



FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN  
GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN

*QUARTERLY*

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 1

AUGUST 1991

**LUMBERING IN WISCONSIN**

by Patricia K. Geyh

The vast majority of Wisconsinites who are descended from French Canadians find that their ancestors came to this state to participate in some way in the lumbering industry. If they did not actually hew the trees or raft the logs down the rivers, they provided services to those who did. It is therefore of interest for members of a French Canadian/Acadian genealogical group to learn more about this industry and those who were part of it.

The natural resources in Wisconsin were a primary cause for the populating of the state. Initially the wild life attracted fur traders and resulted in the development of trading and military posts. When the mineral resources in the southwest of the state were developed thousands of settlers came to this lead region. Excellent farming land was the third resource that drew settlers to the land. The fourth of the important resources in Wisconsin was the huge expanse of forest land. It was this last resource that encouraged the population of the northern three fifths of the State's area.

These forests in Wisconsin were an extension of a huge forested area beginning in Eastern Canada and New England and continuing on into Minnesota and north into Canada.

And just how much lumber was to be had in Wisconsin? It has been said that some of the finest stands of pine in the entire world were found there. In 1889 the state provided more lumber for the market than any other state. It is mindboggling to realize that in the Chippewa valley grew one sixth of all the white pine west of the Appalachians. And it was the pine that was the lumber that was marketed. There were hardwood trees in these forests too, but they would not float. Pine did float and could therefore be rafted to market. It was therefore the only economically feasible forest product of that time.

It is obvious, therefore, that in the early days one of the

major problems confronted by the person contemplating lumbering in an area was the task of finding waterways on which to transport the fallen logs to the mills and then to the markets.

The rivers and streams of Wisconsin seemed to be designed for this purpose. These waterways divided Wisconsin into clearly defined lumbering districts. In the northeast was the Wolf River, its tributaries and Green Bay. The Wisconsin River and its tributaries provided another waterway for transporting logs. Further west the Black River, the Chippewa River and the St. Croix with their tributaries each defined a lumbering district.

The rivers were there, but they flowed in only one direction—the way that the lumber was to travel to the marketplace. Transportation in the opposite direction was necessary also, in order to provide the supplies for the workers in the forest—and going up a waterfall, and through a rapids against the current was exceedingly difficult when the vehicle was loaded with freight. Therefore supplies had to be brought in by horse or ox drawn wagons.

In the early 1800's, therefore, the lumbermen were entrepreneurs who set up small operations with little capital expenditure. Along the Wisconsin River and its tributaries in 1851, from the Portage Canal to Jenny Bull Falls (now Merrill) there were 78 saws in 48 mills. This was a stretch of 167 miles. A single mill grossed on the average of twelve to fifteen thousand dollars a year. These were obviously small operations requiring little capital expenditure.

During the 1850's and part of the 1860's land speculators commonly bought up large expanses of timber land. These men, of course, had to have a reasonable amount of capital available. They sent out "timber cruisers" or "explorers" to identify the most profitable tracts of land. Eventually they would dispose of their land, usually selling "stumpage" rights to a logging concern and then eventually selling the land outright to settlers. Logging contractors were the ones who purchased the "stumpage" rights and for a given price per thousand feet, hewed out the pine and drove it down the river to the mills. The sawmill owners, in turn, purchased the logs that arrived at their mills, either outright or on consignment. After the logs were sawed, other contractors, owners of lake vessels in the Green Bay area, or master raft pilots in the Northwest, carried the logs from the mills to the markets.

The entire procedure involved the participation of many relatively small businesses, with little capital—excepting the investments of the original land speculators.

In these early days some, but not many, of the owners of these businesses were directly from Quebec, or of French Canadian heritage. For example, there were three such men in Wood County. One was Amable Grignon, of the very early voyageur family, another was Francois Biron and the third was Jean Baptiste Marcotte.

Amable Grignon, born in Green Bay in 1795, the son of Pierre and Louise Domitille Langlade, was on the Upper Wisconsin River from 1829

to 1845 when he died. His wife, Judith Bourassa, the daughter of Daniel and Marguerite Bertand, came with him. Actually he had wintered there as early as 1801 to trade for furs. Between 1829 and 1831, however, he settled in the area near Point Basse, now Nekoosa. As the fur trading era ended he switched into the lumbering industry. In 1831 the Menomonee chiefs granted him permission to erect a sawmill at the site of the present Port Edwards. (Port Edwards was formerly called Frenchtown). A second mill at Ten Mile Creek was built in the late 1830's. The Port Edwards Mill operated into the 1850's but was purchased by Samuel Merrill by 1838. There is no record of what happened to the Grignon mill at Ten Mile Creek after his death in 1845.

Francois Biron appears in the 1840 U.S. Census and as listed as having 9 men living with him, undoubtedly a working crew. He purchased the sawmill built by Joshua Draper at Draper's Rapids (which later became known as Biron). In 1842 31 men and one woman were housed in his household. Before purchasing the mill he had been transporting provisions from Galena to Point Basse for other lumbering enterprises. The area of the old Biron Mill is now occupied by the gigantic Consolidated Paper and Pulp Company.

In the 1850 Products of Industry Survey Biron is listed as having a \$2,000.00 investment in his mill and an annual product worth \$3,600.00

By 1860 his capital investment is valued at \$15,000.00 and his annual product was valued at \$10,000.00.

By 1845 Jean Baptiste Marcotte was on the Upper Wisconsin and by 1846 there was a Marcotte mill at Grand Rapids. He apparently came with experience as a lumberman and with capital to invest. In 1850 his capital investment was listed as \$4,000.00 with an annual product worth \$2,500.00. By 1860 it was purchased by another company.

As saws were improved, steam engines involved and other machinery developed, the up front capital needed became much greater and the smaller operations went out of business, bought up by others. The result was the development of huge corporations that had their own sawyers and rafting crews, their own lake vessels, their own farms producing food for their crews, their own stores -- i.e. a monopoly on all the activities involved in a lumbering operation. True some small lumbering businesses continued into the 1870's and 1890's, but most of the activity was owned by large corporations or contracted out by them.

During all of this time, however, the life of the the individual man working in the forests or on the rivers, remained very much the same. The lumberjacks were called shanty boys in those earlier days, but they still rose to the call of "Daylight in the swamp" and were out in the forests just as dawn was breaking. Some were sawyers, others cruisers, others river rats. And most of these men are anonymous. It is here that the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin wish to become involved and publish the stories of these

individuals . With the help of the membership, this will become an ongoing project.

Bibliography of some of the sources referred to:

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## **ACTION ITEM! SEND IN STORIES OF ANCESTORS WHO WERE LUMBERJACKS**

The names and adventures of the vast majority of French Canadians and Acadians who worked in the forests of Wisconsin are unknown. Only you, their descendants, can identify them and tell their story. If possible, the QUARTERLY will publish at least one such article each issue, sent in by our members. There are several types of articles that could be included.

One might be the story of a single adventure of an individual man--a family tradition handed down through the generations. Another might be a summary of the career of a particular French Canadian--telling where he worked, what jobs he had etc. Another might be about the life of the family left behind when the lumberjack went into the forests for the entire winter. What was it like to be a cruiser, a river rat, a sawyer, a cook? Is there just one little episode that takes only a lone paragraph to tell? Are there diaries

or letters?

Organize the information you now have to create something of interest for us all. And remember, this is the only way we can record, for the first time, the adventures of the French Canadians in the Wisconsin wilderness. This is our goal.

Send the articles, which will be edited as necessary to fit into the publication, to Pat Geyh, editor, 4624 W. Tesch Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220.

## HOWARD GAUTHIER DIES IN JUNE.

Longtime member and friend of the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin, Howard Gauthier, died on 22 June 1991 in Milwaukee. Howard was born on 19 August 1920 and was survived by his sons James, Thomas, Stephen and Richard, and a daughter Janice.

On the night of 22 June he was out dancing with a friend. He dropped her off at her apartment, drove home, put the car in the garage, turned off the ignition and died there of cardiac arrhythmia.

Howard served as a member of the FCGW nomination committee for the last elections—a sometimes thankless task he performed with tact and diplomacy. He was also among those 17 members who traveled to Quebec in the summer of 1989. His love of life, energy and good nature brought everyone there even more close together as friends. Dancing was one of his favorite recreations and while in Quebec he told Beverly and Larry LaBelle that when he died he wanted to go dancing.

His wish was granted—or at least close enough to make no difference.

## CONDOLENCES TO NELDA WOMACK AND DORIS SCHMIDT

Since the publication of the last issue of the QUARTERLY the husbands of both Nelda Womack and Doris Schmidt have died after long illnesses.

Sincere condolences are offered to these members of our group whom we hope will once again be able to join us in our monthly meetings and other activities.

## F.C.G.W. COOKBOOKS FOR SALE IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

From the Kitchens of our Grandmeres, a one hundred page cook book published by The French Canadian/Acadian /Genealogists of Wisconsin is available in time for Christmas giving.

This book, which features recipes for main dishes, tourtieres,

soups, vegetables, bread, desserts and lagniappe (a little something extra), costs \$5.00 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling. Not only does it include recipes, but many interesting facts about French Canadian cuisine and the French Canadian women from whom these recipes came.

This book can be ordered from Marilyn Bourbonais, 8107 Jackson Park Blvd, Wauwatosa, WI 53213. Make the check payable to F.C.G.W.

## APOLOGIES FROM THE EDITOR

by Pat Geyh

This issue of the QUARTERLY is dated August 1991 and is, of course very very late. My apologies are here expressed to all the membership for this delay.

My personal life became complicated in June when my mother had a stroke while I was visiting my son and his family in Washington D.C. For 2 1/2 months she stayed with me and required 24 hour a day care. It finally became necessary to hospitalize her and then set about finding a nursing home for her. Those of you who have faced this problem can understand how physically and emotionally draining this whole process can be. My problems have been exacerbated by the fact that I am the only family member in this part of the country. Without my friends, particularly those in our organization, I would have indeed been over my head.

On 18 November 1991 my mother died after a second, but this time massive, stroke.

Thank you all for your patience. The next issue should be out in December or very early January and the February issue on time.

## F.C.G.W. IS NOW INCORPORATED

Legally our organization is now named The French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. The group has been officially incorporated with the State of Wisconsin.

This is the first step in the process of filing for tax exempt status.

**BORDER LINES: BACK TO J.B. PROULX, 1763.**

BORDER LINES uses a variation of the format established by the New England Historic Genealogical Society Register. Instead of ancestor number 1 being the immigrant ancestor, however, the QUARTERLY assigns the number 1 to the first ancestor whose marriage record is found published in a French Canadian secondary source, which is cited. Numbers in brackets refer to footnotes. Numbers in parenthesis in the left margin indicate the number that will identify that person in the next generation where his/her family will be described in detail.

1. Jean Baptiste Proulx was the son of J.B. and Madeleine Matiner. He m. Mary Josephette Bourgeois on 5 August 1782 at St. Antoinnes, Canada. She was the daughter of Pierre and M.M. Bernard. [4]

Children:

a. Josephette m. 4 Nov 1811 to Francois LeBreche  
(Charles and Marguerite Roy) [4]

(2) b. Pierre

c. Paul m. 8 Nov 1819 to Agatha Dallaire (Joseph and Madeline Cote) [4]

d. Andre m. 4 Oct 1825 to (?) LaValle

e. Margaret m. on 19 Oct 1830 to Pierre Duhamel  
(veuf Angelique Dussault) [4]

f. Archangel m. 5 Oct 1801 to Etienne Bertiarime  
(Charles & Angelique Pelitier) [3]

2. Pierre Proulx was the son of Jean Baptiste and Mary Josephette Bourgeois, born in 1789 at St. Ours, P.Q. He m. (first) Mary Louise Bourgault who was the daughter of Jacques and Jeanne Gatineau. He m. (second) Archangel Nadeau in February of 1836 and he m. (third) Pelagel Nadeau on 30 Oct 1842. [4]

Children:

a. Louise m. (first) 25 Jan 1842 to Joseph  
Laeivierre (Michel and Josephette  
Alexander) [4] and m. (second) Oneisome  
Fevrier on 19 Sept 1848.

(3) b. Theodule

3. Theodule Proulx was the son of Pierre and Mary Louise Bourgault and he was born in 1823 in Sorel, P.Q. He m. Angele Cartier of Yamaska, P.Q. on 4 July 1842 at Yamaska. Her parents were Jean and Theresa Nadeau. [1]

Children:

a. Joseph b. 1842, m. 7 Jan 1868 to Edwige Lavoie  
(Oliver and Margaret Boucher) [4]

b. Angele b. c. 1844 [5]

c. Marie b. 1846. m. 24 Feb 1868 to Louis La-  
lancette (Joseph and Claire LaPlante) [4]

(4) d. Louis

e. Adeline b. 1849 [5]

f. Marguerite b. 1850. m. 24 June 1901 to Gilbert  
Topin [4]

g. Hermine b. 1856. m. 11 May 1880 to Adolph  
Doucette (Etienne & Margaret Alaire) [4]

h. Philomine b. 1858. m. 14 Jan 1879 to Morse Doucet  
(Etienne and Margaret Alarie) [4]

4. Louis Proulx (Prue) was b. 16 Feb 1849 at St. Davids, P.Q. [1]. He was the son of Theodule and Angele Cartier. He emigrated to the United States through the Port of Boston in May of 1863 [8]. He was m. on 31 March 1869 to Mary Gagnon who was b. 16 Oct 1854 in the Town of Scott, Brown County, WI. Her parents were

Louis and Emelia Gorham. Mary Gagnon Proulx d. 21 April 1923 in Wabena, WI. Louis d. 16 May 1932 at Shiocton, Outagamie County, WI. Both are buried in the Catholic Cemetery in Wabeno, Forest County, WI.

Children:

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| a. Joseph               | b. 24 June 1871 and d. 31 March 1969. He survived the Peshtigo Fire when he was 3 1/2 months old. [7] He m. Lizzie Frank on 9 Oct 1899. |
| b. Pauline              | b. 1873. m. 24 April 1888 to Frank George. [10]   |
| (5) c.                  | Angeline  |
| d. Mary Louise (Amelia) | b. 24 Dec 1877. m. (first) Wm. Byng on 7 April 1897. m. (second) (?) Oehler [10]  |
| e. Edward               | b. 1 April 1879. m. 15 April 1902 to Annie McNulty. d. 1951 [11]  |
| f. Alfred               | b. 1881. m. 17 June 1902 to Ann Witak [11]  |
| g. Eliza                | b. 11 Jan 1883. m. 3 June 1905 to Alex McEwen. [11]   |
| h. Margaret Anna        | b. 30 April 1886 and d. 15 Jan 1944   |
| i. Emily                | b. April 1888 and d. April 1888 [10]  |
| j. Leonard              | d. 20 Mrch 1947 [10] m. Bertha Daniels  |
| k. William              | b. 15 Jan 1889 and d. 1954. m. (first) Elizabeth Grant, m. (second) Frances (?) m. (third) Esther Vorpahl. [10] [12]                    |
| l. Louis                | b. 8 Feb 1891 [10] m. Georgianna Flanner  |
| m. Emily                | b. 20 May 1892 [10] d 1967 [12] m. Clarence LaFave.   |

5. Angeline Prue was b. on 11 August 1874 [10] and was the daughter of Louis and Emilia Gagnon. She was m. 7 June 1891 to William John Charlton. He was the son of John William and Matilda Rymer. They were married in the town of Chase in Oconto County, WI. [10] William d. 14 August 1937 and Angeline d. 6 May 1940. Both are buried at Highland Memorial Park, Greenfield, WI [14]

Children:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| (6) a. Grace Etta |   |
| b. Mary Louise    | b. 16 July 1894 [10] m. 29 June 1920 to Frank Luisier [9]   |
| c. Therese Eliz.  | b. 2 March 1897 [10] d. 9 Oct 1980 [9] m. (first) Bob Anderson, m. (second) Ed Hertzfeld, m. (third) Wray Smith |
| d. Howard Wm.     | b. 11 Sept 1899 [10] m. 16 Nov 1922 to Helen Ostermeyer [13] d. 15 Jan 1969                                     |
| e. Mable Angeline | b. 17 March 1903 [11]. m. (first) on 8 Aug 1924 to Claude Muck, m. (second) to Joe Piontek [9] d. 28 April 1924 |
| f. Earl Edward    | b. 13 Sept 1905 [9] m. 28 Nov 1925 to Marie Zahringer   |
| g. Samuel John    | b. 16 Nov 1907 m. Vera Thurston. d. 3   |

- Feb 1967 [14]  
h. Pearl b. 9 May 1910 at Wabeno, WI [9]. m.  
(first) Stewart Levis [9]. m. (second)  
Francis Blakeman. d. 17 June 1985 in  
California.  
i. James Robert b. 18 Nov 1917 [9] m. 9 July 1938 [14]  
to Lucille Kirchner d. 1 Feb 1964.

6. Grace Etta Charlton, daughter of William and Angeline Proulx (Prue) was born on 6 Feb 1893 at Dunbar, Marinette County, WI. She m. William T. McNulty, the son of Henry and Katherine Kehoe on 30 June 1914 at Wabeno, Forest County, WI. Grace d. 9 May 1959 and William d. 30 Aug 1959. Both are buried in Forest Hill Cemetery at Wabeno, WI

Children:

- a. Leola Katherine b. 15 April 1915. m. 9 March 1940 to  
Oswald Calkins  
b. Beatrice Grace b. 25 June 1916. m. 4 June 1938 to  
Howard Preston  
c. Lucille Ang. b. 5 Nov 1917. m. 22 April 1943 to  
D.D. Morgan  
(7) d. Charlotte Louise  
e. George William b. 8 Feb 1921. m. 27 July 1946 to  
Henrietta Zimpel  
f. Edna Erna b. 11 Nov 1922. m. 3 Dec 1948 to Robert  
Henderson  
g. Darlene May b. 17 July 1924 m. 24 May 1947 to  
Melvin Longrie  
h. Harold Louis b. 19 Oct 1925. m. 28 Feb 1947 to  
Blanche Jewel  
i. Etherel E. b. 11 Dec 1927. m. 30 Aug 1947 to Mary  
Jean Jewel  
j. Mary Elizabeth b. 23 Feb 1929. m. 21 June 1947 to  
John Tiede  
k. Audrey Lois b. 6 Feb 1931. m. 30 June 1956 to James  
Shea.

7. Charlotte Louise McNulty, daughter of Grace Etta Charlton and William T. McNulty was b. 6 August at Wabeno, Forest County, WI. She m. Walter H. Olsheske on 8 June 1946.

Children:

- a. Barbara Ann b. 18 Feb 1949  
b. Jean Marie b. 3 Oct 1951

Footnotes

1. Church Records, St. Davids, Yamaska Co., P.Q.
2. Church Records, St. Michels, Yamaska Co., P.Q.
3. L.D.S. Film #543813, Loiselle Marriage Index
4. L.D.S. Film #543814, Loiselle Marriage Index
5. 1851 Canadian Census Film #517438, p. 107 of St. Davids, P.Q.
6. 1880 U.S. Census, Oconto County, WI
7. Clippings published in Oconto County Newspapers and saved by

by Mary Louise Charlton Luisier

8. Naturalization records, Oconto County, WI
9. Vital Records from Forest County Court House
10. Vital Records from Oconto County Court House
11. Vital Records from Marinette County Court House
12. Vital Records from Brown County Court House
13. Vital Records from Langlade County Court House
14. Vital Records from Milwaukee County Court House.

## NEWS NOTES

The FOUNDERS DAY celebration for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin will center on genealogy this year. On 14-15 February 1992 a seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn West, Middleton, Wisconsin. The registration deadline is 7 February. Speakers will include James Hansen, Peter Bunce, H. Nicolas Muller, Elizabeth Shown Mills, and James Warren. The topics range all over the map and look quite interesting. For more information write to Founders Day Conference, S.H.S.W., 816 State Street, Madison, WI. 53706-1488. or call 608 264 6587.

The EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE FRENCH COLONIAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY will be held at McGill University in the heart of Montreal, Quebec, on 21-23 May 1992. This will mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of Ville-Marie.

According to the Wisconsin Genealogical Council, THE NORTHWOODS GENEALOGY SOCIETY has just completed indexing the WISCONSIN 1855 STATE CENSUS. This was the first state census that was done in Wisconsin and is a complete index of surnames, number in household, city and county. It lists all the information as found on the original census. The Northwoods Genealogy Society will search the index for \$2.00 per surname. Enclose a SASE and mail requests to Sue Swanson, 219 Harmony Hills, Rhineland, WI 54501.

According to the Wisconsin Genealogical Council, Larry Lynch, ARC Archivist, UW-Eau Claire (54701), in cooperation with the GRS of Eau Claire, is conducting a study of immigrants to the Chippewa and Red Cedar Valleys from 1850-1900. Anyone who has done research on an area family and would like to participate in this project is urged to contact Larry. Examples of information needed include place of origin, reasons for coming to the area, mode of transportation, lifestyle in new home and any hardships they may have faced.

THE NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE IN THE STATES will take place in Jacksonville Florida on 29 April through 2 May 1992. More details will be forthcoming in future issues of the QUARTERLY.

Saturday the 21st of March 1922 is the date of the FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR to be held at the Family History Center, 425 W. Park Ridge Rd, Appleton, WI. The featured speaker will be Jayare Roberts from the Family History Library at Salt Lake City, Utah.

He is an exceedingly knowledgeable and able speaker who will provide those attending with the most recent information about acquisitions at the Family History Library, as well as information as to how best to access data located on the computer database in each local Family History Center. In addition there will be workshops at the beginner, intermediate and advanced level. More information will appear in the next issue. If you wish to write directly, contact Family History Seminar, c/o Nancy C. Luckow, P.O. Box 1745, Manitowoc, WI 54221-1745. Put this one on your calendar. It sounds good.

The 6th Annual GENE-A-RAMA will be held on 19-20 June, 1992 at the Holiday Inn at LaCrosse, WI. The Friday sessions begin at 3:45 P.M. and continue into the evening. The Saturday sessions begin with breakfast at 7:00 A.M. and end at 4:00 P.M. Topics being covered include Beginning Genealogy, Identifying Your Old Photos, Computer Genealogy, Research in such areas as New York, New England, Norway, Luxembourg. Also such areas as Organizing Your Genealogical Material, The Value of Genealogical Periodicals, Using Westerheim-Blaine Hedberg. Many other sessions are available and those attending will be able to pick from at least three offerings each time period. For registration form/information write to Emil Krause, 6083 County Trunk S, WI Rapids, WI 54494 or call him at 715 435 3683.

From 16 June through 30 June 1992 another trip to Paris will be conducted by Dr. Steven and Mrs. Marisa Taylor. Tours with this couple provide a two week immersion in French culture and include 4 days and nights in Paris, 4 days and nights in Provence, 4 days and nights in Burgundy. The land package which includes all meals, except three lunches as well as all admissions, hotels etc, is \$2400.00. The air transportation is \$768.00. There is still room on the tour, which is directed at non-French speaking people, for one woman. Write to 3522 N. Downer Ave, Shorewood, WI 53211, telephone 414 332 2994.

### **THIRD TUESDAY**

**DECEMBER 1991.** No meeting. Happy holidays!!

**21 JANUARY 1992.** 6:30 P.M. to 7:15 P.M. Class will begin promptly. Filling out basic genealogical forms and using them to organize your material will be discussed. 7:30 P.M. the meeting will begin. After the meeting Pat Geyh will discuss the many volumed source "Repertoire des actes de bapteme mariage sepulture et des recensements du Quebec ancien." This is a rarely used secondary source which has a great deal of value to researchers.

**18 FEBRUARY 1992.** 6:30 P.M. 59 7:15 P.M. Class will discuss use of various libraries of value to genealogists. 7:30 P.M. the meeting begins. CLASS AND MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MAP COLLECTION IN THE GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY, UWM. Main speaker will be Jovanka Ristic, Research Librarian for the A.G.S. collection. She will discuss, "Explor-

ing Resources of Interest to Genealogists in the AGS Collection."

17 MARCH 1992. 6:30 P.M. to 7:15 P.M. Class will discuss re-search in the county court house. 7:30 P.M. general meeting will begin. Main speaker will be Jacques Robillard. More information about the contents of his presentation will be provided in the next issue.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO F.C.G.W. 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Members are reminded to watch for the events that the Board of Directors is planning to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the founding of the FCGW.

The agenda is not as yet complete however it is important to note that a dinner is being planned with James Hansen, Reference Librarian of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin as the main speaker.

### FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN INC.

President: Eugene Connerton, 4478 N. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209 414 873 9479  
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Director: Mary Dunsirn, 324 N. Waterville Rd., Oconomowoc WI 53066. 414 646 3423  
Director: Patricia Ustine, 8811 W. Stuth Avenue, West Allis WI: 53227 414 321 0727

Send dues, both new and renewal, the treasurer, Beverly LaBelle. Also send to her new entries for the next edition of Nous Nous En Souvenons!.

Send change of address to Mary Dunsirn.

Send information for the QUARTERLY and all exchanges to Pat Geyh, 4624 West Tesch Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220. 414 541 8820.

Send information about places in Wisconsin in which the French settled to Kateri Dupuis, 2414 N. 56th St., Milwaukee, WI 53210. 414 871 5010

Send orders for merchandise to Marilyn Bourbonais, 8107 Jackson Blvd, Wauwatosa, WI 53213.

"From the Kitchen's of Our Granddaeres", \$5.00 each plus \$1.50 Postage & Handling.

Back issues of "Quarterly", \$2.00 plus \$.50 Postage & Handling.

"Nous Nous En Souvenon", \$8.00 plus \$1.50 Postage & Handling.

French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. annual dues for individuals are \$7.00 and family membership is \$10.00. They are due by the end of June each year. Renewals received after 1 August are charged \$1.00 extra to cover cost of first class mail for back issues of QUARTERLY. QUARTERLY editor: Pat Geyh. Publication Committee: Josephine Christon, Patricia Geyh, Eugene Connerton, Patricia Ustine, Marilyn Bourbonais, Mary Dunsirn, Beverly LaBelle and Suzette Hulgán. The QUARTERLY is published four times a year by the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. as a service to members and as an educational service to the general public through distribution to many libraries. Copyright (c) 1991 by French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc.



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GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN

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Volume 6      Number 2

November, 1991

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FEBRUARY MEETING AT U.W.M.

French Canadian researchers are urged to take advantage of the excellent opportunity to learn about the map collection at the American Geographical Society collection located on the third floor, east wing, of the Golda Meir Library at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, 2311 E. Hartford Avenue. The February meeting, on Tuesday, February 18, will take place at Golda Meir library where Jovanka Ristic, Research Librarian, will show us through the collection which is considered the finest map collection in the United States. After her presentation members will be able to browse, getting hands on experience.

The usual class, this time featuring information on the use of the U.S. Census, will begin at 6:30 P.M. The meeting will take place from 7:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. and the formal program will begin at that point. This section of the library will be open exclusively for us. The Geographic Collection will be closed at 5:00 P.M. and then opened at 6:30 P.M. for our use.

There is a parking structure open to the public which is located under the university union. It can be entered from Kenwood Avenue, just east of Maryland Avenue. Once in the structure, notice the information printed in black on the walls. These signs will point out that the easiest access to the library can be achieved by parking as far to the north (which means turning right upon entering the structure) as possible. Those going up the stairs at the very north end of the structure will find the library right in front of them when they come up to the ground level.

This is such an important meeting for all members that special arrangements for car pooling will be made when possible. Those genealogists who, for whatever reason, would prefer to ride with someone else to the meeting should contact Barbara Glassel at 354-8018. She will make every effort to accommodate those calling.

# "I HAVE PINE PITCH FLOWING THROUGH MY VEINS"

by Patrick Carrigan

I have been a logger for all my life. I grew up in the lumbercamps of the Pacific Northwest, from Cour'd'laine Idaho to the logging town of Aberdeen on Greys Harbor in Washington State. I worked in all the Weyerhaeuser camps near Mount St. Helens.

In 1980 I retired from Weyerhaeuser Co., which by the way, originated in Wisconsin. Having time on my hands now, I am researching my French Canadian family roots. On my father's side their names were Bruette.

Anton Brouiette came from Montreal, Canada some time in the 1860's. I found him to be living and working for Stevenson Lumber Company in Peshtigo, Wisconsin in 1871. I found the name Anton Brouiette to be listed as the company cook and I found a book, "Fire at Peshtigo", with their names listed in it and also a insert from that book. The pie plate that is in the museum in Peshtigo belonged to my father's grandmother, who was listed as a fire victim, Emily Brouiette.

My father was in those early days known as one of the best whitewater river rats<sup>1</sup> there was. He grew up Chester William Carr but later changed his last name to Carrigan. He said he was born and raised in the Iron Mountain range.

\* \* \* \* \*

In the spring these whitewater men would throw off their winter boot packs and mukkalucs, and don their caulked boots<sup>2</sup>. It was now time to peavey<sup>3</sup> and pry loose the roll-a-ways<sup>4</sup>, frozen piles of logs piled at the raging rivers' banks. They would then hop on the backs of their hard winters work, and ride the wild raging white waters down what they called the mule tails of hell, to mill town.

There were log jams on the way to mill town in narrow rocky gorges that took many lives. Those shantyboys who were daring enough to go in, and with peavies<sup>5</sup> and long handled pike poles<sup>6</sup>, free that key log<sup>7</sup>, had only seconds to get out of the bight, and some never got out in time and were swept down into that cold dark water. The lumberjacks, now turned river rats, had no time to take care of the fallen, so they simply layed their bodies, if they found them, on shore.

It was a standard practice to tie their caulkboots to a pine limb, and when the family returned for the fallen lumberman on the rutted supply trail, there they would find their loved one beneath the pine that their caulks were hanging from.

Once in mill town, she was time to blow her in<sup>8</sup>. Lumber-jacks were always known for their free wheeling easy spending of

their hard earned money totaling but a couple hundred dollars for a winters work. Some had to borrow money for new clothes and a stake for the next years winters work.

My mon said, "Your father loved to dance and sing." He had this wild dance he learned in the lumbercamps in Wisconsin called the buck and wing. It was sort of a highland fling, probably brought to this country by the Scots, she thought. I was to witness this dance by a French Canadian in a logging camp years later. I think maybe it was the same dance that the French Canadians danced at the rendezvous when they came to trade furs.

Hats off to those FOREFATHERS of ours with the red sash tied around their middles, and this was to show others where they were from. They came from the dark forests of Canada with their red mackinaws<sup>9</sup>. They were some of the best woodsmen of their time.

The Americans referred to them as Frenchies, Canucks etc. There was no mistaking them, for where there walked a French Canadian, there walked a man. In those early days the lumbermen were known as shantyboys.

As I began to research those early paths, from Canada to the States, I see that in 1862 the lumbercamps were very short of men due to the War Between the States. The names listed on the Company Pay Roster were now flooded with names such as Jacques, Pierre, Francois.

As I began to trace my roots on my mother's side of the family, I found her great-grandfather, Richard Francis Collins, as he stepped off the ship into Canadian soil. There he worked as a lumberman in and around Huron Bruce, Ontario, Canada, although he was not French Canadian, he was Canadian and her family were lumbermen. It is no wonder that I, this great-great-grandson, have pine pitch flowing through my veins.

One more little thing that may interest some of the descendants of the early shantyboys was told to me by my grandmother. She talked about the little birds we all know as Camprobbers, and then, the shantyboys called Moosebirds<sup>10</sup>. The shantyboys believed that when one of the lumbermen was killed he was reincarnated immediately into a Moosebird. Moosebirds, she said, were the spirits of dead loggers.

(Editor's note: The following definitions come from the book "Lumberjack Lingo, A Dictionary of the Logging Era", by L.G. Sorden and Jacque Vallier.)

<sup>1</sup> RIVER RAT A lumberjack who worked on a log drive. Same as river hot, river pig, catty man, river driver.

<sup>2</sup> CALKS OR CAULKS (pronounced "corks" by the rivermen) 1. short, sharp spikes set in the soles of shoes. River drivers used them to keep from slipping off the logs when they had to ride the logs downstream. Same as corks.

- 3    **PEAVER**    A log driver who rolled the logs from a bank or obstruction into the river during a log drive. Same as sacker.
- 4    **ROLLWAY**    1. Any single tier of decked logs. 2. Logs piled along a river to be rolled into the water. 3. A natural or prepared slope for rolling logs into a stream.
- 5    **PEAVEY OR PEAUVY**    Somewhat similar to a cant hook but having the end armed with a strong, sharp spike. For rolling and handling logs in water, whereas a cant hook is used in handling logs on land. Named after Joseph Peavey of Stillwater, Maine, who invented it in 1858...Also called peewee, crooked steal, Quebec choker.
- 6    **PIKE POLE**    A long pole, twelve to twenty feet long, with a sharp spiral spike and hook on one end, used to handle floating logs. A jam pike.
- 7    **KEY LOG**    A log lodged in rocks or caught in some way so that it caused a jam. Its removal would break the jam.
- 8    **BLOW HER IN**    Spend your stake in the city, usually on one big spree after a winter's work in the woods.
- 9    **MACKINAW**    The standard overcoat of a lumberjack. A short wool plaid coat.
- 10    **MOOSEBIRDS - CAMP ROBBER**    The Canadian jay bird, the whiskey jack. Bird about the size of a robin that stayed around logging operations, especially when fed. Moosebirds are the reincarnated souls of dead lumberjacks.

**DINNER IN MAY TO CELEBRATE 10TH  
ANNIVERSARY. JAMES HANSON TO  
SPEAK.**

James Hanson will be the guest speaker at the May 19th meeting of the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin meeting celebrating the tenth anniversary of that organization.

The dinner will be held at Klemmers Banquet and Conference Center, 10401 West Oklahoma Avenue. Free parking is available. At present it would seem that the total cost for the dinner and program will be in the \$15.00 range. The next issue of the **QUARTERLY** will contain more information.

Set this date aside and plan to come to Milwaukee for the anniversary event.

**QUARTERLY IS BEING INDEXED**

Another celebrating the 10th anniversary is the indexing of the issues of the **QUARTERLY** published to date. At the January meeting, members took copies of the publication to index. Bever-

ly LaBelle will enter all their data on the computer and this will be sent to the membership as soon as possible.

It is planned that this index will include every name that appears in the last 5 1/2 years of publication.

## BORDER LINES: BACK TO JOSEPH DOUCET, 1713

BORDER LINES uses a variation of the format established by the New England Historic Genealogical Society Register. Numbers in brackets refer to footnotes. Numbers in parenthesis in the left margin indicate the number that will identify that person in the next generation where his/her family will be described in detail. It is important to note that in most BORDER LINES it is the policy to begin with the first ancestor whose marriage record is found published in at least one French Canadian secondary source. The following genealogy, being of an Acadian family, is being published in more detail inasmuch as published records are not as easily obtainable as are French Canadian.

1. Joseph Doucet, b. 1713, was the son of Mathieu and Anne Lourt. (Mathieu, in turn, was the son of Pierre and Henriette Peltret and Pierre was the son of the immigrant Germain who was b. about 1596 in France and m. Marie Bourgeois about 1620, in France. [1], [2].) Joseph m. Marie Anne Bourg daughter of Pierre & Isabelle Brossard on 23 Nov. 1735 at Port Royale, Acadie. [1]

### Children:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| a. Marie Josephte    | b. 1737, m. Joseph Michel in 1761 in Boston, MA (in exile). Marriage vows retaken on 26 July 1767 at St. Pierre les Becquets, P.Q. [1]   |
| b. Marguerite        | b. 1741. m. Joseph Abel Bourgeois about 1762 in Connecticut (in exile). Vows retaken on 28 Sept 1767 at Becancour, P.Q. [1]  |
| c. Marie Anne        | b. 1765. m. Alexis Rheault on 20 Feb 1775 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]  |
| (2) d. Jean Baptiste | m. (first) Julie Luce LeBlanc in 1760 at Boston, MA (in exile). Vows retaken on 28 Sept. 1767 at Becancour, P.Q. m. (second) Marie Magdeleine Pellerin on 8 April 1771 in Quebec, P.Q. [1] |
| e. Joseph            | m. Marie Esther Le Prince on 9 Feb 1784 at Becancour, P.Q. [1]   |
| f. Pierre Abel       | b. 1749, m. Marguerite Belliveau in 1773 at Becancour, P.Q. [1]  |
| g. Louis             | b. 1753. m. Charles Belliveau on 1 Jan 1773 at Becancour, P.Q. [1]   |
| h. Isabelle          |  |

2. Jean Baptiste Doucet was b. 1745 [3] and was the son of Joseph and Marie Anne Bourg. He married Marie Luce Richard, daughter of Gregoire and Helene Hebert, on 25 Sept 1768 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]

Children:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| a. Joseph            | m. Marguerite Martel on 15 July 1811 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1] |
| b. Augustin          | m. Therese Bourg on 24 Oct 1808 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]      |
| c. Marie             | m. Francois Lacourse on 30 Jan 1804 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]  |
| d. Marie Josephte    | m. Michel Bourg on 24 Feb 1800 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]       |
| (3) e. Jean Baptiste |  |

3. Jean Baptiste, son of Jean and Marie Luce Richard, married Marie Anne Vigneau, daughter of Abraham and Marie Bourg, on 2 Feb 1795 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. [1]

Children:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| [4] a. Jean     |  |
| b. Joseph Louis | b. 7 Sept 1803 at Becancour, P.Q.,<br>m. Marie Anne Deshaies dit Tourigny on 11 Oct. 1831 at Becancour P.Q. [3]  |
| c. Moise        | b. 7 Nov 1805 and m. Marie Levasseur on 28 July 1829 at Becancour, P.Q. He was buried 11 Dec 1875 at Gentilly, P.Q. [3]                                |
| d. Marie Anne   | b. 6 Jan 1814 at Becancour, P.Q.<br>m. Leandre Le Blanc on 16 Aug 1836 at Becancour. d. 25 Jan 1892 at Newmarket, NH and buried at Becancour, P.Q. [3] |
| e. Olivier      | m. Marie Anne Genest-Labarre on 26 July 1826 at Becancour [3]  |
| f. David        | m. Marie Hebert on 5 Feb 1839 at Trois Rivières. [3]   |
| g. Sophie       | m. Henri Houle on 29 Oct 1822 at Becancour. [3]  |
| h. Marguerite   | m. Modeste Levasseur on 9 Feb 1819 at Becancour, P.Q. [3]  |

4. Jean Doucet was born on 5 May 1796 at Trois Rivières, P.Q. He is the son of Jean Baptiste and Marie Anne Vigneau. He married Marie Louise Levasseur, daughter of Modeste and Josephte Deshaies-St. Cyr, on 14 Feb. 1820. He was buried on 15 Dec 1854 at Gentilly, P.Q. [3]

Children:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Joseph         | b. 9 June 1821 at Becancour.<br>m. Marguerite Poisson on 21 Feb 1843 at Gentilly. [3]                |
| ✓b. Jean Baptiste | baptized 20 June 1823 at Gentilly, and never married. d. 1897 and is buried at Belle Prairie, MN [3] |

- ✓ c. Elzear  
baptized 13 April 1825 at Gentilly, P.Q., d. 9 Sept. 1907 at Belle Prairie, MN. [3] m. Lucie Richard-Lavigne on 27 July 1847 at Gentilly.
- d. Zoe  
baptized 5 April 1827 at Gentilly, m. Isreal Brunelle on 24 Sept 1844 at Gentilly. [3]
- e. Marie Denise  
baptized 17 Feb 1829 at Gentilly, m. Olivier Pepin on 3 March 1851 at Gentilly. [3]
- f. Marie Flore  
baptized 17 Feb 1829 at Gentilly, m. Joseph Comeau on 5 Oct 1847 at Becancour, P.Q. [3]
- ✓ g. David  
baptized 10 May 1831 at Gentilly. m. (first) Adeline Pruneau on 8 Aug 1854 at Gentilly. m. (second) Emelie Beaudet on 14 Nov 1868 at Gentilly. d. 23 June 1902 at Belle Prairie, MN [3]
- h. Rose de Lima  
baptized 29 Aug 1832 at Gentilly. d. buried under the name Adeline on 24 Nov 2832 at Gentilly. [3]
- ✓ i. Paschal  
baptized 25 Aug 1833 at Gentilly. m. Eleanore Trottier on 19 Feb 1855 at Gentilly. d. 22 June 1898 at Belle Prairie, MN. [3]
- (5) j. Joseph  
k. Eusebe  
l. Eusebe  
m. Hermine  
n. Hector  
o. Colixte  
p. Caroline  
q. Vitaline
- 5. Josphe Doucet (the second named Joseph) was baptized on 12 July 1835 at Gentilly, the son of Jean and Marie Louise LeVasseur. He married Julie Heroux, daughter of Michel and Marguerite Lavigne, on 10 Jan 1861 at Belle Prairie, MN. He died 23 Jan 1898 at Belle Prairie, MN. [4]  
Children:  
a. David  
m. Clara Branchaud. [5]

- ✓b. Ermine
  - ✓c. Annie
  - ✓d. Charles
  - ✓e. Amanda
  - (6) f. Mary Claire (Clara)
  - ✓g. Mary Rosan
  - h. Theodore
  - i. Alfred
- b. about 1866 [6] m. Delphise Rocheleau. [5]
  - b. 1867. m. Edward LaForce [7]
  - b. about 1869. [6] m. Odile Eon [5]
  - b. 1871 [6] m. Alcide Cormier. [5]
  - b. 22 May 1873 at Belle Prairie, MN [8]. m. George Guertin on 21 June 1897 at Bell Prairie, MN. [14].
  - d. 10 March 1914 at Homer ND. [10]
  - b. about 1875. [6] d. 1882 at Belle Prairie, MN. [9]
  - b. about 1879. [6] d. 1882 at Belle Praire, MN. [9]6.

6. Mary Claire (Clara) Doucette was born on 22 May 1873 at Belle Prairie, MN. [8] She was the daughter of Joseph and Julie Heroux. Her first marriage was to George Gaboury, son of David and Marie Louise Lapierre (Meunier) on 3 Oct. 1893 at Belle Prairie, MN. [11] Her second marriage was to Ephrem Lavoie around 20 January 1920 in Minnesota. She died on 18 August 1958. [13]

Children: *GABOURY*

- (7) a. Peter Isreal (Joseph)
  - ✓b. Julia Mary
  - ✓c. Julia Aurora
  - ✓d. William Joseph
  - ✓e. Hector Theodore
  - ✓f. Alice Mary
  - ✓g. Agnes Mary
  - ✓h. Adelaide Phoebe
  - ✓i. Dewey George
- b. 17 Mar 1897 at Ripley Twnshp, MN [8] m. Albert A. Mayoue (Mayhew) on 30 Oct. 1917 at Oriska, ND. [1]
  - d. July 1950 in California. [16]
  - b. 11 Feb 1899 at Ripley Twnshp, MN [8] d. 23 May 1902 at Ripley Twnshp MN [15]
  - b. 30 April 1901 at Ripley, MN [8]
  - b. 21 Dec 1904 at Belle Prairie, MN [8] m. Irene Della Derosier on 25 Nov 1931. [14] d. 24 Dec 1970 [16]
  - b. 1 Oct 1906 at Ripley, MN. [8] m. Thomas Warner in Oct. 1925. d. April 1952. [16]
  - b. 2 Sept 1908. [8] m. Robert Sales Oct 1929. [16]
  - b. 10 March 1910 at Fort Ripley, MN m. David Morisette on 17 June 1930 at Little Falls, MN. [16]
  - b. 7 Sept 1912 at Tower City, ND. m. Ida Marton. d. 17 Sept 1987 at Van Nuys, CA. [10]

✓7. Peter Isreal (Joseph) Gaboury was born 12 March 1895 at Little Falls, MN. [8] He was the son of George and Mary Claire (Clara) Doucette. He married Emily Marie Huber, daughter of Carl and Leopoldine (Clara) Schmidt, on 16 Sept 1924 at Waukegan, IL. [11] He died on 17 Dec 1968 at Wauwatosa, WI. [10]

Children:

- ✓a. Jack John
- b. 24 Feb 1925 at Milwaukee, WI.
- m. Joan Sebolsky on 2 Dec 1951 in

- ✓ b. Ellen Lorraine Milwaukee, WI. [17]  
b. 31 Jan 1926 at Milwaukee, WI.  
m. Arthur Matthiessen Jr. on 19  
June 1946 at Milwaukee, WI. [17] d.  
18 Oct 1984 at Green Bay, WI. [10]
- ✓ c. Donald Duane b. 10 Dec. 1930 at Milwaukee, WI.  
m. Ann Patricia Sakach on 4 Aug  
1957 at Milwaukee, WI. d. 7 March  
1972 at Milwaukee, WI. [17]
- (8) d. James Daniel  
e. Roy Carl b. 4 Feb 1937 at Princeton, WI (17)  
f. Thomas Edward b. 14 June 1943 at Milwaukee, WI.  
[18] d. 21 Sept 1943 at Milwaukee,  
WI. [10]
- ✓ 8. James Daniel Gaboury b. 11 April 1935 at Princeton, WI , son  
of Peter Israel (Joseph) and Emily Marie Huber, married Carol Ann  
Berkey, daughter of David and Dorothy Hartz (Hertz) on 23 October  
1965 at Milwaukee, WI. [17]

Footnotes:

1. Adrien Bergeron, Le Grand Arrangement des Acadiens au Quebec: Notes de Petite Histoire Genealogies France + Acadie + Quebec de 1625 a 1925
2. F.J. Melanson, Genealogies of Certain Families of Plympton, N.S., Doucet (te) 6th Edition -1989
3. Lloyd Bellefeuille, The Doucets Typewritten sheets found in Doucette file at the Morrison County Historical Museum in Little Falls, MN.
4. Cousins et Cousines, a newsletter for members of the North-west Territory French and Canadian Heritage Institute, a section of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, Vol. 10 No. 2, June 1987, page 367.
5. Stella Le Blanc, The First Cross, Belle Prairie, Diocese of St. Cloud, MN. Copyright 1970.
6. 1880 U.S. Census for Belle Prairie, Morrison County, MN
7. Same as #4 above except Vol. 9 No. 4, December 1985.
8. Birth Records at Morrison County, Minnesota Court House.
9. Stella (Houle) Le Blanc, Footsteps and Shadows - The Story of Honore and Sarah Hould, p. 4
10. Copy of death certificate in possession of Jim Gaboury.
11. Copy of Marriage Certificate in possession of Jim Gaboury
12. "Tower City Topics", newspaper of Tower City, ND, 15 Jan 1920, "Local Happenings" column.
13. Gravestone at Holy Family Cemetery at Belle Prairie, MN
14. Marriage Records at Morrison County, MN Courthouse.
15. Death Records at Morrison County, MN Courthouse
16. Information supplied by Adelaide Morisette ne Gaboury
17. Family records and personal knowledge
18. Copy of Birth Certificate in possession of Jim Gaboury.

For further information contact James Gaboury, 315 North West Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53186.

## NEWS NOTES

A prepublication notice of Beloved Acadia of My Ancestors , written by Yvon Leger and translated by Antoine Bugeaud O.M.I. has just been received. This book apparently combines information about the Leger and Hache-Gallant families as well as many others. In addition it features a good deal of historical research involving the Acadians. Recommendations for this book come from many imposing sources, including Bona Arsenault. Pre-publication cost is \$25.00 U.S. Send a check with your complete address to Centre Missionnaire Oblat, 8844 Notre-Dame Est, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H1L 3M4

A Pilon family reunion is being planned. Those interested in more information should write to Rassemblement des Pilon, C.P. 683, Ville-Marie, Quebec J02 2W0 Canada. This information was found in Je Me Souviens, Autumn 1991 publication of the American-French Genealogical Society. Those not speaking French might wish to inquire if there will be activities that would be of interest to them.

The Connecticut Society of Genealogists in their Jan/Feb 1992 Newsletter notify us that the Ontario Vital Statistics have been transferred to the Archives of Ontario (Birth/Marriage/Death (BMD) registrations) including their historical indexes. The records cover the following dates: Births 1869-1895, Marriages 1869-1910, Deaths 1869-1920. All other records write to The Office of the Registrar General, P.O. Box 4600, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8.

The same issue of the Connecticut Society Newsletter states that a vital records workstation has been established on the concourse level of the Empire State Plaza, Albany New York for New York State vital records, except New York City. This office is open to genealogists Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm. Indexes to births, 1880-1916, and marriages and deaths, 1880-1841, are available at no cost. Appointment for 2 hours time are necessary and can be made by calling 518 486 1677 at least a week in advance. Cost of actual records \$10.00. May be increasing in cost soon.

The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Spring meeting will be held Saturday 2 May 1992 at 1'0 A.M. at the Midway Motor Lodge, Hwys 51 & 151 in Madison. Gerhard Naeseth will speak on the Vesterheim project and Joanne Hohler will speak on preservation of pictures and papers. For more information contact Carolyn R. Haack, 414 761 3061.

## E. COURTURE, TIMBER CRUISER

Jo Christon has extracted a great deal of information on her Courture family from the Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI and the Door County Expositor. E. Couture, mentioned below, is

Felix Eusebe Couture, son of Jacques and Luce Nadeau. He married (first) M. Louise Lauzon, daughter of Michel and Agathe Dumouchel and (second) Adelaide Ducharme Sanville, widow of Moses Sanville. Fred Couture, mentioned below, is the son of Felix Eusebe and M. Louise. See the February 1987 issue of The QUARTERLY for the complete genealogy.

From The Advocate:

19 Jan 1882. In this issue they discuss E. Couture, whose large experience in woodcraft would enable him to render valuable service in the selection of cedar lands.

1 March 1883. This issue informs us that E. Couture is making himself useful at Lethamport where he is working for Leatham & Smith. Mr. C. is an intelligent gentleman, and his thorough knowledge of the woods makes his services valuable to lumbermen in locating large tracts of lands both on the peninsula and on the west shore.

From the Door County Expositor:

15 August 1884. Fred Couture is engaged in getting out oak and basswood bolts at Horse-Shoe Bay. They are for Britton's stove factory at Green Bay.

### TELL THE QUARTERLY ABOUT FRENCH CANADIAN LUMBERJACKS IN WI

In the last issue of the QUARTERLY members were asked to send in information about their ancestors who worked in the forests of Wisconsin. Also desired are stories about the women who stayed on the farms during the winters as the men worked in the forests.

This issue features two responses to that request and indicates the wide diversity of articles that are requested.

The one immediately above simply summarizes three newspaper items about timber cruiser. It provides with names dates and places and provides us with specific information.

The article beginning on page 2 and written by Pat Corrigan, is a full length feature and reflects not only his own genealogical research, but his own personal experiences in the forests and also the tales handed down to him by his grandmother.

Both articles are precisely what are being requested. Members are asked to review their records and send in other information in the form of an article. Use the imagination.

Send them to the editor, Pat Geyh, 4624 W. Tesch Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220.

## THIRD TUESDAY

18 FEBRUARY 1992 6:30 P.M. to 7:15 P.M. Class will consider using the U.S. census. 7:30 P.M. meeting. 8:00 P.M. Jovanka Ristic will discuss "Exploring Resources of Interest to Genealogists in the AGS Collection. THIS MEETING IS TO BE HELD AT THE GOLDA MEIR LIBRARY. See the article on the front page for details.

17 March 1992. 6:30 P.M. Class will discuss research in the county court house. 7:30 P.M. general meeting. 8:00 P.M. Jacques Robillard will return for his annual presentation which is so enthusiastically anticipated. "This French Canadian 'Salmon' Returns to Normandy" is the title of this presentation which will tell of his recent visit to the land of his ancestors in France.

### FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN INC.

President: Eugene Connerton, 4478 N. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209 414 873 9479  
Vice-President: Barbara Glassel, 8709 N. 66th St., Brown Deer, WI 53223 414 354 8018  
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Corresponding Secretary: James Gaboury, 315 North West Avenue #202, Waukesha, WI 53186 414 547 5386  
Director: Mary Dunsirn, 324 N. Waterville Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 414 646 3423  
Director: Patricia Ustine, 8811 W. Stuth Avenue, West Allis, WI 53227 414 321 0727

Send dues, both new and renewal to the treasurer, Beverly LaBelle. Also send to her new entries for the next edition of Nous Nous En Souvenons

Send Change of address to Mary Dunsirn.

Send information for the QUARTERLY and all exchanges to Pat Geyh, 4624 West Tesch Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220. 414 541 8820

Send order for merchandise to Marilyn Bourbonais, 8107 Jackson Blvd, Wauwatosa, WI 53213

"From the Kitchens of Our Granddaeres", \$5.00 each plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

Back issue of QUARTERLY, \$2.00 plus \$.50 postage and handling.

"Nour Nous En Souvenon" \$8.00 plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. annual dues for individual are \$7.00 and family membership is \$10.00. They are due by the end of June each year. Renewals received after August are charged \$1.00 extra to cover cost of first class mail for back issues of QUARTERLY. QUARTERLY editor: Pat Geyh. Publication Committee: Josephine Christon, Patricia Geyh, Eugene Connerton, Patricia Ustine, Marilyn Bourbonais, Mary Dunsirn, Beverly LaBelle and Suzette Hulan. The QUARTERLY is published four times a year by the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. as a service to members and as an educational service to the general public through distribution to many libraries. Copyright (c) 1991 by French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc.



FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN  
GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN

*QUARTERLY*

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 3

FEBRUARY 1992

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN COLONIAL  
AMERICA 1492 - 1790

By Jacques L. Robillard,  
State Representative / Wisconsin  
Alliance of Franco-Americans of the Midwest

In 1992, North, Central and South America will pay tribute to an Italian Navigator of Genoa, Christopher Columbus, celebrating the 500th anniversary of his landing in the Caribbean Sea after a most troublesome crossing of the Atlantic Ocean from Barcelona, Spain. With him were warriors, tradesmen, craftsmen and Roman Catholic religious intent on discovering new lands and new peoples to convert to the Roman Catholic religion.

Not long after, Jacques Cartier, sailing under the flag of France, from St. Mao, Brittany, made the first of three trans-Atlantic crossings, also pursuing the 16th century dreams of conquest and new wealth which the Spanish had found in Mexico, and later in South America. They hoped to equal or outdo France's most Roman Catholic rival, Spain, in what was to become known in Europe as "The New World." But North, Central, and South America (later referred to as "THE Americas") were NOT new! The first Americans arrived from Asia perhaps some 20,000 years ago. No one knows for sure whether they came by boat or, more likely, across a land bridge between Siberia and Alaska. But this is clear: Long before Columbus set sail, this land called "America" was a land of many different peoples. And the dreams of the early Roman Catholic missionaries to convert these American native peoples met, in some instances, with success but, in the overall, with frustration, failure and martyrdom. This paper is written as a tribute to those who died for their beliefs.

In the case of France, the other major power through whose agency Catholicism entered North America, many characteristics of its colonial missions resembled those of Spain.

Here too, Church and State were at the time united and since the concordat signed by Pope Leo X and Francis I in 1516, the crown had enjoyed the right of nominating bishops to vacant bishoprics and to newly established sees.

But the Gallican tendencies which by the time of Louis XIV had brought about so tight a control over the church in France were never able to effect quite the same results in North America.

In no small way, this was due to the precedents set by the first bishop in New France, Francois de Montmorency Laval, a man of iron will and determination, who after his arrival in the colony in 1659, gave battle at every turn to the officials of the State when the rights of the Church were threatened. One chronicler of the time wrote: "In all, Laval guided the destinies of the Roman Catholic Church in New France for thirty-four years, ruling in a more authoritarian and absolute fashion than any representative of the all-powerful Sun King. He left more of a mark upon the colony than any governor except the great Frontenac (Louis Baude), with whom he had quarreled violently."

The union of the Church and State in New France was nonetheless real, and it was the basis for many a contest waged between the two throughout France's North American experience in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

But apart from political matters, there were other similarities between Spain and France in the New World. The same concept, of the Indian as a man whose soul had equal value in the sight of God with that of the white man, motivated the French Jesuits and Franciscan Recollets around the Great Lakes and through the Mississippi Valley as much as it did their Spanish brothers farther south.

Father Jean de Brebeuf, S.J., for example, lived nearly three years among the Hurons for the sole purpose of learning their language and gaining a knowledge of their customs. Enriched with this background, in 1637, he wrote out a set of instructions for his confreres who were to evangelize the tribe, and if any of the future missionaries had thought that his superior education would impress the red men, Brebeuf was quick to disillusion him. His admonitions were that they were to leave a highly civilized community and become accustomed to falling into the hands of barbarous people who cared but little for philosophy or theology. All the fine qualities which could make one loved and respected in France would be despised by the indigenous peoples who would see that they were not as good pack animals as the natives.

Fully cognizant as he was of what was in store for him, Brebeuf yet continued his Indian ministrations through the next twelve years up to that day in March, 1649, when he was captured by the Iroquois near Georgian Bay and submitted to a series of

tortures that would make a modern reader recoil in horror. And as recorded later in the Jesuit relations, to the very last, he refused to flinch and his death was the astonishment of his murderers.

As Spain's high missionary zeal in the sixteenth century had been quickened by the triumph over the Mohammedans and the contest with the Protestant north, so a century later the compelling faith that carried the French Missionaries to North America was fired by one of the most resplendent periods in the Catholicism of France; the age that produced a Saint Francis de Sales, a Saint Vincent de Paul and a host of other striking figures in religious thought and action.

In France, too, the union of Church and State facilitated the arrangement for joint undertakings in the distant colonies, even if it later hindered their execution. But there was a difference between the Spanish and French ecclesiastical regimes. After 1659, there was a bishop at Quebec in the person of the forceful Laval who, once admitted to the governing council of New France, very clearly barred the encroachments of the civil arm against the Roman Catholic Church. Though distances were great and travel slow between the Great Lakes and Louisiana, the official position and high ecclesiastical rank of Laval and his successors told with more effect when disputes arose between the missionaries and civil officials than was true of the remonstrances of bishops in Mexico and Cuba.

For a century and a half, Jesuits, Franciscan Recollets, Capuchins and the diocesan priests of New France traversed the heart of the North American continent in pursuit of a goal that often eluded them. If the souls of these steadfast priests had not been kindled by a deep and abiding faith, they would soon have despaired; the story of the sufferings of the Jesuits alone during the 1640s at the hands of the indigenous tribes of Indians remains one of the most heroic tales in our colonial past.

From the time that Father (Saint) Isaac Jogues, S.J., after incredible torture, was felled beneath an ax of an Iroquois near the little village of Auriesville, New York, in October, 1646, to the murder of Brebeuf, S.J. and Lalemant, S.J. on Georgian Bay in March, 1649, the slaughter continued. Then the insensate hate of the Iroquois against the Hurons and their friends seemed for a time to abate.

The Huron mission, (Sainte Marie des Hurons), failed but the "Blackrobes" did not quit New France. Instead they directed their eyes westward toward where Isaac Jogues had traveled as early as 1641. These were the years that saw a renewal of war in Europe and a more aggressive policy upon the part of France once Louis XIV had assumed personal control of the government in 1661.

As rivalry for the mastery of North America intensified, Jean Talon, the royal intendant of New France, laid plans to forestall competition in the heart of the continent.

On June 4, 1671, Simon Francois Daumont, Sieur de Saint Lusson, acting as Talon's representative, took formal possession of the entire western country in the name of God and Louis XIV. In this ceremony at Sault Sainte Marie (Now Ontario/Michigan), to which the chiefs of all the neighboring tribes had been invited, Father Claude Allouez, S.J., already a veteran in those parts, played a prominent role. After the cross and the standard of the king had been raised aloft as the symbols of the dual auspices of the undertaking, Allouez preached a sermon in which he explained to the Indians the doctrine of Christ's redemption of mankind on the cross. Then pointing to the royal banner, he said: "But look likewise at that other post, to which are affixed the armorial bearings of the great Captain of France whom we call King. He lives beyond the sea; he is the Captain of the greatest Captains, and has not his equal in the world". Thus were Church and State joined at that remote spot on Lake Superior to advance the policies of Louis XIV and Colbert.

The years that followed bore greater fruit for the Jesuit's Missions than they had hitherto known, and by 1673, there were 1,800 Ottawas and Hurons resident at Saint Ignace Mission on the north shore of the Straits of Mackinac. South and west from these northern bases, the "Blackrobes" fanned out into the future states of Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois. As the civil and military arms of France advanced upon the Mississippi, these same Jesuits were either in the vanguard like Father Allouez - tracking for thirty years over the prairies and through the forests of the Old Northwest - or like Jacques Marquette, S.J. had spent a La Point de Saint Esprit on the south shore of Lake Superior, he had received visits from tribesmen, including the Illinois, who spoke to him of a great river and asked that he come among them.

The thought of establishing a mission for these Indians was uppermost in his mind, therefore, when, in May 1673, he set out with Louis Jolliet on their famous expedition. In the long and arduous months that lay ahead, the missionary was sustained by his hopes for the conversion of the Illinois and by his deep and abiding faith in God and the Mother of Christ, the Virgin Mary. As the Jesuit Relations expressed Marquette's personal devotions: "He was a devout votary of the Virgin Mary, who, imagined to his mind in shapes of the most transcendent loveliness with which the pencil of human genius has ever informed the canvas, was to him the object of an adoration not unmingled with a sentiment of Chivalrous devotion. The longings of a sensitive heart, divorced from the earth, sought solace in the skies. A subtle element of romance was blended with the fervor of his worship, and hung like an illumined cloud over the harsh and hard realities of his daily lot. Kindled by the smile of his celestial mistress, his gentle and noble nature knew no fear. For her he burned to dare and to suffer, discover new lands and conquer new realms."

Before this great missionary gave up his life at Ludington (Michigan) in May 1675, near where the river that bears his name empties into Lake Michigan, he had the joy of opening the mission

of the Immaculate Conception for the Illinois tribes near the present village of Utica. Although his failing health permitted only a brief stay, others came to spread a network of Jesuit stations on the shores of the Great Lakes and the banks of the mighty rivers of the North American Continent's great Middle West.

Meanwhile, members of other orders of Roman Catholic missionary groups appeared in these inland regions to supplement the Society of Jesus in affording religious ministrations to the white settlers in the wilderness and to seek converts among the Indian tribal peoples.

It was a Franciscan Recollet, Louis Hennepin, who explored the upper Mississippi and named the Falls of Saint Anthony. Hennepin's confreres, Gabriel de la Riboulde and Zenobe Membre, who visited the tribes of northern Illinois, met violent deaths, the former in September 1680, at the hands of the Kickapoo near Seneca, and the latter, with a fellow religious, Maxim la Clercq, in January, 1689, as a member of Robert Cavalier Sieur de la Salle's ill-starred venture on the coast of Texas. Diocesan priests trained at the seminary of Bishop Laval at Quebec also played a part as missionaries to the Indians of the Middle West and as pastors of the infant parishes in the frontier towns.

Authorized in May 1698, to open missions for certain tribes along the Mississippi, these priest often became pastors to the French, as, for example, did Henri Rollaux de la Vente, who, in September, 1704, was installed as first pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Fort Louis, the forerunner of the present City of Mobile (Alabama). After the French had established the new colony of Louisiana in the early years of the eighteenth century, an agreement in May, 1722, brought the Capuchins, who endured throughout the century and beyond the time of Louisiana's purchase by the United States.

It was fortunate for Catholics that the Franciscan Recollets, Capuchins, and diocesan priests had been enrolled, for the disaster which befell the Society of Jesus in the colonies of Spain had been visited even earlier upon their French brothers. When in July, 1763, the superior council at New Orleans ordered Jesuits banished from Louisiana and the Illinois country, a most dismal page was added to the history of the Church in colonial America. The harshness with which the civil officials acted and the manner in which they profaned even the symbols of religion justified the comments of older French residents that one might have thought that it was the enemies of the Catholic Religion who had caused this demise of the French Jesuits.

To understand the persistence of the French missionaries in the face of so many apathetic or hostile Indians, one must remember that they not only were trained for hardship and disappointment but were schooled as well for failure in the sense that the world reckons failure.

To the Jesuits, for example, it was not a failure for more than three hundred of the finest specimens of French manhood to expend their lives in converting a few Indians and in the end to be ruthlessly expelled from America by the government that had brought them there. To men imbued with a living faith in the supernatural and in the philosophy of the Cross, this type of failure was akin to that of the martyrs of the pagan Roman Empire out of whose sufferings in the first three centuries of the Christian era the Church of Europe was born. It is the kind of attitude toward failure that we heard of during the "Cold War" period following America's involvement in World War II when we learned of Christian missionaries expelled from Communist countries, eager to return to these same countries as soon as conditions permitted it.

It is an exceedingly difficult thing to convey this spirit of religion and self-sacrifice on paper but it may well be summed up by stating that the heroic deeds of these early North American Catholic missionary/martyrs dared torture and death for religion's sake and bore witness as a new force in the making of world dominions.

French Catholics in colonial America were less successful than the Spaniards in converting Indians, but, they were, perhaps, more successful in planting permanent settlements in the wilderness. At towns like St. Ignace, Duluth, St. Louis, Vincennes, Detroit, New Orleans and Mobile, the Roman Catholic Church continued to play a leading part in the restricted lives of the inhabitants down to the time of the American Revolution. Amid the rough surroundings of the frontier, the spirit of religion often burned very low, but it was never completely extinguished.

When these frontier posts were later engulfed in the stirring events of the American Revolution and the War of 1812, the French Catholic population was found loyal to the American cause. George Rogers Clark and his Virginia militiamen experienced that loyalty firsthand when they took Kaskaskia in 1771 and received aid from Pierre Gibault, the village priest. It was Gibault's influence that won Cahokia Illinois and it was he, too, who tracked through the forests to help deliver Vincennes and its Indians into American hands.

Throughout the western expanse traversed by the missionaries of France and settled by its Catholic people before the American nation was born, a litany of cities, towns and rivers tells of those who once settled there. There is Vincennes, there is Marquette, and there is St. Louis, named to commemorate the saintly Louis IX, King of France. There is Dubuque, named for a Canadian descendant of the French. There is Louisville, called after Louis XVI, and Marietta, Ohio, after Marie Antoinette. To these settlements the refugee French Priests fled after 1790 before the whirlwind of revolution that had broken over France. In the wilderness these priests kindled anew the fire of religious faith and enriched the lives of all - Catholics and non-

Catholics alike - with their cultured manners and minds. It has been said that the old towns of the Middle West are more American and more touching to the historical imagination than larger cities. Here there was preserved an ancient and fixed tradition to mellow the rough and raw elements of the West.

SUGGESTED READING:

The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents  
(Burrows Edition)

Tasse, Joseph      Les Canadians de l'Ouest. Montreal

History of the Catholic Church in the  
United States      Shea

Brown, Edward. O.      Two Missionary Priests at Mackinac and the  
Parish Register at Michilimackinac. Chicago

Schoolcraft, Henry      Narrative Journal of Travels from Detroit  
Northwest through the Great Chain of American  
Lakes to the source of the Mississippi River

Butterfield, C.W.      Discovery of the North West in 1634

Donnelly, Joseph S.J>      Jacques Marquette 1968

LOGGING WAS NOT FOR HIM!

By Mary Ann Defnet

(Enclosed is a story of my Great-great-grandfather's short-lived logging career. It's rather lengthy but somewhat funny. Funnier still is the fact that the descendants are still trying to get or are wondering if they'll ever get some of the fortune of the Great-granduncle who went back to Canada!)

Oliver Champeau, my great-great-grandfather, was born in Louiseville, P.Q., 9 August 1809. His ancestors and descendants are recounted in this issue of Border Lines. It is not known what occupation he followed in Canada, but when he arrived in Wisconsin, his time was spent in various pursuits.

Oliver's Declaration of Intention in Brown County states that he arrived in Green Bay about the month of August 1835. The year of 1838 is given by Sister Mary Rose in her narrative written in 1941. Sister Mary Rose was a grand-niece of Oliver Champeau and was adopted by him after her mother died in childbirth in 1872. It must be remembered that nuns were much more cloistered at the time her story was written, and research aids were not so readily available. The information came, most likely, from memory and from tales recounted by relatives.

In part, Sister Mary Rose's story says, "Oliver Champeau

came to Green Bay, Wisconsin in 1838. He was a saddlemaker; had his own shop. He returned to Canada and brought back with him his mother and sisters. (Two sisters remained in Canada; three brothers also emigrated to Wisconsin.) His sisters all married; his mother stayed with him. He got married (to Marie Narcisse Manseau) in 1841 and moved to Manitowoc; then to Bay Settlement where he resided till death in 1896."

It is believed by family researchers that the Campeau, Manseau, St. Louis and four other families came together in the early 1830's and that they settled in Little Chute/ Kaukauna area. We do know that Oliver Champeau was working in the logging industry in Manitowoc County in 1839, though it may have been a short-lived career.

On April 1, 1839, an Indenture was drawn up between Judge John Lawe of Green Bay and Henry Verboncoeur and Oliver Champeau. The document, found in the 65 volume collection of Gregnon-Portier-Law Papers, leases to Verboncoeur and Champeau 320 acres of land (NE1/2 of Section 33, T20N, R24E) on the West Twin River, now in Manitowoc County. They were to receive one yoke of working oxen, one horse, two milk cows, one ox yoke, one cart, a harness, and a plough.

The conditions of the agreement were that Henry and Olivier would pay Mr. Lawe a yearly rent of one dollar for a term of three years with the option of two additional years if agreed by all parties. They had to clear and fence in 25 acres of the land and build "a good and suitable barn and stable". They were to cut the timber into sawlogs and deliver them to the Twin River Steam Mill owned by Lawe. The Indenture stated specific dimensions for the lumber.

It's doubtful that the lease was carried to its full term. It seems that things did not run too smoothly. In August of 1840, Judge Lawe received the following letter from Robert Eberts, Manager of the steam mill:

"Dear Sir -- Oliver Champeau and Henry Verboncoeur were here yesterday to deliver me some sawlogs which they have got out last winter on your a/c. I would not receive them; first because they were too small; secondly, because they are far too crooked and not merchandable. I offered them to leave it to two disinterested men to appraise the logs, but they would not. They wanted me to receipt the logs whether or not, which I rejected upon the above objections, and told them that I did not wish to receipt them such logs and then be censured by Judge Lawe. They are too short, also. Mr. Smith says that they will not average over 80 feet of lumber each, and will take from 6 to 7 logs

to make one thousand feet of lumber. I told them to do something soon about their logs, or I would throw them out of the boom. I presume they will complain bitterly to you about me, but I care not what they may say. Justice demands of me to do what is right and just between man and man--and that law I will follow, if I die on the strength of it.

Robert M. Eberts"

Another page in the Grignon-Porlier-Lawe Papers contains the Affidavit of Theodore Campeau, brother of Oliver, who had been working as a lumberman assisting in the clearing of land on the property of Judge Lawe:

"Wisconsin Territory) Affidavit of  
Manitowoc County ) Theodore Champau

Theodore Champau of Two Rivers in said County, being duly sworn, saith:

That in the month of May A.D. One thousand eight hundred and forty, he rafted for Henry Verboncoeur of the said County Forty Eight pine sawlogs from the farm which the said Verboncoeur occupies, to the Steam Saw Mill at Two Rivers owned by Judge Law of Green Bay and left the said Logs in the boom belonging to the Saw Mill.

As there was no one at the said Mill to receive the said logs and as the said Theodore Champau intends soon to leave this Country and to return to Canada, he now makes this deposition to secure to the said Verboncoeur the payment for the said Sawlogs from Judge Law if there should arise any doubt in regard to the delivery of them.

his  
Theodore X Champau  
mark

Sworn and subscribed before me  
This twenty-fifth day of August A.D. 1842  
Frederick Borchardt

Justice of the peace, Manitowoc County

A long logging career was not the fate of Oliver Champeau. Shortly after the 1840 incident, he returned to Little Chute. On 2 January 1841, he married Marie Narcisse Manseau at St. John's Church there. They subsequently settled in the community of Bay Settlement, northeast of Green Bay. The Census from those years gives Oliver's occupation as grocer and farmer. Meanwhile, Theodore (baptized Isidore) did return to Canada and, according to family stories, amassed a fortune in the logging business there. For one brother, a boom; for the other, a bust! Alas!

## SAVOIR-VIVRE

by Suzette Mayotte Hulkan

(Revised and Interpreted--taken in part from an unknown author)

Don't tie my hands, I could not speak!

I developed a high degree of two social qualities: good manners and the art of conversation, which I use well!

I care about people, more than to greet them with a mere, "bon jour", or "hello", it is not just a matter of etiquette but instinct from the heart.

I pride myself on how to live, "savoir-vivre" my heritage and tact, "savoir-faire".

I am naturally happy and of an optimistic disposition. I laugh easily. I try to find the most difficult situation amusing. I may tend to offer advice readily, and to be ready with a witty comment. Yet, I can be very serious and a hard worker. A big smile can sometimes cover my deepest thoughts, a way of showing courage.

I cherish my family, friends and home, living with a mixture of respect and equality.

I am a descendant of the "plough, the cross and the sword", I am determined and proud, I am French-Canadian!

## LA BELLE FAMILY AND LUMBERING

By Beverly LaBelle

(Moise Lebel was the son of Pierre and Marie Victoire Beaufort dit Brunel and was born in Gentilly, Nicolet County, Quebec. He was baptized there at St. Edouard's church on 30 August 1834. Moise and his father, Pierre, were descended from Nicholas Lebel who immigrated to Canada from France sometime before 28 November 1662. Moise married Marguerite Belongea/Belanger on 18 Feb 1855 in Francis Creek (French Creek) in Manitowoc County. Their son Alfred was b. 6 May 1859 at Francis Creek and he married Emma Richard c. 1886. The following is information from the census, city and county directories, court and land records that tell a little of their work in the lumber industry. )

In 1860 Moses LaBelle was living in Bangor, Bay County, MI. It is thought he was probably working in the lumbering industry at that time, because lumbering was very prominent in that area. This may have been when he started work in lumbering because prior to this time he owned a tavern.

Moses LaBelle is found living in Pittsfield, Brown County in

1870 where he was working in a saw mill.

By 1875 he was living in the town of Howard, Brown County and probably still working in a sawmill. His son Alfred may have started working as a shingle weaver at this time. Some time after this he was living in Wallace, Menominee Co., MI. He moved to Menominee after October of 1879.

In 1880 Moses was still living in Menominee and working in a saw mill. His son Alfred was living in Stephenson, Menominee County, MI and is listed as a laborer. He probably was a shingle weaver. IN September of 1880 Moses moved to Marshfield, WI but did not buy a farm until 1882. Did he work in the lumber industry there also?

Alfred Labelle was known to be a shingle weaver. These are the places that he lived: 1888-Marshfield, Wood County, WI; 1890 - Vesper, Wood County, WI; 1892 - Marshfield, Wood County, WI; 1894 - Wausaukee, Marinette County, WI; 1900 - Menominee, WI; 1903 - Marinette, Marinette County where he worked for the Hamilton Merryman Company; 1915 - Laona, Forest County, WI; 1917 - White Lake, Langlade County, WI.

## LET'S HEAR MORE ABOUT THE FRENCH CANADIANS LUMBERMEN

Members of the group are urged to continue sending in articles about their ancestors who worked in the forests of Wisconsin. This issue has two such and more are needed for future issues. The information may be only a paragraph or two in length or a detailed story of several pages. Tell us something about the ancestor him/herself and then the information or story about their experiences in the lumbering business.

Send all such manuscripts to the editor, Pat Geyh, 4624 West Tesch Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53220. Those who wish to telephone to discuss such contributions may call 414 541 8820.

## BORDER LINES: BACK TO PIERRE CHAMPOU, 1679

BORDER LINES uses a variation of the format established by the New England Historic Genealogical Society Register. Superscripted numbers refer to footnotes. Numbers in parenthesis in the left margin indicate the number that will identify that person in the next generation where his/her family will be described in detail.

1. Pierre Champou, born in Perigneaux, province of Perigord, France, in the mid-1600's, son of Andre and Marie Laval<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>. He m. Genevieve Guillet Jan 1679 at Quebec<sup>5</sup>. Genevieve, b. 1665<sup>1</sup>, daughter of Pierre and Jeanne St. Per dit Launay. Pierre d. 1702<sup>3</sup>.  
Children:

- a. Marie b. 1681<sup>1</sup>, m. 25 Nov 1712<sup>1</sup> to Pierre Perrault
- b. Anne b. 28 July 1683, d. 2 Aug. 1683<sup>5</sup>
- c. Madeleine b. 20 Oct. 1690<sup>1</sup> m. 15 Feb 1734<sup>1</sup>  
Joseph Caron<sup>1</sup>
- d. Jean b. 21 June 1693<sup>1</sup>, m. 26 Aug. 1721 to Marie Anne Bourbeau<sup>1</sup>
- (2) e. Louis
- f. Pierre Returned to France, m. 17 Aug 1716<sup>3</sup> to Therese Gelineau, the daughter of Francois and Marguerite Menard<sup>3</sup>.
- g. Marie Genevieve b. 8 July 1701<sup>4</sup>, Cap-de-la-Madeleine, St. Marie Madeleine Church<sup>4</sup>.

2. Louis Champou, b. 13 Feb. 1696<sup>4</sup> at Cap-de-la-Madeleine, was the son of Pierre and Genevieve Guillet. He m. Charlotte Crevier, daughter of Michel and Angelique Masse<sup>4</sup> 28 Oct. 1732<sup>5</sup>. Louis is listed in the Quebec Archives of Notaries as a "registered carpenter" in 1735<sup>5</sup>. Genevieve was born 17 July 1710<sup>4</sup>

, d. 11 March 1753<sup>1</sup>.

Children:

- a. Marie m. 7 Jan 1761<sup>1</sup> to Louis Gautier at Becancour.
- b. Marie Josephe b. 24 Nov 1736<sup>1</sup>, d. 6 Oct. 1739<sup>1</sup>
- c. Marie Marguerite b. 9 Mar 1738<sup>1</sup>, d. 6 Oct. 1739<sup>1</sup>.
- d. Marie Agnes b. 27 Dec. 1739<sup>1</sup>
- e. Louis b. 20 Aug. 1741<sup>1</sup>, m. 9 Feb. 1766 to Francoise Provencher<sup>6</sup> at Yamachiche.
- f. Joseph Amable b. 19 May 1743<sup>1</sup>
- g. Anne Veronique b. 7 June 1745<sup>1</sup>
- h. Marie Charlotte b. 3 Sept. 1746<sup>1</sup>, m. 8 Feb. 1768 at Becancour<sup>1</sup>

(3) i. Joseph

3. Joseph Champou, b. 30 August 1748<sup>1</sup>, son of Louis and Charlotte Crevier dit Bellerive. He m. Marie Josephe Provencher in 1767<sup>1</sup>. Marie Josephe was b. 26 Sept. 1738 at Yamachiche<sup>6</sup>, the daughter of Jean Baptiste and Josephte Lesieur.

Children:

- (4) a. Louis
- b. Joseph m. Louise Landry at Yamachiche 8 Jan 1798<sup>6</sup>

4. Louis Champoux, son of Joseph and Marie Provencher was b. 1772<sup>7</sup>, and married Theotiste Rivard on 6 Nov 1797<sup>6</sup>. Theotiste was the daughter of Alexis and Veronica Gauthier of Yamachiche<sup>6</sup>. Louis died 29 Nov 1828 at Baie du Fevre<sup>7</sup>.

Children:

- a. Theotiste b. 16 Nov 1798<sup>6</sup>, m. 11 Aug 1818<sup>8</sup> to Charles Noel at Trois Rivieres.
- b. Marie Ursula b/d 6 Sept 1800<sup>6</sup>
- c. Madeleine b. 11 Sept 1802<sup>6</sup>, m. 22 April 1823<sup>8</sup> to Joseph Isaie Aubry at Trois Rivieres.
- d. Joseph Felix b. 31 July 1804<sup>6</sup>, m. in 1836 to Charlotte Laroque, d. 14 Dec 1880<sup>9</sup>. Came to U.S. in 1831.

- e. Olivier
  - f. Marie
  - (5) g. Olivier
  - h. Isadore
  - i. Elaira
  - j. Appoline
  - k. Felicite
  - l. Margaret
  - m. Emmanuel
  - n. Louis
- b. 7 July 1806<sup>6</sup>, d. 29 Nov 1806<sup>6</sup>
  - b. 19 Sept 1807<sup>6</sup>
  - b. 10 Aug 1811<sup>6</sup>
  - b. 21 April 1813<sup>6</sup>, m. Antoine Cajolet in Canada 18 Feb. 1833<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 1815 at Trois Rivieres<sup>25</sup>, m. 25 Sept. 1839<sup>9</sup> to Nelson Hazen.
  - b. 30 Dec 1816 at Trois Rivieres<sup>25</sup>, m. Henry Verboncoeur 24 June 1838<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 17 June 1818 at Trois Rivieres<sup>25</sup>, m. John Emmanuel Rabiceau
  - b. 8 Nov. 1819<sup>25</sup>, m. Adelaide Brunette 25 Oct 1847 in Wisconsin<sup>9</sup>, served in the Civil War.
  - b. 23 Sept 1821, d. 13 Jan 1822<sup>25</sup>.

5. Olivier Champeau, b. 9 August 1809<sup>10</sup> at Louiseville. He came to Wisconsin with six of his brothers and sisters, and his mother, about 1832. His declaration of Intent states that year of arrival. Members of the St. Louis, Manseau, Landry and Champoux families were in this group. They settled in Bay Settlement in Brown County, Wisconsin. Olivier's mother, Theotiste Rivard, died 3 Sept. 1857 and is buried in the old cemetery at Bay Settlement<sup>11</sup>. Oliver m. Marie Narcisse Manseau 2 Jan. 1841 at St. John's Church in Little Chute, Wisconsin<sup>9</sup>. She d. 29 Jan. 1888<sup>11</sup>. Oliver d. 17 Jan. 1896<sup>11</sup> Both are buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Bay Settlement.

Children:

- a. David
  - b. Marie Philomene
  - (6) c. Joseph
  - d. Mary
  - e. Eliza
  - f. Oliver
  - g. Henry
  - h. Helen Odile
  - i. Marie Matilda
  - j. Emily
  - k. Francis Xavier
- b. 12 Nov. 1841<sup>9</sup>, m. Mary Leason in 1860, served in Co. D, 16th Wis Inf. during the Civil War, d. June 1908<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 28 July 1843<sup>9</sup>, d. 1844.
  - b. 3 May 1846<sup>9</sup>, m. Oliver LaPlant, d. 10 Feb. 1908<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 25 Feb. 1848<sup>9</sup>, m. Frank LaPlant, d. Nov. 1915.
  - b. 23 April 1849<sup>9</sup>, m. first Mary Gorky<sup>12</sup>, m. second to Sophie LaPlant. Oliver d. 19 Jan. 1916<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 23 July 1850<sup>9</sup>, m. Agnes Alliette Landeau. He d. 1923.
  - b. 7 Aug 1852<sup>9</sup>, and m. Moses LaFond.
  - d. 1 Jan 1913<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 18 March 1854<sup>9</sup>, m. Mose Deschane, d. 31 April 1930<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 15 Sept. 1856<sup>9</sup>, d. 1 Jan. 1913<sup>9</sup>.
  - b. 23 July 1857<sup>9</sup>, m. Odile LaFranboise, d. 1 Jan. 1929<sup>9</sup>.

6. Joseph Champeau, son of Oliver and Marie Narcisse Manseau, was b. 24 Aug. 1844<sup>9</sup>. He m. Jane LaFond who died in 1868<sup>9</sup>. Joseph then m. Angeline Landrie, daughter of Honore and Theotiste Boudoin. No records have been found of her birth or their marriage which took place between June of 1870 and June of 1871. They operated a limestone quarry in Bay Settlement. Joseph d. 9 Aug. 1903<sup>9</sup>, Angeline d. 17 November 1949<sup>13</sup> at age 94. Both are buried at Holy

**Cross Cemetery in Bay Settlement.**

**Children:**

- a. Pauline b. 5 March 1872<sup>14</sup>, m. Louis Napoleon Trudeau, d. 26 Feb. 1942<sup>9</sup>
- (7) b. Odile b. and d. 21 October 1875<sup>9</sup>
- c. Bridgette b. 9 Nov 1878<sup>9</sup>, m. Laura Detienne 28 Sept. 1896<sup>9</sup>, d. 20 May 1950<sup>15</sup>
- d. Patrick b. and d. 25 July 1880<sup>9</sup>
- e. Mary Ann b. 9 April 1883<sup>9</sup>, m. Mary Trudeau 19 June 1904<sup>9</sup>. Mary d. 1955 and Joseph m. Ann Besau Champeau, his brother's widow. Joseph d. 8 July 1971<sup>9</sup>
- f. Joseph b. 9 Aug 1885<sup>14</sup>, m. Anna Besau. Isadore d. 19 Feb. 1955<sup>9</sup>
- g. Isadore b. 16 April 1888<sup>14</sup>, m. Frances Belanger/Belongie, d. 23 Jan. 1935<sup>9</sup>
- h. Adam b. 22 Sept. 1890<sup>14</sup>, m. Myrtle Duquette, d. 1956.
- i. Louis Stillborn, 2 August 1893.
- j. daughter Twin, b. 17 October 1894<sup>14</sup>, m. Maude LeMieux on 3 Nov 1914<sup>9</sup>, d. 2 Feb. 1968<sup>9</sup>.
- k. William Twin, b. 17 Oct. 1894<sup>14</sup>, m. first Lily Duquette and m. second Arleen Jarsted. He d. March 1960.
- l. Willard Stillborn, 5 July 1898<sup>14</sup>.
- m. daughter

7. Odile Champeau, b. 14 December 1873<sup>14</sup>, was the daughter of Joseph and Angeline Landrie. She m. Louis Joseph Beno on 17 July 1891 in DePere, WI<sup>9</sup>. Louis was a construction worker and lumberman. They lived in Bay Settlement, Upper Michigan and Rhinelander, before settling in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Louis d. 8 June 1945<sup>9</sup> and Odile d. 2 July 1942<sup>9</sup>.

**Children (surname Beno):**

- a. Mary Mathilda b. 14 March 1892<sup>9</sup>, m. first Edward DeLair, 29 Aug 1911<sup>9</sup>, m. second C.L. Prefontaine 12 June 1927<sup>9</sup>. Mary d. 5 April 1963<sup>9</sup>.
- b. Mary Odile b. 7 Oct. 1893<sup>16</sup> in Wallace, MI and baptized in Stephenson, MI. She m. Henry Lurquin on 14 April 1920<sup>9</sup> and d. 20 January 1966<sup>9</sup>. See footnote.
- c. Rose Genevieve b. 29 Dec 1891<sup>9</sup> in Bay Settlement, m. J. Arthur Harris on 23 Sept 1915<sup>15</sup>, d. 24 July 1985 at age 90<sup>20</sup>
- (8) d. John Joseph b. 22 Feb. 1899<sup>13</sup> in Wausaukee, WI. m. Lucille Nys 6 June 1922<sup>9</sup>, d. 20 Oct. 1979<sup>9</sup>.
- e. August Martin b. 13 August 1900 in Wausaukee, WI<sup>13</sup>, m. Margaret Lewis on 12 June 1937 in Cook County<sup>14</sup>. Joseph d. 1 March 1980<sup>21</sup> in Baileys Harbor, WI.
- f. Joseph Louis b. 6 July 1902 in Wausaukee, WI<sup>13</sup>, m. first Roy Carmichael on 31 Jan. 1924<sup>9</sup>, m. second to Reinhart Hoffmann and m.
- g. Josephine Lucy

- third to Anton Strauss on 23 July 1960<sup>14</sup>. She d. 11 Feb. 1978<sup>22</sup> in Bloom City, WI.
- h. William
    - b. 14 July 1904<sup>17</sup> in Rhinelander, WI.
    - m. Ruth Witbro on 14 June 1928<sup>9</sup>. d. on 15 Dec. 1987<sup>9</sup>.
  - i. Louis George
    - b. 30 June 1906<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay. m. Mabel Puissant 10 June 1930<sup>9</sup>. He d. 7 Dec. 1961<sup>9</sup>.
  - j. Ruby Edna
    - b. 28 March 1908<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay. m. Clarence Berns 21 June 1928<sup>9</sup>.
  - k. Germaine Ruth
    - b. 5 May 1910<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay, m. first Wilbert Lemke on 26 Nov. 1946<sup>9</sup>, m. second Bernard Peters on 19 Oct. 1946<sup>9</sup>. She d. 1 Oct. 1982<sup>9</sup>.
  - l. Dorothy Cecile
    - b. 31 Aug. 1911 and m. Thomas Kerrigan on 18 May 1935<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay. Stillborn, 13 July 1913<sup>14</sup>.
  - m. Daughter
    - b. 28 Nov 1915<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay. m. Mildred Murphy 26 Nov 1943<sup>15</sup>. George d. 12 Oct. 1984<sup>9</sup>.
  - n. George Alden
    - b. 22 May 1917<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay. m. Arthur Van de Ven 4 Sept 1937<sup>9</sup>, m. second Orin Kittelson 14 Oct 1944<sup>18</sup>, d. 9 May 1973 in Clintonville, WI<sup>19</sup>.
  - o. Angeline

8. John Joseph Beno, son of Louis and Odile Champeau, was born 11 Nov. 1896<sup>9</sup> in Bay Settlement. He served with Btry B on the Mexican Border and as Sergeant in MMI in the European theatre. He m. Dorothy Lurquin 16 Sept. 1919<sup>9</sup> and owned his own plumbing business, now run by 2 sons and three grandsons. John d. 11 Sept 1960<sup>9</sup> and Dorothy d. 15 May 1979<sup>9</sup>. Both are buried in Allouez Catholic Cemetery in Green Bay WI.

Children:

- (9) a. Dorothy Odile
  - b. 17 July 1921<sup>9</sup>. m. 9 July 1945<sup>9</sup> to Louvain Menard. Louvain b. 10 May 1923.
- b. Thomas John
  - b. 12 Oct 1922<sup>9</sup>, m. 5 June 1948<sup>9</sup> to Joyce Perkins. Richard d. 19 Aug 1970 in Boulder CO<sup>23</sup>
- c. Richard Louis
  - b. 6 Aug 1926<sup>9</sup>, m. 5 July 1947<sup>9</sup> to Patricia Turensky.
- d. Gerald Joseph
  - b. 15 July 1931<sup>9</sup>, m. 11 April 1953<sup>9</sup> to Joanne Jaeger.
- e. Patrick Francis
  - b. 7 June 1933<sup>9</sup>, m. Joann Belongia 29 Nov 1952<sup>9</sup>
- f. John Anthony
  - b. 8 Nov 1934<sup>9</sup>, m. 20 Sept 1953<sup>9</sup> to Donal VandenAvond.
- g. Mary Louise

9 Dorothy Odile Beno, daughter of John and Dorothy Lurquin, b. 23 July 1920<sup>9</sup> in Green Bay, WI, first Lloyd Erdman, 11 April 1941<sup>9</sup>. m. second Henry Lutowski of Milwaukee, son of Stanley and Pearl Lutowski, on 27 Nov. 1948<sup>9</sup>.

Children (surname Lutowski):

- a. Laura Louise
  - b. 12 April 1950<sup>24</sup> in Milwaukee
- b. Judith Mary
  - b. 20 April 1956<sup>24</sup> in Milwaukee

#### Footnotes:

1. Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles Canadiennes, by Msgr. Cyprian Tanguay and supplement by Arthur LeBoeuf.
2. Marie St. Louis records at Brown County Library, Green Bay, WI
3. Ancient Canadian Family Ties by Reginald Olivier.
4. Cap-de-la-Madeleine Parish Records, Ste. Marie Madeleine Church
5. Notary records of Quebec Archives
6. Yamachiche church records of Ste. Anne Parish, P.Q.
7. Family records/Champeau
8. Trois Rivieres marriage repertoires
9. Brown County, WI Vital Records.
10. Louiseville parish, P.Q.
11. Bay Settlement Holy Cross Cemetery Records, Brown CO, WI.
12. Kewaunee County, WI Vital Records
13. Marinette County, WI Vital Records
14. Beno/Champeau Family Records kept by Odile Champeau Beno
15. Oconto County, WI Vital Records
16. Catholic Church at Stephenson, MI
17. Oneida County, WI Vital Records
18. Yakima, WA Vital Records
19. Waupaca County, WI vital records.
20. E. Gadsden, AL, United Methodist Church Records.
21. Door County, WI Vital Records
22. Richland County, WI, Vital Records
23. Boulder County CO vital records.
24. Milwaukee County, WI Vital Records
25. Church Records, Trois Rivieres, P.Q.

This genealogy is also the direct family line of Mary Ann Defnet. Mary Ann is the daughter of Mary Odile Champeau who married Henry Lurquin. She and Dorothy Odile Beno are, therefore, first cousins.

For further information on this genealogy please contact Dorothy Beno Lutomski, 600 James St., #101, DePere, WI 54115 or Mary Ann Lurquin Defnet, 253 Little Rd., Green Bay, WI 54301.

## PLANS BEGIN FOR BASTILLE DAYS

Plans have begun for F.C.G.W. 's participation in this years French Festival, to be held in Milwaukee this July. The first planning meeting was held on March 24, 1992 and more details of the activities will be published in the next issue of this publication.

A large number of the membership responded in a positive way when requested to volunteer to work on this project and they are listed below. If your name is not there and you wish to participate, there is still time to sign up with Pat Ustine, 8811 West Stuth Avenue, West Allis, WI: 53227-3743. Phone: 321 0727. Pat will be in touch with all listed below in the near future.

Two members were so eager to participate that they rushed their card into the mail without giving us their name or address. If you volunteered to participate and your name is not listed

below, please get in touch with Pat, since it may be that yours is one of the unidentified cards.

Babby, Sharon  
Becker, Sandy  
Boyea, Linda  
Cain, Anita  
Cain, David  
Calkins, Leola  
Carbonneau, Richard  
Chabot, Russell  
Christon, Josephine  
Connerton, Eugene  
Damuth, Loretta  
DeFrain, Pat  
Dunsirn, Mary  
Fercy, Yvonne  
Fitzpatrick, Helen  
Gaboury, James  
Geyh, Patricia

Glassel, Barbara  
Hulgan, Lynette  
Hulgan, Suzette  
Kuschel, Alice  
Kuschel, Melvin  
LaBelle, Beverly  
Milewski, Karen  
Natrop, Germain  
Payne, Janet  
Philipi, Dorothy  
Robillard, Jacques  
Snow, Dawn  
Trucksas, Jane  
Ustine, Patricia  
Wandschneider, Jill  
Womack, Nelda

## CELEBRATION IS SCHEDULED IN MAY

The tenth anniversary of the formation of the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin will be celebrated at a banquet to be given at Klemmers Banquet and Conference Center, 10401 West Oklahoma Avenue on Tuesday evening, May 19th, 1992. Featured speaker will be James Hanson, well known genealogist and research librarian at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Social hour is scheduled between 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M. At 8:00 P.M. the program will begin.

Those wishing to attend should send a check or money order for \$15.00, made out to F.C.G.W., to Beverly LaBelle, Treasurer, 4527 S. Oakwood Terrace, New Berlin, WI 53151. This will cover the cost of the dinner, speaker, tax and gratuity. Bring as many guests with you as you wish. They are most welcome.

It is important to note, however, that seating is limited and early registration is urged.

## THIRD TUESDAY

The French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin meet on the third Tuesday of each month, except December, in the meeting room of the Great Midwest Bank, 3150 S. 76th St., Greendale, WI. This is next to Southridge. Although regular meetings begin at 7:30 P.M., the meeting room is open from 6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. on each meeting night for exchange of information and socializing. (See above article for location of May 1992 meeting.)

21 APRIL 1992 7:30 P.M. This meeting will be set aside for brainstorming sessions and discussions for the purpose of setting goals for the organization for the next few years.

20 MAY 1992 A banquet is scheduled to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the founding of the organization. See details in separate article in this issue.

## QUESTIONS DES LECTEURS

A Queries section appears in each issue of the FCGW Quarterly. Queries should be mailed to Pat Geyh, 4624 W. Tesch Avenue, Greenfield, WI 53220. If more than one query is entered, write each on a separate 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper. Please print clearly or type.

GRIMARD, Wilfred, CP 551, Victoriaville, PQG6P 6V7, Canada is seeking to identify the parents of Elizabeth COURTOIS. Is she the same who married Hardin PERKINS in Wisconsin on 31 May 1823?

BANACHOWSKI, Joyce, 3230 S. 15th St., Milwaukee, WI 53215 is seeking information about Pierre GOUIN (Jacques and Marie Bedon) who married Marie or Marie-Jeanne KAINE (Jean and Marie Breteau) in St. Nicolas, Levis 5 Nov 1754. Pierre arrived in Canada in 1751. Marie Jeanne was buried 16 March 1776 at St. Nicolas, Levis. I am seeking information on birth and death of Pierre Gouin and birth of Marie Jeanne Kaine.

BANACHOWSKI, Joyce, 3230 S. 15th St., Milwaukee WI is seeking information on Joseph-Ambroise MARTIN-PELLAND (Louis and Catherine St. Martin) and Elisabeth SAVOIE (Honore and Marie COMEAU). Joseph-Ambroise and Elisabeth were married 1 Feb. 1773 at Ste-Genevieve-en-Haut.

## CONDOLENCES TO TWO F.C.G.W. FAMILIES

On 17 July 1991 Harold Kraus died after a long illness. His wife, Doris, is an active member of the F.C.G.W.

Walter Olscheske, husband of Charlotte, died on 1 February 1992. Charlotte and her sisters, Leola Calkins and Darlene Longrie are longtime members of F.C.G.W.

The sympathies of all the membership are extended to Doris Kraus and Charlotte Olscheske.

## NEWS NOTES

The Wisconsin Genealogical Council will sponsor the 6th annual GENE-A-RAMA on the 19th and 20th of June 1992 at the LaCrosse Wisconsin Holiday Inn. On Friday there will be sessions titled, "Beginning Genealogy", "Identifying Your Old Photos", "Computer Genealogy Using PAF", "New England/New York - Getting Your Feet

Wet" and "Immigration on the Mississippi to the Midwest".

The Saturday morning session includes "Organizing Your Genealogical Materials", "7 Things to do if You Really Want to Find Your Ancestors", "Norwegian Research", a repeat of "Computer Genealogy-PAF", a repeat of "Beginning Genealogy", "Organization meeting for a WGC computer interest group" and "Beyond Incriptions-Cemetery Research".

The Saturday afternoon sessions include, "New Spot on Your Ancestral Map - How to Begin", "The Value of Genealogical Periodicals", "Luxembourg Research" and "Getting Over the Brick Wall".

One of the most valuable features of each GENE-A-RAMA is the number of sales tables available to those who attend. Many of the genealogical societies throughout the state have tables featuring information on their organizations. Commercial book sellers are also there.

The cost of the two day program is \$12.00 if the reservation is made before 20 May 1992. Meals are extra. Write to Emil Krause, 6083 County Trunk S, Wis. Rapids, WI 54494 for registration forms.

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The Milwaukee County Genealogical Society is sponsoring its bi-annual Spring Workshop at Centennial Hall of the Milwaukee Public Library on 9 May 1992. Cost of the day long conference, if paid before 25 April 1992, is \$10.00. For further information call Lois Molitor at 414 543 0119 or Ruth Juedes at 414 461 8995.

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Effective August 29, 1991 the Office of the Registrar General of Ontario transferred the following Birth/Marriage/Death registrations to the Archives of Ontario, 77 Grenville Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9: Births 1869-1895, Marriages 18769-1910, Deaths 1869-1920. Other related historical vital statistics were also transferred. Subsequent transfers of later registrations will occur annually according to the formal records schedules. Vital statistics records dated later than those above are still obtainable from the Office of the Registrar General, P.O. Box 4600, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8. This information came from the C.G.S. News, a publication of the California Genealogical Society.

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La Societe Historique de la Cote du Sud, C.P. 937, La Pocatiere, Quebec, Canada GOR 1Z0 is an active genealogical society which covers the region of Quebec from Beaumont to Riviere-du-Loup. Individual membership is \$10.00 which includes a subscription to their quarterly journal Le Javelier. The past September issue deals with the founding of Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatiere which includes the zones of Montmagny-Nord, Montmagny-Sud, L'Is-

let-Sud, L-Islet-Nord, La Pocatiere, Kamouraska-Est and Riviere-du-Loup. This information was found in the January 1992 issue of Michigan's Habitant Heritage, Journal of the French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan.

FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN INC.

President: Eugene Connerton, 4478 N. 26th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209 414 873 9479  
Vice-President: Barbara Glassel, 8709 N. 66th St., Brown Deer, WI 53223 414 354 8018  
Treasurer: Beverly LaBelle, 4527 S. Oakwood Terrace, New Berlin, WI 53151 414 425 8783  
Recording Secretary: Germaine Natrop, 5441 Willowbrook Lane, Greenfield, WI 53221 414 281 4825  
Corresponding Secretary: James Gaboury, 315 North West Avenue #2302, Waukesha, WI 53186 414 547 5386  
Director: Mary Dunsirn, 324 N. Waterville Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066 414 646 3423  
Director: Patricia Ustine, 8811 W. Stuth Avenue, West Allis, WI 53227 414 321 0727

Send dues, both new and renewal to the treasurer, Beverly LaBelle. Also send to her new entries for the next edition of Nous Nous En Souvenons

Send Change of address to Mary Dunsirn, 324 N. Waterville Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Send information for the QUARTERLY and all exchanges to Pat Geyh, 4624 West Tesch Ave., Greenfield, WI 53220. 414 541 8820

Send order for merchandise to Marilyn Bourbonais, 8107 Jackson Blvd, Wauwatosa, WI 53213

"From the Kitchens of Our Grandmothers", \$5.00 each plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

Back issue of QUARTERLY, \$2.00 plus \$.50 postage and handling.

"Nour Nous En Souvenon" \$8.00 plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. annual dues for individual are \$7.00 and family membership is \$10.00. They are due by the end of June each year. Renewals received after August are charged \$1.00 extra to cover cost of first class mail for back issues of QUARTERLY. QUARTERLY editor: Pat Geyh. Publication Committee: Josephine Christon, Patricia Geyh, Eugene Connerton, Patricia Ustine, Marilyn Bourbonais, Mary Dunsirn, Beverly LaBelle and Suzette Hulan. The QUARTERLY is published four times a year by the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc. as a service to members and as an educational service to the general public through distribution to many libraries. Copyright (c) 1992 by French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Inc.



A/R

FRENCH CANADIAN/ACADIAN  
GENEALOGISTS OF WISCONSIN

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*QUARTERLY*

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VOLUME SIX NUMBER FOUR

MAY 1992

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CELEBRATING THE TENTH YEAR!

By Josephine O'Hara Christon

The fall of 1981 was an important time in the history of the French-Canadian genealogists in Wisconsin. Earlier, in 1980, while on a trip to the Mecca for genealogists, Salt Lake City, Pat Geyh was able to trace some of her French-Canadian line back 13 generations. Because Pat was so enthused about the research opportunities available for French-Canadian genealogists, she was soon put in touch with Marie St. Louis, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Marie had been working on her genealogy since 1970. Much on her own she discovered many sources available for research and started an outstanding collection of resource material in her private library. Marie was 90% French Canadian and took great pride in that fact.

What followed, for Pat, was a period of research trips, conversations, and out-and-out lessons in which Marie shared much of what she had learned in her years of researching her French background.

Coincidentally, in the fall of 1981, the Family History Center of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) in Hales Corners, WI was planning an all day genealogy workshop. Laurie Becker, an LDS member and a distant relative of Marie, asked her to make a presentation about French-Canadian research. Marie felt uncomfortable in the role of a speaker, but suggested instead that Laurie and Pat present the program with her help.

For many French-Canadian researchers, that workshop was the beginning of FC research. After a short history of Quebec, they were shown how to use Tanguay and Drouin and introduced to the Loiselle Quebec Marriage Index. Many felt quite overwhelmed.

They had come to the workshop without any idea of how much information there was just for the taking! The enthusiasm and excitement of the participants at this session was evident.

A show of hands indicated to Pat that there were enough people interested in this particular area of research to warrant organizing a group that would meet on a regular basis. The first meeting was held in February of 1982 at the Mormon Library in Hales Corners. What started out as a small very informal group, moderated by Pat Geyh, meeting in a room at the Mormon library, eventually led to the more formal and organized French-Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin.

F.C.G.W. now meets the third Tuesday of each month except December, at Great Midwest Bank on South 76th St., in Greenfield, Wisconsin with all proper officers and many more members than ten years ago. The meetings generally center around a program given by a member or a guest speaker. Time is allowed to exchange new ideas, new books, or anything else pertaining to the common cause.

F.C.G.W. has always believed that the members should have a knowledge of basic genealogical research methods and therefore classes and help have been offered before the regularly scheduled meetings. Sometimes a refresher course is found to be helpful for even the more experienced researcher.

Over the years the French-Canadian group has evolved into a knowledgeable and enthusiastic fraternity. Its members have shared many trips to the Wisconsin State Historical Society and various other libraries. They have maintained a surname file of members and found that most share common ancestors in French-Canada. It is true that French-Canadians are all cousins.

To everyone's great sorrow, Marie St. Louis passed away in the fall of 1984. Marie had donated countless hours to anyone who came to her for help. She had an untiring patience and loved the challenge of solving a frustrating problem. She's been greatly missed by those who knew her.

Plans of the group had always included publishing a quarterly newsletter. The first issue of FCGW Quarterly was produced in February of 1987. Since that time a number of other publications have been produced. Reprints of instructional articles from the Quarterly have been issued as Research Guides--"How to Use the Loiselle Marriage Index", for example. In 1990 FCGW printed the first edition of "Nous Nous En Souvenons!" in which genealogical data about members and their ancestors was recorded. A second edition is in the planning stage.

The summer of 1991 saw the publication of "From the Kitchens of our Grandmeres", a collection of recipes our members had inherited from their grandmothers. The book also included information about French Canadian culinary practices as well as many details about the French Canadian ancestresses from whom the

recipes came. The book was very well received and many families of members received a copy for Christmas. There may be a second edition someday, if enough interest is generated.

This publishing, and the mailing of the Quarterly has been accomplished only through the generous and untiring volunteer work by FCGW resident "computer people"...Mary Dunsirn, Kateri Dupuis, Pat Geyh and Beverly LaBelle. They've logged many hours setting up data bases and entering information needed for the publications, mailing lists, and other computer graphic requirements. They deserve a special "thank you" from the entire organization.

Last July was the 6th year in which FCGW participated in the Bastille Days festival in Milwaukee. In July of 1986 an invitation was received from the Bastille Days Committee of the East Town Association to set up a booth at that annual event. It has been a most enjoyable activity for FCGW. Not only has the society been able to bring a clearer concept of genealogy to many interested people, but some of the members have had the good fortune to actually meet distant and unknown cousins because of these appearances.

In addition FCGW is pleased to be able to bring to the general public the reminder that French-Canadians were the first of the white race to explore and settle in Wisconsin and Milwaukee. The displays "French Footsteps in Wisconsin" and "When Wisconsin was called New France" show the early presence of French-Canadians in Wisconsin and generated a lot of comments. The genealogies that have been displayed have also proved interesting to many of the general public. Evidence of the public's interest in these displays is the increased size of the FCGW area at Bastille Days, from 8' x 10' to 20' x 30'.

One of the special added features in the tent for the past two years has been Francois "Snort" Dupuis, brother of member Kateri Dupuis and also a member himself. "Snort" has become our "woodcarver in residence" for Bastille Days. His exceptionally detailed work is always admired and his natural French-Canadian charm keeps people well amused as they watch him at work.

One of the dreams a number of FCGW members always had was to take a group trip to Quebec. In the summer of 1989 those dreams came true for 17 of the members. The stories of that trip will be circulating for many a day as memories are triggered every now and then. The deepened friendships among the "voyageurs" will continue to be nurtured. It was an experience that many would like to repeat and perhaps in the future there will be another trip.

A practice started in 1986 was to have a buffet or pot luck dinner once a year...usually in October. The first such pot luck was held in honor of Rene Rouleau and some of his family members who visited from the Ile de Orleans, Quebec. Rene was the Rouleau family genealogist who was in the process of organizing the celebration of the 350th anniversary of the arrival of the first

Rouleau in North America. Rene was a cousin to longtime FCGW member Nelda Rouleau Womack. His visit was very special and it was with extreme regret that it was learned of his untimely death shortly after the Rouleau reunion.

FCGW held a very special dinner on 19 May 1992 to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of its founding. The dinner was held at Klemmers Banquet facility ... 55 members and guests attended. The entire event was the responsibility of Barbara Glassel. Pat Geyh served as emcee, Pat Ustine and Jo Christon put together a display covering in print and photos some of the highlights of the past ten years. Reminiscences were given by a number of the "old timers" as part of an oral history presentation.

Guest speaker for the evening was longtime friend and mentor, James Hansen, reference librarian for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

In recognition of her organization of FCGW and subsequent hard work and dedication to the group, Pat Geyh was presented with a hand carved plaque which is a replica of the FCGW seal. Member Larry LaBelle showed a heretofore unknown talent in executing this special memento for Pat.

What does the future hold for the French-Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin? Time will tell, of course, but it is planned to build on the past and continue with the commitment to genealogical excellence that will be shared with family, friends and community.

## THE 1920 U.S. CENSUS IS HERE

By Patricia Keeney Geyh

The Constitution of the United States of America decrees that there will be a counting of the people of the United States each ten years for the purpose of determining representation in the House of Representatives. The law of the United States of America says that a given Census cannot be released for general use until 72 years have passed since the count was taken. It is this year, then, that the 1920 Census has become available to genealogists. The population schedule consists of 2,076 rolls of microfilm. These schedules are arranged by state, then county then Enumeration District number. The Soundex (Index) for each state and territory takes another 8,585 rolls of microfilm. This is not a master index for the entire country, but instead an index state by state. The filming was done in the 1940's and then the original census was destroyed. Before releasing these films each page of microfilm was reviewed and treated to make it as legible as possible.

Because it is necessary to provide both microfilm publica-

tion number and individual roll numbers when ordering microfilms from the various library systems, it might be a good idea to purchase The 1920 Federal Population Census: Catalog of National Archives Microfilm., National Archives Trust Fund (NEPS) P.O. Box 100793, Atlanta, GA 30384. It is 96 pages long and costs \$2.00 plus \$3.00 shipping charges.

The census takers were given from January 1 through the 30th to take the 1920 census. If they were taking the census in a town with a population of 2,500 or more, they only had two weeks to finish their work. All the information obtained was punched into tabulation cards by a Pantograph punch. This ingenious system of "machine readable cards" was developed by a small company which later became known as I.B.M.

There are several general points to consider when setting out to use this census schedule. This census was taken by enumerators who went door to door to get the information. The enumerators themselves were the ones who wrote the information on the census forms. Census takers were told that if they could not find anyone from the family at home they could take the information from neighbors, if these neighbors seemed competent to answer the questions. No statement on the census indicates who provided the information. The census taker did not require proof of any of the statements given.

There are 29 items on the 1920 Population Census Schedule and they are listed below along with some comments where appropriate.

1. Street, avenue, road, etc.
2. House number or farm.
3. Number of dwelling in order of visitation
4. Number of family in order of visitation.
5. Name of each person whose place of abode was in this family. The enumerator was not required to ask individuals to spell their name. The government was not interested in correct spelling, only in accurate enumeration of individuals.
6. Relationship of person enumerated to head of family
7. Home owned or rented.
8. If owned, free or mortgaged
9. Sex
10. Color or race. Race was based on personal impression of enumerator. W=white, B=black, Mu=mulatto, In=Indian, Ch=Chinese, Jp=Japanese, Fil=Filipino, Hin=Hindu, Kor=Korean Ot=Other. Enumerators were told that black meant Negroes of

full blood and mulattos were all negroes having some white blood. All these distinctions were made by the enumerator was not required to consult the person being enumerated as to the accuracy of his/her observations.

11. Age at last birthday. The census date was to be 1 January 1920. Use that as date from which birthdate was figured.
12. Single, married, widowed, or divorced.
13. Year of immigration to the United States. This was the first census to ask for information from every foreign-born person and not just men over age 21.
14. Naturalized or alien. NA=naturalized, PA=first papers applied for, AL= Alien and NR=not reported. Children under the age of 21 were given citizenship status of parents unless the children (of at least 18 years of age) had obtained their first papers. In 1920 a woman was given the citizenship status of her husband, or if she were under 21. and not married, her father. If a husband had filled out a declaration of intent (i.e. PA), then the wife was considered an alien. Unmarried women could apply for citizenship on their own.
15. If naturalized, year of naturalization. When a father was naturalized, his children automatically were. If the date of naturalization indicates that the person was a minor when naturalized, the father's naturalization record is the one that should be searched. In like fashion, if a woman is listed as naturalized it would be best to search for her husband's naturalization record. Of course, she could have been naturalized in her own right if it was done after she was 18 and if she was still single.
16. Attended school any time since September 1, 1919
17. Whether able to read.
18. Whether able to write
19. Person's place of birth. " Due to modifications in European boundaries resulting from World War I, individuals were not always certain to which nation their place of birth corresponded. Enumerators were instructed to report (and spell out the names of) the province (state or region) or city of persons declaring they or their parents were born in Germany, Austria, Hungary or Turkey, and according to some sources, any other country whose boundaries were affected by the war. For all other countries, only the name of the country was to be listed. Evidence suggests, however, that some enumerators recorded the more specific locale for all foreign-born." (Prologue, Summer 1991, pg. 137.) Evidence also suggests that some enumerators ignored these directions

entirely and simply filled in "Poland" or "Germany"

20. Mother tongue. This is "the language of customary speech before coming to the United States" and was asked of the foreign-born. This is of special value to genealogists working in such areas as central Europe where knowing the mother tongue could provide a real clue as to the heritage of the individual.
21. Father's place of birth (see notes for #19)
22. Father's mother tongue (see notes for #20)
23. Mother's place of birth (see notes for #19)
24. Mother's mother tongue (see notes for #20)
25. Able to speak English
26. Trade, profession or particular kind of work done
27. Industry, business or establishment in which at work
28. Employer, salary or wage worker or working on own account
29. Number of farm schedule. There was a farm schedule made out for all farm families in addition to the population schedule. After tabulating the data from this schedule, however, it was destroyed without being photocopied.

The 1920 Census is now available at the National Archives in Washington D.C. as well as all of the Regional Archives. The closest to Wisconsin is located at 7358 S. Pulaski Rd, Chicago Illinois 60629. Reservations ahead of time are prudent. Phone number is 312 581 7816. In addition it is available through the Family History Centers of the LDS churches as well as through inter-library loan in most local libraries. The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has ordered the complete census and a large number of the soundex films and hopes to have them in and catalogued by the end of the summer 1992.

Bibliographical sources:

Genealogy Bulletin, Number 13, Jan-March 1992. "1920 Census Opening". Dollarhide Systems, 203 W. Holly St.-Md4, Bellingham, WA 98225

NGS Newsletter, a Bimonthly Publication of the National Genealogical Society, Volume 18, Number 1, January-February 1992. "1920 Census Opens in March".

Prologue, Quarterly of the National Archives, Vol. 23, No.2 Summer 1991. "The Fourteenth Numbering of the People: The 1920 Census". by Kellee Green.

## NEWS NOTES

Western New York research sources are given in a six page leaflet issued by the Livingston-Stauben Co., N.Y. Genealogical Society. Information includes names of over 100 county and town historians and town clerks who may be able to supply genealogical information. Enclose an SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) and write to Major Lyman F. Barry, President, 9297 Shaw Rd., Nunda, N.Y. 14517. This information was cited in the Rock County Genealogical Society Member's Newsletter as coming from the March 1992 OCGS Newsletter.

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This same organization also quotes Twigs and Branches of January 1992 as pointing out that to look for a Catholic nun in the Soundex you code the word "Sister" as if it were her surname. Use S 236. After finding that code in the soundex, search alphabetically to find her religious name.

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As part of its twentieth anniversary celebration, the University of Wisconsin--Green Bay Area Research Center will be holding a genealogy workshop on November 7, 1992. Scheduled topics include: Beginning Genealogy; How to Preserve Your Family Record; Resources Available in the Area Research Center and Government Documents Division at UWGB, and in Brown County Library; Computer Genealogy; Census Records; Newspaper Research Voyagers; and more! For more information, contact the Area Research Center, Cofrin Library, University of Wisconsin--Green Bay, 2420 Nicolet Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311-7001. Phone: 414 465 2539.

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This same Area Research Center is in the process of indexing the naturalization records for Brown County. Because so many of the naturalization records were missing from the court-generated indexes, the staff at the Area Research Center undertook the project of creating a new index. The plans are to create computer-accessed naturalization indexes for each of the ten counties served by the University of Wisconsin -Green Bay Area Research Center. The wonderful thing about a computerized program such as this is that the information entered is immediately accessible. At this point all of the names beginning the A, B, C, V, W, X, Y, and Z are entered for a total of 1610 records. The staff at the ARC would welcome the chance to assist you in using this new index. The Center is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 12:30 to 4:30 and Wednesday 12:30 to 9:00. The above two notices were found in Family Vines, the Publication of the Manitowoc County Genealogical Society.

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A current telephone book for a given area might well be a source of information. Many directories from across the United States as well as from many foreign lands, are available at the

Main Branch of the Milwaukee Public Library. An International Telephone Directory Catalog is available from A.T. & T. for those who wish to order their own foreign directories. This free catalog can be ordered by calling 1-800-432-6600. Although the prices listed in this catalog have been raised it does provide information as to the directories available throughout the world. According to an A.T. & T. representative, the cost of individual directories range from \$8.00 to over \$200.00.

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A reminder to members that the Wisconsin Genealogical Council will sponsor the 6th annual GENE-A-RAMA on the 19th and 20th of June 1992 at the LaCrosse Wisconsin Holiday Inn. Please read the February issue of the Quarterly for more details.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Manitowoc County Genealogical Society has scheduled its annual conference on October 16th and 17th this year, instead of in the spring. One of the unique features of this conference is that in conjunction with the Society, The Register of Deeds office and the Probate office at the Manitowoc County Courthouse are kept open Friday night for the exclusive use of participants in the conference. For those with research in Manitowoc, this is an exceptional opportunity. Friday night will also feature a beginner's class. Saturday the 17th, the workshop itself will be held at Roncalli High School. Further information will be given in the next issue of the Irish Genealogical Quarterly.

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It is reported that the Federation of Genealogical Society members are in the process of entering 5.5 million handwritten records covering Civil war battles and regiments into the computer data base of the National Park Service. Visitors to any of the 28 Civil War Battlefield Parks will be able to view these records on a computer screen. The project is scheduled to be completed in 1994.

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If you uncover an ancestor's social security number beginning with a number between 700 and 728, s/he worked for the railroad at some time - probably between 1937 and 1943. Railroad pension records are available from the Railroad Retirement Board, 844 Rush St., Chicago, IL 60611. (The above two notices were taken from the Oregon Genealogical Society Quarterly, Spring 1992.)

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The Aberdeen Area Genealogical Society, in their April 1992 issue of The Tree Climber, report that they are issuing a South Dakota Railroad Ancestor Certificate. Any person showing direct descent from a person who at one time lived in South Dakota and worked for any railroad in South Dakota will be issued such a certificate. The cost for each certificate is \$4.00. For full details refer to the April issue or write to Aberdeen Area Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 493, Aberdeen, SD 57402-0493.

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The Chippewa Co. Genealogical Society Newsletter of July/August 1991 states that there are computer generated reports listing children by birth name and foster name who were placed by the Children's Aid Society and the New York Foundling Hospital on the Orphan Trains. This happened between 1854-1929. For information write to Mary Ellen Johnson, Project Coordinator, 4912 Trout Farm Rd., Springdale, AR 72764.

## CORRESPONDENCE IN GENEALOGY

Requesting information by mail is an important part of genealogical research. Planning it carefully and following a few simple guidelines will improve the chances of receiving a prompt and helpful reply.

Remember that whether the letter is written to a relative or to a governmental or library organization, the person receiving it has many other things to do besides write an answer, so the simpler the question, the faster the response.

Ask one question in a letter. For example: "Please send me the birth record of my great great uncle, John McCamley. His obituary says that he was born on 16 May 1809 in Newry, Ireland. In the United States he was a practicing Roman Catholic. His parents are unknown. Please inform me of the cost of such research"

Another question in this letter may delay the answer to the first, because the second question might require researching in entirely different records. Two letters, each with one question, will probably be answered faster than one letter containing both questions.

In the above example, once having found the birth record it might be appropriate to write another letter requesting more information, but once again, a simple straightforward request. If the information being requested will require a great deal of research, the organization answering may give the names and addresses of professional researchers who will do the job for a fee.

Do not give a lot of unnecessary details. It is not important for them to know who John married in the U.S. or details about his trip to the U.S. or whatever. Do not provide pages of reading for a researcher to go over. Begin by asking the question. Provide only necessary information and then close. If it seems that the organization to whom the letter is directed might be the kind to collect genealogical data on Irish families who emigrated, then ask if they want this sort of data forwarded to them. Don't send it with a request for information.

If possible, type the letter. Handwriting may seem perfectly clear to the letter writer and his/her friends, but it might not seem so to someone half a world away.

Write on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper. It is more businesslike. Also it is very annoying to have to keep track of snips of paper of all sizes. They become lost easily.

Letter writers should include their address on the letter itself, instead of just on the envelope. In addition to the signature, the name of the letter writer should be typed.

Always include a business sized self addressed stamped envelope with requests for information. If the request is being sent to a foreign country, then obviously a return envelope with a U.S. stamp will be useless. Instead go to the nearest Post Office and purchase 3 International Reply Coupons and enclose them.

## JOIN OTHER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

Below is a list of the name and address of each of the genealogical societies in Wisconsin. Any requests for information sent to these groups should be accompanied by a self-addressed-stamped envelope (SASE).

If an organization has been missed, please send the name and address to Pat Geyh, 4624 W. Tesch Ave, Greenfield, WI 53220. Changes in address should also be forwarded to her.

Information about most of these societies has been confirmed as of 1992. Those marked with an asterisk (\*), however, were confirmed in 1989 and might have changed.

Bay Area Genealogical Society, Box 283, Green Bay, WI 54305

Boulder Junction Genealogical Workshop, P.O. Box 394, Boulder Junction,  
WI 54512

Chippewa Co. Genealogical Society, 1427 Hilltop Blvd, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Genealogical Research Society of Eau Claire, P.O. Box 1204, Eau Claire,  
WI 54702

Family Research Society of Coon Valley, c/o Sharon Twinde, Rt. #1,  
Chaseburg, WI 54621

Fond du Lac County Genealogical Society, 729 Wisconsin Ave., North  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin, 4264 W. Tesch Ave,  
Greenfield, WI 53220

Fox Valley Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1592, Appleton, WI 54911

Grant County Genealogical Society, 830 N. 2nd St., Platteville, WI 53818-1849

\* Hartford Genealogical Society, 1955 Hwy 83, Hartford, WI 53027

Heart of Wisconsin Genealogical Society, c/o Mo McMillan Library, 490 Grand Ave.  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 - 4898

Irish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, 2476 Lefebvre Avenue, Kaukauna,  
WI 53213

\* Juneau County Genealogical Society, Star Rt. W, Box 307, Necedah, WI 54646

\* Kenosha County Genealogical Society, 4901 52nd St., Kenosha, WI 53140

LaCrosse Area Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1782, LaCrosse, WI 54602-1782

LaFayette County Genealogical Workshop, P.O. Box 443, Shullsburg, WI 53586

Lakeland Area Genealogical Society, Minocqua Public Library, Minocqua,  
WI 54548

\* Lincoln County Genealogical Society, N629 Hill Road, Merrill, WI 54452

Marathon County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1512, Wausau, WI 54402-1512

Milwaukee County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 27326, Milwaukee, WI 53227

Monroe/Juneau/Jackson Genealogical Workshop, Box 146, Warrens, WI 54666-0146

Manitowoc County Genealogical Society, Box 1745, Manitowoc, WI 54221-1745

Marshfield Area Genealogical Group, P.O. Box 337, Marshfield, WI 54449

\* Northern Wisconsin Genealogists, P.O. Box 321, Shawano, WI 54166

\* North Pines News, 203 N. Genesee St., Merrill, WI 54452

Northwoods Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1132, Rhinelander, WI 54501

\* Oconomowoc Genealogical Club, c/o J. Bassett, 37189 E. Washington,  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

\* Peninsula Genealogical Society, 477 N. 6th Ave, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Polish Genealogical Society of Wisconsin, Box 37476, Milwaukee, WI 53237

Rock County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 711, Janesville, WI 53547-0711

\* South Central Chapter, 1914 Jefferson St., Madison WI 53711

St. Croix Valley Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 396, River Falls, WI 54022

Sheboygan County Genealogical Society, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Stevens Point Genealogical Society, c/o Portage Co. Library, 1325 Church Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481

\* Walworth County Genealogical Society, c/o Mrs. Cameron, 3020 N. Shore Drive, Belavan, WI 53115

Washburn County Genealogical Society, 200 W. 2nd Ave, Box 366, Shell Lake, WI 54871

\* Watertown Genealogical Group, c/o Elaine Smith, 229 Freemont St., Watertown, WI 53094

Waukesha County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1541, Waukesha, WI 53187-1541

Winnebago Land Genealogical Society, c/o Oshkosh Pub. Library, 106 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54901-4985

Wisconsin Genealogical Council, 6083 Co. Trk S, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society, 2109 20th Ave., Monroe, WI 53566

## FRANCOIS CLAIRMON: WHICH SIDE WAS HE ON IN THE WAR OF 1812?

By Luida E. Sanders

On 23 June 1888 the editor of the Wisconsin Historical Society interviewed Alexis Clermont, fourth son of Francois Clairmon (Francis Clermlont) in DePere, Wisconsin. Alexis was then 82 years old, mentally very sharp according to family recollection. The editor noted, however, that Alexis spoke only French and was illiterate, so an interpreter was used. This interview is recorded in Vol. XV page 452 of the Wisconsin Historical Collections.

My mother's recollection was that she often talked to Grand-papa in English and that she, her brother and four sisters had no problem communicating with him in English as none of them spoke French. He also was able to read some of the newspaper stories which he took quite literally, saying when challenged, "It stands on the paper, my baby!"

In the Society's report it was stated that Francis Clermont had established a claim to land in St. Ignace (Michigan Territory) before he went off to war in the English Army in 1812 and that he died in battle the first year of the war.

In 1892 Alexis Clermont who had been one of Wisconsin's first mail carriers, walked his old route from Fort Howard (Green Bay) to Fort Dearborn (Chicago). A copy of the flyer promoting

the event was found in the Two Rivers' Library files recently and my cousin got a copy for me. This states, "His father, a soldier under the British in the war of 1812-15 was killed in the first year of that war, and step-father Francois Beauden (Beaudoin) removed to Green Bay in the fall of 1820." Alexis' mail route included Oshkosh.

I also checked with the War Department and found that they have no record of his ever having served in the U.S. Army. So that seems pretty clear, doesn't it? Francois was a British soldier.

Now comes the puzzle. When my mother, Ida Clermont Sander, daughter of Louis Clermont and granddaughter of Alexis, and I visited St. Ignace about 1960 we bought a book. It was Before the Bridge, a History and Directory of St. Ignace and Nearby Localities published by the Kiwanis Club of St. Ignace, MI. 1957. On page 56 it is noted that Private Claim No. 10 was awarded to the wife and children of Francis Clairmon (Clermont) in 1823. The author adds that the titles awarded were based on French patents out of Montreal. In the absence of a paper proving this patent, the Congressional Commission required sworn statements by the claimants and neighbors to the effect that the land was possessed and occupied prior to 1812. The question of obedience to this government was also considered but there were no indications of English sympathy among the successful claimants.

When my mother remarked that Francis had been a British soldier, the lady we talked with said that wasn't possible as land was given only for service in the United States army. The claim, she was positive, would not have been approved had he served in the British Army.

The American State Papers, Volume V, page 249, records the following:

The heirs of Francis Clairmon, deceased, hereby enter their claim, under the laws of Congress for ascertaining and deciding upon claims to lands in the territory of Michigan, to a certain piece or tract of land lying and being on Point St. Ignace, opposite the Island of Michilmackinac, in said county, on the shore of the bay or head of Lake Huron and butted and bounded as follows, to wit: on the west side by a lot of land claimed by Joseph Babba and on the other side by a lot of land claimed by the legal representative of Joseph Chevalier, deceased, being about two arpents in width on the lake and extending back from the margin thereof

eighty acres to the same more or less.

H.S. Baird, for and on behalf of the  
heir so Francis Clairmon, deceased.

There followed two sworn statements, both saying that on 1

July 1812 and for sometime previous thereto, Francis Clairmon had possession of, and occupied, improved and cultivated a certain piece of land (description from above repeated)...that since 1812 the said Francis Clairmon had died leaving wife and children and that during his lifetime he submitted to the authority of the United States. One was signed by John Baptist Tesse-reau on 10 September 1823 and the other by Wm. H. Puthuff, Chief Justice in County Court.

On 31 October 1823 "the preceding claim of the heirs of Francis Clairmon is confirmed agreeably to notice thereof pre-fixed."

The same Congressional Committee confirmed 18 other claims, but they denied about as many. A number of the denials were based on common knowledge that the claimant had served in the British Army, one as a scout with the Indians against the Americans.

Based on the fact that the Clairmon claim was approved, that Francis during his lifetime was known to have submitted to the authority of the United States and that other claims were denied on the basis of some British affiliation, can we be sure that Francis served in the United States Army, not the British? How did the story get started that he was in the British(Canadian) Army?

There are a number of possibilities. 1st The interviewer from the Historical Society misunderstood what Alexis said, even with an interpreter. 2nd Alexis did not remember the details correctly as he was only 6 or 7 when his father died. 3rd Alexis may have deliberately misled the interviewer from a perverse sense of humor. 4th The heirs pulled a fast one on the commission.

(Francis wife was Mary LeRoy. Their sons were John, Louis, Frank and Alexis. Mary Clermont married for a second time a man named Francis Beaudoin. They took Alexis with them when they move to Fort Howard (Green Bay) The date of their marriage and the date of the move have not been documented but it has been assumed that it was after the settlement of the claim for the St. Ignace land.

(This paper was given at a meeting of the Winnegabo Genealogical Society in May of 1991)

## BORDER LINES: THE ANCESTRY OF MARIE ST. LOUIS

This is a special edition of Border lines presents the genealogy of Marie St. Louis who has been dead for many years. She was very instrumental in the formation of the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin. Being an expert in the area of French Canadian genealogy, she had a huge library and used it to help anyone who contacted her. The majority of her library is now

located in the local history room of the Brown County Library, Green Bay, Wisconsin. All of the early members of FCGW remember Marie with pleasure and often regret that she has not been here to enjoy the successes of our organization. Laurie Becker, a member of FCGW, has worked hard going through Marie's papers to put together this genealogy. Marie had a complicated coding system which she used to identify her sources. She used a pencil to record information on her group sheets and that has faded with time. In some cases Laurie has had problems documenting facts and at other times the dates and names are not clear. However, in memory of Marie, Laurie Lou Becker and the FCGW publication committee present this Border Lines.

BORDER LINES uses a variation of the format established by the New England Historic Genealogical Society Register. Numbers in brackets refer to footnotes. Numbers in parentheses in the left margin indicate the number that will identify that person in the next generation where his/her family will be described in detail. Number one is the first ancestor whose marriage record is found published in at least one French Canadian secondary source.

1. Ephraim St. Louis, son of Jean Baptiste St. Louis and Catherine Gignac, was b. 16 July 1810 [15]. He married Marie DesAnge Manseau, daughter of Antoine Manseau and Catherine Cloutier, on 4 Oct 1831 at St. Francois du Lac, Yamaska, Quebec.[2] Ephraim died 27 March 1892 in Phlox, Langlade Co., WI[3]. Marie died 16 October 1895 in Florence, Florence County, WI.

Children:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| a. Emile               | b. 9 June 1832 St. Francois du Lac, P.Q.[1,2], did not marry. d. 29 June 1832.  |
| (2) b. J. Ephraim Frs. |   |
| c. M. Olivine (Lavina) | b. 18 Sept 1834, Yamachiche, P.Q. [25] m. John B. Laurent 7 Sept 1857[1], d. 21 May 1920, Phlox, Langlade Co., WI [26] Listed as age 15 in 1850 U.S. Census.  |
| d. M. Zoe              | b. Canada, bap. 26 April 1837, Little Chute, Outagamie Co., WI[1]. m. first Simon Grignon 17 Nov 1857 [27] and m. 2nd Peter Filiatreau 5 Oct 1903 [2]. She d. Feb 1924 in Appleton, Outagamie, WI [28] Listed as 14 in 1850 U.S. Census.  |
| e. J. Henry            | b. 15 June 1837, St. Francois du Lac, P.Q., [23] m. Marie Langlois 12 April 1858, Bay Settlement, Brown Co., WI, d. 9 June 1917 (16 Aug 1911) Escanaba. MI. buried Phlox, Langlade, Co., WI This birth date obviously in conflict with M. Zoe's(above). Listed as 13 in 1850 U.S. Census. |
| f. M. Philomon         | b. 22 Dec 1838, Little Chute, Outagamie Co., WI[1]. m. Alex Grignon 4 Nov 1857 Little Chute and d. 25 Dec 1910 in Shawno, Langlade Co., WI. Listed as age   |

- 11 in 1850 U.S. Census.
- g. George J. b. 8 Jan 1840, Little Chute, WI. [1] m. first to Mary Hofmayer, 4 Dec 1869, St. Mary's Church, Appleton, WI. d. 26 Sept or 15 April 1879 in Fremont, NE.
  - h. M. Therese Helen bap. 3 May 1841 in Little Chute, Outagamie Co., WI [1] m. Paschal Lanlois 26 Feb 1860, Little Chute, WI [30] d. 12 Dec 1927, Phlox, Langlade Co., WI [7]
  - i. Maria bap. 24 Sept 1842, Little Chute, WI [1], m. John Jansen, 3 April 1861 [1]. d. 12 Jan 1910, Marinette, WI
  - j. Thomas bapt. 30 Dec 1843, Little Chute, WI [1] m. M. Jennie Renoud 29 Dec 1870, d. 9 May 1926, Appleton, WI [28]
  - k. M. Angeline b. 13 April 1845, Little Chute, WI [1] m. John Lafond 2 Sept 1872, Brown Co. WI<sup>30</sup>, d. 1928, Colorado Spring, CO [32]
  - l. Jean Baptiste b. 30 June 1846, Little Chute, WI [1]. m. Josephine Shinnars, 25 Feb 1868 Little Chute, WI [1], d. 21 July 1917, Everett, WA [25]
  - m. Petrus Mannes b. 15 April 1848. Little Chute, WI [1] Dominicus ordained 7 April 1876 [4] d. 25 May Father Phillip 1929, Colorado Springs, CO [1]. One church record at Little Chute says he died in 1928.

2. Joseph Ephraim Francois St. Louis, son of Ephraim and Marie DesAnge Manseau m. first Julia Bergeon, daughter of Jean Baptiste Bergeron and Angelique Brunette. They were m. on 8 Feb 1853 at St. John's Church, Little Chute, Outagamie Co., WI [1]. He m. second Mathilda Balthazar c. 1891 in Deer Creek or Bear Creek, WI [4]. His 3rd marriage was to Mary Forget Bossell on 11 May 1980, at Phlox, Langlade Co., WI [7]. Joseph died 9 Jan 1917 in Escanaba, MI [7]. Julia died 26 March 1889 in Phlox, Langlade Co., WI [7]

Children of Joseph Ephraim Francois and Julia:

- a. J. Frs. Xavier Ephraim b. 5 Feb 1851, Little Chute, WI [1] m. Marguerite (Emma) Jessie. He d. 12 March 1916 in Angito, Langlade Co, WI [1]
- b. Moses Edward b. 10 Sept 1855 Little Chute, WI [1], m. Melanie Mottard 17 April 1882, Phlox, WI [7], d. July 1929 in Oregon
- c. M. Olive b. 19 March 1957, Little Chute, WI [1]. m. John McCandless 18 April 1882.
- d. M. Lousie b. 15 Dec 1858 Little Chute, WI [1], m. Louis Mornson (Morrison, Moranson) 3 June 1873, d. 18 Aug 1879, Phlox, WI [7]
- e. Sophie b. 25 July 1860, Little Chute, WI, [1], m. Louis Duaine, d. 1945 in the East.

- (3) f. Emmanuel (Manville)  
 g. Thomas b. 13 July 1864, Little Chute, WI [1]  
 h. M. Henrietta b. 6 May 1866, Little Chute, WI [1]  
 i. John Henry b. 6 May 1866 Little Chute, WI [1]  
 j. Rose Delima b. c. 1872. m. Henry Marchand 12 Aug 1895, Delta Co., MI [15], d. 28 May 1960 Escanaba, MI [15].  
 k. Louis Ephraim b. 22 Aug 1874 Little Chute, WI [1], m. Marie Louise Brouillard Sept. 1900, Little Chute, WI. d. 8 April 1944, Shawno, Langlade Co., WI [7]  
 l. Cleophile b. 4 Mar 1868 Little Chute, WI [1]. d. 1894 Phlox, WI. Never married.

3. Emmanuel (Manville) Joseph St. Louis, son of Joseph St. Louis and Julia Bergeon b. 21 July 1862 in Little Chute [5], m. Mary Ann Brouillard, daughter of Louis Napoleon Brouillard and Ann Timmers. Emmanuel died 20 April 1904 in Phlox, Langlade Co, WI [7]. Mary Ann was b. 17 Sept 1863 in Appleton, WI [5,6] and d. 22 Oct 1942. [5]

#### Children:

- (4) a. George Joseph  
 b. Lillian Agnes b. 4 Dec 1888, Phlox, WI [5,6,7], m. 4 Aug 1958 to Louis Quigley, d. 10 Oct 1980 at Embarras, WI [17]  
 c. M. Lumena b. 19 Nov 1886, Phlox, WI [6,7]  
 d. Isadore Nap. b. 5 Jan 1891, Phlox, WI [6,7]  
 e. Juliet Agnes b. 7 Jan 1893, Phlox, WI [5,6,7], m. Fred DeCoursin [18]  
 f. Clair b. 16 Oct 1894 Phlox, WI [5,6,7]. m. Ann Smith(?) [16]. d. c. 1952 in Albuquerque N.M. His baptismal record says "female" but he is a male.  
 g. Leonard Robert (Reuben) b. 18 Sept 1896, Phlox, WI [7]  
 h. Reuben Robert b. 18 Sept 1897, Phlox, WI [5,6], m. Ella Jahnke [16], d. 12 Jan 1969 in Neenah, WI, buried Clintonville, WI. Are Leonard Robert Reuben and Reuben Robert the same person?  
 i. Marthe M. b. 31 Aug 1898, Phlox, WI [5,6], m. Elmer Steerbach c. 1943.  
 j. Manuel Stated as living at time of Isador's birth.

4. George Joseph St. Louis, son of Emmanuel St. Louis and Mary Ann Brouillard was b. 14 April 1885 in Phlox, WI. [7] His first marriage was on 16 June 1907 to Ethel Robbins nee Stone, daughter of William Stone and Caroline Crus-Like [17]. She d. 14 October 1918 in Hammond IN. No issue. His second marriage was to Ida Mary Mornson, daughter of Louis Mornson and Rose Lemay. They were married on 16 August 1920 at Phlox, WI [7]. Ida Mary was b. on 21 May 1885 at Seymour, WI [17]. George d. 26 Nov 1950 at New Eagle, Washington Co., PA Ida d. 11 Oct. 1955 at Rapid River,

Delta Co, MI [10].

Children:

- a. Marie Therese      b. 20 June 1926, Pittsburgh, PA [9].  
d. 1 October 1984.

Footnotes:

1. Little Chute Church Records
2. Birth Certificate, St. Francois du Lac
3. Appleton Post Crescent, June 1892
4. "Father Phillip St. Louis" by Rev. C. Luke Leiterman
5. St. Louis Family Bible
6. Death Certificate, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Madison, WI
7. Phlox Records
8. State marriage certificate
9. Death certificate, Pittsburgh PA
10. Bureau of Vital Statistics, Michigan
11. Death Certificate, Bureau of Vital Statistics, PA
12. St. Patrick's Church, Escanaba, MI
- 1
13. Bureau of Vital Statistics, IN
14. Vilas County, WI marriage records, courthouse
15. Delta County Michigan Courthouse, Vital Records
16. Cousin Lillian Quigley
17. Obituary
18. Cousin Juliet DeCoursin
19. 1860 U.S. Census, Little Chute
20. 1900 U.S. Census, Phlox
21. Cousin Della Marchand
22. Phlox Cemetery
23. Thesis: "Families of Yamachiche"
24. Cousin Louise Grignon
25. Cousin Robert St. Louis
26. Bureau of Vital Statistics, WI
27. Cousin Marcy Lewenstein's French Bible
28. St. Mary's Church
29. U.S. Census, Kaukauna
30. Cousin Arvilla Schroeder
31. Brown County WI Courthouse, vital records
32. Cousin Adelaide Lafond, Fargo, N>D.

NEXT ISSUE WILL HAVE INDEX TO  
FIRST SIX VOLUMES OF THE QUAR-  
TERLY.

The August issue of the French Canadian/Acadian Genealogists of Wisconsin Quarterly will be composed largely of an everynames index to the first six volumes of that publication. With the help of members of the organization, Beverly LaBelle has done a tremendous job of entering names on the computer.

Remember that dues for the 1992/93 membership year fall due in June of 1992. Only those members who renewed their membership

Remember that dues for the 1992/93 membership year fall due in June of 1992. Only those members who renewed their membership receive the August 1992 issue and therefore the index.

Details as to how to order back issue of the QUARTERLY will be included in the August issue.

## RESEARCH TRIPS SCHEDULED

On Saturday September 19, 1992 and on Wednesday Sept 23, 1992 research trips are scheduled to go to the State Historical Society in Madison. Each day the groups will meet at the Brookfield Square Parking lot at 6:30 A.M., close to the entrance opposite Sears. Car pooling will set up there.

Jim Hanson will lead each group on a tour of the library beginning at 9:A.M.

Members throughout the state are urged to join the group at the library--in the reading room at 8:00 A.M. or at Jim Hansen's desk at 9:00 A.M.

Those having further questions may contact Mary Dunsirn.(address and phone number below)

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