

LINKS

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Issue Number 33

Winter 2014



Journal of the
*Vermont French-Canadian
Genealogical Society*

THE VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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The Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society was founded at Burlington, Vermont in March 1996. It holds its research meetings every Tuesday evening and on Saturday afternoons,* at the Society's library located in Rooms 202, 203 and 204 of Dupont Hall, Ethan Allen Avenue in the Fort Ethan Allen Complex, Colchester, Vermont. Access, including a handicapped ramp, and parking are best in the rear of the building, via Hegeman Avenue.

The chief objectives of the Society are:

- to provide aid to members in their research and to encourage them to learn more about their rich history
- to be a repository for Vermont French-American genealogical and historical data
- to promote the highest standard of ethics among genealogists.

Membership is open to any person, upon submission of application, agreement to the VT-FCGS code of ethics, and payment of annual dues.

Library Hours: Every Tuesday, 3:00 to 9:30 PM, and every Saturday of the month 10 AM to 4 PM from September to June and one Saturday a month during the summer. The Library will not be open on a Saturday that falls on a Holiday weekend, including the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Out of state visitors may make special arrangements to use the research library at other times. To do so call either: Janet Eno Landry (802-864-6037), or Janet Allard (802-878-8081).

Web Page: <http://www.vt-fcgs.org>

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***In many of our pursuits we collect things,
in genealogy we collect ancestors.***

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Journal of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

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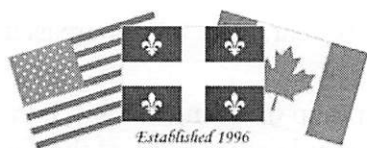
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Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

Message from the President

Dear Members:

Every year brings new challenges, the need for more resources and lots of opportunities to be pursued by our staff and members. And 2013 has been no exception. We had to replace our high-volume copier, upgrade computers, renew our subscription databases and add books in key areas of members' interest. Even with unexpected expenses our finances broke to the positive in the last month of the fiscal year as a result of October membership renewals and a small profit on the annual conference.

Membership dues and the sale of our parish books provide the majority of our income. The great work done every year by John Fisher's team of transcribers, proof-readers and editors provides our society with a unique Vermont resource, preserves church records, and helps keep our lights on in the library. This is a volunteer task that can be done at home, whenever one has time and you can read more about the details in this issue.

If you get a chance you should stop in and check out some of the roughly 250 new books our librarians have added to the shelves in the past 6 months. Many of these were specific purchases in areas where our members have ancestors and our library has limited coverage. These regions include New York State, Scottish and Irish immigrants coming through Canada and records from southern Quebec. We also received 106 books donated by the Alburgh Historical Society from the collection of the late genealogist and historian, David Bell. These volumes primarily target northwest Vermont, northeast New York and the Quebec counties just across the border. These and other resources from that collection are covered in a separate article.

We've recently announced a new "pin program." This one is described in detail in this issue of LINKS and involves proving ancestral connections to Civil War veterans. Another key milestone was the completion of our first detailed Members' Survey. The interesting and important information that you provided to the society has been summarized by Tom Devarney.

Another change involved membership on the Board of Directors. Longtime BOD member Lynn Gauthier stepped down after several terms. She has provided the Board with her extensive genealogical expertise, knowledge of Vermont family history and great advice. Thankfully, Lynn continues to support us as a volunteer transcriber, as the manager of our LINKS and parish book inventories, our shipping and receiving and in a myriad of other ways. I want to thank her for service on the Board of Directors. Lou Izzo was elected to fill that vacancy and brings his expertise from a career at UVM and service on various boards of directors.

Recruiting members is critical to the success of any organization and recruiting is driven by getting people to know you. Lynn Johnson is our advertising chair and she has continued to develop ways to get our message to the public. This summer Lynn and Sue McGuire implemented an aggressive strategy to increase coverage of our society in the local media. Their efforts resulted in great exposure. We were covered on Vermont Public Radio's 'Noon Edition,' on Cable TV Channel 17's 'Positively Vermont,' in the 'Essex Reporter,' 'Williston Observer,' along with feature articles in 'Seven Days' and 'Vermont Maturity Magazine.'

Our web-presence continues to evolve and it is playing an increasing role in helping us to recruit members. Many people now find us through the internet and in the past five months we've had over a dozen new members register online. Thanks to the efforts of our media coverage and our online presence

we were able to grow the membership again this year. The total increased by 15 new members, bringing it to 424.

Looking forward into 2014 - we have a new line-up of spring classes, continued upgrades to our website, several outreach events and booths at the Vermont History Expo at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in June and the Vergennes French Heritage Day in July. And, of course, our staff will be at the library twice a week to assist members.

Ed McGuire

President

2014 Spring Class Schedule

All classes held at our library

Saturdays, 10:30 until noon

(Classes \$5; Workshops \$10)

The public is invited

Beginning Genealogy	Sheila Morris, #417	Feb 1
Using our new tools at www.vtgenlib.org	Ed McGuire, #264	Feb 8
Going Professional: Education & Preparation	Joanne Polanshek, #900	Feb 15
Genetic Genealogy: Part 1	Ed McGuire, #264	Feb 22
Genetic Genealogy: Part 2	Ed McGuire, #264	Mar 1
Early New England Records at AmericanAncestors.org	Ed McGuire, #264	Mar 29
*Canadian Records on British & Irish Immigrants	Gary Schroder	Apr 5
	- <i>Quebec Family History Society</i>	
Acadian Research	Mike Sevigny, #59	Apr 12
Quebec Genealogy Records	Denyse Beaugrand-Champagne	Apr 26
	- <i>Library & Archives Canada</i>	
Using Obituaries & City Directories in Genealogy	Lynn Johnson, #581	May 3
Finding Francis: A Search for my Scottish Ancestors	Bill Craig, #836	May 10
(* 5 April talk is a 2-hour <u>workshop</u> with handouts.)		

DNA Testing and my Craig Ancestry

By BillCraig-836

I wanted to further investigate my Craig family heritage using DNA tests. Thanks to the kind help of my friends at the Vermont Genealogy Library, a lot of web searching and a wee bit of luck I am confident of my immigration ancestor, James Craig b. 23 DEC 1776 in Paisley, Scotland. His father, my GGGG Grandfather, was also born in Paisley on 24 OCT 1725. Before that time the waters are murky. So I decided to test my Y-DNA to pursue my Craig surname.

[Note: Y-DNA follows the patrilineal line from one's father, whose Y-DNA came from his father, and so on. The mutations that occur over time are a specific number of repeats of a pattern of the four DNA bases (Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine & Thymine). An example might look like "-CATT-CATT-CATT-CATT-"; as if Mother Nature had stuttered when copying these bases. The number of repeats, in this case four, is a signature and changes slowly over centuries. My pattern at various places in my DNA is unique to my 'clan' or 'haplogroup' and would differ from your family's Y-DNA patterns. The term for these patterns is 'Short Tandem Repeats' or STRs. The most widely recommended Y-DNA test looks for

these STRs at 37 places in one's DNA, or 37 markers, and costs \$169. Testing more markers than 37 provides more detailed results but costs more, too.]

The first set of test results, a 37 marker Y-STR, came back and I signed up for the Craig surname project, <http://www.worldfamilies.net/surnames/craig/> You can find my kit there, 270983. However, you can not find anyone who matches most of my key STRs, in particular those numbered DYS391, DYS459, YCAII and DYS351.

Some good advice was to increase the Y-STR DNA tests to 67 markers and use the National Geographic's GENO 2.0 Project to better define my haplogroup. Thirty seven markers told me I was in the 'R-M269' haplogroup which contains just about the entire white anglo-saxon population. The 67 marker test was most worthwhile because it supplied the STR for DYS531, which was a key in identifying my haplogroup.

Before my GENO 2.0 results came back I received an invitation to join the Riddell group because my DYS459 markers had two values 9-9 and the YCAII markers were 19-19, indicators of the Riddell group. After joining I began to get some insight into my family roots beyond the genealogical time frame. I believe this relationship dated to the times before surnames came into common usage in Scotland.

When the GENO 2.0 test came back I found my haplogroup was 'R-L21 Plus' and was recruited by the R-L21Plus project, <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/R-L21/>. Richard Stevens, the R-L21Plus group administrator, proved to be extremely helpful. If you look at the homepage of the above web link you will see the R1b-L21 Phylogenetic Tree and how far it is from R-M269. My tests for L21 and DF13 were both positive. Below DF13 there are multiple subclades many of which have been tested by the GENO 2.0 test. Richard knew exactly which ones required no further testing. I did the necessary remaining SNP testing and found that I do not belong to any of the subclades! But I am not alone.

For someone to be related to me they MUST be in the R-L21Plus Haplogroup and must be in the DF13+ group. If they do not satisfy this requirement they can NOT be related to me regardless of the Y-STR matches. There about 3,000 people in this group and 3 Craigs including myself. The Y-STR of the other two really do not match. So Craig is not common in this group.

So who are my relatives? Not the Craigs but surnames like Scott, Riddell, Porteous, Porter, Dundas and more! Mike Wallace, co-admin of the R-L21Plus project, did some great detective work and determined that the key Y-STRs are:

DYS391 = 10
DYS459 = 9-9
YCAII = 19-19
DYS531 = 9

Further, this group has been assigned a number 13-9919-B for research purposes, but the SNP that defines this group has not yet been identified.

I have a match at 65 of 67 markers with a Mr. Gene Scott who also belongs to the 13-9919-B group. He is struggling to find his heritage in Europe. His ancestors came from Ireland in the early 1700s and his family history has it they were Scot-Irish having left Scotland for Ireland in the 1600s.

Did this DNA testing help? Yes, it has given me insight into which avenues of research to pursue and which to discard. At first I thought my ancestors were from the highlands, but not so. They were located around Glasgow and the 1888 census of Scotland showed the highest percent density of Craig surname was centered about Glasgow. Now all I have to do is just keep looking at the Craig ancestry problem and make what progress I can.

Library Additions from the David Bell Collection

by Ed McGuire-264

Many of our members have connections to families in the northwest corner of Vermont as well as northeastern New York and the 'Eastern Townships' of Quebec. This large area surrounding the top of Lake Champlain has always had a busy, interconnected economy and family ties that transcended its arbitrary boundaries. David Bell was a genealogist and historian who studied those interconnections for several decades in his support to Allen L. Stratton, author of four Vermont Town history books.

David was also the Alburgh town historian and served as both a librarian and a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogy Society (NNYACGS). He was a science teacher for over 43 years at Swanton and Missisquoi Valley Union high schools and worked independently as a genealogical consultant. When he passed away in May, 2011, he left his large collection of genealogy and reference materials to the Alburgh Historical Society.



David Bell (ca. 1955)

Back in May of this year our society was notified by one of our members, Ed Fisette, that the Alburgh Historical Society (AHS) needed help to scan several thousand pages of genealogical records, find homes for almost 200 books and evaluate the value of about 150 rolls of microfilm from the US, Canadian and Quebec Archives. Ed, a Trustee of the AHS, had assisted in moving and assessing the material once it was at their museum. The Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogical Society (NNYACGS), where David Bell had been a member, and the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society both agreed to send volunteers to assist with a project to save this valuable collection. From June 12th – June 14th about 15 volunteers worked 8 hours a day to organize, collate and scan the loose material and to find homes for the books and microfilms. The VT-FCGS members included Ed & Nancy Fisette, Bill Craig, Patti Malone, Lynn Johnson, Mary Jo Brace, Sheila Morris, Rod Stinson, Jacqueline Jones and Ed McGuire. A team from the NNYACGS was lead by Anastasia Pratt, their President, while the volunteers from the AHS were led by their President, Christine Tepper.

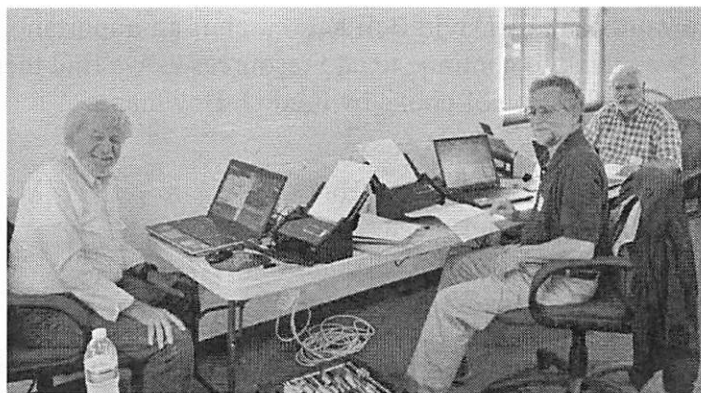


Rod Stinson & Bill Craig from VTFCGS (on left), Sue Lynch, Jenney and Denny Biladeau from AHS



Jacqueline Jones & Nancy Fisette from VTFCGS (in foreground)

After this effort was completed several additional days of work were involved in scanning about 60 of the books, several of which had water damage. Bill Craig also spent many hours converting the hundreds of scanned "loose" research files into text-searchable PDF documents.



Howard Tepper (AHS), Ed McGuire & Ed Fisette man the 3 scanners

The material our library received from AHS included 106 books and 142 rolls of microfilm. These books, which are concentrated in northwest Vermont, southern Quebec and eastern New York, fall into five categories: vital records, cemetery records, census returns, local/county histories, genealogies/biographies and historical events.

The breakout of books by state/province is: Quebec – 67, New York – 16, Vermont – 13, New Hampshire – 3, Rhode Island – 1, Massachusetts – 1 and other – 5.

One area of concentration is in the Eastern Townships of Quebec. These volumes include baptism and marriage records of many Protestant denominations from the towns and counties along Vermont's northern border. While we already had a few of these in our collection they significantly broaden our limited coverage of Protestant records in this area.

The large collection of local histories is also mostly from this same area. Some of these volumes include name indexes although, regrettably, the multivolume series by the Missisquoi Historical Society does not. Still, patient searching of these books can yield valuable information on early residents and settlers. The two volume set, "The History of Brome County," and the "History of Huntingdon County" each include a separate volume containing an index of all names.

There are several books that deserve special attention. One 3-volume set, "Desertions, Elopements and Escapes," contains newspaper accounts of thousands of soldiers, sailors and residents from Aberdeen, Scotland from 1765 to 1820 who ran afoul of the law – sometimes in very colorful fashion. Another title worth a look is "Marriages of Clinton County, New York," by Benoit Pontbriand, published in 1984.

The "History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York" with coverage up to 1853 and the 2-volume set, "Historical Sketches of Franklin County, New York" provide much needed information on an area of the Empire State where we lack significant resources. Some other notable books on New York include two on the vital records from St. Peters Episcopal Church in Albany, a pair on New York Loyalists and the confiscations of their lands during the Revolution and one on the German Palatine immigrants, many of who settled in the Mohawk valley, written in 1908. Finally, there are several books on the censuses of 1776 and 1790 in New Hampshire, and 1791, 1800 and 1810 in Vermont. The books have already been added to the shelves and put into our online catalog, thanks to the patient efforts of our librarians Janet Allard and Janet Eno Landry.

Category	Quantity
Vital Records	28
Protestant	22
Catholic	4
Civil	2
Cemetery Records	5
Census Records	7
Genealogies & Biographies	10
Local History	29
Historical Events & Migration	16

The region covered by these works and by David Bell's research is an important area of genealogical research for our society and we intend to continue to add resources as we find them. An example of this focus is our recent purchase of a collection of books by Fred O. Bowman:

10,000 Vital Records of Central New York
10,000 Vital Records of Western New York
10,000 Vital Records of Eastern New York
7,000 Vital Records of the Hudson & Mohawk Rivers
Landholders of Northeastern New York

The donated microfilms will be added to our collection in January 2014, after reviewing the films' contents. Finally, the hundreds of research files must be reviewed and then made available for members to search. (Anyone wishing to help with this effort should contact Ed McGuire at edmcguire.vt@gmail.com.)

With the addition of these books and microfilms to our existing resources we have made a good start in providing better coverage of this important trading and migration area of our ancestors. We're sincerely grateful to the Alburgh Historical Society for their generosity and to all the volunteers who made this possible.

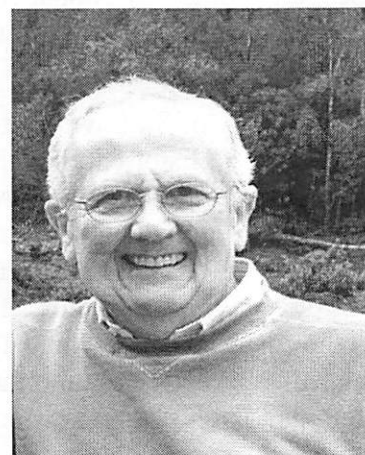
2014 Holiday Closings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Holiday/Event</u>
19-Apr	Sat	Easter
24-May	Sat	Memorial Day Weekend
5-Jul	Sat	Independence Day Weekend
30-Aug	Sat	Labor Day Weekend
Oct (TBD)	Sat	Annual Conference
29-Nov	Sat	Thanksgiving Weekend
23-Dec	Tue	Christmas Holiday
27-Dec	Sat	Christmas Holiday
30-Dec	Tue	Christmas Holiday
3-Jan	Sat	New Year's Holiday

Note: the library is closed on Saturdays in July and August except for 12 July and 9 August.

Thomas Morris

We are sorry to report the passing of Thomas Morris on 19 September 2013. Tom was born on 13 February 1938 in Cambuslang, Scotland, to Thomas and Anne (Dawson) Morris. He immigrated to Canada in 1959 and married Sheila Morris, a current Director and past President of the VT-FCGS, in 1962. They moved to the US in 1967 and lived in Vermont, New York and then returned to Vermont raising their three children, Penny, Robert and Thomas, along the way. Tom was a member of our Society and assisted Sheila in teaching a class at our library last April on Scottish Genealogy Research. Tom will be dearly missed by his family and friends who enjoyed his Scottish brogue, quick wit and willingness to always lend a hand. Our sympathy goes out to the family.



Hubert Hamiel dit Lusignan alias Eber Johnson

Jean-Richard Poissant

In the Mount Calvary Cemetery in Burlington, which is owned by St Joseph Church and Parish, there are many burials for veterans of the Civil War. Many have English sounding names, but most are actually French Canadians whose names have been anglicized by clerks, census takers or the military.

I had already done a large document about Lewis Barttro of the 13th Regiment, alias Louis Berthiaume, several years ago; and I attempted to find the ancestry of Peter Lander, alias Pierre Terrien, who was in the VT Cavalry but there were just too many Peter Landers and Pierre Terriens in the Burlington area. I thought that I would look at another veteran.

I selected Eber Johnson who was in the 5th VT Infantry Regiment for almost 4 years and was disabled after losing an arm in battle. The 5th VT Reg. was one of 5 Vermont Regiments that made up the 1st Vermont Brigade. They were a very highly regarded brigade and fought in many tough battles.

"**The First Vermont Brigade, or "Old Brigade"** was an infantry brigade in the Union Army of the Potomac during the American Civil War. It suffered the highest casualty count of any brigade in the history of the United States Army, with some 1,172 killed in action. It was the only brigade in the Army of the Potomac known by the name of its state. The "Old Brigade" served from 1861 to 1865 and was one of two brigades from Vermont, both famous in their own right.

The **First Vermont Brigade** was organized in October 1861 [**Eber Johnson enlisted in August**], primarily through the efforts of Maj. Gen. William F. "Baldy" Smith. It was composed of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Vermont Infantry regiments, which had been individually mustered into service between June and September. Its first commander was Brig. Gen. William T. H. Brooks. In April 1862, the brigade was incorporated into the Army of the Potomac as the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, VI Corps, and first saw action during Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign in the battles of Williamsburg and Savage's Station. It later was present at Antietam and Fredericksburg. Under the command of Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Grant, the Vermonters fought in the campaign culminating in the Battle of Chancellorsville. The Vermonters participated in VI Corps' capture of Marye's Heights in the Second battle of Fredericksburg and then were prominent in the fighting at Salem Church. They were held in reserve during the Battle of Gettysburg, holding a flank guard position behind Big Round Top, losing only one man wounded. After the Gettysburg Campaign, elements of the Vermont Brigade were sent to help quell the draft riots in New York City.

The Overland Campaign

The depleted brigade received reinforcements in May 1864 when the 11th Vermont Infantry was assigned to the organization. That same month, the Army of the Potomac, under the overall supervision of Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, began its spring offensive towards Richmond. The Vermont Brigade mustered approximately 2,850 soldiers at the start of the campaign.

On the morning of May 5, the Union army attacked Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at the Battle of the Wilderness. While the initial Union attack was successful, rough terrain and stubborn resistance ground down the attack. By midday, Lt. Gen. A. P. Hill's Confederate corps had been brought up and was attacking the weak Union center along the Orange Plank Road. Maj. Gen. George W. Getty's brigades were ordered by Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, who was still bringing up most of his corps, to hold the road and counterattack. The Vermont Brigade took the southern flank and charged the advancing

Confederates. **Ordered to retreat, the 5th Vermont regiment instead launched a bayonet charge, buying time for Union troops and the rest of the Vermont Brigade to fall back to their hasty works.** The Confederates continued to attack until the Union line was stabilized. Losses by the brigade totaled 1,269 killed, wounded, and missing in less than 12 hours of fighting. **[Eber Johnson was wounded here]**

After the Wilderness, the Union Army moved south to Spotsylvania Court House, where Lee's army had entrenched. Early in the battle, elements of the Vermont brigade, defending barricades forward of the rest of the Union Army, were ordered to retreat and spike their supporting artillery field pieces before the Confederates overran them. Disobeying orders, the commander of the brigade ordered the guns to be "spiked with canister," and the brigade was able to defend the guns and works successfully until reinforcements arrived to stabilize the position. The Vermonters suffered heavily during the ensuing assault on the Confederate defenses as The Vermont Brigade led the assault on the "Mule Shoe Salient," a protruding network of trenches in the center of the Confederate lines.

The final battle of the Overland Campaign was the Battle of Cold Harbor. The Vermont Brigade was one of the units selected to charge Confederate earthworks on June 1, 1864. Grant's attack failed and he suffered heavy losses. In less than 10 minutes, hundreds of soldiers from the Vermont Brigade were killed or wounded. The brigade, in less than one month of fighting, had been reduced from 2,850 men to less than 1,200.

Petersburg and the Valley

While the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia dug in at Petersburg, Confederate Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early was sent on a mission through the Shenandoah Valley to the outskirts of Washington D. C. The Vermont Brigade fought in the Valley Campaign against Early, under the overall command of Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan. At the Battle of Cedar Creek, Early launched a surprise attack against Sheridan's army and the First Vermont Brigade covered the Union army's temporary retreat, prior to Sheridan's counterattack and decisive victory. Lewis Grant commanded the 2nd Division, VI Corps, during the later stages of this action, when Getty became acting corps commander. Col. George P. Foster led the brigade while Grant was in command of the division. Foster's brigade held the center of the division's line until the entire formation retreated in good order. When Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Bidwell fell and his brigade, of the Vermonters left, was in danger of losing heart, Lt. Col. Windsor French, who took command, is reported to have told his men not to fall back until the Vermonters did so. Six Medals of Honor were awarded to Vermonters at Cedar Creek, and the brigade captured three regimental colors and much of the 12th North Carolina regiment.

Returning to Petersburg, where it was engaged until the end of the war, the First Vermont Brigade led the attack on the earthworks defending the city, successfully breaking through the Confederate lines on the morning of April 2, 1865 **[Eber Johnson lost his arm in this battle]**. Lewis Grant was wounded in this action and briefly relinquished command. Six members of the brigade were awarded the Medal of Honor for valor for this action. After the surrender of Lee's army later that month, the brigade participated in the victory parade in Washington. It returned to Vermont and the men were mustered out. Many former members of the brigade joined fraternal veterans organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic and held reunions to recount their days in the First Vermont Brigade." (source: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_Vermont_Brigade)

Eber Johnson was wounded twice during the war, once at the Battle of the Wilderness and once at the Battle of Petersburg where he most likely lost his arm.

Eber Johnson's Military History

Civil War	Eber Johnson , 1837 - 1909 Residence: Attributed to Bolton, Vermont
26 Aug 1861	Enlisted as a Private
16 Sep 1861	Enlisted in Company K, 5th VT Infantry Regiment
15 Dec 1863	Reenlisted in Company K, 5th VT Infantry Regiment
05 May 1864	Wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness, VA
28 Dec 1864	Mustered Out Company K, 5th VT Infantry Regiment
28 Feb 1865	Mustered in Company K, 5th VT Infantry Regiment
02 Apr 1865	Wounded at Petersburg, VA
07 Jul 1865	Discharged due to wounds Company K, 5th VT Infantry Regiment
	Post Civil War records
16 Feb 1866	Application for Pension Johnson, Eber SERVICE: K, 5th VT Inf. Application for INVALID: #102,750 Certificate No. 60656
June 1890 Census	Special Schedule for Surviving Soldiers etc: Johnson, Eber , Private, K, 5 VT Inf, 28 Aug 1861, 6 Jul 1865, served for 3 yrs, 10 months and 8 days. Living at 141 Hyde St, Burlington, VT Disability: Right arm shot away
13 Sep 1902	Burl. Free Press: Pension for Eber Johnson increased to \$10.
4 Dec 1909	Pension Re-imbursement: Certificate # 60656 Disability: Loss of right arm above the elbow and G. S. W. of left shoulder Rate=50 Commencement 16 Oct 1901 Date of Cert: 25 Aug 1902 Transferred from CONCORD Died: 22 mar 1909 Bureau notified: 18 Jun 1909 Claim for reimbursement dated 29 Nov 1909 Payable to Melvina Johnson Anderson Paid 4 Dec 1909 \$131.67
Descendents	Granddaughters of Eber Johnson: Elaine Johnson Aldrich of Tonasket, WA Iona Johnson Kirouac of Hesperia, CA Leala Pat Johnson of Lancaster, CA

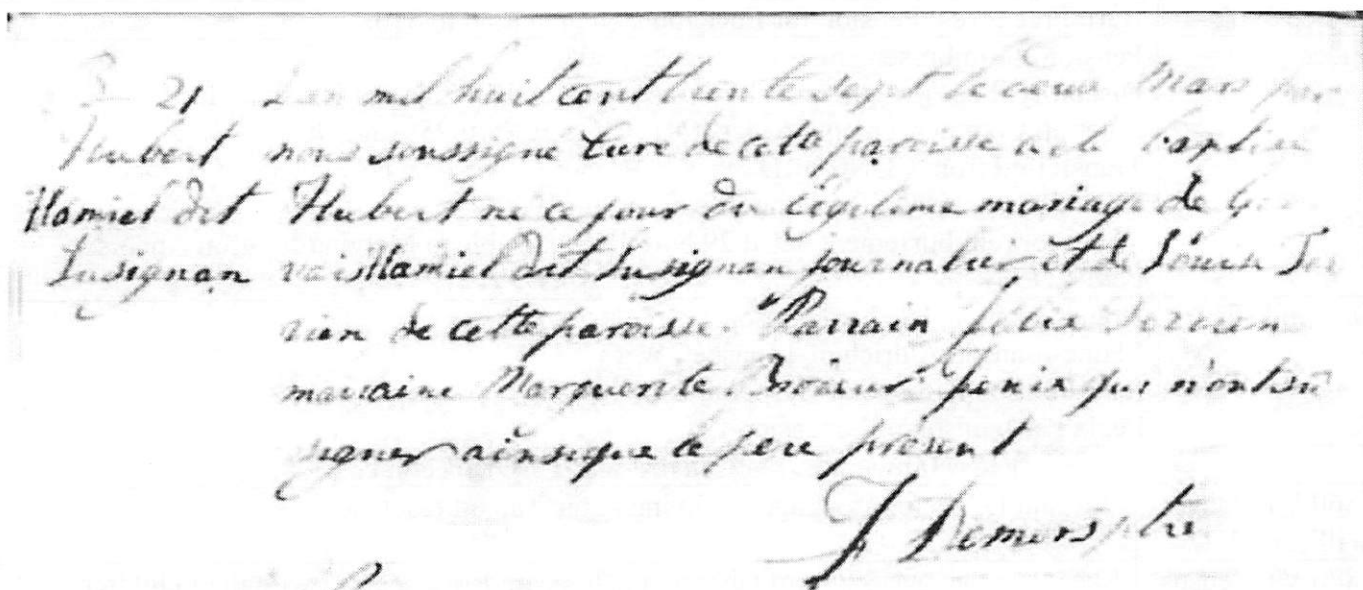
Eber Johnson in the Census' and City Directory

1860 VT Census Williston, VT	We find Leber Johnson, age 22, living at the Talcott residence.
1870 VT Census Hinesburg, VT	Eber Johnson, age 32, farm laborer, and his wife Rosa age 27? with their children Rosa, Mary and Margaret, ages 5, 3 and 2.
1880 VT Census Hinesburg, VT	Eber Johnson age 42 and Roselle P. age 32, his wife, and children Louisa R., Flora L., Victoria A., and son Medda D.; ages 13, 11, 10 and 7
25 Feb 1887	Middlebury Register: Eber Johnson moved from Bristol to Burlington
1890 Burlington City Directory	Eber Johnson living at 141 Hyde Street, Burlington.
1900 VT Census Burlington, VT	Eber Johnson age 62, born May 1838 [incorrect, it was March 1837], immigrated 42 yrs ago in 1857 and wed 35 years and wife Rosalie born Mar 1850, immigrated 44 years ago at age 18 in 1855, and had 10 children with 8 living. Child named Emma I. born Feb 1878, age 22. Also an adopted son named Flemming Freeman born Jun 1884 age 15. Living at 141 Hyde Street. Ebers occupation was Captalist?

Who were Eber Johnson's parents and what was his real name? The St Joseph Baptism and Marriage books provide the answers. Johnson was a common alias for Lusignan, another was Zeno. In the records we find the marriage of Hubert Lusignan and Rosalie Plant and in the baptism book we find the baptism



of their 2 first children. They lived in Williston at that time, but St Joseph's served the French Canadians in most of Vermont, being the only French Church in Vermont at that time. The priests acted as missionaries and traveled throughout the state. All the other births of their children were found in the civil records. It was not difficult to find the birth of Hubert Lusignan dit Amiel in St Denis sur Richelieu, the marriage of their parents and all their ancestors. It was interesting to note that in the year of Hubert's/Eber's birth, on 23 Nov 1837, an Antoine Lusignan dit Amiel was killed in the Battle of St Denis during the Insurrection of 1837-1838. Antoine was a Patriote. How was he related to Hubert?



Above is the baptism of Hubert Hamiel dit Lusignan, performed on 2 Mar 1837 at St Denis sur Richelieu. Parents were Gervais Hamiel dit Lusignan and Louise Terrien. Godparents were Felix Terrien and Marguerite Brodeur. You can see that Amiel was named Hamiel in that parish, a small deviation from the usual Amiel dit Lusignan. This made the search a little tougher. The clincher was when I was searching for Eber's death certificate. I was wondering why I could not find it because they had used Johnson in 1860 and forward except for the St Joseph record. However I decided to look at Lusignan and "Voila", it said Hubert Lusignan on the death certificate!!! He was leaving this earth with his correct name, even though his military gravestone says Eber Johnson! Hubert had died of General Paralysis at age 73.



Eber Johnson &
Rosalie Plante Johnson

Children of Hubert Lusignan dit Amiel alias Eber Johnson & Rosalie Plante

Name	Born - Bap	
Rosalie Marie Lusignan	Bn 20 Sep 1866 Bp 14 Oct 1866 St Jos. Burl. VT	Godparents were Francois Plante & Louise Terrien - Looks like the grandparents were the godparents. A custom. Note: St Joseph's, being a French Catholic Church, always used the real French surnames. Williston, VT
Louisa	Bn abt 1867	Williston, VT? Wed of Louisa Johnson age 18 on 16 Sep 1882 to Joseph Blanchard by a minister in Williston, VT
Julie Flavie Lusignan (Lasena) Flora?	Bn 7 Apr 1868 Bp 10 May 1868 St Jos. Burl. VT	Godparents were Gilbert Allard & Flavie Card Williston, VT Wed of Flora J. Johnson age 14 on 1 Jul 1882 to Willis Flemming in Hinesburg by minister. Wed (2) of Flora Johnson Sheahan of Alstead, NH age 44 on 22 Dec 1915 to Fred H. Pratt at Rockingham by Episcopal minister from Bellows Falls, VT Wed (3) 2nd? of Flora Johnson Sheehan age 40 widow and nurse on 3 May 1911 to William M. Brown at Fitchburg, MA by a Justice of the Peace. Died 10 Aug 1922 at Alstead, NH (a 15 yr resident) born 7 Apr (1872?)
Victoria Johnson	Bn abt 1870	Wed of Victoria A. Johnson age 27 on 6 Dec 1899 to Charles Parizo by Huntington minister in Essex, VT
Eber Johnson	Bn 17 May 1871	Williston, VT. Died 26 May 1871 - VVR Ancestry
Neddie-Medda (male) M. Mitchell Johnson Madda Mitchell Johnson	Bn 20 Jun 1872 -----	Williston, VT - VVR Ancestry Wed 23 Sep 1893 age 21 to Clara Sandomorc at Burlington, VT. Mitchell was a farmer. In 1900 Eva and Joel were 3 and 2 yrs Died 19 Feb 1947 at Seattle, King Cty, WA Age: 70 years 7 months 29 days In mausoleum at Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park, Seattle, WA Birth Year (Estimated): 1877 Wed(2) 9 May 1911 age 37 Born Williston, VT Springfield, MA to Elizabeth Pyatt Van Scoten Later wed to Rose B. in WA - no kids
Bell Johnson	Bn 6 Jul 1874	Hinesburg, VT - VVR Ancestry
Ovide F. Johnson		A painter age 23 born 1885? in Hinesburg, VT. wed on 17 Oct 1908 in Keene, NH to Blanche M. Nash
Emma Exada Johnson	Bn 28 Feb 1876	Hinesburg, VT - VVR Ancestry
Frankie Harvey Johnson	Bn 20 Mar 1878	Hinesburg, VT - VVR Ancestry Frank Johnson age 30 teamster in Alstead, NH wed on 4 Oct 1909 to Delia Taylor in Rockingham, VT by Baptist minister from Bellows Falls, VT. WWII draft card in 1942. He was age 64 in Newport, NH Died 21 Sep 1946 age 68 at Unuty, NH Daughter Phyllis born 1924 1940 census Frank age 60 - Delia 48 - Suzanne 7 highest grade=4 occ: WPA - chopper.
Emma Johnson	Bn 22 Feb 1878?	Hinesburg, VT - VVR Ancestry

		Joseph Lawrence
Malvina-Lavina Johnson	Bn 16 Jun 1882	Hinesburg, VT - VVR Ancestry Wed of Melvina Johnson age 21 on 12 Jun 1903 to Louis Anderson in Burlington, VT
Jerimiah Johnson	Bn 14 Feb 1886 Bristol, VT	Wed at St Joseph, Burl. as Jeremie Johnson (Lusignan) age 19 and married 21 Jun 1905 of Hubert & Rosalie Plante of Bristol, VT to Marie Malvina Bessette age 16 dau. of Edward & Jeanne Milette. Died 28 Jun 1936 Newport, NH (in NH 30 yrs) shoe worker Born 6 Feb 1886? on death cert. Buried St Patricks cemetery, Newport, NH

Note: In the 1900 census they noted that they had 10 children and 8 were living. Since I am listing 12 children above, some may have double entries. Seven children were married so they are most believable.

Jean Miel (Amiaud) & Louise Emonnet	
Lusignan, France (Formerly Pranzay, France) is in the Vienne Department in the Poitou-Charente region in western France. It lies 25 km southwest of Poitiers. The town of Lusignan now has about 3,000 inhabitants. It is located on the road from Poitiers to La Rochelle. It is about 400 km from Paris.	
Jean Miel dit Lusignan & Therese Latouche Wed 27 Apr 1699 at Boucherville, Quebec Jean Miel dit Lusignan born & baptized 8 Jan 1664 St Pierre & St Paul Church, Pranzay, France He was first mentioned in Quebec in 1692 Soldier in the French Marines, company of Lavaltrie	
Joseph Lusignan & Marie Angelique Chatel Wed 25 Jan 1745 at Lanoraie, Quebec	
Francois Amiel dit Lusignan & Marie Judith Laperche Wed 13 Jan 1772 at L'Assomption, Quebec	
Joseph Amiel dit Lusignan & Marie Angelique Brien dit Desrocher Wed 23 Sep 1805 at St-Charles-sur-Richelieu, Quebec	
Gervais Amiel dit Lusignan & Louise Terrien Wed 7 Oct 1834 at St-Denis-sur-Richelieu, Quebec	
(Eber Johnson) Hubert Lusignan & Rosalie Plante Wed on 20 Aug 1865 at St Joseph, Burlington, VT (living in Williston, VT) Born as Hubert Hamiel (Amiel) dit Lusignan on 2 Mar 1837 at St-Denis-sur-Richelieu, Quebec Rosalie Plante Johnson died on 2 Nov 1907 age 61 at Burlington, VT Died as Hubert Lusignan in VT Vital Records on 22 Mar 1909 age 73 Burlington Free Press 26 March 1909: Funeral at St Joseph's, Rev. Jerome M. Cloarec and Rev. J. A. Lacouture. Gravestone has Eber Johnson	

You can view many other genealogical documents on French Canadian Civil War soldiers by John Fisher at this Internet Link: "<http://vermontcivilwar.org/johnfisher.php>"

Search for Louise Plamondon - spouse of Francois Duchesneau

Jane Duchesneau Whitmore, VT-FCGS member #486

The following research results would not have been possible without the availability of the indexed and original handwritten records in French on www.genealogiequebec.com in the LaFrance database and the census records available via www.familysearch.org. I also am grateful to Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society board members Tom Devarney for his help with translations and Elaine Riley for her knowledge of French Canadian dit names that made this long-time family mystery solvable after all.

My paternal third great grandparents, Louise Plamondon and Francois Duchesneau were married 13 Jan 1840 at St. Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette. See their marriage record below:

M 1
Francois
Duchesneau.

Le treize janvier mil huit cent
quarante, après la publication de trois
bans de mariage faite aux prêtres de
nos messes paroissiales, entre Francois
Duchesneau, journalier, fils majeur de
defunt Francois Duchesneau, et de Louise
Robitaille de cette paroisse d'une part;
et Louise Plamondon, fille mineure
de Pierre Plamondon, journalier, et de
Louise Langlais aussi de cette paroisse
d'autre part; ne s'étant devant au-
cun autre empêchement quelconque de
parante du troisième au quatrième
degré dont les parties ont obtenu
dispense de Monseigneur de Lachapelle,
et les parties ayant consenti audit
mariage, nous nous, sans doute,
avons reçu leur mutuel consente-
ment de mariage en présence de
Pierre Plamondon, père de l'épouse
et de Michel Lion de Joseph Cham-
berland, amis des époux qui avec
les époux ont signé
Louis Th. Chabot

Background and Important Details

According to the marriage record above, the parents of Louise Plamondon in the Quebec Vital record of this marriage in the LaFrance database (image d1p_1614a0847.jpg) are indexed as Pierre Plamondon and Louise Langlois. It appears that both of Louise Plamondon's parents are **alive and living** in the parish of St. Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette in 1840 at the time of this marriage. **Neither the bride, nor the groom signed the marriage record. The father, Pierre, is described as a "journalier," a day worker... "of this parish." There is a dispensation for third to fourth degree consanguinity (2nd to 3rd cousins - great grandparents of one spouse are the great-great grandparents of the other).**

Searching for Records and a Misleading Trail

The baptismal record for Louise Plamondon has proven to be elusive. Several databases and family trees available on the Internet list her birth as 1819 or 1826. For example, see http://www.nosorigines.qc.ca/GenealogieQuebec.aspx?genealogie=Pierre_Plamondon&pid=1116009&lng=fr&partID=1116010

If Louise was born in 1819, that would have been 7 years before the parents recorded here were married. Very unlikely. If she was born in 1826, that would make her just 14 when she was married in 1840. Probably not unheard of in 1840, but enough to cause me to do more research.

The marriage record of Louise Plamondon's parents is also elusive. Some family trees, like the one mentioned above (www.nosorigines.qc.ca) say that the parents of Francois Duchesneau's spouse, Louise Langlois, were Pierre Plamondon and Marie-Louise Langlois who were married at Hôpital Général de Québec, Québec Canada, on 09 Aug 1825 when Pierre Plamondon, a painter living in the parish of Quebec, was 26 and his bride Marie-Louise Langlois was 25. **I do not believe these are the parents of our Louise Plamondon, as this marriage was probably too late and you will see that it is not likely when considered with other records found below.** See this marriage at <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/LAFRANCE/acte/3812277/>, image d1p_1632B0678.jpg Please note the bride and groom's signatures along with the senior Pierre Plamondon.

I was having trouble tracing the parents of the above couple and finding common ancestors that would lead to the consanguinity dispensation for my ancestors mentioned above. More on this later.

On 04 Jun 1826, this Pierre Plamondon and Marie-Louise Langlois had their first child baptized at Notre Dame in Quebec City - a son named Pierre Alexandre, born the same day. See image d1p_16160500.jpg in the LaFrance database - <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/LAFRANCE/acte/3036796/>

On 09 May 1828 son Pierre Etienne is born. The father, Pierre Plamondon, is again described as a painter, and again signs this record.

This child, Pierre Etienne dies just a few days later on 15 May 1828 and is buried the next day 16 May 1828 in Sainte Famille cemetery. The burial is recorded at the Basilica of Notre-Dame in Quebec City. See https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\QC\Catholique\Qu%C3%A9bec+%28Notre-Dame%29\1820\1828\d1p_16160970.jpg

Then on 19 Jun 1832, Pierre Plamondon, the spouse of Louise Langlois dies and is buried in the cemetery of Saint Louis in Quebec on 20 Jun 1832. He is said to be 30 years old. See https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\QC\Catholique\Qu%C3%A9bec+%28Notre-Dame%29\1830\1832\d1p_16170784.jpg

So I do not believe this painter, Pierre Plamondon is the father of our Louise Plamondon, as he would have been dead for more than 7 years at the time of Louise's marriage to Francois Duchesneau in 1840, and would have been described as deceased in that record.

Less than a month later on 03 Jul 1832 a Louise Plamondon is born of the deceased painter, Pierre Plamondon and Louise Langlois. She is baptized 04 Jul 1832 at the Basilica of Notre-Dame in Quebec City. See https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\QC\Catholique\Qu%C3%A9bec+%28Notre-Dame%29\1830\1832\d1p_16170814.jpg

This Louise is too young to be our Louise who married Francois Duchesneau in 1840. And it appears that she dies at the age of 17 months on 28 Nov 1833 (would have been 17 months on 03 Dec) , and is buried 30 Nov 1833 in the parish of St. Roch in Quebec.

https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\QC\Catholique\Qu%C3%A9bec+%28St-Roch%29\1830\1833\d1p_1688a1259.jpg

Then I find that **Louise Langlois, widow of the painter Pierre Plamondon died 02 May 1835 and was buried 04 May 1835** in the parish of St. Roch in Quebec. The record says she was 26 years old (probably age 36 as this is 10 years after her marriage where she was described as 25). See

https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\QC\Catholique\Qu%C3%A9bec+%28St-Roch%29\1830\1835\d1p_1689a0184.jpg

So by 1835 both of these parents - Pierre Plamondon and Louise Langlois are deceased, five years before our Louise Plamondon is married.

A New Direction Leads to our Marie Louise Plamondon - SUCCESS!

The next record I found in the LaFrance database is for the 10 Aug 1839 baptism at Saint-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette of a Marie Zoë Plamondon, born 08 Aug 1839 to a couple named Pierre Plamondon and Louise Langlais. Both parents are alive and members of this parish (four years after the other couple mentioned previously with similar names have died in Quebec City). This provided some assurance that there were at least two couples in close proximity (Quebec and Jeune Lorette) at nearly the same time with very similar names.

With the help of FCGS board member Elaine Riley, I began to question - What if our Louise Plamondon's mother's name was Louise Langlais? What if Langlois/Langlais is a variation of another name? Elaine knew that Langlais was also known as Aylwin, Aylvin, Allouine, Allaouine, Annahouil etc.

We quickly found that there was a Pierre Plamondon married to a Louise Allouine 01 Feb 1820 in Saint-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette. See

[https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Québec\L\Loretteville\Loretteville+\(St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette\)\1820\1820\d1p_1614a0319.jpg](https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Québec\L\Loretteville\Loretteville+(St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette)\1820\1820\d1p_1614a0319.jpg)

This Louise's mother's name was Marie Louise Duchesneau dit Sansregret - there was a MUCH greater likelihood of finding consanguinity for our Louise Plamondon in this line with the Duchesneau name already appearing just one generation back.

Searching the next few records for this couple we find that Pierre Plamondon and Marie Louise Aylwin's first born was a boy, Pierre, born and baptized 16 Dec 1820 Saint-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette. See

https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\L\Loretteville\Loretteville+%28St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette%29\1820\1820\d1p_1614a0344.jpg

The next child born was a Marie Louise Plamondon! She was born on the 21 Dec 1821 - the right age to be the bride of Francois Duchesneau in 1840! She was baptized the same day at Saint-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette. See

https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\L\Loretteville\Loretteville+%28St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette%29\1820\1821\d1p_1614a0381.jpg

An in depth study of the baptisms, marriages and burials of the children of Pierre Plamondon and Louise Allouine a.k.a Langlois revealed that they had at least 10 children - all in St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette. These are listed

in detail in another document. On the baptism records of seven of the children Louise's surname is a form of Allouine or Aylwin (including two daughters named Marie Louise - the one above born in 1821 and another born in 1832). The records for the three other children include the mother's name as a Louise Langlois or Langlais. These three are interspersed among the other group of children. There is no correlation between the surname of the mother Louise and the priest who recorded the event. Both Fr. Cooke and Fr. Fortier used both versions of the names on different records.

Next, I moved on to a review of census records.

In the **1825 Census of Lower Canada** available on Family Search.org there is a Pierre Plamondon in St. Ambroise, in Quebec province. There are 6 people living in this household with four reportedly under the age of six, one married male between the ages of 25 and 40, one married female between the ages of 14 and 45. No other members of the household are named. There are other surnames found in our family here - Duchesneaus, Darveaus and Pageots - among others on the same page as Pierre Plamondon, and the one before. I noted there were five or possibly six other Pierre Plamondons in the province in this census of 1825. The images of the two other records that I checked were not legible.

The 1831 and 1842 Census records of Canada were also difficult to decipher and did not provide names of the household inhabitants.

So I found no other clues with the census records available on Family Search.org

I explored LaFrance a bit more - searched on Louise Aylwin and found her son Guillaume's marriage record where **Louise's name appears in the index as "Aylwin Langlais, Marie Louise" and "Louise Aylwin dite Langlais" in the original record.** Pierre's name here is spelled Plamondon on this record. see https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a\Registres\Qu%C3%A9bec\St\St-Basile-Sud\1850\1852\d1p_1646a0211.jpg

I believe this finding coupled with the information above confirms that Louise Aylwin and Louise Langlais are the same person.

By searching with various versions of the surnames I found records showing that eight of the ten children of Pierre Plamondon and Louise Aylwin dite Langlais survive to adulthood and marry, four in St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette, three in St-Basile, and one in Cap Santé. These are detailed in the other document.

I have found the burial records for both parents of our Marie Louise Plamondon - both died well after her 1840 marriage to Francois Duchesneau.

For the burial record Louise Aylwin dite Langlais - see https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a%2fRegistres%2fQu%C3%A9bec%2fSte%2fSte-Th%C3%A8cle%2f1880%2f1883\d1p_2522a0760.jpg. It is indexed a "M. Louise Elouine". She died 23 Mar 1878 at age 82 and was buried 25 Mar 1878 in St-Tite

Pierre Plamondon's burial record is found at https://www.genealogiequebec.com/membership/voir.aspx?id=L%3a%2fRegistres%2fQu%C3%A9bec%2fSt%2fSt-Tite%2f1870%2f1878\d1p_2525a1401.jpg. He died on 15 Jan 1883 at age 85 and was buried 17 Jan 1883 in St. Thècle.

Consanguinity Confirmed

Now to the issue of consanguinity for Francois Duchesneau and Marie Louise Plamondon. As mentioned previously there is a dispensation for third to fourth degree consanguinity for their 1840 marriage. (2nd to 3rd cousins - great grandparents of one spouse are the great-great grandparents of the other). The common ancestors here are Pierre Duchesneau and Marie Catherine Barbot

Here is the lineage for Francois Duchesneau back to his great grandparents Pierre Duchesneau dit Sansregret and Marie Catherine Barbot:

Pierre Duchesneau dit Sansregret m. Marie Catherine Barbot 17 Jun 1726 in Charlesbourg, QC.

Jean Duchesneau m. Josephe Darveau 04 Feb 1765 also in Charlesbourg, QC.

Francois Duchesneau m. Louise Robitaille 02 Feb 1810 in L'Ancienne-Lorette, QC.

Francois Duchesneau m. Louise Plamondon 13 Jan 1840 in Jeune Lorette at St-Ambroise church in Quebec County, Quebec, Canada

Here is the lineage for Marie Louise Plamondon back to her great great grandparents Pierre Duchesneau dit Sansregret and Marie Catherine Barbot

Pierre Duchesneau dit Sansregret m. Marie Catherine Barbot 17 Jun 1726 in Charlesbourg, QC.

Pierre Duchesneau m. Marguerite Morand 17 Oct 1763 in Charlesbourg, QC.

Marie Louise Duchesneau m. Jean Langlois (a.k.a. Jean Anaouil, Jean Baptiste Aylwin and others) 24 Nov 1794 in St Ambroise parish in Loretteville, Quebec, Canada.

Louise Langlais m. Pierre Plamondon 01 Feb 1820 1794 in St Ambroise parish in Loretteville, Quebec, Canada.

Louise Plamondon m. Francois Duchesneau 13 Jan 1840 in Jeune Lorette at St-Ambroise church in Quebec County, Quebec, Canada

After several years of searching and assistance from a variety of people and websites , this mystery is finally solved! It is amazing to me that the records to prove the above relationships are available in handwritten form online in French, from Canada and indexed so that they can be found. The information is all there, just waiting for us to make the links from one generation to the next.

On to the next family mystery....

Editor's note: *Jane Duchesneau Whitmore included many scans of the original records that she quotes from in this article, but we could not include them all here. A complete copy of this article is available for review at our Library in the Plamondon family folder and in the members only section of our website.*

A Society Is All About Sharing and Learning

by Ed McGuire-264

One of the advantages of joining a genealogical society is the opportunity to learn from the experiences of other researchers. We are usually not the first person to search for a particular surname or a specific location. A society allows us to meet others, exchange information and sometimes find a missing gem of information about an ancestor.

If you are at the library and you happen to overhear someone discussing your ancestor's hometown or surname you can start up a conversation. Unfortunately, this usually happens only by coincidence. But there are other ways to connect with the research, resources and experience of our members. It starts with you identifying what you are looking for and what resources you might have to share. I'll mention three different ways to do that at our library.

FORUMS

Our online Forums provide members with the ability to 'post' a request for help on a person, location or other topic in the hope that some of our 400+ members might reply. This great tool is overlooked by too many of us. It is free, it can be used from home and it only takes a few minutes. Here are two actual examples of the simple 'post' and 'reply' process:

Example 1:

J. Homer Messier in Vermont/New Hampshire

POSTREPLY Search

J. Homer Messier in Vermont/New Hampshire

By JoanneCrawford-930 • Sat Jun 15, 2013 7:25 am

Homer Messier was the son of Prosper J. Messier. I know that he was born in Franklin, Vermont in 1867 and was married to Carrie but that is all I have found.

Re: J. Homer Messier in Vermont/New Hampshire

By TomDeVarney-441 • Mon Aug 26, 2013 3:16 pm

Hi Joanne. If you have Ancestry.com check out US census records using Prosper for given name, Vermont for state and Franklin for city. The name is Prosper Macia in 1860, Marcia in 1870, Massia in 1880 and Messier in 1900. In 1850 he is listed as Caesar Macca. It should have been Macea. If you do not have Ancestry, try FamilySearch.org. The search name may be different but results check for similar sounding names if exact spelling is not used. This Prosper is born around 1832, possibly the son of Charles from the 1850 Census. There are several other 'Messier' families living nearby found on the same census pages listed above.

Example 2:

French Canadians in Community in Alburgh Vt.

POSTREPLY Search

French Canadians in Community in Alburgh Vt.

By RobertAbair, Jr.-902 • Fri Aug 16, 2013 10:07 pm

My gg pa Philip Abair (Hebert) and gg ma Josephine (Mayo) Abair lived with their 5 children in Alburgh Vt. He worked on the Vt RR. I have always wondered what French Canadian life was like in small enclaves like Alburgh. Does anyone on this forum have family in the Champlain area who may know of French Canadian life in Alburgh or surrounding cities circa 1850 to 1900?

Re: French Canadians in Community in Alburgh Vt.

By SheilaMorris-429 • Sun Aug 18, 2013 5:55 pm

I grew up in Alburgh - back when it was a lovely bustling little town with 5 sets of tracks and a busy railroad station. There was a "round house" to turn the trains around. There was a YMCA where the railroad men stayed when they were away from home. There were a couple of good restaurants with good home cooked food. What a great place to grow up!

My French ancestors were successful farmers as most of Alburgh was. Everyone else worked on the railroad or owned stores. I remember lots of the old families. I remember Wilfred Mayo who worked on the railroad. I don't remember any Heberts or Abairs. Most of the old families were French and came in late 1800's. Bourgeois, Aubin, Prairie, Duchenes, Chauncey, Valley, Motte, Pearo, Langlois, Poquette. etc. I can tell you where most people lived. My father was an English Canadian and owned an excavating business. Maybe I can answer some of your questions. My e-mail address is smorris52@aol.com

As you can see, there is a lot of potential to find just the right person in our membership who can help you locate a source, a repository or provide a direct answer. As members, you should scan our Forum Topics periodically and see if you might have expertise to lend to someone else. Even just an idea on where to search next can be all it takes to help someone overcome that brickwall. And don't forget to 'post' your own problems & questions.

The Forums cover 'Surname Research,' 'Tools & Techniques,' 'DNA Research,' 'Organizing Records' and one called 'General Topics' - for everything else. You can even 'Subscribe' to individual forums or to a specific 'post' on a favorite surname or location. You'll then receive a brief email when anyone adds a new 'post' or a 'reply' for topics you've subscribed to.

All members should have received an email with their userID and a password for the Forums. My userID is 'EdwardMcGuire-264' and that's the format for all of us (name, a hyphen & our member number, with no spaces in between). The password you received is a just random combination and can be reset by each user. If you can't find your userID and password send an email to: webmaster@vtgenlib.org.

Make it a point in the first quarter of 2014 to log in to the Forums and either reply to someone's question or 'post' your own. Think how much information would be shared if 400 of us did that to start 2014!!

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Most Tuesday evenings from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM members meet at the library to work on common research interests. Each week of the month has a specific area of focus and members bring their questions, their experiences and their favorite resources. The rotation of topics is listed in this table:

Topic	Week	Coordinator	Email Address
English/Scottish	1 st	Bill Craig	wmjrcraig@me.com
New York State	2 nd	Sherry Bigalow	sherrybigalow@gmail.com
Irish	3 rd	Ed McGuire	edmcguire.vt@gmail.com
DNA Research	4 th	Ed McGuire	edmcguire.vt@gmail.com

These Special Interest Group meetings are different from our classes in several ways. First, they are smaller – usually 5-10 members. Second, they are often very focused. For example, on Irish Night we might discuss how to locate specific ‘townlands’ within Ireland’s parishes and counties by using 3 or 4 reference books in our library. On DNA Night someone might demonstrate how to use the tools on the FamilyTreeDNA website. Finally, there is more opportunity to share research experiences, be it a recent trip to Scotland or what great resources are found at the New York State Archives in Albany.

If you have an interest in any of these areas I encourage you to drop by on a Tuesday night or contact the coordinators listed above for details.

SHARED RESOURCES

Our library has almost 4,000 books and you can search them with the computer in the book room or from the convenience of your home by logging on to: http://www.vtgenlib.org/library/search_book.php. But our library doesn’t have references for every subject, ethnic group or location. Most of us have accumulated our own collections of references focused on our unique families and homelands. The problem is that you don’t know what books are on my shelves and vice versa. We now have a utility in our Members Only section of our website (<http://www.vtgenlib.org/member/showSIG.php>) where I am adding the specific resources I have at home in the hopes that other members might be helped by that knowledge. Others are doing the same thing and we’ll soon have a ‘Virtual Genealogy Library’ of our members’ collections. If I have a book or CD someone is interested in, then they can ask me to look something up for them or arrange for me to bring the book in to the library on my next trip for them to flip through.

These are just three of the ways we can help each other’s efforts by sharing. I hope you will give one or more of these a try in the near future. Collectively, we have a vast amount of genealogical expertise – so let’s share it.

Civil War Pin Program

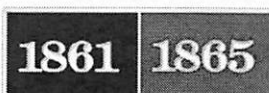
About 150 years ago, from 1861 to 1865, our country was divided by a momentous civil war, fought to determine whether the country would be a confederation of sovereign states or an indivisible nation with a national government. The victory of the North preserved the U.S. as one nation, but at a huge cost of 620,000 lives and untold numbers of wounded.

Were any of your ancestors directly involved in the Civil War? You may be surprised to learn one (or more) of them was a soldier, sailor, nurse, musician, or even a spy! Virtually everyone in the country knew of or was related to someone who served in the war, each believing their efforts would preserve the liberty that they had won during the American Revolution.

In honor of their commitment, determination and resilience, the Vermont Genealogy Library has created a **Civil War Pin program**, which we hope will encourage Civil War descendants to become aware of, appreciate, and experience pride in their ancestor’s historical participation. And you don’t need to be a DIRECT descendant to qualify. If your great-grand-uncle served or 3rd great-grand-aunt once removed was a nurse, you can get a pin in their honor.

All you need to do is complete an application form and chart; include a document as proof of the Civil War participant’s service and a \$6 application fee.

One specially-designed 1 ½” x ½” pin will be awarded to each successful applicant. *(continued on page 36)*





Louis Lamoureux

(picture credit below)

History of Louis Lamoureux

By Len Lamoureux, Essex Junction, VT

Louis Lamoureux, my seven-times-great-grandfather was born in France in 1640 and immigrated to North America in 1663. At that time, there were less than 3000 residents in what was then called New France. By contrast, in 1663 there were about 80,000 people living in the English colonies in New England and elsewhere along the Atlantic coast. The French colony was a frontier with most people living close together for safety in the vicinity of the town of Quebec. The long cold winters were very difficult; there were six bachelors for every woman of marrying age, 12 or older, but most trying were the Iroquois Indians who brutally controlled the St. Lawrence and Richelieu River basins. In 1663, King Louis XIV tried to create some order by making New France a royal province, and the settlers implored him to send eligible women and an army to deal with the Iroquois.



As was often the case, in order to pay for his immigration, Louis Lamoureux served about three years as an intern for a landowner. In 1666, Louis obtained a 40 acres land grant in the town of Quebec and had about two acres under cultivation by 1667. He sold the grant that year and moved down the St. Lawrence River to a property in Longueuil, Quebec located across the St. Lawrence River from Montreal.

At that time, the King decided to send women from France to the colony, and over a number of years, almost a thousand "girls" or "women," or as they were later called, "The King's Daughters" (Filles de Roi) were sent. The women had to give up their lives in France and make the long rigorous voyage across the Atlantic into this cold and unfamiliar country. The King provided a dowry for these adventurous young women, some partly educated, some as young as sixteen, who immigrated to New France to marry settlers or soldiers.

The King also sent soldiers to help the settlers protect themselves from the Iroquois. Among them, were the soldiers of the Carignan Salieres Regiment which included some 1500 of France's best. The soldiers built and manned a series of forts along the Richelieu and St. Lawrence Rivers and attacked a few Iroquois villages. Even though they were not originally equipped for the rigors of frontier life, they did adapt and made life safer for the settlers in Quebec. With all the new changes, New France began to flourish.

In 1668, Louis Lamoureux anxiously awaited the arrival of a ship carrying "Daughters of the King" from Normandy, France. It was the custom to have priests and notaries on hand when a ship with expectant brides arrived so that after the interviews and selections, some of the women and men would enter into a contract of marriage right away. Francoise Boivin was one of the women who sailed into Quebec harbor that happy day. She and Louis, two adventurous first settlers, were married shortly after to become my seven-times-great-grandparents. The following year, the couple had a son, Jean-Baptiste, my six-times-great grandfather.

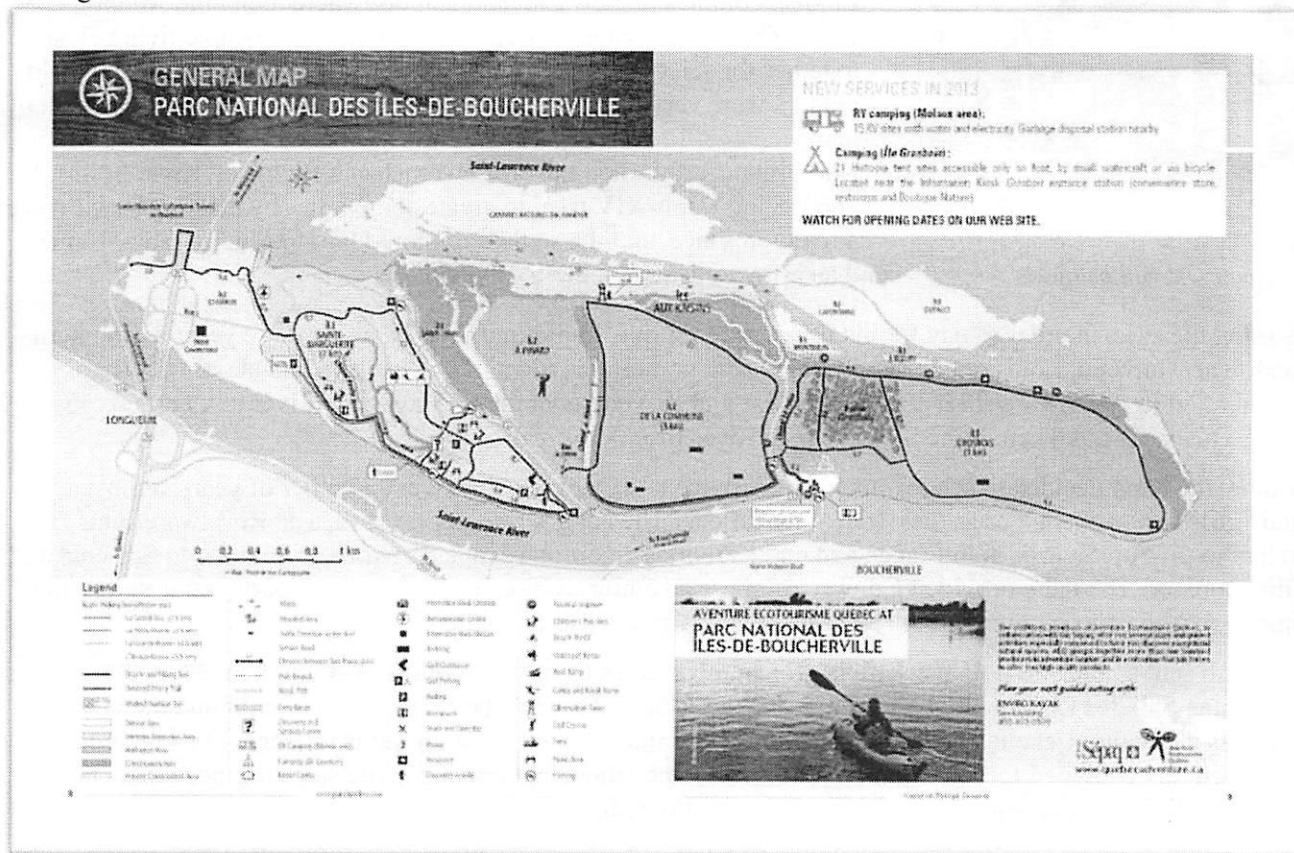
Louis was known in Longueuil as "the habitant of Monsieur Le Moyne" and farmed a 34 acre parcel of land until March of 1675 when he received the deed to his land. At that time Louis and Francoise had about 12 acres cleared with a house and barn thereon. They then moved a short distance from there to a new 162 acres parcel of land in Longueuil. Louis and Francoise sold this parcel in 1681 and with a little more money and four children they moved on.

It seems obvious by this time that Louis and Francoise loved to farm and realize a gain so they could move on to fresh pastures and new challenges; however, each time they bought new lands they usually had to clear, cultivate and plant a minimum of 10 acres of land, build a house and barn and make it all productive. They became 17th century hard working and ambitious entrepreneurs.

(Picture Credit: "Our FRENCH-CANADIAN Ancestors" Tomas J. Laforest, Vol. IV)

Surprisingly, this time the family made its way from the St. Lawrence River basin to Chambly on the Richelieu River, about midway from the Richelieu's confluence with the St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain. They bought a parcel of land across the river from Fort St-Louis. There were falls, scattered islands and marshes at this point in the river, and it appears that the Lamoureux lands included a parcel with a frontage of about 400 feet by a depth of 1000 feet, including an island and marshes. This was their first experience with owning an island and the best was yet to come. Louis and Francoise now had six children; the oldest Jean was 13 and the youngest Madeleine was 1 when after five years in Chambly they moved again.

In October, 1686, the Lamoureux family bought the large virgin Island of St. Marguerite in the St. Lawrence River, opposite the City of Montreal. They subsequently acquired the adjoining Notre Dame Island and Charron Island totaling several hundred acres.



The family went to work developing the farm and building their home. The above map presents the scope of the islands and the magnificent park that is there today. The family farm and hard work on these beautiful islands was the introduction to the grand national park with a golf course, camping areas, multi-purpose trails and natural areas that exists there today. The Autoroute tunnel under the St. Lawrence River from Longueuil to Montreal has its southerly entrance on Charron Island. Over the next 14 years they divided the islands with four of their children, our ancestor Jean-Baptiste, Adrien, Francois and Anne. They eventually had a total of ten children, six girls and four boys.

Louis and Francoise farmed the islands until 1700 when they decided to sell their share and resettle for the last time and retire on a “smaller” farm of 100 acres on Jesus Island, the present day City of Laval. Louis passed away on February 25, 1715 at the age of 75, and his service was held at the church of Saint-Francois on Jesus Island.

Genealogy can be a mirror into the past, just like most people see themselves in their children. Genealogy has given me a glimpse of what Louis Lamoureux and my other ancestors were like and there are similarities that I have observed in the recent four generations of Louis' direct descendents. There are the blue eyes and fair skin, motivation, entrepreneurial spirit, hard work and the independence of property ownership.

Vergennes French Heritage Day Vergennes, Vermont 13 July 2013



The Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society participated again in their 8th year of celebrating our French heritage. Marguerite Senecal did an excellent job on organizing the event, as usual. The weather was excellent, considering that we had a month of torrential rain, followed by a heat wave; but we enjoyed a partly cloudy day in the low 80s. We had a double sized booth again this year and we flew the Quebec and Acadian flags. We set up 2 large tables to display our Diocese books and a posterboard to explain what areas of Vermont have been completed. We also had some genealogical reference books on hand so that people could get acquainted with the information. Our Diocese books were very popular with everyone. In general, the books have the actual French surnames and their civil aliases; whereas the civil records usually have the anglicized surnames only. Our books also have marriages with the baptism records which is very useful. We also had 3 display tables that everyone found interesting; one was full of genealogical charts and the other two displayed our genealogy project information such as the "Walk With Champlain," and the "Filles du Roi and Carignan Soldat" projects. It's no secret, people love to browse the displays and it gets them interested in their History and Genealogy. I extend a thank you to our volunteers, first to Chet Bodette for assisting on the setup and teardown of the booth and working throughout the day; and also to Janet Allard, Marge Allard, Barbara Mercure and Lynn Johnson who greeted everyone and assisted with all of their requests. *John Fisher.*

Hélène's World

Helene Desportes of Seventeenth-Century Quebec

A Book Review by Lynn Johnson

Susan McNelley set out to write a history of her ancestor, Hélène Desportes, the first child of French parents to be born in Quebec and survive.

With the excellent documentation that was characteristic of even the earliest records in New France, it is not surprising that Ms. McNelley could find Hélène's baptism record as well as the fact that she was married twice. It is possibly less surprising that she was able to find that Hélène had fifteen children, and seventy grandchildren. But consider that this is all McNelley had to work with, as there were no journals or letters from Hélène. Obviously these details would not be enough to write a book, and yet this is exactly what she set out to do.

The author accomplished this feat by delving into a great deal of research on every aspect of life in New France from the beginnings of the colony through the span of Hélène's life. The number of sources was quite impressive, and I liked the fact that instead of using footnotes, which can often disrupt the flow of one's reading, she instead chose to do endnotes. There are in fact 58 pages of endnotes detailing the sources of her information.

In the past I read and enjoyed "*Le Quebecois: The Virgin Forest*" by Doris Provencher Faucher. Both books are immanently readable and both have much to teach us about life in New France. *The Virgin Forest* is historical fiction, but McNelley does not try to fictionalize her ancestor's life. Instead she paints a rich background and then states what is known about Hélène's life from the available documents for her and her neighbors. The author poses questions and sometimes conjectures on what Hélène might have done, but conjectures are always clearly stated as such.

In this work McNelley researches the life and customs of the Amerindians as thoroughly as she does the French in order to truly paint a complete picture of Hélène's world as she would have experienced it.

Reading this book has again reinforced my admiration for my French-Canadian ancestors and the rigors they faced in New France. For example, take the short summary at the beginning of Chapter Six; it reads: "Hélène arrives in Dieppe; Hunger in Quebec; Capture of Quebec by the English; Settlers return to France; Travel across the Atlantic; tales of storms, shipwreck, drowning, pirates, plague; Hébert family remains in Quebec." And to think those were just the challenges that were detailed in that chapter! Our ancestors truly had to be hardy, courageous and more than a little bit fortunate to have survived in this new world.

I think there is much to be gained from reading "Hélène's World: Hélène Desportes of Seventeenth-Century Quebec," and I highly recommend it.



2013 Membership Survey

Thomas E. DeVarney, Survey Committee Member

The by-laws of our organization state that one of our functions is to **"Establish and maintain a reference library and research center for Society members focusing on French, French-Canadian, Acadian, Cajun and North-Eastern U.S resources."**

As an organization grows it can often unknowingly set up routines of operation that do not meet the needs of the membership. As more members joined our organization we realized that many of them were also interested in lines other than French. Likewise we discovered that many are looking for all kinds of

information that would help them in their search. The popularity of our expanded "Saturday class" program indicates the varied interests of our members. Our Tuesday evening discussion sessions concentrate on specific ethnic research.

This past summer, the Board of Directors approved the design and distribution of a survey that was sent out to all members. The survey was sent to over 430 members and over 220 were returned, a fabulous response. A summary of your responses follows.

Membership by gender indicated a 2 to 1 ratio of female to male members. The "65 and over" membership was also a 2 to 1 ratio over all other age groups, with the "55-64 age group" coming in second. Vermonters were the largest group with Chittenden and Franklin being the counties and Burlington and Essex being the cities most represented. We have members from 21 different states. It was a surprise that Winooski, with its large population of Quebec ancestry accounted for only 2 members.

"Word of mouth," followed by "Member," were the major methods that members first learned of our organization. The "Internet" and "News media" were also significant sources. "Unfinished Tree" was the main reason for being a member, followed by "Classes" and "Available resources."

"Ethnicity" and "Area of research" showed that Irish (37%), English (23%), Scottish (11%) and German (9%) were of great interest, with "French Canadian" (77%) being the major area of research. Dues were considered a good value by 95% of those responding. More than half of members wanted LINKS to be printed versus on-line, and over 50% of members made use of our "Website," "E-mails" and "Classes."

"Hours of operation" was the subject of most suggestions. About 10% want more hours, more days or a combination of both. Nearly all found the volunteers helpful and knowledgeable; however, we did get one negative reply on helpfulness. Was this a one-time incident? We hope so. Was help requested from a volunteer or from another member who was doing personal research? Should the volunteers be more recognizable?

Overall, the survey will be useful in providing better service to our membership. Many class topics were suggested. This survey also poses interesting questions for consideration.

How do we target adjoining counties more effectively?

How do we target the younger age groups more effectively?

How do we provide more value to "Distant" and "Out of State" members who desire remote access to our databases if copyright restrictions permitted such access?

Questions concerning our goals, methods, priorities, etc. are always welcomed. Send us a note or e-mail with your ideas, suggestions and concerns.

BE A MORE ACTIVE MEMBER, VOLUNTEER



Acquisitions Report

Bob Cota and Lynn were able to make a trip up to the Société d'histoire du haut-Richelieu in St. Jean, Quebec in June. Mme Poulin and Jeannette Richard took us to lunch, and we had a nice time getting to know the ladies better and seeing more of St. Jean.

We learned that Mme. Poulin goes to an auction in Montreal every November to purchase second hand genealogy and history publications. (We had been the beneficiaries of this practice several years ago when Bob, Janet, and I chose almost 30 titles for our library at a mere \$5 a piece!) On a subsequent trip in October with Tom DeVarney, we purchased the following five titles at that same low price.

Those of you researching in Comte Papineau have probably noticed our lack of books covering this area, so we're pleased to tell you that on this trip we were able to purchase *Saint-Saxe, Comte Papineau 1891-1905* by Le Centre de Genealogie S.C. in Ottawa.

We also purchased the following:

Repertoire des mariages de la paroisse Sacre-Coeur de Baie-Shawinigan, Comte de Saint-Maurice, 1899-1982, Mariages de Notre-Dame de Bonsecours L'Islet sur Mer (1679-1973), L'Isletville (1962-1972), Repertoire des mariages Saint-Augustin (Deux-Montagnes) 1838-1983 Repertoire des mariages de Luskville, Comte de Gatineau, 1886-1963

In addition to our bargains we purchased *Repertoire de baptemes, mariages et sepultures Notre Dame de Stanbridge 1846-1899*, one of their societies' excellent publications. They also donated a copy of *Saint-Jean-de-Quebec, origine et development*, published in 1937. If you read French this book contains an excellent history of the area.

Our thanks also to Barb Mercure for helping with the purchase of several volumes of vital statistics for New York State at great prices. These books are listed at the end of Ed's article about the David Bell Collection.

Acquisitions Committee

Janet Landry and Lynn Johnson

Front Porch Forum

Front Porch Forum is now available in every town in Vermont. We would love to have folks post notices of our classes to their local forum if it is not already being done. The goal would be to post on every forum in Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, Addison and Lamoille County. If you would like to help please contact Lynn Johnson at ALJOHN1927@aol.com . Thank you!

Ascendants of Celina Latour

by Janet Allard

Those of us who do genealogy know that it is never ending. Doing a pedigree chart for this family has been a challenge at every avenue. In doing a straight genealogy line I had two Latour lines that connect. The two Latour genealogy lines have been mentioned in a previous Links (Winter/Spring 2012). This line does connect twice going back. In a pedigree chart I found that I had three Thibault/Thibeau lines with many name spellings, all of them connecting back to one main connection, Antoine Thibeau (#22 & 28 on pedigree chart) and Marie Louise Lemery/Emery married 02 Oct. 1827 I'lle Dupas, Berthier, Quebec, Canada. The Denis-Thibeau line has been the hardest to verify.

Going back on the Denis line was a challenge in itself. I have checked all of the baptisms, marriages and death records of siblings of Louise Dennis/Denis (#3 on chart) mother of Celina Latour (#1 on chart) who was born the 8 of Dec. 1888 in Malone, New York. Information on some of Louise's siblings gave different information on the birth place of her father, Louis Dennis (#6 on chart).

The records found on Louis Dennis (#6 on chart) say he was born in New York, Canada, Vermont, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, etc. His death record says his father was Joseph and the mother Julia Lenault or Tierrault, born Fourchette, Canada. This place not found but I have talked to several people who lived in the Lacolle area of Canada and found that this was a name, Fourchette Corners (an Inn) and is a crossroads located on the Patriotic Military Road going from St. Jean south to Champlain, N.Y. and crossing with the Highway to Lacolle. Family history thought that he may have been born in New York. Since many of the French-Canadian families baptized their children in Canada, I started searching the

church records for Louis Denis. The records kept leading me back to a Louis Denis baptized 11 May 1848 in Lacolle, St. Jean, Quebec, Canada. The dates from census records I had were off a few years. The parents listed in this baptism were Joseph (Joseph Francis) Denis dit Laporte (#12 on chart) and Marguerite Limoge. Then looking at the entire page that this baptism was on, I find the burial records the same day of a Joseph Denis and that of a brother Oliver. The documents mention that their death was due to drowning in the Lake. Could they have been traveling the Lake to meet family for the baptism of Louis? This still leaves me speculating if this is the right family. The right area and close to the information I want.

The wife of Louis Dennis who was known as Alice Tebo (#7 on chart) born in Clarenceville, Missisquoi, Quebec, Canada is correct with census and vital records. No single document on her gave me enough information that matched family knowledge. It turned out Clarenceville was the one piece of information I had that was consistent and correct. Alice Tebo had been married first to Louis Dennis and then to Alfred Monnette's marriage 1 June 1920. The record of the second marriage gave her name as Alice Dennis, her father as Oliver Trombley and mother as Alice. The death record gave her name as Elizabeth Alice (#7 on chart) and parents unknown. The only fact I found in the death record that was of help was the fact that her first name was Elizabeth from most records her age and the fact that she was born in Clarenceville. I checked and found that several of the first children were also baptized in Clarenceville, giving her correct name. Then, reading the actual baptism of Marie Elise Thibeau (#7 on chart) 14 March 1854 St. Bernard, Lacolle we found the name of her parents, George Thibeau (#14 on chart) and Marie Celina Loyer (the name Celina being carried down through three generations). George Thibeau/Thibault's burial recorded 27 July 1861 St. Bernard, Lacolle listed his death as drowning in the Richelieu River. Marie Elise would have been 7 yrs. old at the time. Her mother Marie Celina Loyer (#15 on chart) remarried Jean Baptiste Hebert/Abare on 2 Sept. 1870 in Alburgh, VT and Henryville, Iberville, Canada on 21 June 1881. Elise's obituary in the Burlington Free Press listed two half brothers Charles and Henry Hebert. Their parentage confirmed. Both the Loyer/Lawyer/Laware etc. and the Hebert/Abare families come down and reside in Grand Isle County of Vermont.

I have been unable to find the marriage of Marie Elise Thibeau/Thibault and Louis Dennis.

I did find a marriage of a Louis Dennis (the correct parents) (#6 on chart) and an Elizabeth Munn/Mumley in Alburgh on 30 July 1870. The first child a no name male Dennis born 1871 the father Louis Dennis mother given only as Elizabeth. I find them in the 1875 census of Bellmont, Franklin, N.Y. and the census of 1881 in St. Thomas, Missisquoi, Canada listing the first children of Louis Dennis. This first child is listed as Frank (probably named for Louis's father) in one census and Rolf in the other. The death record of Louis R. Dennis in Nashua New Hampshire in 1912 gives his father as Louis Dennis and mother as Elizabeth Theobea.

We know that the Dennis family lived in Canada, New York, Mass. N. H. and Vermont. Family knowledge seems to think that Louis was married twice. I tend to believe this could be so, perhaps the first two children born of the first marriage of an Elizabeth Mumley and the other children born to Marie Elise Thibeau, this marriage possibly between 1873 and 1876. All records that follow on their children mention a Marie or Elise using LaRose and Thibeau as surnames. This again has us speculating as to the accuracy of some records.

We know this family traveled to many states to make a living. They had little formal education, spoke mostly French, were religious, and had a hard day-to-day life. The conclusion I can make on Louis Denis and Marie Elise Thibeau is that because of the early death of their fathers, they had very little family knowledge to pass down. In the case of their own 11 children, the death records were given by the younger children or the son-in-laws. The questions will still keep coming, but I do know that with misspelling, incorrect information and persistence we can connect these families. The Latour, Thibeau/Thibault and Denis lines do connect.

Pedigree Chart

Chart no. 1

No. 1 on this chart is the same as no. 1 on chart no. 1

<p>4 Jean (John) Latour dit Ballard B: 3 Jun 1849 P: Coopersville, N. Y. M: 21 Dec 1873 P: St. Peter's, Plattsburgh, N.Y. D: aft 1896 P:</p>	<p>8 Jean Baptiste Latour dit Ballard B: 1817 P: L'Île-Dupas, Berthier, Quebec, CA M: 2 Nov 1842 P: Richelieu, Quebec, Ca. D: 23 Dec 1886 P: Plattsburgh, Clinton, New York, USA</p> <p>9 Catherine Paul-Hus B: abt 1824 P: Quebec, Canada D: 30 Jul 1892 P: Plattsburgh, Clinton, New York, USA</p>	<p>16 Louis Ballard B: 26 Feb 1781 D: aft 1865 cont. 2</p> <p>17 Marie Carpentier B: 16 Apr 1786 D: aft 1865 cont. 3</p> <p>18 Charles Paul-Hus B: 9 Nov 1779 D: 10 Jan 1830 cont. 4</p> <p>19 Rosalie Cartier B: 2 Nov 1782 D: cont. 5</p>
<p>2 Nelson J. (Narcisse) Latour B: 27 Jun 1886 P: Plattsburgh, N.Y. M: 20 May 1905 P: Burlington, Chittenden, VT D: 20 May 1936 P: St. Anthony's, Burlington, VT.</p> <p>5 Josephine Latour (Cousins) B: 28 Nov 1850 P: Lacolle, St. Jean, Que., Canada D: 17 Jun 1938 P: Burlington, Vermont</p>	<p>10 Edouard Latour B: 18 Jul 1831 P: L'Île Dupas, Berthier, Quebec, Canada M: 25 May 1859 P: St. Mathias, Que., Canada D: P:</p> <p>11 Marie Thibault (Sister of Geo.) B: 18 Aug 1831 P: L'Île-Dupas, Berthier, Quebec, CA D: P:</p>	<p>20 Francois Latour B: D: cont. 6</p> <p>21 Julie Thibeau (Sister of Antoine) B: D: cont. 7</p> <p>22 Antoine Thibeau (Bro. of Julie) B: D: cont. 8</p>
<p>1 Celina Narcissus Latour B: 16 Jan 1908 P: Burlington, Vermont M: 6 Oct 1930 P: St. Joseph's Church, Burlington, Vt. D: 12 Nov 2000 P: Burlington, Vermont</p> <p>6 Louis, Dennis/Denis-Laporte B: 14 Apr 1848 P: Lacolle, St. Jean, Que., Canada M: abt 1870 P: ? D: 5 Sep 1914 P: Burlington, Chittenden, VT</p>	<p>12 Joseph Francois Denis-Laporte B: 30 Nov 1811 P: L'Acadie, St. Jean, Quebec, Canada M: 4 Feb 1840 P: St. Valentin, St. Jean, Quebec, Canada D: 8 May 1848 P: Drowning in Lake</p> <p>13 Marguerite Limoge B: P: Canada D: P:</p>	<p>23 Marie Louise Lemery/Emery B: D: cont. 9</p> <p>24 Ignace Denis-Laporte B: abt 1771 D: 25 Oct 1815 cont. 10</p> <p>25 Julie LaFaye B: abt Sep 1791 D: cont. 11</p>
<p>3 Louise Bertha Dennis (Denis) B: 8 Dec 1888 P: Malone, N.Y. D: 12 Dec 1962 P: Burlington, Vermont</p> <p>7 Marie Elise Thibeau (Cousins) B: 14 Mar 1854 P: Clarenceville, Que., Canada D: 9 Nov 1940 P: Burlington, Chittenden, VT</p>	<p>14 Georges Thibeau (Bro. of Marie) B: 20 Jul 1827 P: St. Hyacinthe M: 20 May 1851 P: Lacolle, St. Jean, Que., Canada D: 21 Jul 1861 P: Drowning in Richelieu River</p> <p>15 Marie Celina Loyer B: 28 Nov 1834 P: Beloeil, Verchères, Que., CA D: 5 Nov 1913 P: Clarenceville, Quebec</p>	<p>26 Andre Prosper Limoge B: 26 Jan 1785 D: 6 May 1849 cont. 12</p> <p>27 Marie Rose St. Aubin B: 19 Apr 1792 D: cont. 13</p> <p>28 Antoine Thibeau (Bro. of Julie) B: D: cont. 14</p>
		<p>29 Marie Louise Lemery/Emery B: D: cont. 15</p> <p>30 Jean Baptiste Loyer B: bet 1792 and 1805 D: 27 Jan 1898 cont. 16</p> <p>31 M Chalifoux/LaMontain/Roussel B: abt 1789 D: cont. 17</p>

Prepared 26 Nov 2013 by:
Janet Sweet Allard

Search Engine Techniques

by Ed McGuire-264

This issue of our series about online search techniques will discuss two more Google tools – the commands ‘**AROUND**’ and ‘**filetype**.’

But first, we need to announce the demise of the synonym operator called tilde (~) that we covered in the last issue of LINKS. Google appears to have removed support for it in June 2013. As reported by numerous search-related websites, here is a quote on the decision from Google’s Dan Russell:

Yes, it's been deprecated. Why? Because too few people were using it to make it worth the time, money, and energy to maintain. In truth, although I sometimes disagree with the operator changes, I happen to agree with this one. Maintaining ALL of the synonyms takes real time and costs us real money...

We lost one we liked. But here are two more to ease the pain.

First up is the command **AROUND**. This has the syntax of:
keyword1 AROUND(n) keyword2

This command is used to find two keywords which appear in close proximity to each other. The “n” in parenthesis is the number of intervening terms you decide to allow. To search for a phrase with both death and liberty enter [death AROUND(4) liberty] and you’ll, of course, find Patick Henry’s quote at the top of the list. But a more useful example for family historians is the case where we want to search for records of a person who was inconsistently referred to with & without middle names or initials. Using a search of [“marie rivard”] will limit the results to only pages where both names occur together.

But what if she was also known as Marie Madeleine Rivard or Marie Josephe Rivard?? The exact search using quotation marks won’t include these versions because the middle name is included. To find cases whether the middle name is included or is not, use the following:

marie AROUND(1) rivard

This will also return results for Marie Helene, Marie Michele, etc. (But it will not return results for Marie Madeleine Josee Rivard. For that you need to use “Marie AROUND(2) Rivard”. And so on...).

The command **filetype** is a very useful tool for specifying exactly where you wish to search for a keyword by specifying the type of file. The format for this command is

[keywords filetype:suffix].

Example, let’s say we’re looking for formal articles about genealogy for Farnham, Quebec between 1700 and 1750. Rather than doing a general search we realize that many reports are in either PDF or DOC formats and search just for those. Our search terms could be:

Farnham, Quebec, genealogy 1700..1750 filetype:pdf

At the top of the list would be articles about the descendants of Frank Clay Sharrow, the entire text of an exhibit (“Being Irish O’Quebec”) about Irish immigrants to the region shown at the McCord Museum in 2009, and various newsletters of the United Empire Loyalists.

Other examples:

german passenger arrivals 1800..1830 filetype:xls

german passenger arrivals 1800..1830 filetype:-xls

roy montreal filetype:ged

The top one would look for German passenger lists only tabulated in Excel spreadsheets (“xls”). The second would eliminate only those same type of files. The third would search for GEDCOM files in Montreal that included any mention of the surname ROY.

There are obviously a lot of ways this command can be used by astute genealogists.

VT-FCGS Members that have joined since *LINKS* Summer 2013

Member(s) Name	City, State
James Patrick Allen & Heather Marie Bell	Colchester , VT
Paul C. Blair	Syracuse, NY
Linda Boardman	So. Burlington , VT
Joan S. & Paul D. Chamberlin	Underhill , VT
Joyce M. Stone	Essex Jct , VT
Joan E. Hoxie	Middlebury , VT
Kathleen Douglas	Vergennes , VT
Bruce Belrose	Tallahassee, FL
Frank Baker	Kingston, NY
Veronica Foley	Gig Harbor, WA
Naomi King	So. Hero , VT
Valerie Parzyck	Colchester , VT
June & G. Russell Stewart, II	North Stonington, CT
Marna Murray	Montpelier , VT
John St Denis	St. Albans Bay , VT
Linda T. Luce	Grand Isle , VT
Don Tetzlaff & Carol Laird	Colchester , VT
Gayle & Virginia Lane	Charlotte , VT
Jason Smiley	Milton , VT
Edward Darling	So. Burlington , VT
Kevin J. & Suzanne LeBlanc Johnson	Colchester , VT
Rebecca Guenther	Essex Jct , VT
Kathy Buermann	Grand Isle , VT
Susan Hammond	Chester, VT
Judith Lidie	Bellows Falls, VT
Mary Mongeon	Winooski , VT
Nathaniel S. & Amy S.M. Haraden	Burlington , VT
Michelle & Nicole Kolinich	Westford , VT
Alexander Blanchard	El Paso, TX
John Henry Blanchard	Jupiter, FL
Shawna Burgess	Moretown, VT
Allen Schmidt	Williston , VT
Maureen Lake	Las Vegas, NV
Martha Alice Olsley & Carol Jean Tandy	Williston , VT
Judy S. Lemay	Williston , VT
Maxine Kimball	Salisbury , VT
Jude Logan Demers	Burlington , VT
Christina Boisvert	Essex Jct. , VT
Ginny Burleson	Shelburne , VT
Daniel R. Desrosiers	Webster, MA
Roger & Cindy Fay	Shelburne , VT
Dr John A Burns	Powell, OH
Natalie Dowling	Burlington , VT
Cheryl D. Johnson & Frances Grande	Mariposa, CA



Volunteers Needed!

Library

As many of you know our librarians, Janet Allard and Janet Landry, have given very generously to our Society. In addition to the countless hours they spend greeting visitors and getting them started in their searches, and helping those of us who are deadlocked, they spend many hours behind the scenes taking care of the collection. The ladies are looking for volunteers to assist them in these efforts, and they are willing to train all comers. Whether you can contribute once a month or every week, any time you can give would be welcome.

Assorted projects

- Repair and bind books in need of TLC.
- Help with shelf moves. The librarians would love to have a tall helper, but assistance when large numbers of books need to be moved would be great, tall or not.
- Organize family genealogies and research that has been donated to the library. This might involve creating a committee to handle bigger donations.
- Process and organize folders in the David Bell Collection.

Improve online book catalog – The new on-line listing allows us to incorporate more information than the old system allowed for. This information will allow researchers to narrow down their searches before they come to the library but it needs to be added in to the database.

- We need people to work at the library going through the books, writing down the information to be entered later. A form has been developed for this. This is a slow process, but you can volunteer to give of your time as you can. Training will be provided.
- We also need other volunteers to work off-site entering the information into the database.

Coordinator(s) to manage library volunteer program. Some tasks will need to be done on-site but much of the organizing can be done off-site. This job could be done by two people splitting the tasks, or covering for each other.

- Organize and conduct training for new volunteers. Materials have already been developed for the training process.
- Manage schedule to ensure coverage.

If you are interested in helping the librarians on any of these projects please contact them in person at the library, or Janet Allard at 878-8081 or email jallard65@yahoo.com, or Janet Landry at 238-3525.

Parish Book Publications

Our parish book publications have always been a key part of the Society's mission of preserving Vermont records and making them more accessible to genealogists. Our books have been ordered by libraries and societies in the United States and Canada, as well as by numerous individuals. The funds obtained from the sale of these books are our biggest source of revenue, revenue that keeps the Society solvent and your dues low.

When we first contracted with the Diocese of Burlington in 2004 to take on this important mission the plan was developed to start with the oldest parishes in the state. Technological changes now allow John to go into a rectory and photograph the Baptism, Marriage and Burial registers in a number of hours as opposed to the labor intensive photocopying that used to take days when the project was first started.

John organizes the photos, making up packets of about 300 records and these are sent out to his team of transcribers. A computer program designed by John uses a special setup of the Microsoft Works Database program, and the Windows Viewer, that allows the transcriber to see the image of the ledger and the data entry screen at the same time, making the transcriber's job much easier. To date the teams have completed 45 books.

If you are interested in joining this project you would need Windows XP, Vista, Windows 7 or 8. You would also need a DROPBOX program which is very easy to install on your computer. John will train you, provide guidelines for "dit" names, and translation sheets for Latin and French names. He is willing to answer questions. All of this work can be done at home on your own PC when you have the time to work on it. You don't even need to live in Vermont! John asks that you complete the work within 8 weeks for each packet assigned.

If you would like to volunteer to help transcribe original parish records please contact John Fisher at jrfisher@comcast.net or mail@vt-fcgs.org.

QUERIES**Janet Allard, #48**

We encourage our members to submit free queries for publication as space permits. Queries should be brief and concise, typed or printed clearly. Queries from non-members should include a \$3.00 check for each query. Queries should be sent to VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, Attn.: Query Editor, P.O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05406-5128. Please send a copy of all replies to our society for its archives-library and publication.

anc.	ancestors	dau.	daughter	par.	parents
b.	born	desc.	descendant	poss.	possibly
bp.	baptized	d.s.p.	died without issue	ref.	reference
bro.	brother	d.y.	died young	rel.	related, relative
bur.	buried	div.	divorced	rem.	removed
ca.	circa	fam.	family	res.	resided, lived at
ch.	child, children	fl.	lived, flourished	sis.	sister
c.r.	church record	g.s.	gravestone	twp.	township
co.	county	info	information	w.	wife
d.	died, death	marr.	married	wid.	widow, widowed

Query 452

SHAMBEAU/ARCHAMBAULT

Looking for the m. prior to 1810 of Francis Shambeau/Archambault b. 10 June 1781 L'Assomption(Jean Baptiste Archambault and Marie Angelique Lalouette Lebeau) of L'Assomption, Quebec, Canada and a Margaret (surname unknown). They lived in Williston, VT ca. 1810. Brian Shambeau, brian@unitedwaupaca.com

Query 453

BELLEROSE/PARISEAU

Looking for the m. between 1853-1855 of Francis Bellerose (Nicolas Menard-Bellerose and Madeleine Guillet) and Henriette/Harriett Pariseau (Jean Baptiste Pariseau and Marie Daudlin).

Living in Swanton, VT. Bruce Belrose, robot2655@icloud.com

Query 454

RUSSELL/PROVOST

Looking for the m. between 1850 and 1854 of Michael George Russell and Marie Josephine Provost their son George Henry Russell born Watertown, Jefferson, N.Y.

Brenda Ford, 8 Gershom Dr., N. Granfton, MA

Query 455

DUROCHER/CAMPBELL

Looking for the m. between 1846 and 1850 of Elezer/Elisee Durocher and Emelie Permella Campbell (Antoine Campbell and Emile Alexandre). They are living in Alburgh, VT in the 1850 and 1860 census. Dr. John

Normile aajnorm@sbcglobal.net

**CEAL'S Genealogy Day**

Saturday! August 9, 2014 - Noon to 8 pm

Charlotte Senior Center on Ferry Road in the village

across from Post Office/Library and next door to the Fire Station

(take a right at the light from route 7 at the 4 way intersection, as if you're going to the ferry. It's a half mile on your right.

Ceal Moran's GENEALOGY DAY "Get Together" is an informal family reunion where photo albums out-number actual relatives that attend, and that is O.K. ~~~~~ really (and it's combined with the community service aspect to help people remember/honor folks that have died).

Now, for you folks that live out of state, please just consider calling or writing a relative every AUGUST 9th because that has ended up being the real push of the event !!!

No matter your age, name or skill level you're sure to come away with a few ideas of ways to energize communication in your family. Bring a friend/relative or both. Just plan on fitting this into your busy day as another way to honor ALL your loved ones (both dead and alive). And, of course, your help in spreading the word is most appreciated!

VT-FCGS Treasurer's Report

For November 1, 2012 through October 31, 2013

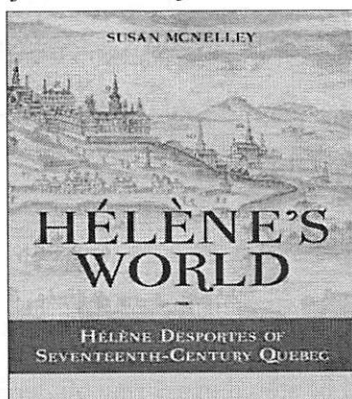
INCOME		Notes:
Membership Dues	\$10,593	
LINKS Publication Income	\$ 29	From sale of back issues
Library Income	\$7,181	Includes \$4,529 from Diocese Book Sales
Research Income	\$ 932	
Annual Conference Income	\$1,543	
Society Income	\$ 5,919	Includes \$4,483 from General Donations
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 26,197	
EXPENSES		Notes:
Membership & LINKS Expenses	\$ 2,736	Includes \$2,088 for LINKS printing, postage & supplies
Library Expenses	\$ 10,533	Includes \$1,850 for Diocese Book production costs, \$2,377 for Copier purchase, \$515 for Online Store expenses, \$1,653 for Computer expenses, \$560.50 for furniture/fixtures purchases
Annual Conference Expenses	\$ 790	Hall rental, speaker honoraria, mailing
Society Expenses	\$ 6,856	Includes \$40-SGCE; \$1,783-Ancestry; \$25-Civil War; \$150-American Ancestors; \$100-LaFrance database subscriptions; \$1,257 class supplies
Building Rent & Furniture, Fixtures	\$4,390	Includes \$4,181 for Building Rent; \$209 Speaker stands, book and brochure racks
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,305	
OVERALL TOTAL	\$892	(Income less Expenses)

VT-FCGS Cash Assets as of 10/31/2013

Savings Account	\$ 4,340	Insurance Coverage \$75,000
Checking Account	\$ 7,524	
Petty Cash	\$ 100	
Money Market opened 10/19/2011	\$26,762	Respectfully submitted, Barb Mercure, Treasurer
Money Market restricted funds	\$1000	
NET WORTH	\$ 39,726	

Hélène's World: Hélène Desportes of Seventeenth-Century Quebec

By Susan McNelley



Hélène Desportes, born in 1620, was the first child of French parents to be born in Quebec and to survive.

This is her story, set against the backdrop of France's efforts to establish a colony in the New World along the banks of the St. Lawrence River.

If you have a family line that goes back to Hélène Desportes or to other French-Canadian pioneers of the seventeenth century, you will want to read this book.

More information: www.tracingsbysam.com

Available at Amazon.com
List price: \$19.95

WHO INVITED MY COUSIN TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY?

by *Tom DeVarney*

Our society gathered at JP's in Essex Junction for the annual Christmas party on the 5th of December, 2013. Thirty six people were in attendance. The conversations were enjoyable and the food was excellent, as always. There was, however, an incident that caused some unforeseen but pleasant laughter.

It has been the custom to have a sing-along after dessert. We usually alternate between French and English carols, with a German one thrown in. Being chosen by our president to lead the singing and with Barb Mercure's assistance, I selected the carol, gave the note and plowed into the song with the whole group joining in.

Something happened when we started one of the carols. The beginning note seemed a little high, but I pressed on and the group followed. After singing all the notes of the carol we still had 4 more lines of words to sing. Suddenly it became evident that we were singing "Hark the Herald Angels" to the tune of "Deck the Halls." It was surprising that we got to the end of the tune before it became evident, to me at least, that something was wrong. We all had a good laugh and with Barb's help we sang it, anew, to the right tune.

I would like to state here and now that it was not my fault!!!

Alcohol was not to blame. I buy one beer a year and that is for the garden slugs.

SO WHAT WENT WRONG?

It was my cousin's fault. In fact, he is my 3rd cousin.

Some of us are genealogically blessed. We can truly blame a cousin for something we did. Recently, while eating in the break area at the library, Jane Whitmore happened to mention that she discovered that she was her own cousin. That got me thinking. My maternal grandparents were 1st cousins. Following my maternal grandfather's line and my maternal grandmother's line, I discovered that I am my own 3rd cousin.

Charles Paquet-Lavallée & Josephte Bédard

Céline Paquet-Lavallée & Edouard Matte	Siblings	Etienne Paquet-Lavallée & Adéline Derome-Descarreau
Ferdinand Matte	1 st C	Aurélien Paquet-Lavallée
Hermine Matte & Edward DeVarney	2 nd C	Hermine Matte & Edward DeVarney
Tom DeVarney	3 rd C	Tom DeVarney

Next year I may not invite my cousin to the Christmas party.



(continued from page 22)

For pins that need to be mailed, there is an additional \$5 shipping & handling fee. (Hint: This might make a great present to spark interest of other family members in your family history...)

Completed charts and the proof of participation documents will be stored in a 3-ring binder and will be available for viewing at the Vermont Genealogy Library.

You can find the Civil War Pin Program Rules, application form, chart template and instructions at www.vt-fcgs.org/new_Project_Programs.html. There are also examples of completed charts and proof documents on this page.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH TRIP

Salt Lake City

May 7-12, 2014

Package Includes:

- Round trip airfare
- Hotel Accommodations Included in the Price

The package includes four nights (Wednesday night through Sunday night, checking out Monday morning)

- **Additional Nights**

Should you wish to spend additional nights at the hotel before or after the event we will let you know how to take advantage of our SPECIAL GROUP RATE. Airfare charges for change of ticket will be the responsibility of the traveler, usually \$100.

- **Your Room**

Each room includes a refrigerator, microwave and free wireless hi-speed internet. The Mormon Temple, LDS Family History Center, LDS Museum, and LDS Church Conference Center is all walking distance to the hotel.



- **Meals**

All meals are included. Fast food is NOT considered a meal at Vermont's Green Mountain Tours! However, please keep in mind that this trip is a RESEARCH trip, so 5 star restaurants are NOT part of the itinerary.

- **Free Hotel/Airport Shuttle**

A free shuttle service is provided between the airport and the hotel.

- FULL TRAVELER'S INSURANCE (ADD \$115 PER PERSON)

COST PER PERSON:

\$1525.00 DOUBLE / \$1281.00 TRIPLE /
\$1205.00 QUAD / \$1800.00 SINGLE

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