encouraged them. The sisters were ever full of love and devotion for their father, so as soon as they received their new paycheques and knowing that their father was in need, sick and without work, the poor girls went straight to see him. They gave their father their earnings, but this money quickly disappeared to pay bills, rent, insurances, doctors, etc.

The two Rousseau girls' generosity went on for a few years. The sisters would keep only what they absolutely needed to pay for room and board and a few essentials. Sometimes during the summer, Marie-Rose and Alice would take a few days off to go to Warwick, Canada, to visit relatives in their native village, their grandparents, uncles, aunts, and especially their dear little brother Alphonse. The sisters always brought their

brother Alphonse some useful and pleasant gifts. It was the sisters only pleasure after these long years of hard work and subjection. They gave everything else to their father.

Soon enough, the two sisters felt another kind of anguish. It was the First World War, and their younger brother Alphonse was still in Canada living with their generous Rousseau grandparents. Alphonse was growing up and would soon be old enough to be drafted into the army. Marie-Rose and Alice, who dearly loved their only brother were afraid to see Alphonse exposed to the physical and spiritual danger of military camps and battlefield. The sisters started praying to God to prevent their brother from being drafted into military service. Instead, Marie-Rose and Alice asked God to come and carry away their beloved brother while his soul was still pure. God answered their ardent prayers in a rather tragic way, so much so, we must explain what happened. Yes many extraordinary events are woven into Sister Marie-Paul's life.

On 8 October 1918, their brother Alphonse went to heaven aged only 17. Like thousands Alphonse was victim of the terrible Spanish Flu, which killed him in three days. A telegram brought the sad news to his father and his two daughters. Upon learning this distressful news, Marie-Rose and Alice immediately left their work and took the train for Canada hoping to see the remains of their beloved brother with whom they felt a deep bond with despite having grown up in separate households.

Alas! The sisters' hope of viewing their brother's remains was not to be. Another bitter sorrow for these grieving sisters. The train bringing

Marie-Rose and Alice back to their native Canadian village was delayed. It stopped at the border for so many hours, that by the time they arrived at the Warwick station, their beloved brother's funeral was long over and his mortal remains were deep into the earth<sup>8</sup>. What a bitter blow, one more for their poor heavy hearts! After such a long and tiring trip, the sisters only consolation was to go to the cemetery to pray over the barely cold remains of the dearly beloved departed, who had just been lowered into the family plot, beside their late wonderful mother and the two little angels taken from their cradle and gone to heaven.

After crying and praying, the two orphans went to their hospitable Rousseau grandparents' home, where everything reminded them of their younger brother, who had so happily lived in that house. Besides their two little sisters who were carried to heaven far too young, the remaining sisters' lives seem to be forever rocked by dreadful storms. After a few days of rest, the sisters boarded a train back to the United States.

Life somewhat calmed but was boring and cold for the two sisters who, now felt left alone in the world as they could no longer count on their own father's affection, a father who felt forced to show indifference to them in order to please his wife, being afraid to displease her. Everyone around them thought these Rousseau sisters were inseparable twins because they were always together. But one day, younger sister Alice,

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<sup>8</sup> Alphonse was buried in the parish cemetery the day after his death, on 9 October 1918.



chose her destiny and married William Carbonneau<sup>9</sup>. And Marie-Rose was invited to live with her sister and brother-in-law. So for a few years the two sisters lived very happily.

Nevertheless, every day, in her soul, Marie-Rose felt God's ever more pressing call. Not too sure where to turn to but remembering the good Grey Nuns at the Berlin Hospital, she wrote to the reverend mother superior of the congregation asking for relevant information in August 1922. Marie-Rose immediately received a favourable answer telling her that their entrance date was in September. The aspiring nun bid adieu to her dear father and her sister Alice. Marie-Rose found it very painful to part with her sister for the first time ever, but she left courageously for Saint-Hyacinthe, Canada. On the way, Marie-Rose stopped at Sherbrooke to visit her cousins who were novices at the *Institut des Petites Sœurs de la Sainte-Famille*. Marie-Rose had never heard of the Holy Family Congregation before, so knew nothing about their mission, their work or even religious attire.

According to the conversation with her cousin<sup>10</sup> and with Sister Marie-des-Neiges, the mistress of the novices, Marie-Rose Rousseau, won by the peaceful atmosphere and surrounding piety, immediately felt she was in the very religious world she was looking for. So, there and then, she asked to be admitted at our postulate, ready to abandon her project of going to the Grey Nuns in Saint-Hyacinthe.



In 1920, when Marie-Rose Rousseau entered the congregation of the Petites Sœurs de la Sainte-Famille (PSSF), the mother house was on Marquette Street, in Sherbrooke, where it had been since 1907. In 1930, the sisters moved to the newly built Mont Sainte-Famille at 1820 Galt Street West also in Sherbrooke. Since April 2017, most North American sisters live in the new mother house built next door at 1900 Galt Street West. (Visit the PSSF website for more photos and info) (Photo: courtesy of the PSSF Archives)

Nevertheless, the mistress of the novices felt it would be wiser for her to follow her first idea and go where she was expected. And to spend enough time to try out life in that congregation and, if it did not suit her, then feel free to ask to enter in our Institute, stressing that it would save her having regret later in life for not having followed her first inspiration. It was a very wise suggestion and the docile aspiring nun followed it. At the due date, she entered the postulate of the Grey Nuns at Saint-Hyacinthe. However, she felt little interest for the mission of that congregation, she even felt bored and, perhaps, still remembering the few happy hours spent in our motherhouse, after a six-week trial, Miss Rousseau left the Grey Nuns' postulate and went back to her family in the USA.

A few months later, at the beginning of January 1923, Marie-Rose asked and obtained the permission to enter our Institute and arrived at our postulate on 31 January 1923. She was 24 years old. As she herself confided in her notes, her first months of religious life were a perpetual battle between

nature and grace, between what Saint Paul calls, in his straightforward discourse: *the battle between the old man and the new man*. In a way, the dear child felt attracted by the world where she had left her one and only sister, who was like the other half of herself, and at the same time felt pulled by Jesus-Christ, the divine husband who incessantly repeated to her soul, these words: *you did not choose me, I chose you*. And this as well: *Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is not fit for service in the kingdom of God*. (Luke 9:62). And finally: *Whoever wants to be my disciple must take up their cross and follow me*. (Matthew 16-24). It did not take anymore for God's grace to triumph over her nature, so used was she, since her tender years, to deny herself the needs of her body, heart and will. Thence, after battling against her

<sup>9</sup> William Carbonneau (1898-1964), son of William Carbonneau, sr, and Léda Poiré. The marriage took place at Littleton on 16 February 1920.

<sup>10</sup> Marguerite Kirouac (1905-1990), daughter of Pierre Kirouac and Léontine Beauchênes (Number in the 1991 GFK dictionary: 00774).

human weaknesses and crying her heart out, and valiantly fighting, it was a complete victory for the generous candidate.

Here is how Sister Marie-Paul tells us about the decisive moment when she triumphed over the temptation to return into the world: *One month after entering the novitiate, one day I walked by the room of Sister Marie-Paul, née Ernestine Côté, only 26 years old but in bed in the infirmary, she was dying from tuberculosis after a very short religious career filled with physical and moral pains all saintly endured. I felt drawn into her room. There I stood alone by her bed, and I asked the patient to pray for me to persevere, mentioning feeling bored and constantly tempted to go back to my family. The dying sister fixed her eyes on me and said: "No, you will not leave our Institute; you will persevere." Feeling I lacked so much in virtues and generosity, I asked her to pray for me, promising to try to replace her in the community that she had been able to serve for seven years only. The dying sister promised again to think about me when she would be with God. She kept her promise because very soon after her death, I was forever delivered of the painful boredom. At the same time, I felt such a great trust in the protection of this small saint as I used to call her in my heart, that the fear of not persevering left me forever. As a tangible proof of her interest in me, a few months later, the late sister Marie-Paul did me a great favour, when I received my religious habit, without ever asking for it or desiring it, I was given her name.*

Thus, on the 5 August 1923, on the anniversary of Notre-Dame-des-Neiges, our Lady of the Snows, our novice, for ever affirmed in her vocation, had the happiness of receiving the habit of the Sisters of the Holy Family and, as she said it herself, by some remarkable coincidence, she was given the religious name "Sister Marie-Paul", as if heaven wanted to ratify her commitment to replace the recently departed young sister of the same name.

During her first year of novitiate, she returned to the mission in Côte-des-Neiges, at Notre-Dame College<sup>11</sup>, where she had been assigned before. She was really entering her years of novitiate then. Here again, let us read what our late colleague wrote about that particular part of her religious career for which she was so grateful.

*My canonical novitiate year! It is impossible to properly describe it! It was the best time of my life! I was protected from all the worldly dangers, not only protected by the Good Lord but also by a vigilant superior and many little sisters. I had left my only sister behind and now I had a hundred of them! And the Mistress of the novitiate was so good! All those who knew the late Sister Marie-des-Neiges will say that she was the very best mother one could have in a novitiate. She really knew how to train us for religious life and teach us how to walk in the footsteps of our venerable founding mother<sup>12</sup>, everything she did was to help us put the love of God first in our souls. It is often said that the novitiate is a time of trials; however, for me I can say that it was a time of joy because, previously, there had been so many trials in my life when I was in the world! During my novitiate, whenever I heard about a younger sister or a novice going back home, I thanked the Good Lord that it was not me. Unfortunately, one day I was very sad to see my own cousin leave the congregation, all the more so because she was responsible for me discovering the Sisters of the Holy Family. But it shows that the divine Providence always finds ways to reach its goals.*

*I received my holy habit from the hands of Reverend Bishop Paul LaRocque, whose name I now carry. It was also this venerable bishop, who obviously older and trembling, presided the ceremony on 10 January 1926, when I said my temporary vows. After this first commitment, what happiness to be able to say: "Now, I belong to Jesus and to my religious family forever! At that moment I was committing myself only for a year, but when I said my first engagement, it was for my whole life. After pronouncing her annual vows, the novice received a new obedience<sup>13</sup> and went to Ottawa to work at the archbishopric. First she was sacristan and later in charge of the cafeteria<sup>14</sup>. Five years later she was called back to the mother-house to prepare for her perpetual vows. The ceremony was on 10 January 1931.*

Now let us hear how our beloved Sister Marie-Paul expressed the gratitude she felt, the outpouring from her sensitive and delicate heart: As it was time for me to say my perpetual vows, I went to the

<sup>11</sup> College Notre-Dame, across the street from St. Joseph Oratory of Mount-Royal. Brother André (1845-1937), canonized in 2010, was doorman at the college when she was working there. (and my great-grandfather owned the general store in the village of Côte-des-Neiges at the time, After him, my grandfather took over the general store - Editor)

<sup>12</sup> Venerable founding Mother Marie-Léonie: Born Élodie Paradis in 1840 in the village of L'Acadie, she died at Sherbrooke in 1912. She became a nun (Marianite de Sainte-Croix) and founded les Petites Soeurs de la Sainte-Famille. She was beatified on 11 September 1984, by Pope John-Paul II during his visit in Canada.

<sup>13</sup> Obedience: submission to the congregation's authority, compliance with order of place and task

<sup>14</sup> Cafeteria: dining room in a school, college, religious institutions or even archbishopric.

beautiful mother-house for the first time and spent a month there. Mother Sainte-Dorothée, then Superior general, welcomed us and prepared us for the great day. Yes! It was a great day when I gave myself to the Good Lord and *to my religious family for ever! I say that I gave myself, but perhaps I should rather say: when the community received me as a poor child, without resources, but with all my good will.*

Here, we want to point out that the good sister, in her sincerity and humility, considered herself a poor child with few resources; but in all fairness, let's point out that when she entered our congregation, Miss Rousseau brought a dowry far more considerable than what is normally asked from the aspiring young women, a sum of money that she had earned through her own hard work, sacrifices and savings and so many tears...

After her perpetual vows, Sister Marie-Paul was sent back to the archbishopric in Ottawa, again in charge of the cafeteria. During the summer months in 1931, she was ever so happy to go back to Warwick, her native parish, for the first time since becoming a nun, to visit her relatives still living there. After these few happy days spent with family members, another trial was awaiting her in Ottawa.

Through a chain of circumstances, most likely allowed by the Good Lord, but somewhat out of the ordinary, as soon as she got back to the archbishopric in Ottawa, Sister Marie-Paul, who had made her perpetual vows only six months earlier, was given the mandate as Superior of the house where she had been living since the beginning

of her religious life that is while being a postulante for a year, her first year of novitiate, periods of annual vows and finally the last months since making her perpetual vows. The cross was particularly heavy, and the situation delicate and embarrassing as the former superior was still living in the house, which meant that the newly named superior would be exercising her duties next to the previous one, in other words, the past superior was becoming one of the spiritual daughters of the new one. Can one imagine the anguish of dear Sister Marie-Paul who, through professional rank, from one day to the next, became the head of the small community? And all this, in the circumstances we just mentioned. As we can see, when the Good Lord wishes to rapidly sanctify a soul, for Him, all ways are good.

When she received her obedience/mandate, the new superior could only think about one thing, how to refuse this duty that seemed far too heavy for her poor shoulders and ask to be dismissed. However, His Excellency, Bishop Forbes, as well as the prosecutor of the archdiocese, who was told about the delicate situation, both encouraged Sister Marie-Paul to leave all in the hands of God and to obey His will expressed by her congregation's main superiors, however strange these orders may seem. Truth be told, the sisters were very sympathetic toward their new superior and promised to be very good to her, and especially to pray for her. After being blessed by the Ottawa Bishop, the superior took her office.

On the evening of that memorable day, His Excellency Monseigneur Andrea Cassulo, then apostolic delegate, who happened to be at

the archbishop's palace, and having learned about the out of the ordinary nomination, said to Bishop Forbes: *I must go and see the new superior and bless her.* As it was a bit late, the nuns were already in their rooms and it was Sister Marie-Paul herself who opened the door to the illustrious visitor. *I did not have to say who I was, as it was obvious. His Excellency then said to me: "Sister, I heard the good news and I am here to comfort you and bless you, like a father blesses his daughter. Take up your cross, my child, follow Jesus, He will help you carry it because He carried his before you." It was short but this conversation did me a lot of good; however, I was not yet completely resigned to my fate, because I could well see many great difficulties in front of me. Hence, the next morning during Holy Mass I said to God: "Do with me as you please: as far as I am concerned, I will obey you as best as I can as long as I am in charge of my sisters."*

For the following two years, the young superior, always next to her former superior who had become her subordinate, exercised her duties. In July 1933, immediately after the regular changes at the end of the summer, Sister Marie-Paul was called back to the motherhouse. Without knowing what would be next, the young superior had no regret, and was rather very happy to put down the superior's cross. *I was ready to go anywhere they would want to send me, I was no longer afraid of anything; however, I no idea I might be going as far away as Italy. This is where the good Lord was sending me, the order coming through the voice of the highest authority.*

If Sister Marie-Paul found it difficult to go overseas, it was not so much because she would be far away from her country and for an



unknown length of time, but it was far more because her one and only beloved sister would still be in North America, and facing serious family difficulty. *Once in Rome, wrote Sister Marie-Paul, I felt happy. I shed a few tears because I was feeling homesick, but they quickly dried. I was so happy to be a "child" again only having to obey ... I had found a good mother in the person of my superior and I was surrounded by pleasant colleagues. Time flew by rapidly. After five years in Italy, it was yet another sacrifice to leave behind forever the city of the popes to come back to my native land. But the Good Lord loves to multiply the sacrifices most likely to give us more occasions to earn our place in heaven.*

Back in Canada, the dear sister received her next obedience first at the Sulpicians' Residence at Collège de Montréal<sup>15</sup>, where she stayed for two years, in charge of the cafeteria to start with. From there she was sent to take charge of the cafeteria at the archbishop's palace in Montreal, where she stayed only a short time.

In November 1941, she was sent to the archbishop's palace in Saint-Boniface, Manitoba. After three years in the distant mission, she came back to Eastern Canada. Afterwards, she was appointed, for short periods, to the archbishop's palace in Montreal and at the Saints-Apôtres Seminary in Sherbrooke (Québec), followed by six years at the Seminary in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu. From there she went on to the Collège André-Grasset in Montreal for about a year. In July 1953, Sister Marie-Paul's obedience took her to our Oblate Father's House in Hull, Quebec. But after only a few months of devoted work there, she received her passport for heaven.

In 1940, that is fourteen years before her sudden death, Sister Marie-Paul wrote the following: *During my religious career, sometimes people remarked that I was authoritarian. I easily admit that. For so long I was always alone to make decisions before entering the convent, it most likely contributed to develop in me this tendency that was already inherent in my temperament. I have also been told that I had a tendency to be sad. I can say that I worked a lot to change that, but it was quite natural for me to be sad and melancholic after having lost my mother very young and given all the trials I endured through life. My Superiors were always charitable enough to tell me about my shortcomings and bad habits. I am very grateful to them. I was always very sensitive, but it was often repeated to me that sensitivity is a virtue when it does not degenerate into susceptibility. Thus I constantly had to be very careful, but I think I managed, with God's grace, to overcome these problems.*

*I beg forgiveness for all the shortcomings and the bad examples I may have been to my sisters in religion and, I happily forgive those who could have made me unhappy. I am most grateful to have been accepted in this congregation, and I thank the reverend mother Sainte-Dorothée, who was the Superior General at the time. From heaven above, I hope she will come to me when I am on my deathbed, with our dear founding mother Marie-Léonie as well as Sister Marie-des-Neiges, my good mother at the novitiate, and all our sisters who are already in heaven, particularly, the good sister Marie-Paul from whose name I inherited and who had promised me on her deathbed to protect me from heaven. I am also very grateful to all my former superiors whom I had the privilege to call by the sweet name "mother", a word I was happy to use but for such a short time before I entered the convent. Much gratitude also to all my sisters in religion, a special*

*thank you to those who were my working colleagues in various missions, who helped me to love the Good Lord and to become more saintly. At last I want to thank the sister who, after my death will have the task to write my obituary<sup>16</sup>. I recommend my soul to the charitable prayers of the whole congregation so I can go to the Good Lord in his beautiful heaven. Now, there is only one more thing I desire: to die in the field of action.*

Here, we can see that the last wish expressed by our beloved sister on 8 April 1940, at the end of her text, was granted. It is easy to be convinced by reading these pages that sister Marie-Paul's soul was exquisite to a fault. Her heart was sensitive, affectionate, grateful, as she wrote her long biography, none of the persons who were good to her were forgotten. She speaks with respect and veneration of our beloved foundress, of the Superior general who welcomed her into our congregation, of the Mother in charged of the novitiate, of the venerable Bishop LaRoque who presented her with her religious habit and received her first vows, of the late sister who passed on her name to her, of the local superiors, of her colleagues in the missions, etc., once more it is easy for us to appreciate fully our sisters and the degree of virtue they attained, only once they have left us. This latest one was definitely an elite soul, keen on perfection, truthful in the smallest detail of our rule, never looking for human praise, as she

<sup>15</sup> Collège de Montréal is the very large catholic seminary of the Sulpicians Priests.

<sup>16</sup> The name of the person who put this obituary together is unknown.

was centred on doing everything for the glory of God. In short, this excellent nun was constantly keen on the “unique necessary” thing mentioned in the holy books, that is personal sanctification. A famous writer rightly said: *We are on earth to serve God for two reasons: to be virtuous ourselves and bring happiness to others; by being good and saint, we can make others happy around us and the Good Lord will be happy with us.* (as per the Catholic Catechism).

This was likely the lifeline of our recently departed sister who was so suddenly taken from our rank. Of course, sister Marie-Paul, like all human beings, had her share of weaknesses and moral miseries. Who hasn't? But those of us who knew her closely are unanimous in saying that she was a good nun. Here is the testimony of a sister who was in the novitiate with her; when she heard about her passing, she wrote: *Sister Marie-Paul was trusted by our Mother in the novitiate. She was remarkably detached from everything, had a real sense of poverty and economy, was fully devoted to her work, however, not very good at working, she did not like to ask for help and was unable to pass on to others what she knew or the fruit of her experiences. Her health was delicate but she never refused any work, she was always available for any extra duties. Added all the trials and tribulations she endured through her life, this dear sister, must have earned a very nice place in heaven.*”

Yes, trials and tribulations of all kinds prepared this limpid and candid soul to welcome the last touch of divine grace: the death of a saint. When she was kissed by God, Sister Marie-Paul was ready for the supreme voyage, and that is why the Good Lord spared her the terror of death and the anguishing last adieu to all the things tying us to life.

Here is how death, the inexorable life reaper came to her. At the beginning of November, the dear sister had problem digesting and felt pains in her right side. The mild medicine she was taking helped a bit, so she did not pay any more attention to the problem; besides, this was nothing new, it had happened before and, until then, ordinary medicine always solved the problem. However, this time the pain lasted longer and she was frequently throwing up. Gradually her superior and the other sisters noticed her yellow complexion, whereas her normal complexion was the opposite. But the valiant missionary was not worrying about it and kept fulfilling her duties at the cafeteria. On 5 November, mother superior felt it would be wiser to get her to rest and forced her to go to bed telling her she wanted to call the doctor. But Sister Marie-Paul convinced her not to saying that all would get back to normal with a laxative. The next day did not bring much hope and the jaundice colour had not gone. On Saturday, 7 November, seeing that there was no improvement, the superior called the doctor and asked him to come. She told Sister Marie-Paul: *go to bed because the doctor is on his way.*

Being an obedient nun, the dear sister who would definitely have preferred to attend to her duties than go to bed, did what she was told. When the doctor saw the patient's yellow complexion, he thought it was simply a case of jaundice and prescribed the appropriate treatment; however, it did not

bring the expected results. The following day, the patient could no longer keep anything at all, even the very little food or drink she was taking. So the doctor was called back and examine the dear sister again. He came at the end of the day around five o'clock. This time the man of science noticed that his patient's condition had seriously deteriorated and that it was urgent to move her to the hospital in order to give her serums and appropriate treatments if she were to get better or, at least, hoping she would get well enough to be transported to our motherhouse. However, the Good Lord had other plans. When our dear sister left our oblate house in Hull, she could never have imagined that she would be brought back a few days later in her coffin. She let herself be prepared to be transported to the Sacred-Heart Hospital (in Ottawa, across the river from Hull, Quebec). As all the sisters kindly wished her well, the patient said laughing: *I am being treated better than the queen of England!* On this happy note, she said goodbye thinking that it was only an *au revoir*, see you soon!

Once in her hospital bed, sister Marie-Paul, who did not seem to be in pain, used this chance to make propaganda and recruit new vocations. While a young nurse was preparing her for the night, the patient started talking to her about our Institute, our way of life, our work and mission, etc. The young woman was greatly interested, so much so that after our sister's death, she declared to one of her colleagues that, if one day, she decided to become a nun, she would knock on our door. One day, our Lord said: *Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks...* (Luke 6:45) Thus it was with our beloved departed sister: Sister Marie-Paul's heart was overflowing

with gratitude, love and veneration for her dear community. That is why, even on her deathbed, she found words of praise for our Institute encouraging the nurse to leave everything behind and join the ranks under the Holy Family banner.

Nonetheless, during the night for the first time, she went into a semi-coma. The next morning, it was noticed that it was very difficult to wake her up when the priest came around with Holy Communion. No one took that as an indication that complete coma was coming. It did happen fairly soon afterwards. Little by little, the patient became more sleepy and slumped. The reverend chaplain of the sisters in Hull paid her a visit, but did not see anything abnormal and, once back at the convent, he was happy to tell the Superior that he had found Sister Marie-Paul reasonably well.

On Thursday, 12 November, the dear sister fell into a deeper coma; and that sounded the alarm. In the afternoon it was thought wiser to administer the Last Rites. Nevertheless, soon after, she was fully awake and aware and called her cousin by her name Sister Saint-Pierre-Claver<sup>17</sup>, to prove that she recognized her. These moments became shorter as time went by, and soon after, the patient felt back into a deep sleep from which it was more and more difficult to wake her. Then the Hull Superior, who had already informed the Reverend Mother Superior in Sherbrooke, about the grave illness of our dear sister, called her to let her know that the situation was almost desperate.

Sister Sainte-Catherine, arrived in a hurry, only to verify that, most regrettably, the fatal outcome was very near. On Friday 14 November,

during her visit, the Superior asked: *Do you recognize me, sister?* And the dear sick sister answered with a big smile meaning yes. Then, Sister Marie-du-Carmel said: *If the Good Lord comes for you, please ask him to send us some candidates because as He takes away our missionary sisters, we do not have anyone to replace them.* Again the patient made an affirmative sign and, a few moments later, felt back into a deep coma. From that moment on, she gave no more sign of acknowledgement in spite of the good care provided. It was impossible to alleviate the congestion in her acutely inflamed liver. The patient also suffered from uremia caused by stones, one especially obstructing the gall bladder.

She remained more or less stable until Saturday evening; suddenly her eyes were wide open and roved from right to left, but she could no longer see anything. In spite of that, her facial expression seemed to say to those around her: *I can hear you.* Sister Sainte-Catherine took advantage of this fleeting moment of lucidity to tell her that the Good Lord was soon coming for her and that our Reverend Mother General wanted her to know that she could trust all was well as all the elderly and sick sisters, as well as all the personnel of Mont Sainte-Famille convent, were praying for her.

After that, our nursing sister helped her make the generous sacrifice of her life, then, on her behalf, renewed her vows and added a number of invocations, which the dying sister repeated mentally, without anymore acknowledgement but for a slight moan from time to time to show she understood everything, but was incapable of saying. At intervals, the dear sister had great difficulty breathing, around 11 p.m., her breathing became so laborious in spite of the medicine given her that the prayers of the dying were said. About two days earlier, her only sister Alice, Mrs. Carbonneau from Littleton, with one of her daughters<sup>18</sup>, had arrived in Hull. They were staying in a guest house near the Hospital. They were called and immediately came to the hospital. For a few more hours, sister Marie-Paul was agitated as breathing was very difficult. At 2:30 a.m., suddenly, she looked extraordinarily calm and remained so until the end. It was indeed the end of a life filled with many trials, anguish, sufferings and tears coming to an end. In her soul, she could already hear the voice of the Beloved saying to her: *Arise, my friend, come now! The winter of your life is over... The rain has stopped... A perpetual spring is beginning for you... Come and receive your crown.*

To answer the call of her divine Master, in a last act of obedience, our dear Sister Marie-Paul handed her soul back to God, without any effort, with the calm and tranquility of a child falling asleep in the arms of her mother. Finally she would be able to see her tenderly loved mother in the next world; She always missed her mother. Her heart deprived of its most legitimate affection had been crushed so early in life.

Exactly five minutes after three o'clock on Sunday morning, 15 November, death struck in the hospital room. Mrs. Carbonneau was present,

<sup>17</sup> Marguerite Kirouac (number in the 1991 K/ dictionary: 00774). A text about Marguerite will be published in the next *Le Trésor*, number 135.

<sup>18</sup> One of Alice's three daughters, either Florence, Irene or Lillian, we do not know.



devastated, looking at her beloved sister. Losing Marie-Rose, she said among her tears: *I am not only losing my only sister, I am also losing a true mother. Sister Marie-Paul was always my adviser ever since we were so young. And now, I remain alone.* Such separations provoke very acute pains! Nevertheless, the voice of our mother the Church is very eloquent, and through a few words inspired by the virtue of faith, can spread refreshing balm on our deepest wounds!

So it was by a lovely November morning, when the angel of death had taken from its mortal envelope the soul of this nun to transport it to the celestial homeland, quite naturally, the parable of the faithful and thrifty manager comes back to mind as a consolation and encouragement. It is not the number of talents received that earned the reward and compliment from the Master, but the fidelity and zeal of the worker in making sure that said talents would grow and expand<sup>19</sup>.

So it was for Sister Marie-Paul. We were convinced that early years of family trials, followed by faith in God, love of others and devotion to duty were now being justly rewarded. And from the mouth of our Good Lord, we seemed to be hearing this caring invitation: *Dear soul, enter into the joy of your Lord! The newly departed was in her 5th year on earth and her 31st year of religious life.*

Once her mortal remains were ready, they were transported to our Hull convent and placed in the small parlour. The convent she had left only eight days earlier. It was so moving to see our sisters coming one after the other from our various nearby homes pay their respect to their recently departed sister who, years before, had written that she wanted to die at work on the battlefield.

The following day, Monday, 16 November, a first-class funeral service with deacon and sub-deacon was sung by the Reverend Oblate Fathers in the Hull parish church. Some thirty sisters were present from our various Ottawa houses and seven Oblate priests in the sanctuary, whose presence was eloquently demonstrating charity, benevolence and sympathy in this sad occasion. May their many fervent prayers, added to ours, shorten the time for the soul of our dearly departed to reach the beatific vision.

*By God's Mercy, may the soul of our dear sister Marie-Paul, rest in peace.*  
R. I. P.

Translated by Marie Lussier Timperley for *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, no. 134, Autumn 2020

<sup>19</sup> The "Parable of the Talents", in Matthew 25:14-30.



*A group of PSSF nuns (Petites Soeurs de la Sainte-Famille, or Holy Family) arriving at the annex to the presbytery of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce parish on 29 March 1911. This was the oldest parish in Hull, Quebec, and part of the archdiocese of Ottawa at the time. The PSSF served the Oblate fathers until 1975.*

*The large presbytery was built in 1889, and was one of the very few buildings that survived the great Hull fire of 1900. The story of this fire was reported in *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, no. 102, winter 2010, pp. 13-15, because it allegedly started in the kitchen of one Antoine Kirouac who lived on Chaudière Street.*

*Marie-Rose Rousseau, Sister Marie-Paul, was the superior of this house from 1931 to 1933 before being sent to the PSSF house in Rome, Italy, for five years. She also spent her last months on earth in this house before her death on 15 November 1953.*

(Photo: courtesy of PSSF Archives)

# ALBERT JOSEPH CORRIVEAU (1851-1904)

The following is a translation of a French text found in Françoise Gougeon Lussier's archives by her daughter while looking through her mother's archives during the lockdown! Mrs. Lussier did genealogical research during twenty-two years. The origin of the text is unknown but given its historical value we felt it is worth publishing it. Marie Lussier Timperley translated it for *Le Trésor des Kirouac*, number 134, autumn 2020.

Albert Corriveau married Hermine Kéroack, younger daughter of Léon-Solyme Le Brice de Kéroack and his wife, Éléonore Létourneau. This noteworthy businessman had a remarkable career but has been lost to history. He was the son of Jean-Baptiste Corriveau, a hat-maker born in Saint-Vallier-de-Bellechasse (St. Lawrence south-shore, across from Orleans Island) and Tharsyle Todd de Besserer, of Scottish descent.

Tharsyle Todd's mother, Charlotte Todd, came to North America by boat landing at New York in 1820. Soon afterwards, she settled in Quebec where she met a lieutenant of the 114th Regiment who was also captain of a schooner, René Léonard Besserer. Charlotte Todd, not yet married, became pregnant and her daughter, Tharsyle, was born in 1822; however, the father, Léonard Besserer, died on 27 March 1823, before the two were married.

Following the death of her beloved captain, Charlotte Todd added "de Besserer" to her maiden name in homage to the biological father of her daughter, Tharsyle. On 18 September 1838, at the age of sixteen, Tharsyle Todd de Besserer married Jean-Baptiste Corriveau in Notre-Dame Parish in Quebec City and had eight children, including Albert, the subject of the present article.

Tharsyle's mother, the Scottish immigrant, Charlotte Todd, had a sad ending, to say the least. Indeed, losing her beloved before getting married, she died a violent death: she was assassinated in her home on 12 January 1855 at Montmagny (St. Lawrence south-shore, about 20 miles north-east of St-Vallier).

The Editor

In 1851, a young man was born, destined to become a kind of sorcerer in the world of large enterprise and high finance. Before his twentieth birthday, he decided to seek adventure into an unknown world. He was perfectly bilingual, given his mother's Scottish parentage, originally from Upper Canada, as Ontario was called then. Albert J. Corriveau, left Montmagny, in Lower Canada, as Quebec was called<sup>1</sup>, to settle in New York as he was interested in marketing silk, a very popular industry then.

A few years later, he came back to Montreal to get married. On 21 February 1876, we married Hermine Le Brice de Kéroack, daughter of a very prosperous Montreal merchant. They moved to New York City. Later Albert, with his wife and son left New York City and went back to live in Montreal.

Soon after being back in the Canadian metropolis, he opened a silk industrial plant named **Corriveau Silks Mills**<sup>2</sup> located at the corner of Papineau and Ontario Streets. They bought and move into a fashionable residence at 212 Sherbrooke Street, near Amherst Street. A few months later, Albert built another silk industrial plant at Iberville on the east side of the Richelieu River, across from Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu. He also built a beautiful summer residence in Iberville. Then his brother, Émile, joined him to administer Albert's enterprises.



Albert J. Corriveau (1851-1904)  
(Source: genealogical tree on Ancestry, provided by Fearless Freep)



Hermine Keroack - 1850-1910  
(Source: genealogical tree on Ancestry, provided by Fearless Freep)

<sup>1</sup> Before confederation in 1867, Ontario was Upper Canada (upper St. Lawrence), and Quebec, Lower Canada, (lower St. Lawrence).

<sup>2</sup> Most company names were in English at the time.

## ALBERT CORRIVEAU'S GRANDMOTHER CHARLOTTE TODD'S DREADFUL DEMISE

**I**t was front-page news at the time and the talk of the town in Montmagny. Miss Charlotte Todd lived next to Regent bridge, since renamed Boulanger, in Montmagny. She owned the bridge and was its custodian.

*The Quebec Mercury*, an English-language weekly published in Quebec City from 1805 to 1863, in the edition of 16 January 1855, wrote that Charlotte Todd, who lived alone in her house, received a pension from the British government because she had warned the garrison of the coming of the American army in 1775. She also received compensation from anyone using the bridge over the Rivière-du-Sud (south river).

Jean-Baptiste Corriveau, her son-in-law, was her murderer. Relations between them had been tense for a long time. It is important to know that Jean-Baptiste Corriveau had married Charlotte's only daughter,

Tharsyle, against her will. Indeed, Corriveau took advantage of the mother's absence to marry her daughter, Tharsyle. Charlotte had gone to Upper Canada to appoint an ad hoc tutor for her daughter. Said tutor authorized the marriage of her daughter, who was only sixteen at the time, to Jean-Baptiste Corriveau.

Following this event, Charlotte was mad as hell with Corriveau. She hated him and made sure people knew about it and she never changed her mind until her dying day. Only with the birth of her grandchildren did she mellow, always showing them much love and affection.

In 1849, Miss Todd wrote her will in which she bequeathed everything in usufruct to her daughter and ownership to her daughter's children.

In 1848, Jean-Baptiste Corriveau's Quebec City's hat business went bankrupt, so he moved to Montmagny to live close to his mother-in-law, (as he later admitted) lying in wait to inherit from her; however, he got fed up waiting and assassinated her on 12 January 1855. His son, Albert-Joseph, was only four years old then.

The Editor

### Sources

Historical notes on the Parish of Saint-Thomas de Montmagny, re-published in 1979, pp. 262, & 420-421.

In 1856 at Quebec City, Jean-Baptiste Corriveau was accused and found guilty of murdering Miss Charlotte Todd, his mother-in-law.

18 Le Dix huit janvier mil huit cent cinquante cinq, par  
 M. Charlotte nous (une) soussigné, a été inhumé dans le cimetière.  
 Le corps de Mlle Charlotte Todd assassinée par son gendre  
 moi, âgée de soixante deux ans, de cette paroisse. Présents  
 à l'inhumation, Simon Fournier, Vital Fournier, Pierre  
 Bonneau, Pascal Proulx et Toussaint Bernier, qui n'ont su signer  
 J. L. Beaubien p<sup>re</sup>

Taken from the 1855 Register of baptism, marriages and deaths of Saint-Thomas-de-Montmagny parish.

**Translation of text found in parish register:** On 18 January 1855, we the undersigned parish priest buried in the parish cemetery M. Charlotte Todd, assassinated on 12 January, aged 72. Present at the burial: Siméon Fournier, Vital Fournier, Pierre Bonneau, Pascal Proulx and Toussaint Bernier who were unable to sign.

Jean-Louis Beaubien, Priest



For many years, Albert Corriveau was a member of the (nationalist) Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste, and, on 13 February 1884, he was elected president of the Montreal's Section Sacré-Cœur. In 1884, the SJB society was celebrating its 50th anniversary. Being the administrator of an important section, he became responsible for the special summer festivities.

Around 1888, Albert sold his industrial silk investment and turned to electricity. In 1890, he created the **Canadian Electrical Manufacturing & Supply Company**, located at 107 St-James Street<sup>3</sup>. At the beginning of 1892, he becomes an associate, and soon after a shareholder of the **Montreal Park and Island Railway Company**, a company involved in urban transportation. He was the director general and the head office was at 17 Côte-de-la-Place-d'Armes.

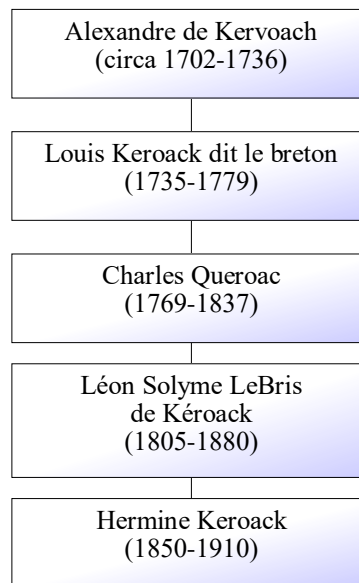
In Montreal, electric transport and electric rail transportation were vanguard enterprises, using cutting-edge technology. **The Montreal Street Railway (MSR)** had the monopoly of urban transportation. The very first tramway called the **Rocket** was launched on 21 September 1892. The MSR, founded in 1861, eventually became the **Commission de Transport de la Communauté urbaine de Montréal, in short CTCUM (later STCUM)**. As for the **Rocket**, it can be admired at the railway museum located at Saint-Constant on Montreal south-shore. Called **EXPORAIL**, it features the largest railway collection in Canada.

By 1894, the whole network was already electrified, and in October, the last tram pulled by horses on Notre-Dame Street West was retired. Albert Corriveau was granted permission by at least eight surrounding municipalities to build and operate electrified rail transportation on their territories. Saint-Louis-du-Mile-End was the first town to grant him a franchise. This village was absorbed into the Montreal metropolis on 29 May 1909 and is now Montreal's Laurier district.

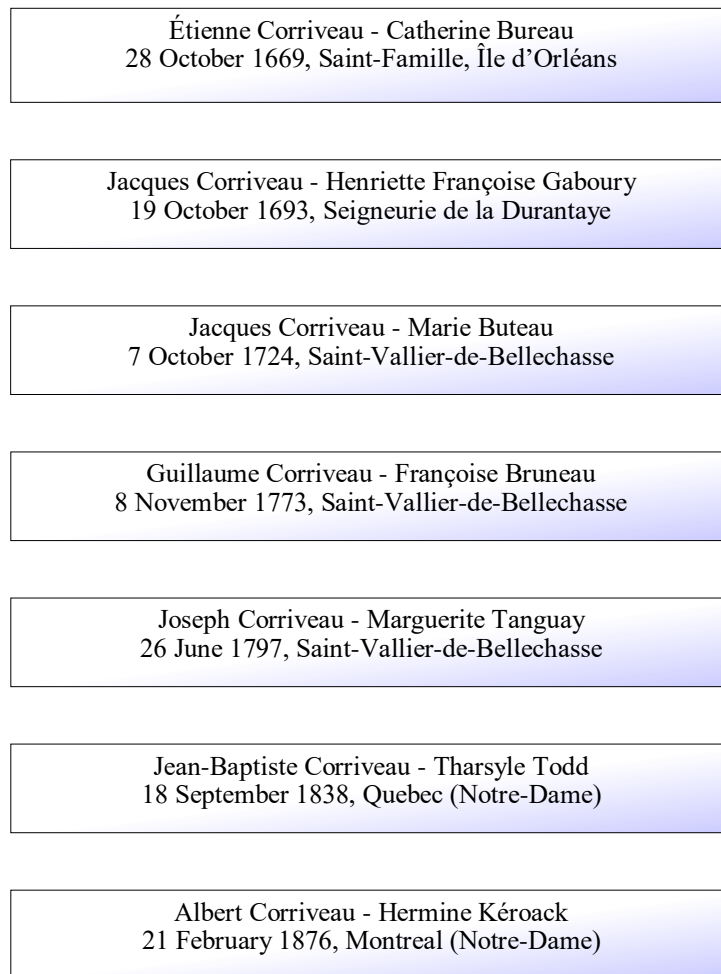
After lengthy and tough negotiations, Outremont, was the second town to grant a franchise. The **Montreal, Power & Island Railway** covered the distance between Park Avenue and Mont-Royal Avenue, crossing the town of Outremont, via Côte-Sainte-Catherine Road.

<sup>3</sup> St James Street was named after St James Street in London, England, and known as Rue Saint-Jacques by French-speaking Canadians. During the second half of the 19th century, St James, no longer a residential street, became the heart of Montreal's business district and of Canadian high finance, the Wall Street of Canada. Every important financial firm's headquarters had to be on St James Street.

#### Paternal Ancestry of Hermine Keroack Wife of Albert Corriveau



#### Paternal Ancestry of Albert Corriveau



## Song dedicated to Albert Joseph Corriveau

Founder of the Montreal Snowshoe Club

### The Trapper

Words by W. Chapman, Music by L. Ringuette

In our land, the antic white flag flew for France so dear to our soldiers who shed their blood to keep this noble banner in front of these valiant men who made sublime efforts and the invaders knew many defeats because our forefathers had strong legs and easily walked with snowshoes.

Refrain:

Alert! The Trapper fearless and above reproach!

Put your tuque on and your soft shoes

Alert! The Trapper fearless and above reproach!

When the weather is bitterly cold, fly away on your snowshoes.

The Parisian, who has seen it all, daily learns a thousand new things, But he ignores, that in our country, men have wings on their feet. Napoleon triumphed everywhere, and counted the days to new conquests, but his soldiers at Moscow would have been saved if they had had snowshoes.

*(Refrain)*

When the squall is over, the sun shines turning the frost into sparkling diamonds, then the snowshoers walk without a care, perhaps accompanied by some young woman, and over the hills, away from onlookers, where it is so nice to flirt ... then often a marriage is decided after a snowshoe ballad.

*(Refrain)*

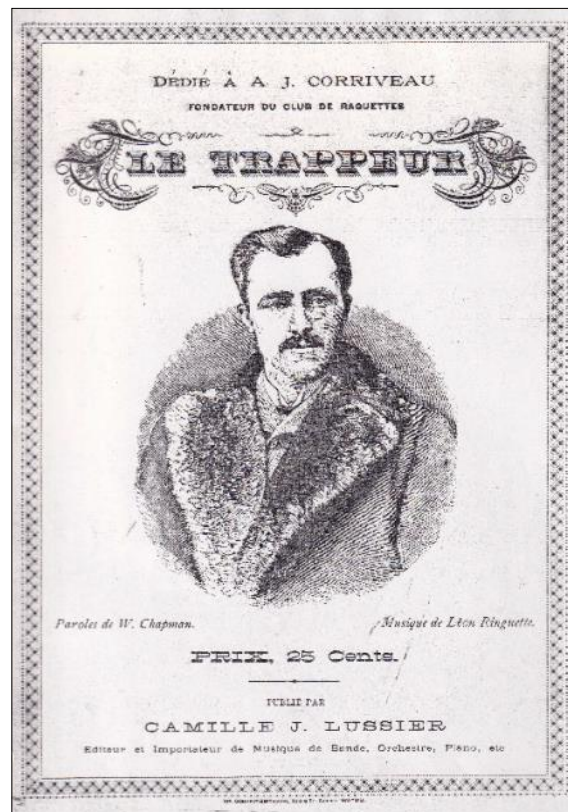
The sky is darkened with clouds, the traveller loses his way, the messenger is lost in the plains, but we, the Trappers, scoff at the hurricane, we walked through the large forests, the undergrowth, we pursue the elk and the moose flying away on our light snowshoes!

*(Refrain)*

*Translated by Marie Lussier Timperley for Le Trésor des Kirouac, no. 134, Autumn 2020*

After that, the Côte-des-Neiges's town council accepted the electrified service. Côte-des-Neiges, a distinct village since 1907, was annexed to Montreal on 4 June 1910.

In 1895, the village of Saint-Laurent joined; afterwards, Cartierville and Sault-au-Récollet, present-day Ahuntsic, were incorporated into Montreal on 22 December 1916. Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, known as NDG, was next to authorize the project. From Notre-Dame-des-Neiges district, a second rail line went south to cross the Snowdon district, then following Girouard Avenue crossed the Notre-Dame-



Sheet music printed by Camille J. Lussier. Photo of the copy in Françoise Gougeon-Lussier's archives. Mrs. Albert J. Corriveau, born Hermine Le Brice de Keroack in 1850, was a younger sister of Mrs. Camille J. Lussier, born Marie Le Brice de Keroack in 1843.

de-Grâce village, also incorporated in the metropolis on 4 June 1910. It is still called NDG, over a century later. On the south side of the island of Montreal, Côte-Saint-Paul agreed to enjoy the electrified urban trams by then reaching Lachine. The village of Côte-Saint-Paul was also incorporated in the metropolis on 4 June 1910.

In a report of Saint-Laurent Board meeting, we read that Albert Corriveau, engineer, was present to explain the advantages of an electrified transport system for their village also linking them to Montreal. Negotiation lasted three years, from 19 September 1892 to 2 September 1895. Finally the project was accepted and the construction done by the **Montreal Park & Island Railway** company also responsible for network operation.

At the time, a bus stop was called a "station" and each station was given a name. Hence, at the beginning of the service of that line around 1900, and in gratitude to the precious cooperation of Albert Corriveau, the engineer who set up the electrical urban transport system, the station was named after him.

And **Station Corriveau** was on the west side of Décarie Boulevard in Ville Saint-Laurent, south-west of the tunnel and Canadian National railroad track that intersected with the Boulevard right across from the Canadian Pittsburgh Industries Limited located at 225 Décarie Boulevard. At the end of the Second World War, this station like all the others lost its name and became a simple numbered and nameless bus-stop.

Albert J. Corriveau had gigantic ambitions and visions. He dreamed of building an electric railroad network into all of the Eastern Townships. He even obtained a federal chart dated 29 June 1897 allowing him to build and operate such a railway service between Montreal and Sherbrooke (about 100 miles). He planned on two branch lines starting from Saint-Lambert, on Montreal south-shore, going west to Saint-Hyacinthe and east, to Huntingdon. Called the **Montreal & Southern Counties Railway Company**, its head office was at 99 St James.

As an newcomer, Corriveau faced enormous competition from the **Grand Trunk Railway**. This company found the idea excellent but fully intended to offer this important service. The fierce competition also came from the powerful Forget family, financiers from Longueuil (Montreal south-shore) who did not appreciate a "stranger" involved in what they considered their area on the river's south shore. The Forgets also had powerful allies at the Montreal City Hall, where they could pull strings. The opposition had numerous negative consequences eventually preventing the beginning of the construction.

The main and most important transport company in Montreal, at the time, was the **Montreal Street Railway**. In 1901, it took over the **Montreal Park & Island Railway** which kept its identity for another

ten years, but was administered by its new president, Louis-Joseph Forget (1853-1911). In 1911, the various urban transport societies operating on the island of Montreal merged into one, the **Montreal Tramways Company**.

Without the **Montreal Park & Island Railway** and other associates, Albert Corriveau could no longer hope to build an electric railway system in the Eastern Townships. Thus, he abandoned the railway transportation field in order to launch into other commercial ventures. In 1901, Albert Corriveau had only three more years to live. He died in 1904.

Around 1906, finally free of competitors, the **Grand Trunk Railway** decided to build an electric transportation system to serve the Eastern Townships, still using the name **Montreal & Southern Counties**. The station located at the corner of McGill Avenue and d'Youville Street in Montreal was the departure terminal for the line. From there, via the Victoria Bridge, it crossed the St. Lawrence river to the south-shore, and directly reached the town of Granby without using a branch-line.

On Saturday, 30 October 1909, the **Montreal & Southern Counties Railway** inaugurated the new service. In his speech, the local deputy, F. D. Monk, underlined that this was Albert J. Corriveau's dream finally realized. Indeed, Albert Corriveau had dreamed of this vast development and conceived it. The trains operated for 47 years, until 1956. Today, only the old station - transformed into a restaurant - still exists.

Albert saw that it would be impossible for him to achieve his project of the **M&SCR**, but, as was his custom, he looked for and worked on other ambitious projects. He founded and became president and director general of many other companies. Starting in 1898, he first created the **Lake Champlain & Saint-Lawrence Ship's Canal**. The offices of this maritime shipping company were at 17 Côte-de-la-Place-d'Armes<sup>5</sup>.

Then in 1900, he created a housing development company called **The Guarantee Development Company**, with head office at 99 St James Street. Also at the time, the automobile became the talk of the day, the conversation piece in Montreal. It was the newest industry. The first horseless moving car appeared in the streets of Montreal in 1899. Its owner was Mr. Ucal-Henri Dandurand a wealthy real estate developer with a passion for automobiles. The Montreal daily, La Patrie carried the news in his 22 November 1899 issue. Mr. U. H. Dandurand riding on Sherbrooke Street at the wheel of his brand-new Waltham Steamer received that morning. So, as to who drove the first automobile in Montreal, the debate is still open to this day; Dandurand or Corriveau?

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<sup>4</sup> Frederick Debartzch Monk was an important lawyer, professor and federal political men in the province of Quebec. He was the son of Samuel Cornwallis Monk and Rosalie Caroline Debartzch, daughter of the Honorable Pierre-Dominique Debartzch. He was the grandson of Anne née Gury, Monk, daughter of Colonel, Honorable Louis Gury. Anne Gury was born in Montreal, her parents were from Poland. In 1877, F.D. Monk received his Bachelor of Civil Law from McGill University and, was admitted to the Quebec Bar the following year. From 1888 to 1914, he taught Law at Laval University in Montreal (Montreal University was still an offshoot of Laval in Quebec City, becoming independent in 1920). He was granted the title QC, i. e. Queen's Counsel, in 1893.

<sup>5</sup> Place d'Armes is a public square first used for military gathering and ceremonies; but nowadays, only for ceremonies.



Albert Corriveau, seeing a new and very lucrative commercial venture, immediately opened not one but two companies selling automobiles. In 1901, he opened the **Corriveau Automobile Syndicate**, at 41 St James. Then in 1903, he created the **General Automobile Company of Canada**, at 308 St James.

Albert J. Corriveau<sup>6</sup>, a true builder, died on 6 August 1904, at the age of 53 years and four months.

Quebec really needed more builders like him. Egypt celebrated its pharaohs with pyramids. But here, where are the commemorating plaques to the men who relentlessly worked at improving the transport system absolutely indispensable to the industrial growth of greater Montreal at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century?

<sup>6</sup> His funeral was held at Notre-Dame Church in Old Montreal, on 9 August 1904. His wife, Hermine Kéroack died in Ottawa six years later, on 30 March 1910. She was buried in Notre-Dame-des-Neiges Cemetery in Montreal the following day. They had four children: Raoul (1877-1962), Esthel (1880-1918), Gaston (1882-1884) and Rochelle (1888-1969). They left seven grandchildren including William Brayley, a WWII pilot who was shot over France on 10 April 1944. He spent four months with the French resistance in Fréteval Forest. Read the story on Internet at: <http://www.rafinfo.org.uk/rafescape/freteval/brayley-collection.htm>



Ucal-Henri Dandurand – The family posing with their Waltham 1899, first car driven in the streets of Montreal. This photo was taken in front of their residence *Les quatre-vents* (*The four winds*) in Verdun (Montreal suburb). Mrs. Dandurand is seated at the front with her eldest son, Henri-Ucal; in the trailer, are the twins, Hector and Edgar. This car, to which Mr. Dandurand added a trailer, weighed between 500 and 600 pounds.

(Source: Montreal History Centre, Dandurand Archives)

The Montreal daily newspaper LA PRESSE, in its Monday edition, 21 November 1983, reported that Albert Corriveau and Ucal-Henri Dandurand had acquired control and rights for all of Canada to build and operate this automobile, driven by steam generated by gasoline. These two pioneers had also acquired control and rights for another automobile, an electric car with storage battery, that was a great improvement on all other electric vehicles available at the time. As one can see, electric automobiles were not born yesterday!

## GETTING MARRIED DURING A PANDEMIC!

### A jigsaw puzzle and an obstacle course!

Everything was planned months ahead, a bridal shower in April and the wedding in May. But the pandemic crashed in, cancelling the best laid plans. The ever-changing Michigan safety rules generated uncertainty and worries. How can you determine a church date and book a reception location when regulations keep changing? The mother of the bride tried to coordinate everything, but was often left in the lurch. Eventually with warmer days, the shower was booked for July and the wedding in August. But then again, with rules about safe distances, mask or no mask, maximum number of people allowed in a church and public places, all questions with uncertain answers. Same for the reception. The 15<sup>th</sup> of August was decided upon but, during the week a gray, rainy Saturday was predicted! Thankfully the sun showed up first and for the whole day, so the 120 guests enjoyed perfect weather. Meaghan Ogonowski and Sean Cahill were married at the Catholic Church of St. Peter at Mount Clemens. The wedding reception was held outdoors at Tina's Country House & (beautiful) Gardens, in Macomb County, Michigan.

The newlyweds, Meaghan and Sean, with their nearest Kirouac relatives. From left, Catherine K-Robinson, and her brother, Gilbert K/; at right, Steve K/ and his sister, Jennifer K/-Ogonowski, mother of the bride.



# De Kervoach Descendant Through The Female Line: Bernard Lamarre (1931-2016) by André St-ARNAUD

*André St-Arnaud keeps looking for personalities who are linked to Alexandre de Kervoach through the female line. Since autumn 2018, he introduced us to eight descendants of our common ancestor.*

*In this issue, we meet Bernard Lamarre, a notable engineer. André St-Arnaud found that Bernard Lamarre is also a descendant of Françoise-Ursule Kuerouac, a granddaughter of Alexandre de Kervoach, like the actor Nathan Christopher Fillion, who was presented in last spring's issue of *Le Trésor des Kirouac* no. 132.*

*These two de Kervoach descendants also share two other ancestors Pierre-Paul Talon and Charlotte Talbot. At the fourth generation, this couple's two daughters, Charlotte Talon and Angélique Talon, the two sisters married two brothers, Simon-Alexandre who became Nathan Fillion's ancestor, and Gabriel who became Bernard Lamarre's ancestor.*

The son of an engineer and construction contractor, Bernard Lamarre was born on 6 August 1931, in Chicoutimi, Lake-Saint-Jean, Quebec. At age 13, he left for Montreal to attend Mont-Saint-Louis college; three years later, he entered Polytechnique, University of Montreal's engineering school. In 1952, he got his degree in civil engineering and won an *Athlone* scholarship to study in London, England. In 1955 he received a diploma from the Imperial College of Science and Technology and a master's degree in the plasticity of concrete from the University of London.



Bernard Lamarre photo taken when he received the National Order of Quebec in 2013.  
(Photo: Simon Villeneuve,  
CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons)

Upon his return, his father-in-law, Jean-Paul Lalonde, co-founder of consulting engineering firm Lalonde & Valois, gave him his first job as an engineer. He was appointed Chief Engineer in 1960, and Senior Partner in 1962. The firm changed its name in 1972 to Lavalin, with Mr. Lamarre as President and CEO until 1991, when the company merged with SNC. He chaired the SNC-Lavalin Inc. Commercialization Committee and served as an advisor until 1999.

During his years at Lavalin, Mr. Lamarre was at the forefront of major projects that transformed the province of Québec. Montreal's Ville-Marie expressway, Montreal's Louis-Hippolyte-La Fontaine tunnel-bridge, Montreal's Olympic Stadium, the development of the James Bay hydroelectric project, and Alcan aluminum smelters in Saguenay are among the major achievements by the Lavalin group that he directed.

In addition to contributing to our society's growth, his boldness and determination are what led Lavalin to bring Quebec engineering to worldwide attention. Let's only mention the Canadian Friendship Highway in Niger, the Sanctuary of the Martyrs in Algiers, and many more. Mr. Lamarre was also concerned about making the engineering profession more accessible to women and in the early 1980s was among the first business leaders to establish an easily accessible low-cost daycare facility at Lavalin's head office for his employees' children.

Alongside his engineering career, Mr. Lamarre was very active in the arts field. In addition to acquiring many artworks and establishing the Lavalin collection, he served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Montreal



Museum of Fine Arts (1982-1991 and 1997-2008). His vision, his power of persuasion and his broad network of contacts benefited the museum's activities, a success which led to the museum's expansion with the construction of the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion, inaugurated in 1991. Until the very end, he maintained a presence among the museum's leadership as Honorary Chair.

Mr. Lamarre sat on many other boards of directors. He chaired, among others, the boards of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (1993-1997), the Institut de Design Montréal (1993-1999 and 2002-2007), the Ordre national du Québec (2003-2005) and the Old Port of Montreal Corporation (1994-2007), where he contributed significantly to the site's renovation and the building of the Montreal Science Centre. He also chaired the Board of Polytechnique Montreal (2002-2012), during which time various major projects were completed, including a reform of the undergraduate programs and construction of the Lassonde Buildings.

He remained very close to the students and was a valued ally as well as an advisor to the Poly-Monde Committee. In addition, he played a key role with the Polytechnique Foundation and the Polytechnique Graduates' Association. His great generosity and philanthropic soul are legendary. His community and social engagement cannot be ignored, including his seventeen years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Angus Development Society, where he gave very generously his heart, credibility, expertise and network to restore hope to an entire community.

He was similarly committed to *The Lighthouse, Children and Families*, an organization that contributes to the well-being of children whose lives are threatened by illnesses requiring complex treatment.

The many honours marking his career include a Gold Medal from the Canadian Council of Engineers (1986), the titles of Officer of the Order of Canada and of the Quebec National Order (1985) and Grand Officer of the Quebec National Order (2013), the Medal of the Quebec Association of Consulting Engineers (2003) and the Award of Excellence from the Quebec Order of Engineers (2006).

Mr. Lamarre also received honorary degrees from a number of universities, including Université de Montréal (1985), Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (1987), University of Ottawa (1988) and McGill University (2001). He was also awarded eleven honorary doctorates.

## ANCESTRY OF BERNARD LAMARRE

1. Alexandre de Kervoach dit le Breton (circa 1702-1736)	22 October 1732 Cap-St-Ignace (Quebec)	Louise Bernier (1712-1802) (Jean + Geneviève Caron)
2. Simon-Alexandre Keroach dit le Breton (1732-1812)	15 June 1758 L'Islet (Quebec)	Élisabeth Chalifour (1739-1814) (François + Élisabeth Gamache)
3. Françoise-Ursule Kuerouac (1768-1846)	1 <sup>st</sup> April 1788 L'Islet (Québec)	Joseph-Gabriel Lamarre (1763-1853) (Joseph + Marie-Louise Rousseau)
4. Gabriel Lamarre (1789-1853)	24 October 1809 L'Islet (Quebec)	Angélique Talon (1791-1864) (Pierre-Paul + Charlotte Talbot)
5. Michel Lamarre (1821-1900)	7 January 1846 Cap-Saint-Ignace (Quebec)	Élisa Caouette (1827-1899) (Joachim + Julie Richard)
6. Arthur Lamarre (1852-1932)	26 July 1875 Montreal (Quebec)	Joséphine Bérubé (1850-1919) (Pierre + Joséphine Ouellet)
7. Joseph Lamarre (1878-1959)	19 July 1901 Montreal (Quebec)	Bernadette Lamoureux (1879-1958) (Hormidas + Sophie Vallée)
8. Émile Lamarre (1906-1967)	25 October 1930 Chicoutimi (Quebec)	Blanche Gagnon (1904-1988) (Ovide + Alice Boivin)
9. Bernard Lamarre* (1931-2016)	30 August 1952 Sainte-Adèle (Quebec)	Louise Lalonde (1929-2002) (Jean-Paul + Gabrielle Leduc)

\* Bernard Lamarre's son, Jean (1953-2017), MBA from HEC, Montreal University's school of business administration, began his career working at Groupe Lavalin. Later he founded his own company Lamarre Consultants, specializing in consulting and financing projects. He was a respected businessman and was chairman of many boards of directors including Semafo Inc., Angus Heritage Society, Arianne Phosphate Inc., D-BOX Technologies Inc., Le Devoir (Montreal daily), and Télé-Québec.

SOURCE: Alfred Dallaire Memoria: <https://www.memoria.ca/obituary-bernard-lamarre.html>



# Beat Scrapbook by Gerald Nicosia

## Reviewed by Jonah Raskin<sup>1</sup>

Gerald Nicosia loves the writers of the Beat Generation. He has always loved them, beginning in his boyhood and continuing all the way to northern California where he lives today and writes up a storm.

The author of *Memory Babe*, a big and comprehensive, critical biography of the author of *On the Road*, Nicosia is also a fierce poet who carries on the legacy of the Beats, who altered the course of American verse in the 1940s.

Nicosia's love and admiration for them and their work shine brightly in *Beat Scrapbook* (Coolgrove Press), his new book that packs a wallop and pays homage to Jack Kerouac and his daughter Jan, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, William Burroughs, Lenore Kandel, Charles Bukowski, Richard Brautigan, Gregory Corso and more. Indeed, the gang's all here.

There's also a longish love poem to "The Beauties of My Generation" that comes with four-letter words and that extols the "naked-rainbow-hued young bodies on the streets of San Francisco." The city by the bay is a kind of "secret hero" in *Beat Scrapbook*. ("Secret Hero" is the

phrase that Ginsberg uses in *Howl* to describe Neal Cassady.)

Nicosia goes back and forth from Chicago, "his hometown," to the city that he has adopted as his own and with detours to Lowell, Massachusetts, Kerouac's birthplace and stomping ground.

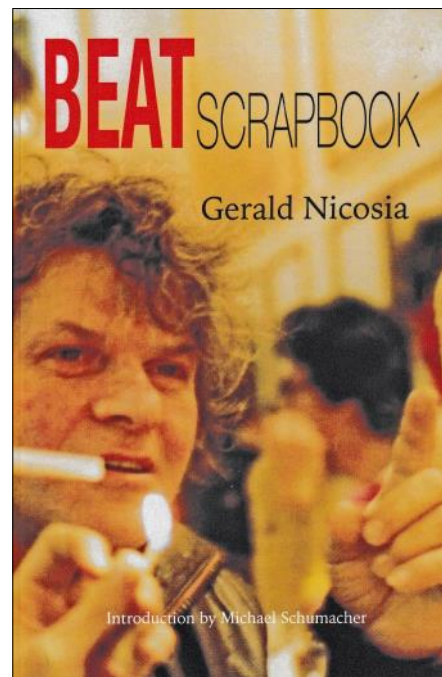
In "*The Ghost of Kerouac*," Nicosia sets the stage for his reveries with the past, describing the "teenage school kids" hurrying home, perhaps with copies of *The Dharma Bums* under their arms. Nicosia imagines himself walking with the ghost of Lowell's world-famous author. What a lovely idea!

About that irascible Beat poet, Jack Micheline - whose full name was Harvey Martin Silver Jack Micheline - Nicosia writes, "You didn't take shit from no one" and "yet you were full of love too."

There's a certain amount of sentimentality in these pages - a yearning for a lost time and place - but there are also humorous anecdotes, as when Nicosia describes the time he showed up at City Lights to interview Ferlinghetti and Ferlinghetti told him, "You need a better microphone than that."

Kerouac might be a ghost in *Beat Scrapbook*, but he's a palpable ghost. One feels his presence and the presence of his buddies in this book. Nicosia doesn't just write about the famous Beats. He also takes time to depict lesser known figures like David Meltzer, a brilliant performer on stage, in a poem titled "The Poet as Proteus."

Like the best Kerouac poems, Nicosia's poems have rhythm. You can practically hear his voice and hear a saxophone in the background. If you have trouble



Cover of Gerald Nicosia's latest book (courtesy of Gerald Nicosia)

getting his rhythms, you might try reading the poems out loud.

Michael Schumacher, the author of *Dharma Lion*, a magnificent biography of Allen Ginsberg, provides a stunning introduction in which he writes that "poets, it seems to me, are tellers of secrets."

Schumacher adds that "reading Nicosia's poetic scrapbook, you feel as if you are at a parade, standing curbside, watching familiar faces walk by." Nicosia makes the familiar seem new and the new seem familiar.



Gerald Nicosia

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<sup>1</sup> Jonah Raskin is a northern California performance poet and the author of *American Scream: Allen Ginsberg's "Howl" and the Making of the Beat Generation*.

## The Ghost of Kerouac

Every time I walk the streets of Lowell  
And the leaves are drifting through the early dark of October  
And the poor teenage school kids are hurrying home  
Past the eternal drugstores and cheap food places  
On ancient cobbled Merrimack Street  
And the damp air of fall gets in my bones  
And the smell of car exhausts rises and  
Disappears in the low grey murk  
Of Massachusetts heaven  
I think of you Jack  
It's like you're walking with me  
Listening to my woes  
And telling me your own  
Pulling your jacket tighter to keep out the chill  
Your eyes with that far-away look  
Like a veteran's thousand-yard stare  
You saw the future even before you died  
And that's why you always looked so sad  
It's so hard to care, you said  
For people who are going to die  
And then you did  
But it didn't keep you from coming back  
A thousand nights  
A thousand times a thousand nights  
They can't keep you out of Lowell  
Because even ghosts  
Have to have a home  
And yours is with the lonely wakeful spirit  
Of man



If Schumacher's introduction doesn't persuade you to read Nicosia's book, perhaps the first few poems themselves will entice you, as when he writes "There are deer and there are hawks but there/ Is only one Gary Snyder." Linking Snyder to wild animals is the perfect way to introduce him.

There is also only one Gerald Nicosia, a poet with brothers and sisters galore who isn't afraid to show his own beating heart and his unabashed love for a generation of writers and for "angelheaded hipsters" who woke America from its romance with the Bomb, with war and with material things, and injected honest-to-goodness spirituality into the life of the nation itself.

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And woman  
Wherever it's found  
And this town will always be  
A lonely flame  
In the pained human heart  
Of poverty and misery  
And everyday suffering  
And as long as there's a human heart  
left  
To care about that  
You'll still be here  
Among us  
To keep us company  
On life's broken road.





# *In Memoriam Jan Kerouac*

Gerald Nicosia 24 September 1999

Jan, we walked together down Lower East Side streets  
almost got run over by a few cabs  
you got angry at me dawdling and dreaming  
in the middle of New York Streets  
You can't do that in New York, she said  
I can if I'm a philosopher, I said  
Yeah, and you'll get killed, she said  
Maybe I don't care, I said  
Aw, man you're weird! she mocked  
in raunchiest New York accent  
but she liked playing mother to me  
and everyone around her  
maybe because no mother or father most of the time  
in her own life  
teaching people how to cook Apple pie the proper way  
"actually more of an English pie than American"  
she lectured Stanley and Lil out in Northport  
our nostrils filled with cinnamon and melted sugar  
as we all eagerly awaited the fruits

of her baking  
Jan was a lover of people  
a loner and unloved herself  
who always had a gift for everyone  
didn't care that her own purse  
was mostly empty  
her bedroom full of luscious clothes  
but no one to model them for  
at the end she kept leaving herself notes  
and when her eyes got bad  
she wrote on a chalkboard  
"remember to buy TV dinners" she'd write  
and still forget to buy them  
but the nurses at the hospital fed her for free  
and she died full  
of the admiration and respect  
of more than a few of us  
who still care about her.



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Jan Kerouac and  
Gerald Nicosia.

(photographer  
unknown) (Gerald  
Nicosia collection)



# Greatness and Misery on an American Navy Veteran

## The Path of Saul S. D'Avignon, part two

### The quest for a French title of nobility

*Account prepared by René Kirouac (from Saint-Constant)*

In the previous edition of *Le Trésor*, we learned about the professional life of Saul S. D'Avignon, son of Josephine Kéroac. We examined more specifically his enrolment in the U.S. Navy during the First World War and his following 27-year fight to have his service records officially acknowledged in the archives of the State of Connecticut.

We found that the added apostrophe in his family name D'Avignon prevented him from being recognized as a veteran for nearly three decades. The famous particle that fascinated him so much misled our man who dreamed of standing out among his peers using his family origins.

#### A title of Count: the great illusion

#### The expert: the Count de Morant.

By the end of 1933 or the beginning of 1934, Saul D'Avignon is in touch with the Comte Georges de Morant, "archivist, genealogist and expert heraldist, director of the *Nobiliaire and the Archives of ancient French families*"<sup>1</sup>. Based in Paris, the Count de Morant holds many professional affiliations that he takes pride in displaying in his correspondence. Saul D'Avignon contacted him through the *International College of Heraldry*,

of which de Morant was president. What triggered his interest in genealogy?

According to his cousin, Gertrude O'Connell, Saul "worked on this project "Roots of the Keroack family" for years. He first had the idea of tracing his family origin when he was a young student in Canada. He had a hundred-page booklet on the Keroacks. "I (Gertrude) had the coat of arms he had given my mother. The inscription on the Coat of arms is in French: *Tout pour l'amour de Dieu*"<sup>2</sup>. Adhering to the then popular belief that the Kirouacs, to which he was linked through his mother Josephine, were descended from the family of the Marquis de Keroüartz, he wanted to explore the possibilities of nobility on the Davignon's side<sup>3</sup>.

#### A genealogical record (*Précis généalogique*)

On 27 July 1934, the Comte de Morant issues a genealogical record. The document comes with a letter of presentation certifying that said record was according to the mentioned sources and the civil status records. That letter is stamped with different seals, all of them dated between 17 September

(Continued on page 50)

#### ERRATUM

In the previous *Trésor des Kirouac*, number 133, on page 42, Paul Keroack from Collegeville, Pennsylvania, noticed a wrong reference. In the article on the right-hand side of the page, under the title: Saul S. D'Avignon, Norwich, June 23, - (AP.) is written: "Funeral will be held at Grace Church, in New York, at 4 p.m., Saturday". This notice belongs to the paper's previous article and has nothing to do with S. D'Avignon's funeral.

To Paul, many thanks for pointing out this mistake.



Saul Samuel D'Avignon  
(1896-1949)  
Photo from his passport

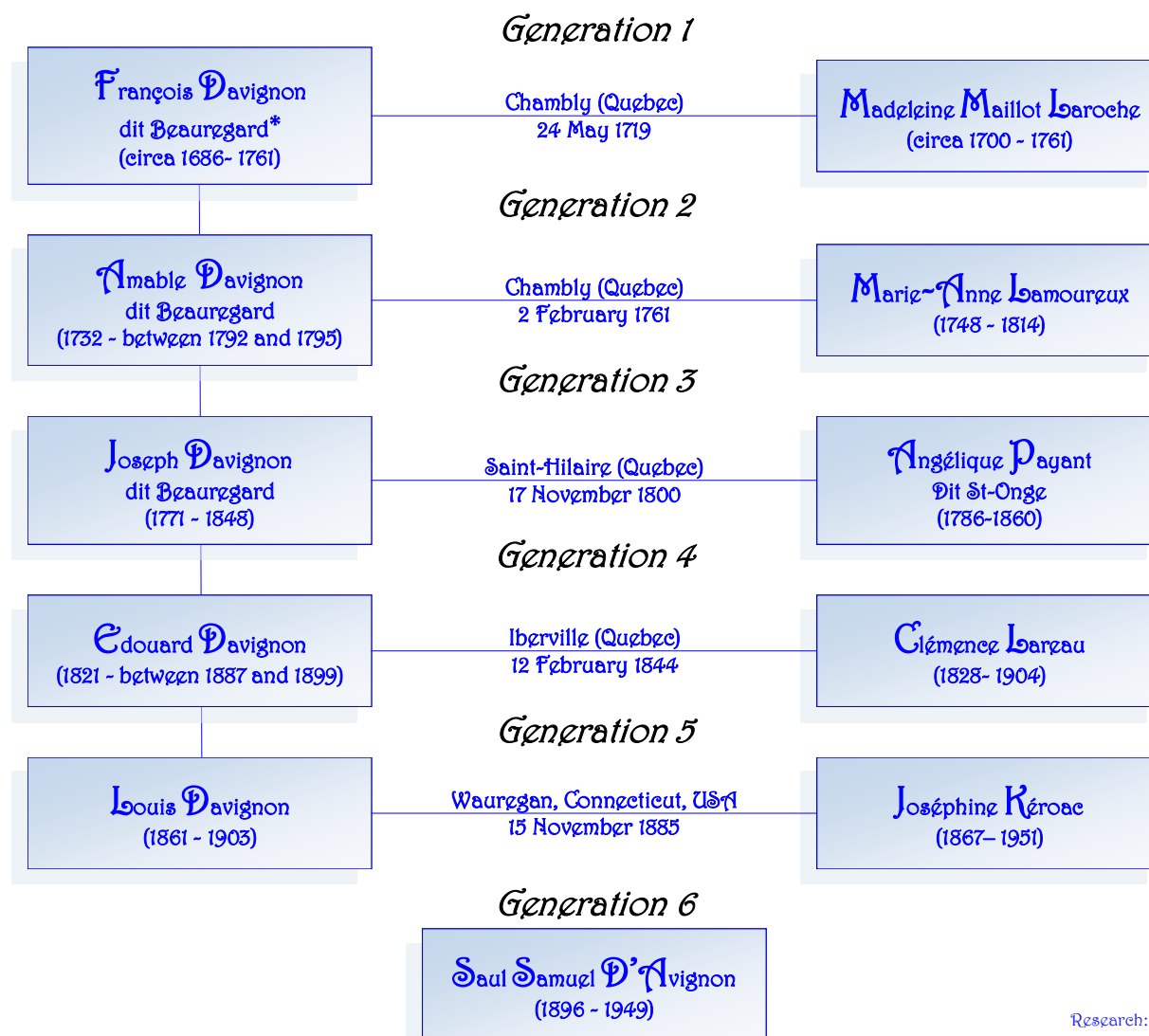


<sup>1</sup> Victor Georges de Morant (1878-1961) is the author of many publications on genealogy and heraldry, these books can still be found in different European countries and in North America. He runs the publishing house *Le Nobiliaire*. He publishes the *Annuaire de la noblesse de France*, its first edition had appeared in 1843; and de Morant took over from 1931 to 1960. The *Annuaire* will include 89 annual editions; however, after the death of the Comte in 1960, it will only be published summarily and occasionally.

<sup>2</sup> Letter from Mrs. O'Connell to Pierre Keroack, 12 May 1984, page 1. Gertrude's mother was Denise Helene Kerouack Fournier, one of the sisters of Josephine, Saul's mother. Gertrude (1910-2012) was a contemporary of Saul.

<sup>3</sup> Or could it be an initiative of the Count de Morant?

# Paternal Ancestry of Saul D'Avignon



Research: François Kirouac  
July 2020

\* According to data from the University of Montreal's Historical Demography Research Program, Saul D'Avignon's ancestor, François Davignon, dit Beaugard, was born in France around 1686 in an unknown location. At his marriage on May 24, 1719 in Chambly, Quebec, the officiant failed to indicate the names of his parents in the record. Only those of his wife, Jean Mayot and Françoise Coulon appear. Anecdotaly, it is interesting to note that on this occasion, the couple legitimized their first child, Catherine, born five months earlier, on November 12, 1718.

The contents of the marriage certificate of the first ancestor of Saul D'Avignon in America, in the parish register of baptisms, marriages and burials do not allow us to go back further in the genealogy of Saul D'Avignon because the marriage of François

Davignon dit Beaugard, does not provide this information in the marriage record. So in my opinion, the Earl of Morant could not make any connection whatsoever regarding Saul D'Avignon's European ancestry. If he had had access to this document then he would have easily realized that it was impossible for him to link this D'Avignon to any European family, whether noble, bourgeois or commoner, and even less to determine his social rank. In addition, if he had carried out this research in the parish registers of the time, it would have enabled him to realize that almost all of Saul D'Avignon's ancestors until the first of the name arrived in New France were noble colonists.

François Kirouac



and 9 October 1934: the Préfecture de la Seine (police General Headquarters - Paris France, Ministère des affaires étrangères (in French) - Paris (5 October), as well as the French Dept. of Foreign Affairs (in English) - Paris (9 October). Why so many measures only to authenticate a signature? Besides, none of these organizations can confirm the veracity of the record's content. Was there another purpose for this operation? We don't know. Nevertheless, so many seals, and as useless as they are, may impress the reader!

The document entitled *Précis généalogique Comte D'Avignon* contains 1069 words. Since Saul D'Avignon is French speaking, it is written in French. Only a small part of the text is dedicated to the D'Avignons<sup>4</sup>, and is translated here:

*The d'Avignon family was mentioned in Brittany in the distant past. In 1697, Claude D'Avignon, ensign of the king's bodyguards, knight of the Royal and Military Order of Saint-Louis, governor of Pont-de-l'Arche, major of Senlis, had his arms registered in France's General Armorial, established by Charles d'Hozier, according to King Louis XIV's edict, promulgated on 20 November 1696. It (the d'Avignon family) is currently represented by Saul, Count D'Avignon, head of name and arms. (Emphasis added by the editor.)*

*Through his mother, Josephine de Kerouartz<sup>5</sup> (Editor's note: born Joséphine Kéroac!), he is from one of the oldest French Families.*

*(Editor's note: Afterward follows a long 750-word development (almost*

*three-quarter of the whole document) on the de Keroüartz, the patronymic falsely attributed by Saul D'Avignon to his mother, born Keroac. The presentation starts in England in 1164, refers to Saint Louis's crusade in Egypt (circa 1250), and after citing many titles, official functions, feats of arms and marriages, it ends in 1898. And the report on the de Keroüartz ends by showing a link with Saul D'Avignon<sup>6</sup>.)*

*To this family belonged Josephine de Keroüartz, born in Canada, spouse of Louis B. D'Avignon, including: Paul (sic, his name is Saul) Samuel D'Avignon, born on 6 December (sic, he was born on 13 June) 1896 in Norwich, Connecticut (USA). Current chief of name and arms of the D'Avignon family. Originating, through his mother Joséphine de Keroüartz, of French royal blood, in feminine descent (editor's note: therefore through his mother), bears according to his right the title of hereditary Comte. (Cf Code de la noblesse française, by Comte de Sémainville, former Paris magistrate, 1860).*

*Comte d'Avignon's coat of arms: Charges: Quarterly in I & IV gules/red, saltire/diagonal with a (bezant) roundle in chief and three shells, two on flank, one in (lower) point all argent/silver in 2 & 3, argent/silver, wheel sable/black, with three crosslets also sable/black, As of de Kerouartz. SUPPORTERS two lions or that is two gold lions MOTTO : When it pleases God TOP : that is the exterior ornament A Comte's Corona.*

## SOURCES CONSULTED.

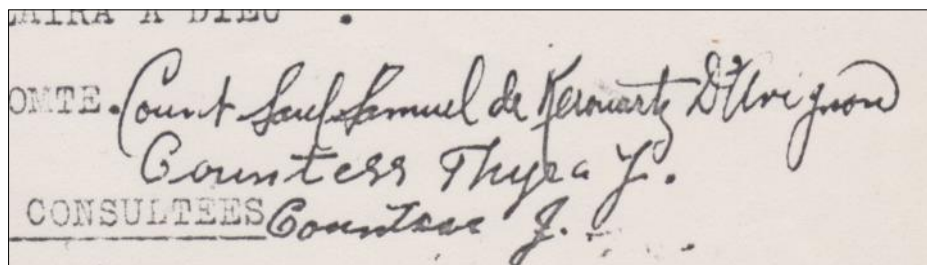
*French Sources: National library: Manuscripts. Dictionary of the nobility, by Lachesnais des Bois. Armorial de France, by Charles d'Hozier. Annuaire de la noblesse de France for 1896, 1899, 1908. Code of French nobility, by the Comte de Sémainville, former magistrate, Paris.*

**Malaise.** Now Saul Samuel D'Avignon is parachuted Count D'Avignon, while the only historical name mention dates back to 1697, and no research on the D'Avignon descendants was made by the so-called expert. Yet, this patronymic is fairly widespread, mainly in France, Canada, the United States, Belgium and over ten more countries<sup>7</sup>. Why favour the first contender? Besides, the

<sup>4</sup> Strictly, 142 words only.

<sup>5</sup> Is it possible that the Comte de Morant, like many others, would have been influenced by the text written by a friend of Brother Marie-Victorin, Brother Lucien Serre, and published in 1928 in the *Bulletin des recherches historiques du Canada* (volume XXXIV, no. 5, pp. 266-271) the text entitled *Étude sur l'ancêtre des Kirouac*, i.e. *Study on the Kirouac ancestor*, where a link with the de Keroüartz' family is mentioned, a definitely proven erroneous link according to the Kirouac Family Association's researches started in the 1980s.

<sup>6</sup> It is pointless to reproduce here the Keroüartz's dynasty and the list of their achievements presented in that particular genealogical record; we prefer to send the reader to the following website rigorously written (in French): [https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famille\\_de\\_Kerouartz](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Famille_de_Kerouartz)



At the bottom of this *Précis généalogique* (a genealogical reference book) between the words "comte" and "sources consulted", there are two signatures that of Saul and his wife, as well as that of Joséphine Kéroac (Countess J.) clearly showing that they fully adhere to the propositions of Comte de Morant (excerpt from a document belonging to Paul R. Keroack).



patronymic encountered other 'noble' episodes: one, Julien Davignon, was made a hereditary viscount by the Belgian king in 1916. We feel very uneasy with the less than rigorous, even fanciful approach, of the Count de Morant: limiting the research of the D'Avignon but taking advantage of the false link to the Keroüartz to hoodwink the customer.

On 4 January 1936, de Morant sends Saul a letter with an English letterhead favourably positioning the International College of Heraldry to the American citizens<sup>8</sup>. He writes in French about his research in the French nobility Directory (Annuaire de la noblesse française), mentions the amounts owed by Saul and proposes additional services.

*Dear Count, I received news from you with pleasure.*

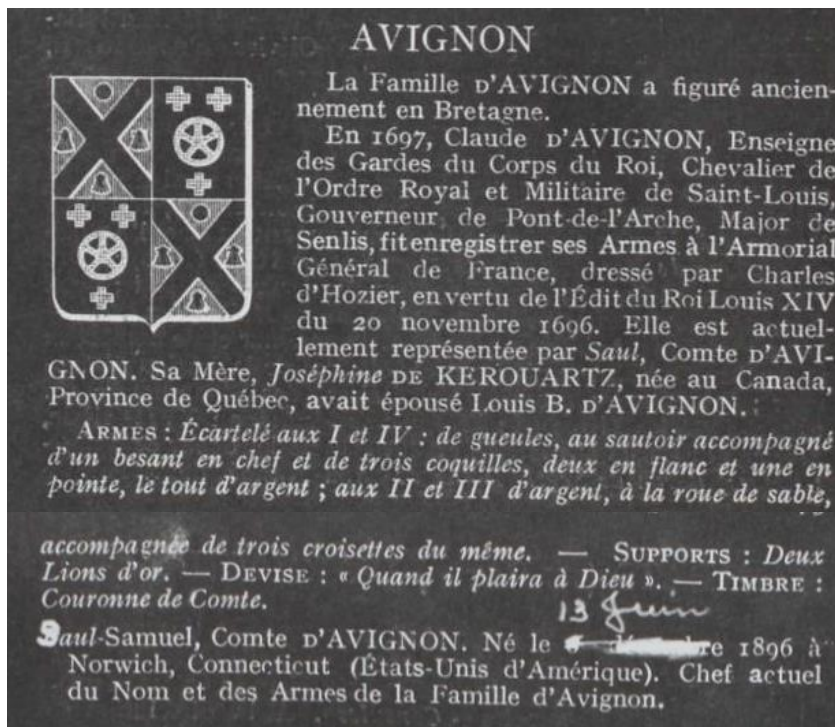
*I have published in the 1935 French nobility Directory (Annuaire de la noblesse française) a nice notice with coat of arms on your family: d'Avignon. The cost for one copy that you owe me is 450 francs (editor's note: equivalent to \$30 then). Besides, you owe me an additional 1000 francs (\$67) for complementary research...*

*I can easily prepare for you a beautiful genealogy, entirely handwritten, with splendid illuminations: with introductory pages reproducing Portraits of the Kings of France from whom you are descended through female line, large and complete coat of arms, arms shields, titles, wonderful ornamental letters, reproductions of ancestral castles, of arms and Portraits: d'Avignon and de Kerouartz families.*

*For you, I will create a real museum piece, all nicely bound in morocco, with small iron bindings. For such a work, the price is 30,000 francs (2,000 dollars) (editor's note: 15 francs to a dollar then). Advance payment required to allow me to cover the expenses as the work progresses. Time required: 4 months, if urgent.*

*I am at your disposal. Thanks for your good wishes. Mine in return.*

*Looking forward to reading you soon.  
Yours truly, , V. G. de Morant*



The D'Avignon family  
(notes taken from Le Nobiliaire, Précis généalogique, Comte d'Avignon, 1934)  
(part of the 39-page file found in a microfilm in the Connecticut Military Archives)

The Count de Morant is obviously in business. He has effectively published in the 1935 edition of L'Annuaire, on pages 72-73, a 142-word text published in the 1934 Précis généalogique about the D'Avignon, as well as the coat of arms and the mention that the actual holder of the title of count was Paul (sic) Samuel D'Avignon, born on December (sic) 1896. Once more we see that Saul encounters many difficulties in having his personal data correctly listed in official documents<sup>9</sup>.

In the archives of Saul S. D'Avignon is also an undated letter, not even indicating the name of the recipient (yet it is for sure intended to Saul D'Avignon, son of a Keroüartz), nor his title of count and it does not bear the signature of the sender. In it one reads the strange offer from the businessman.

<sup>7</sup> Visit the website: <https://en.geneanet.org/genealogy/d-avignon/d%27AVIGNON>.

<sup>8</sup> "International College of Heraldry. Archives of French and American families. President: Comte V. G. de Morant, 12 boulevard de Courcelles, Paris, France. "In September 1907, the International College of Heraldry presented the Government of the United States with a collection of Portraits, Autograph letters and original manuscripts relative to the family of 'General La Fayette'. This magnificent collection, duly mentioned in 4000 American newspapers is, at present, by order of the president of the United States, in the Library of Congress, at Washington, DC."

<sup>9</sup> See the article published in Le Trésor, no. 133, about the saga around his name wrongly spelled in the US Navy Archives.

*LE NOBILIAIRE*, archives of the old families of France, Director: Comte Georges de Morant (editor's note: a long pedigree follows not reproduced here)

*Sir, I have the honour to inform you that after many years of laborious research, I was able to establish the lineage of Mgr the Duke de Guise from Adam and Eve by 146 degrees. (Editor's note: emphasis is ours.)*

*Since you are also descended through the female line from French royal blood, I can also deliver to you the same lineage from Adam and Eve down to you, unique and extraordinary lineage, certified with all supporting and justifying sources. Cost for participating to charges of research and certification: 1,000 francs (or \$67 then).*

*I can also supply you with charts establishing your consanguinity with 31 contemporary European monarchs, as well as the status of your family links with ancient European kings, emperors, popes, saints and saintly persons. Conditions to be agreed upon. Anticipating the pleasure of your response, please believe in my highest consideration.*

*PS I have just completed a splendid genealogy, entirely handwritten with beautiful illuminations for the large arms, emblems, degree symbols, ornamental letters, initials, frames with culs-de-lampe<sup>10</sup>. If you wish so, I can have a replica prepared for your family. Samples available.*

You read that correctly: "I was able to establish the lineage from Adam and Eve"! With this, de Morant overstepped the limits of credibility. And he is surfing on the female lineage to French royal blood via the *de Keroüartz*, with no actual interest nor information on the D'Avignon.

**Count Saul S. D'Avignon.** For us today, many clues raise doubts as to the rigour of the Count de Morant's works, it appears that on Saul S. D'Avignon's part, he adhered completely to the suggestions of the so-called French expert. So much so, that in 1934, on an application related to his military service file, he presents his mother under the name of Josephine M. de Keroüartz. Further in the document, expounding on the effects of his military experiences at the front on his state of mind, he writes: "My ancestors fought in the crusades in the years 900<sup>11</sup> (sic); this is why many events seemed normal to me."

In the Civil Birth Records for the city of Norwich<sup>12</sup>, Conn., we clearly see black ink changes to the original data. The spelling Davignon has been crossed out and replaced by D'Avignon, and the family name of the mother, Josephine, went from Kerouack to Keroüartz. According to Paul R. Keroack, those changes would have been made after the Count de Morant produced his documents; Josephine herself would have made those alterations, which shows that she believed in those stories of nobility.

To feed the legend of our noble personage, here is something that circulated among the family at large; Paul R. Keroack heard about it from a cousin of Saul, Gertrude Fournier O'Connell. According to the rumour, "the count and countess d'Avignon", taking advantage of their titles, would have attended parties at the homes of wealthy people. Unfortunately, no record as to where and when those events ever took place, nor if they really happened. Still, according to his cousin Gertrude O'Connell<sup>13</sup>, for a very long time, Saul was the laughingstock of his relatives. At every gathering of relatives and friends, his pretensions were questioned and rejected."

<sup>10</sup> Typical tailpiece, or illustration appearing at the end of a chapter or book.

<sup>11</sup> The crusade referred to in the genealogical record is the seventh one, that of Saint Louis about 1250.

<sup>12</sup> Document submitted by Paul R. Keroack, following the publication of the first part of the article in *Le Trésor*, number 133.

<sup>13</sup> Letter to Paul Keroack, 1st June 1984, page 4.



#### Comte d'Avignon coat of arms

The coat of arms is divided in four parts: numbered: 1 is top left & 2 is top right, 3 bottom left, 4 bottom right; 1 & 4 are gules i.e. red, 2 & 3 are argent/silver, a diagonal line (saltire) separates three shells, two on either side and one in the lower part, all are argent/silver. There is also a sable/black wheel and three small black crosses, as on the Kerouartz's coat of arms. Two gold (*or* in French) lions support the shield and the motto is *When it pleases God*. Last but not least, at the top the Crest is a Count's Corona.

Letterhead used by Saul Samuel D'Avignon.

Under the arms of the "comte", one reads: Count S.S. de Kerouartz D'Avignon.

(Source: part of the 39-page file found in a microfilm in the Connecticut Military Archives)

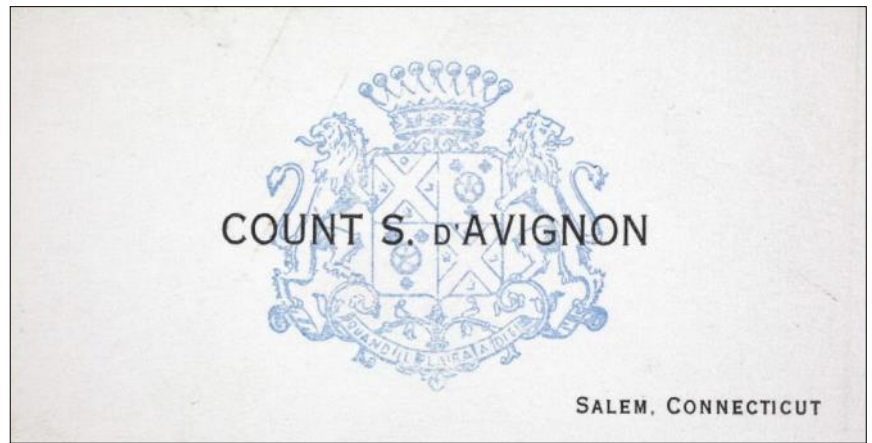
On 2 April 1938, D'Avignon publishes a legal notice in the Hartford Courant<sup>14</sup>. "My title as Count was recognized in 1934 by J.R. Wood, Vice-Counsel of the United States at Paris, France; British Consulate General and by the French Republic: French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Count de Morant, historian and genealogist. I being of the royal blood in France: kings, emperors, popes, etc., my genealogy dates back certified 146 degrees from Adam and Eve to myself. Signed: Count Saul D'Avignon, of Avignon Heights, Salem, Connecticut.

Declaration sworn to and signed before me this 28th day of March 1938. Lawrence B. Benoit, Notary public. My commission expires on 1 February 1940.

While living in Salem (1935-1941), Saul names the 19-acre property he owns "Royal Heights", after having used the designation "Avignon Heights", as we have just seen. He has a rectangular visiting card printed with the mention "Count S. D'Avignon, Salem, Connecticut", including on it the D'Avignon coat of arms. A letter signed by his wife, dated August 1945, with the letterhead including the Count D'Avignon coat of arms, above the wording "Count S. S. de Keroüartz D'Avignon".

An article published in May 1946, relative to the saga of the disappearance of his name in the Navy records, following a wrong use of the letter D as a prefix in his family name, goes as follows: TITLE "Count D'Avignon, presumed dead after World War I, seeks to legalize residence." EXCERPT "(...) Once presumed dead because of a mix-up in names, Mr D'Avignon exhibited a pile of documents showing he was born in Norwich, 13 June 1896 of French royal parents. He is entitled to use the title of count D'Avignon, according to said papers.(...)"

Saul S. D'Avignon died on 22 June 1949. In his obituary published the following day in a local paper, it says: "He was Saul Samuel D'Avignon, who claimed the French title of count, as being a direct descendant of the D'Avignons, a prominent family in France." Until his last breath, he clung to the illusion of his noble origins and to the title of count.



Visiting (business) card of "comte" Saul Samuel D'Avignon (part of the 39-page file found in a microfilm in the Connecticut Military Archives)

### About nobility and celebrity's general attraction

Where does this craze for nobles and celebrities come from? In any case, People chronicles about the rich and famous, no less about royalty, still flourish nowadays. Personalities fascinate and make people dream. In this game, the next step is taken when one can establish a personal link with a star and well-known people: "I know so and so", even better "I am related to so and so."

The Kirouacs do not escape the trend. At the beginning of the 20th century, the widespread false belief that the Kirouacs were related to the Breton family of the Marquis de Keroüartz endured. Nowadays, who among the Kirouacs is not proud to mention being related to Conrad or Jack? Let's not deny our pleasure: we are proud to count in our extended family people who have distinguished themselves by their accomplishments. It is an indication that we belong to a distinct and valuable group.

It is quite legitimate to honour ones own, whether past or present, to recognize their merits and to perpetuate their memory. However, our real value is based on our own achievements. It is somehow the message that Louis Veuillot (1813-1883), a French journalist and man of letters, meant to convey in his famous retort to a woman imbued of her origins: "My ascendancy goes back to a cooper, from whom are you descended?" Finally, a last question once heard in an elevator: And you, are you going up or down?

### Continuation and end of the report in the next issue

<sup>14</sup> Copy of the article submitted by Greg Kyrouac, following the publication of the first part of the article. It is also interesting to note that the daily Hartford Courant claims the title "America's oldest continuously published newspaper", and adopts as its slogan, "Older than the nation."



# IN MEMORIAM

## **BOISVERT, LORRAINE T. (1932-2020)**

Lorraine T. Boisvert, 88, of Manchester, N.H., passed away on 15 August 2020. Born in Manchester on 2 August 1932, to Patrick and Yvonne (Kirouac) (GFK 01045) Cassidy. Lorraine and Roger P. Boisvert were married for 64 years. Lorraine was predeceased by her husband, one son, Paul J. Boisvert; and her brothers Gerald, Normand, Raymond, Robert and Roland Cassidy. Will miss her, her son, Gary Boisvert; her daughter, Linda (Boisvert) and Mark Bukowski; her grandchildren, Jaime and Stephanie Boisvert, Erik and Sarah Bukowski; her sister, Anita (Cassidy) and Gerald Deshaies. Many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on 19 August at Blessed Sacrament Church, in Manchester, followed by burial in Mt. Calvary Mausoleum.

## **BOUDREAU, GERMAINE B. (1939 -2020)**

Germaine B. Boudreau, 81, died on 19 August 2020, in Chandler, Ariz. Germaine Guenette Boudreau was born in Kankakee, the daughter of Albert Guenette and Faye (née Fritz) Guenette, daughter of Blanche Burton (GFK 00209). She married Roger A. Boudreau on 12 September 1959, at St. Rose Church in Kankakee, Ill. She leaves her six children, David (Elba) Boudreau, Annette (Paul) Cardosi, Karen (Brin) Horvath, Mathew (Wendi) Boudreau, Danielle and (Robert) Myrvold, and Jeannine (Thomas) Cerny; 21 grandchildren and three great-granddaughters. Surviving are her brothers and sisters Michael (Lois) Guenette, brother-in-law, Richard Grise, Donna (Robert) LaMotte, Michelle and (Jim) Kupczak, Daniel (Valerie) Guenette, and Andrea Guenette; and brother-in-law, Paul Boudreau;

sister-in-law, Dorothy Mayotte. Preceding her in death her husband, Roger; and a sister, Tina Grise. She raised six children while struggling with MS for most of her life. Funeral Mass and burial of her ashes will be at a future date.

## **CONLON, MICHAEL W. (1931-2020)**

Michael W. Conlon (great-great grandson of Marie Rufine K/ - GFK 00199) died on 17 February 2020 at the North Adams Commons after living most of his adult life in Cheshire, Mass. Born on 5 October 1931, he was the son of Michael W. Conlon and Mary (Caron) Conlon. Mike served in the USA, was stationed in Germany for the Korean War from 1951 until receiving his Honorable Discharge in 1953. Mike leaves his wife of 61 years, the former Marion Louise Bishop, whom he married on July 31, 1959; also one daughter, Shelley Anne (Conlon) Cristofolini (Martin); two granddaughters, Kelley (Guyarsz) and Jason Woodand; Katelyn Marie (Cristofolini) and Ben Raimier; two step granddaughters, Ashley Gilvey (Brandon) and Lynsey Cristofolini; one sister-in-law, Shirley and Robert Emerson and five great grandchildren; four nieces and two nephews. Mike was predeceased by his daughter Linda Marie Conlon in 1974 and by his sister, Margaret "Peg" Wing (husband Joe) in 2016, and by sister and brother-in-law Patricia and Fred Bishop. A memorial service was held on 23 February 2020 at Paciorek Funeral Home in Adams. Spring private burial in Cheshire Cemetery.

## **FRASER, DANIEL H. (1939-2020)**

Daniel H. Fraser\*, age 80, died on 9 April 2020, at home in Concordia, Kansas. He was born on 15 September 1939 in Aurora, Kansas, to Alcid and Josephine (Cote) Fraser. Dan graduated from Aurora High School in 1957. He married



Barbara D. Appleby on 15 October 1960 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Aurora, Kansas, who died on 23 June 2007. He is survived by his children, Edward Fraser; Kevin Fraser; Michelle Jensen (Glen); Lynette Stuewe; 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grand- and one great-great-grand-; 3 sisters, Marlene Langevin, Eloise Pfeifer, Eileen Dandurand; 2 brothers, Fabian and Raymond Fraser. Besides his wife, he was preceded in death his daughter, Sheri Fahey; 2 grandsons, Brenden Lee Tate, Craig Davis; great-granddaughter, Ava Danielle Cheely; 2 brothers, Lewman and Lee Fraser; 2 sisters, Dolora May Schlatter and Alvarita Fraser. Mass of Christian Burial was on 14 April 2020, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Concordia. Followed by burial in Pleasant View Cemetery, Ames, Kansas. **\*Daniel H. Fraser is a descendant of Hypolithe (Paul) Curwick's oldest daughter from his first marriage, in Louis Kervoach's branch, and as a descendant of Marguerite Keroack dit le Breton & Augustin Fraser in Simon-Alexandre's branch.**

## **GIRARD, JACINTHE (1950-2020)**

At Hôtel-Dieu Hospital in Lévis (Quebec), on 12 September 2020, aged 70, died Jacinthe Girard, wife of Jean-Pierre Labbé, daughter of the late Wilfrid Girard and the late Germaine Lachance. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her daughters: Stéphanie (Étienne Rompré), Sara-Judith (Danny Patry) and Geneviève (Frédéric Gagnon); her grandchildren: William and Edward Rompré, Benjamin and

Lorianne Patry, Rosalie and Laurence Gagnon; her siblings including Marie-Thérèse Girard (Jean Kirouac, **GFK 00835**). A memorial ceremony took place on 11 October 2020 at Claude Marcoux Funeral Home at Lévis (St-Romuald, Québec).

**JOHNSON,  
CONSTANCE ALICE  
(1941-2020)**

Constance Alice Johnson, aged 78, of Romeo, Michigan, died 12 October 2020, at Yale. Born in Hamtramck, on 26 November 1941, to the late Robert and Gladys (Tripp) DeLorme, she survived polio at a very young age. First married to Roger Kirouac (**GFK 00864**), the father of her daughter, Leslie. On 16 May 1973, she was a multi-talented artist, married Leonard Johnson who died 30 December 2010. Surviving are a daughter and son-in-law, Leslie and Berry Stern of Avoca; four step-children, and their children and grandchildren; a sister, Carol Ann (Carrol) Urban and many nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her son-in-law, Michael Downey, a step-daughter and step-son-in-law. Funeral was at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Yale, on 16 October, followed by burial in Valley Center Cemetery, Maple Valley Township, Michigan.

**KÉROACK, HÉLÈNE  
(1934-2020)**

At St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, on 13 October 2020, aged 86, died Hélène Kéroack (**GFK 02512**), widow of Armand Larivée. She leaves to mourn her children: Lucie, Luc and Manon, her grandchildren and many relatives. A private ceremony was held on 31 October 2020 at the Desnoyers Funeral Home in Chambly Quebec.

**KEROACK, ROGER MICHAEL  
(1962-2020)**

Roger Michael Keroack, on 25 July 2020, at 58, died at Delray Beach, Florida. Roger was born in Newport, Vt., on 17 March 1962, a son of the late Marie (Fugere) and

Robert Keroack (**GFK 02564**). He moved to Connecticut in his early 20's to pursue a career as a chef. His talents took him all the way to be sous-chef at the world-famous Griswold Inn in Essex, Conn. He also worked in West Hartford, Conn. before moving to Florida where he was the Director of Dining Services at Sonata Assisted Living in Boynton Beach. Roger was always an integral and respected member of his team. He was generous with both his time and talents and always ready and willing to accommodate the unexpected. He is survived by his wife, Lori; his daughters; Jessica Stepp and Holly Stepp; his grandchildren, Caroline and Ignacio; his sister Rosanne Martin and brother Robert Keroack.

**KÉROUAC, ANDRÉ  
(1945-2020)**

On 14 August 2020 at 75, died at Saguenay, André Kérouac, spouse of Lucille Nadeau. He was the son of Gérard Kérouac (**GFK 02033**) and Gracia Simard. A memorial service was held on 19 August 2020 at Nault & Caron Funeral Home in Jonquière. He leaves to mourn his wife, Lucille Nadeau; his children Nancy Kérouac (Dany Chassé), Marc Kérouac and Martin Kérouac; his grandchildren, Samuel, Michaël, Noémie and Jessy; a great-grandson, Dylan; his brother, Gilles Kérouac (the late Evelyne Gaudreault); a sister-in-law, Pierrette Nadeau (Yvon Vézina); Lucille Nadeau's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**KEROUAC, LINDA LOU  
(1940-2020)**

**Linda Lou Kerouac\*** (**GFK 02742**), 80, of Chicago, passed away on 25 July 2020 at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood. She was born 29 February 1940 in Kankakee, the daughter of Elmer A. and Leah (Soucie) Kerouac. Linda married Robert Carl Miller on 28 December 1996 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Bradley. Surviving are her husband, Robert Miller, of Chicago;

one sister-in-law, Hazel Kerouac; numerous relatives. Preceding her in death were her parents; sisters, Sr. Mary Lucilla Kerouac SSCM, Lorraine Crocker, Alice Moody and Vicki Schultz; and brothers, Vernon Kerouac and Donald Kerouac. Funeral service was on 31 July 2020 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais and burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in Manteno. **\*Linda and several members of her family attended the first K/ gathering in L'Islet with Nancy & Greg Kyrout in 1980.**

**KEROUAC, ROGER ARMAND  
(1936-2020)**

Roger Kerouac 84, of Oxford Mills, Ontario, died on 5 May 2020. He was the son of Émile Kerouac (**GFK 01777**) and Marie Malboeuf. He was predeceased by Denise Villeneuve (2011), his loving wife of 60 years. He is survived by his sons; Rodger (Rhonda Pritchard) of Cobourg and Kenneth (Paula Walker) of Haley Station, his sister Gabrielle. Cherished grandfather of Nicole Kerouac and Matthew Kerouac. He will be sadly missed by many relatives and friends. Memorial service for immediate family only.

**KIROUAC, CLAUDETTE  
(1937-2020)**

Mrs. Claudette Kirouac, died on 1 June 2020 at Quebec City. She was the wife of the late Maurice Gauthier, the daughter of Delvina Tremblay and Wilfrid Kirouac (**GFK 01423**). When possible a private occasion to remember her life will take place. She leaves to mourn her children: Sonia, Lisa (Donald Desrosiers) and Normand; her grand-children: Samuel, Roxanne, Karina, Mélina, Cinthya and Vanessa and many relatives.

**KIROUAC, FRANÇOISE  
(1928-2020)**

At the Montmagny Hospital, on 5 October 2020, at the age of 92, died Françoise Kirouac, daughter of Henri Kirouac (**GFK 02125**) and Étiennette Joncas. Because of the

pandemic, a very private ceremony took place at the Laurent Normand Funeral Home. She was predeceased by her parents, her siblings, Paul-Henri, Pauline & Norman Wells, and Jean-Guy. She also leaves many relatives and friends, especially her 'little' David, his sister Catherine and their parents, Alain Bernier and Lyne Caron.

**KIROUAC, JACQUELINE  
(1929-2020)**

On 11 September 2020, at 91, died Jacqueline Kirouac (**GFK 02150**) at the Pie XII Hospital in Rouyn-Noranda. She was the daughter of Louis Kirouac and Céline Poirier. She leaves to mourn her children: Michel Blais (Renée Martel), the late André Blais (Diane Mino), Céline Blais and Yolande Blais; her grandchildren, her brothers and sisters, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces and friends. Funeral will take place at a later date due to the Covid pandemic.

**KIROUAC, MARY RUTH  
(1924-2020)**

Mary Ruth Frallic Kirouac, aged 96, died at Family Care in Marriottsville, Md., on 10 July 2020. She was born on 12 April 1924 in Winston Salem, N.C., to Lonnie and Lola Wilhelm. Her father died very young and she was raised in an orphanage. She married John Eugene Frallic on 26 February 1943 and had two children. Gene died suddenly in 1982. She later married Louis Kirouac (**GFK 00370**) of Accokeek, Md.. He died in 1994. Ruth was preceded in death by her two husbands, her daughter, Paulette Scott. She is survived by her son, Preston (Terry) Frallic, her step-daughter, Kathleen (née Kirouac) (Clarence) Parrish, four granddaughters; two step-grandchildren, Laura and Mike; and seven great-grandchildren. A private celebration of her life will take place at a later date.

**KIROUAC, SOPHIE  
(1981-2020)**

At Enfant-Jésus Hospital, on 9 October 2020, age 39, died Sophie Kirouac, spouse of William Alexis Monaghan. She was the daughter of Francine Dufour and the late Serge Kirouac. She was also the granddaughter of Hervé Kirouac and Anne-Marie Gignac and the great-grand-daughter of Bruno Kirouac (**GFK 01174**) and Clara Patry. Besides her husband, she lives her children: Alycia and Justin; a sister, Anne-Marie; her parents-in-law: Jean Monaghan (France Corbin) and Sylvie Bouchard (Paul St-Pierre); a brother-in-law and his wife: Louis Oliver and Laurence Aimée Monaghan; nieces and nephews: Olivier, Elsa and Vincent and other relatives.

**KIROUAC, THERESE MARIE  
(1931-2020)**

Therese Marie Kirouac, one week shy of her 89th birthday, died on 25 August 2020. Born on 31 August 1931 in Northampton, she was the daughter of Louis and Ethezia (Allaire) Therrien. She was predeceased by her husband Michel A. Kirouac (**GFK 00400**), seven months ago. They were married for 64 years. She raised four children, and cared for 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She was "the keeper of the children." She is survived by her daughters Michele Paniczko (Peter), Lisa, and Lynne; and son Craig; eight grandchildren, Justine, Andrew (Genevieve), Sam, Max, Michael, Gabriel, Jacob and Zachary; three great-grandchildren James, Jillian, Stella and several nieces and nephews. Funeral mass was on 28 August 2020 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Northampton and burial in Assumption Cemetery in Leeds.

**KIROUAC-GUÉRETTE,  
JEANNETTE (1925-2020)**

Jeannette Kirouac-Guérette, died, aged 95, in Bathurst, New Brunswick, on 2 July 2020. She was the daughter of Marie Anne Bernier and Alphonse Kirouac (**GFK 01586**) and the widow of Armand

Guérette. She leaves to mourn her children: Raymond (the late Carmelle Roy) (Claudette Thériault), Roger (Émerise), Lucille (Renald Desrosiers), Léandre (Lorraine Boudreau), Gisèle (the late Clifford Godin), Claudine (Cyrille Dallaire), Annette (Martin Frenette), Claude (Nancy Jubinville), Daniel, Murielle Guérette (Gilles Mallet) and Michel (Solange Frenette), Rose-Marie (Ronnie Morais), Linda Guérette (Raymond Haché) and Nicole (the late Daniel Frenette). She also leaves 42 grandchildren, 68 great-grand- and six great-great-grandchildren. She is with her departed children: Fernand, Jean-Paul, Mélita, Claire and Denise, two grandchildren: Sophie and Julie. She was the last surviving member of her generation. Due to the pandemic, there will be a private funeral Mass in the Church of Sainte-Thérèse d'Avila at Robertville.

**KIROUAC-MARQUIS, LÉONA  
(1933-2020)**

At the Ste-Croix Hospital in Marieville, on 29 October 2020, at the age of 87, died Mrs. Léona Kirouac, widow of Valère Marquis. She leaves to mourn her children: Francis (Suzanne Bessette), the late Bruno and Carole (Claude Nadeau), her grandchildren: Gaétan, Nicolas, Philippe, Bruno-Pierre (Roxanne) and Marie-Ève (Mathieu); her great-grandchildren as many other relatives and friends. Due to present restrictions, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

**KIROUAC-PAGEAU,  
JACQUELINE (1932-2020)**

At Sacré-Cœur Hospital in Quebec City, on 5 October 2020, aged 88 years and 8 months, died Jacqueline Kirouac (**GFK 02255**), widow of Magella Pageau and daughter of Marie-Rose Fréreau and Arthur Kirouac. Funeral was held on 19 October 2020 at St-Ignace-de-Loyola Church in Quebec City. She leaves to mourn her children: Jacques, Christiane, Sylvie (the late Jean-Marc Régnière), Bernard (Sylvie Bernard), Jean-François



(Amélie Drouin) and Marie-Andrée; eleven grandchildren: Frédérick (Cindy Ouellet), Andrée-Ann, Nicolas (Jacinthe Guay), Marie-Noëlle (Dominic Laflamme), Marie-Lou (Sébastien Giguère), Mathieu (Marie-Eve Michaud), Olivier (Leila Provencher), Sarah-Eve, Justine, Edouard and Tommy; eight great-grandchildren: Nolan, Charlie, Gabriel, Olivier, Marc-Antoine, Sarah-Maude, Zach and Xavier. She was predeceased by her siblings: brother Jean-Paul (Marie-Paule Normand); sisters: Jeannette (Armand Bélanger) and Yvette (Gérard Michaud). She also leaves many relatives including her nephew Robert Kirouac, one of the KFA founding members and first Vice-President.

#### **NOËL, SOLANGE FORTIN (1923-2020)**

At Beauport (Quebec), on 7 August 2020, one month short of her 100 birthday, died Solange Fortin, widow of Donat Noël. She was the daughter of Alfred (Freddy) Fortin and Catherine Kirouac (**GFK 02273**). A religious ceremony was held on 17 August 2020 at F.-X. Bouchard Funeral Home in Beauport. Interment to take place at a later date at St-Louis Cemetery at Courville. She leaves her daughter Nicole; her grandchildren, Annie Drolet (Steeve Brown), Manon Drolet (Stéphane Ouellette), Line Drolet (Sylvain Lacroix) and their father, Roland Drolet, Luc Noël (Iza Blais and her mother Diane Plourde); her great-grandchildren: Sylvain Drolet (Véronique Vachon), Sébastien Drolet (Rébeka Dionne), Vincent Drolet, Brandon and Thalie Ouellette, Nathan Lacroix, Romain, Adrien and Emma-Rose Noël and one great-granddaughter Aurélie Drolet. She was predeceased by her husband, Donat Noël, her son, Réjean Noël, as well as Alexandrine Fortin (the late William Bill Clarke), Aline Fortin (the late Jacques Côté), Réal Fortin (the late Laurentienne Bérubé), Colette Fortin s.s.c.m., Donat Fortin (the late Aline Bissonnette) and Adrien Fortin; brothers-in-law and sisters-

in-law: Cora Noël (the late Paul-Émile Simard), Pierre Noël (the late Maria Langlois), Armand Noël (the late Marie-Claire Dion), Yvonne Noël (the late Irénée Mercier).

#### **PROULX, LAURENTIA (1942-2020)**

At Chandler (Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec), aged 78 years and 5 months, on 14 July 2020, died Laurentia Proulx-Gagné from Percé, wife of Gaétan Gagné. She was the daughter of Simon Proulx and Reine Kirouac and the granddaughter of Jean Kirouac (**GFK 01977**) and Joséphine Cloutier. Besides her husband, she leaves to mourn her sons: Éric (Chantal), Gino. Her grandchildren: Réjean, Cédric, Emmy; her brothers and sisters: Simone (the late Edwin), Léona, Rhéa (the late Noël), Marcel (Rosalie), Géraldine (Gordon), Sylvie and Donat, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by her parents and her son, Sylvain. She was the sister of the late Carmella (the late Gérald), the late Norbert (Odette) and the late Lucienne. The family held a private memorial.

#### **PROULX, LUCIENNE (1933-2020)**

At Chandler (Gaspé Peninsula) aged 86 years and 10 months, on 3 March 2020, died Lucienne Proulx from Percé. She was the daughter of Simon Proulx and Reine Kirouac and the granddaughter of Jean Kirouac (**GFK 01977**) and Joséphine Cloutier. She leaves to mourn her brothers and sisters: Simone (the late Edwin), Léona, Rhéa (the late Noël), Laurencia (Gaétan), Marcel (Rosalie), Géraldine (Gordon), Sylvie and Donat, nephews and nieces. She was the sister of the late Carmella

(the late Gérald), the late Norbert (Odette). Funeral was held on 13 March in St-Joseph Church at Cap D'Espoir, Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec.

#### **THIBODEAU, ANDRÉ (1939-2020)**

On 21 July 2020, aged 81, in Amos, Abitibi, died André Thibodeau, son of the late Nelson Thibodeau and the late Alberte Kirouac (Berthe, **GFK 01321**) André Thibodeau leaves to mourn his children: Tommy (Mélessa), the late Fanny (P-A); his grandchildren: Félix, Marianne, Jade, Joannie; his brothers and sisters: Yollande (the late Marc), the late Roger, Jacques (Céline), Denis (Rita), Michèle (Laurent), Gisèle (Jean-Yves); his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and other relatives. As requested, no visiting and no funeral. Interment will be at a later date in Amos Cemetery, in Abitibi.

#### **TIMPERLEY, JOHN BRIAN (1936-2020)**

On 15 October 2020, aged 84, Brian passed away just two days after testing positive to Covid-19. Brian was born in England in 1936. He immigrated to Canada 1961; married Madeleine Marcotte (1934-1981) in 1965. He leaves to mourn his daughters Marie-José (François Lessard), and Maxine. In 1982, he married Marie A. Lussier. Besides his second wife, he leaves a daughter: Claire (Rémi), and a son, Paul (Summer); his grandchildren: Camille Lessard, Nev and Eva, Ella and Henri. In England, he leaves his sister, Margaret and two nieces, Helen and Gillian, and their families. Due to Covid, a memorial ceremony is planned but only in Summer 2021.



**Our Deepest Condolences  
to the Bereaved Families**

# GENEALOGY / THE READERS' PAGE

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

*With many thanks,  
François Kirouac*

**Answer received from  
Mr. Richard Fréchette**

## Question 704

What are the names of the parents of Colette Lévesque, spouse of Raynald Giroux, son of Charles-Auguste Giroux and Elizabeth Kirouac?

*Colette Lévesque's parents are Désiré Lévesque and Gabrielle Francoeur. Her husband's first name is sometimes written Rénald.*

**Much gratitude to Richard Fréchette.**

## NEW QUESTIONS

### Question 714

What are the names of the parents of Linda Loveridge, wife of Charles Taylor, son of Jack Taylor and Florence Kirouac? They were married on 16 January 1965.

### Question 715

What are the names of the parents of Sachimi Yamaji, spouse of Robert Edwin Taylor, son of Jack Taylor and Florence Kirouac? They were married on 16 November 1966 in Japan.

### Question 716

What are the names of the parents of Kenneth Jorgen Thormod, spouse of Darleen Joanna Taylor, daughter of Jack Taylor and Florence Kirouac? They were married on 8 July 1967 in Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, USA.

### Question 717

What are the names of the parents of George Samuels, second husband of Darleen Joanna Taylor, daughter of Jack Taylor and Florence Kirouac? They were married on 14 February 1984 in Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, USA.

### Question 718

What are the names of the parents of Bernice Desjarlais, spouse of Charles Harold Dubois, son of Lucien Jérémie Dubois and Madeleine Kirouac? They were married on 29 November 1958 at Bellingham, Norfolk County, Mass., USA.

### Question 719

What are the names of the parents of Hélène Bouchard, wife of Edmond Le Bourdais, son of Louis Le Bourdais and Marcelline Kirouac? They were married on 10 January 1876 in Brunswick, Cumberland County, Maine, USA.

### Question 720

What are the names of the parents of Janet Easdon, spouse of James Jalbert, son of Walter Jalbert and Lilian Kerouac? They were married on 18 November 1967 in Medfield, Norfolk County, Mass., USA.

### Question 721

What are the names of the parents of Ronald Fecteau, husband of Jeannine Jalbert, daughter of Walter Jalbert and Lilian Kerouac? They were married on 4 June 1955 in Nashua, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, USA.

### Question 722

What are the names of the parents of Harrison Noyes, husband of Lorraine Jalbert, daughter of Walter Jalbert and Lilian Kerouac? They were married on 5 February 1946 in Nashua, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, USA.

### Question 723

What are the names of the parents of John Diehsner, second husband of Lorraine Jalbert, daughter of Walter Jalbert and Lilian Kerouac? They were married on 10 September 1988; where?

### Question 724

What are the names of the parents of Patricia Lincoln, wife of Henry Mercier, son of Arthur Mercier and Irène Kerouac? They were married in Michigan, USA, on 3 April 1963.

### Question 725

What are the names of the parents of Gérald Dubé, husband of Janet Mercier, daughter of Arthur Mercier and Irène Kerouac? They were married on 25 May 1957 at Nashua, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, USA.

### Question 726

What are the names of the parents of Edna Page, wife of Paul Mercier, son of Arthur Mercier and Irène Kerouac?

### Question 727

What are the names of the parents of Jeanne Ouellette, second wife of Paul Mercier, son of Arthur Mercier and Irène Kerouac?

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*Please send us your genealogical questions and we will try to find the answers.*

*It will be a pleasure to print the answers in a future Trésor.*

*The Editor*

## KIROUAC FAMILY ASSOCIATION - BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2020-2021

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CAN ALL BE REACHED AT THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS:

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(in alphabetical order)

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François Kirouac  
Marie Kirouac  
Greg Kyrourac

Marie Lussier Timperley

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*Maurice Louis  
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*Alexandre Duceboach*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021!**

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