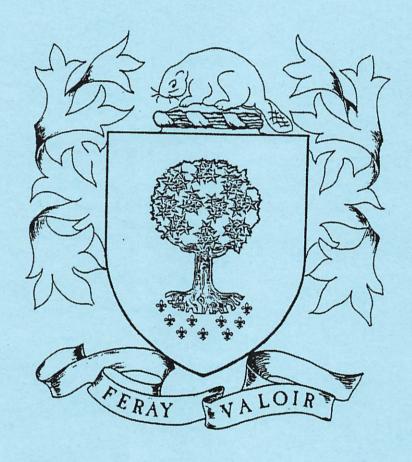
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# LINKS

Volume 22, No. 1

**Issue Number 43** 

Winter 2019



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. Its volunteers help members and visitors with their research every Tuesday and Saturday at the Society's \*Library located in Rooms 201A, 201B, 202, 203, 204 and 206 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 the second Saturday each month during July and August. 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: Ed McGuire (802-310-9285), or Janet Allard (802-878-8081).

#### Online Resources

John Fisher: Webmaster for VT-FCGS.org Bill Craig: Webmaster for VTGENLIB.org

Maureen O'Brien: Facebook Editor

## Tax Exempt Status

The Internal Revenue Service granted the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society tax exempt status April 15, 1997 (Ref. Case # 117050081). The determination letter reads, in part: "Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code." Please request a receipt when making a donation of cash or material items.

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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To submit articles (electronic files are appreciated but not mandatory):

Mail to above address or e-mail to: swmorris5243@gmail.com

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The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions. The editor will consider, but assume no responsibility for unsolicited material. Letters to the editor may be edited for length or to delete potentially libelous statements.

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## A Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends,

Thanks to Ed McGuire's organization we were treated to a great group of classes last fall, including "Early Vermont Settlers to 1784" by Scott Andrew Bartley, "Using Google Search" by Ed McGuire, "Unlocking the Secrets of Your Family's 19<sup>th</sup> Century Photos" by Sharon Flaherty, and some panels on "Important Books for French-Canadian Research," and "Fifty Ways to Prove He's Dead." If you missed them, you can access the handouts and recordings for these classes in the Members section of the Vermont Genealogy Library website at <a href="https://www.vtgenlib.org">www.vtgenlib.org</a>.

This spring's group of classes include repeats of "Beginning Genealogy," "Introduction to DNA Testing," and "Using FamilySearch.org." We are also offering classes on French-Canadian, Italian, and Scottish genealogy, as well as some interesting offerings on AmericanAncestors.org, orphan trains and solving brick walls. We are also offering a New Member Orientation this year.

Last fall the Vermont Genealogy Library became a FamilySearch Affiliate Library, allowing us access to even more records at FamilySearch.org all for free. Look for our class in February to help you get the most out of this important site.

Also in February, we will be continuing with our Tuesday night Special Interest Groups, adding a French-Canadian one back into the mix. This brings us to SIGs on DNA, French-Canadian, Irish, and Italian, with an open one for the fifth Tuesday of the month.

Our building at Fort Ethan Allen is still up for sale, but Saint Michael's College tells us that they have not received any offers as yet. If you hear of any place nearby that might be available for us to rent at a reasonable rate, please contact Sheila Morris, John Fisher, or Ed McGuire.

John Fisher and his volunteers have published two new parish books: "St Bridget, Baptisms, 1857-1950; Sacred Heart, Baptisms, 1888-1968, West Rutland, VT" and "St Dominic, Proctor, VT, Marriages and Baptisms 1886-1953." I'd like to thank all the volunteers who help out with all the things that keep us running, including staffing the Vermont Genealogy Library, helping with the parish books and various events where we have a presence. Please contact us if you might be interested in volunteering.

Best Wishes and Successful Research!

Marcie Crocker, President Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society Marcie.Crocker@uvm.edu

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Since Last Edition (42) of LINKS

By Elaine Riley, Member #14

Alexis & Saundra Dubois

Colby Contois & Razelle Hoffman-Contois

William Bourque

Tina Lamphere

Susan Giroux

W Theresa Gross

Nancy Stimson

Barbara Newman

Rebecca Howard

Betty & Thomas LaMothe

Dominic Versaci

Alice Wells

Francine Roller

Kelly Doherty

Judith & Russell Leavstrom

**Judith Crowley** 

Brian & Cheyenne Garland

Wendell & Joyce Denny

Jon Zimmerman

Linda Knight

Debby McCracken

Diann Varricchione

Betsy Bogner

Patrick & Mary Hughes

Larry Myott

Cheryl Quesnel

Louise Brunelle

The Ontario Genealogical Society

Shellie Karol-Chik

Gladys Murray

Shelly Morey

**Douglas Smith** 

Linda Maloney

**Donald Devost** 

Christina & Rene Cotnoir

Joan Alexander

Kenneth Garrow

Madge Kokenburg

Ethan & Carol Allen

Jean Saysani

Peter Thomas

Richard Noel

Eric & Hannah Noel

Eleanor Greeb

Chuck Rainville

**Sharon Powers** 

Danny Young

Nancy Walls

Roger Levesque

Donna Bister



## 2019 CLASS SCHEDULE

All classes are held on Saturdays at 10:30 am and end at noon Fee is \$10.00 for members and the public

16 Feb	Ed McGuire	DNA Testing Basics
23 Feb	Marcie Crocker	Using FamilySearch.org
02 Mar	Ed McGuire	Mastering Search at AmericanAncestors.org
09 Mar	Bruce Dumelin	Italian Family Research
12 Mar	Ed McGuire	Researching Your Irish Ancestors (free – Tuesday Evening)*
16 Mar	Lynn Johnson	Using City Directories to Solve Genealogical Mysteries
23 Mar	Sheila Morris	Scottish Genealogy Research
30 Mar	Ed McGuire	Finding Ancestors Using DNA Networks
06 Apr	Dan Bean	Orphan Train Riders
13 Apr	Michael Dwyer	Brick Walls Solved: Four Case Studies
27 Apr	EASTER Volunteer Staff	New Member Orientation
And I I Tall I	V 1711111111111111111111111111111111111	TEST VICTORIA COMPUNICATION

<sup>\*</sup>Tuesday, 7pm (FreeTalk) sponsored by Burlington Irish Heritage Festival and VT-FCGS

For Class descriptions please visit our website: vtgenlib.org

Class schedule subject to change – check our website or call 802-310-9285 for confirmation

Education Director, Ed McGuire

## Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

## **EVENTS & CLOSINGS FOR 2019**

February 02 Saturday Classes begin with "Genealogy for Beginners"

April 20 Library closed for Easter Holiday

May 25 Library closed for Memorial Day weekend

June (to be announced) French Heritage Day (Winooski)

July 6 Library closed for Fourth of July Holiday

August 9 Ceal Moran's Genealogy Day

August 31 Library closed for Labor Day weekend

September 7 VT-FCGS Open House at our Library

September 14 Fall Classes begin with "Genealogy for Beginners"

October 19 VT-FCGS Annual Fall Conference (Library closed)

November 30 Library closed for Thanksgiving weekend

December 11 Annual Christmas Party – Eagles Club

December 24 & 28 Library closed for Christmas Holiday

December 31 Library closed for New Year's Holiday

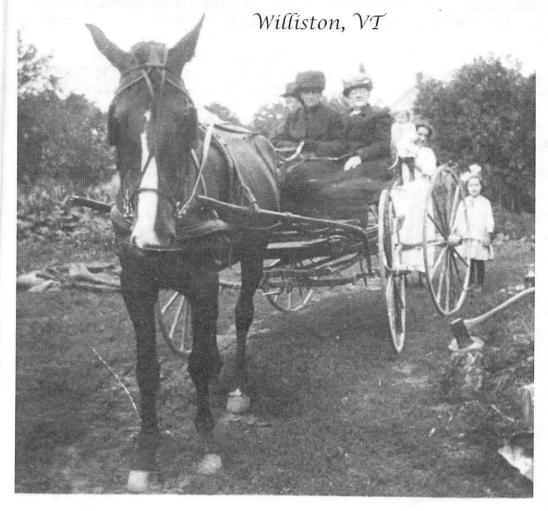
Our library will re-open on January 4, 2020

Above dates and places are subject to change Visit vt-fcgs.org or vtgenlib.org for updates

### THE CHRISTMAS FAMILY

By Bernard C. Young, Member #1461

The Christmas Family on Christmas Hill



The early records of the Christmas family of Williston and Hinesburg, VT were found with the aid of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society of Winooski, VT. Their records provided by Mr. John Fisher from the Drouin Institute and the PRDH, as well as his knowledgeable advice, enabled me to trace the family roots back from my great grandmother, Mary Ann Christmas, born on 30 December 1860 at Huntington, VT to Francis Christmas and his wife, Margaret Casey.

As with many French-Canadian families who emigrated to the U.S., they chose to Anglicize their surname. So it was with the Noel family, who became "Christmas," shortly after their arrival from Yamachiche, Quebec sometime in early 1840. As their children were baptized in the Catholic Church, the surname was recorded either as Noel or as Christmas, depending upon the choice of the officiating priest.

The following family records begin with JACQUES MIDELET, who lived in the department of Finisterre, Brittany, France with his wife, CONSTANCE RONNEAU.

- 1. JACQUES MIDELET Born before 1691 in St. Eglard Parish, St. Pol-de-Leon, Department of Finisterre, Brittany. His wife was CONSTANCE RONNEAU. They had one child, FRANCOIS.
- 2. FRANCOIS NOEL dit MIDELET le BRETON Born circa 1748, place unknown, probably in France, died 21 February, 1791. He married AGATHE BARBE TESSIER on 5 March, 1764 at Berthierville, Quebec. Agathe was born on 22 July, 1744 the daughter of Ignace Tessier Lavigne and Marie Genevieve Forcier.

  The children were:

Therese - Born about 1767. She married 30 September, 1782 Claude Ferron. \*

Francois - Born 26 August, 1769 at Yamachiche, Qc. He died on 14 October, 1770 at Yamachiche.

Pierre – Born 3 February, 1774 at Yamachiche. Married Marie Faucher at Louiseville, on 4 February, 1793 (PRDH)

\* Note – Following the death of François in 1791, Agathe Tessier Noel married AUGUSTIN GODIN on 6 June, 1791 at Yamachiche.

3. PIERRE NOEL dit MIDELET – Pierre Noel and Marie Faucher were married on 4 February, 1793 at Louiseville, St. Antoine de la Riviere du Loup. There were 12 Children:

Pierre - Born 24 February, 1794. Married, on 24 May, 1819 at Maskinonge, Quebec to Josepthe Masson.

Infant - Born 8 January, 1796, died on 10 January, 1796.

Marie - Born 8 January, 1796, twin, died on 12 January at Yamachiche.

Charles - Born 26 February, 1797 at Yamachiche.

Marie - Born 28 March, 1799 at Yamachiche.

Alexis - Born 16 April, 1801 at Yamachiche.

Justine - Born 4 May, 1803 at Louiseville. She died on 24 May, 1804 at Yamachiche.

\* Francois – Born on 24 November, 1806 at Yamachiche. Married FELICITE COULOMBE on 23 July, 1832 at St.Anne's in Yamachiche. She was the daughter of Antoine Coulombe and Charlotte Rousseau and was born on 2 September, 1811 at Louiseville (St. Antoine-de-la-Riviere du Loup).

Justine - Born at Yamachiche on 10 January, 1809.

Antoine - Born at Yamachiche on 11 September, 1811.

Thomas - Born at Yamachiche on 12 June, 1814.

Isidore - Born on 3 September, 1818 at Maskinonge

### 4. FRANCOIS NOEL/CHRISTMAS \*

Born on 24 November, 1806 at Yamachiche, Qc. He married FELICITE COULOMBE on 23 July, 1832. Felicite was born on 2 September, 1811 at Louiseville, Qc. (Drouin). She died on 21 March, 1891 and François on 10 November, 1888. Children born in Quebec to François Noel and Felicite Coulombe Noel:

Francois - Born 7 September, 1833 at Yamachiche, Qc.

Marguerite - Born on 20 April, 1835 at Yamachiche, Qc.

Philomene - Born on 27 January, 1837 at Yamachiche, Qc.

Isaac - Born on 10 July, 1838 at Yamachiche. Died 24 August, 1838.

Sophie - Born on 3 February, 1840 at Yamachiche.

All of the above children are recorded on the LaFrance database and the PRDH records. It should also be noted that in BMD records from the Town Clerk's Offices in Williston, VT and in the US Census records for 1850, the above names are not listed as shown. In addition, the records of St. Joseph's Cathedral of Burlington, VT show the following for Francois Noel and Felicite Coulombe:

Julien Noel - Born 7 January, 1847 at Hinesburg, VT

Helene Noel - Born 2 February, 1849 at Williston, VT

Anathalie - Born 23 March, 1850 at Williston, VT

I have found that the various civil records show Francois listed as Frank, and Felicite listed variously as Fidelia, Phylena and Fanny. The Catholic church records list their names correctly. However, Francis and Felicite were confirmed in Our Lady of the Holy Rosary R.C. Church in Richmond, VT on 12 January, 1862 and 28 October, 1864 respectively. Francis died on 10 November, 1888 and Felicite on 21 March, 1891. Both are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Cochrane Road, Richmond, VT.

Because of the inconsistencies in the children's names from Canadian, U.S. Census and Church records, I will attempt to clarify what I have found to the best of my ability, by recapping the records as follows, for the family of Francis (Noel) Christmas and Felicite (Coulombe) Noel:

Name	PRDH	1850 US Census	St. Joseph's Cathedral
Francois *	b. 1833	b. 1830	-
Marguerite	b. 1835	b. 1835	
Philomene*	b. 1837	b. 1837	
Isaac	b. 1838 d. 183	8	
Sophie	b. 1840	b. 1838	
*Julia	b. unknown	b. 1841	1847 as "Julien"
Louis	b	b. 1842	
George	b	b. 1846	
*Ellen	b	b. 1848	1849 as "Helene"
*Adelaide	b	b. 1850	1850 as "Anathalie"

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes names changed at baptism in St. Joseph record.

Note also that the ages attributed to the Census of 1850 are approximations, given the estimated ages stated by the person who answered the door to the census-taker. For example, Adelaide was said to be 6 months old, on 15 August, 1850 when the census was taken. Likewise, Francois stated that he was 20 years old when he was actually 17, according to the PRDH records from Yamachiche, Quebec.

Children of Francois (Noel) Christmas and Felicite (Coulombe) Christmas, (continued)

5. FRANCIS CHRISTMAS\* - married MARGARET CASEY on 6 November, 1855. Margaret was born in Ireland on 15 September, 1823 the daughter of Junius Casey and Mary Collins, (LDS). Margaret died on 17 August, 1918 and Francis, on 8 March, 1917 at Huntington, VT. Both buried in St. Mary's Cemetery, Cochrane Road, Richmond, VT, Plot i-3.

#### Their children were:

George Christmas – Born on 25 July, 1857 in Richmond, VT and died on 14 January, 1859 aged 2 years, 6 mos. and 2 days of "canker and rash" according to a doctor's report found in the Williston Town Clerk's offices.

Sarah Jane Christmas – Born on 24 June, 1858. Married Daniel Sean McMahon on 12 January, 1885 at Richmond. Daniel was born in 1864 and died on 8 Jan. 1938 at Richmond, aged 73 years, 4 months and 24 days. His father Michael McMahon was born in Askeaton, Ireland and his mother, Margaret Sheehan, in Tipperary County, Ireland - date unknown.

Michael and Margaret had five children:

Daniel, born in 1864.

Julia, born 12 November, 1872 at Williston

Patrick, born 3 January, 1876.

Michael, twin, born 3 January, 1876, died 22 February, 1876 of "indigestion". Catherine, born 15 March, 1877 and died on 1 August, 1879, "killed by cars."

The children of Sarah Jane and Daniel were:

George McMahon – born 21 Sept. 1886.

Francis L. McMahon - born 14 Sept. 1888.

Margaret McMahon - born 15 Feb. 1892, died 6 Oct. 1953 in Burlington, VT.

Mary Rena McMahon – born 15 June, 1898.

Julia McMahon - born 21 February, 1902. She married Arthur Wortheim of Richmond. Arthur died on 24 January, 1955.

Mary Ann Christmas – Third child of Francis Christmas and Margaret Casey was born on 31 December, 1860 at Huntington, VT. "Mary Christmas, born on New Years" my great grandmother used to say. She married Terence McCarron on 22 April, 1878 at Richmond. Mary Ann died on 13 April, 1949 at the home of her son, Bernard Leo McCarron, 25 Lincoln Avenue, St. Albans, VT. (See McCarron Family, on the page following). She is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, St. Albans.

Elizabeth Ellen Christmas – Fourth child of Francis Christmas and Margaret Casey was born on 1 February, 1868 at Huntington. She died on 7 March, 1888 at 20 years of age and is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery on Cochrane Road in Richmond.

JULIA CHRISTMAS – Born about 1843/44 at Williston, Vt. The fifth child of Francois (Noel) Christmas and Felicite Coulombe Christmas. St. Joseph's Catholic Church records show her birth date as 7 January, 1847 at Hinesburg, Vt. She married ZEPHERIN GOODRICH on 22 December, 1864 at age 21. He was 18 years of age, born in Canada East, of Joseph and Lucy Goodrich (Goudreau?), and had just enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War.

Julia died on 7 October, 1899 and Zepherin, on 17 November, 1906. He is buried in the Holy Family Cemetery, Essex Junction, Vt. Julia's burial site is unknown, perhaps in the St. Mary's Cemetery on Cochrane Road in Richmond where many of the headstones are either missing or destroyed. They had:

Alice (Goodrich) Rochelle – Born 20 December, 1869 at Williston. Died 5 June, 1937 in Jericho, VT.

Sources: U.S. Census of 1850, St. Joseph's R.C. Church, Burlington, Vt www. Find a Grave.com, Vermont State Archives.

MARGUERITE CHRISTMAS – Born on 20 April, 1835 at Yamachiche Quebec, (Drouin). She is listed in the Federal Census of 1850 along with her brothers and sisters living in Williston. No further information has yet been found for her.

PHILOMENE CHRISTMAS – Born on 27 January, 1837 at Yamachiche Quebec, (Drouin). As with Margeurite, she is listed in the 1850 Census for 1850 with her family in Williston. No further information has yet been discovered about her.

ISAAC NOEL – Born on 10 July, 1838 at Yamachiche to François Noel and Felicite Coulombe Noel. He died on 24 August, 1838 and was buried on 25 August, 1838 at Yamachiche. He is included here as part of the family of François (Noel) Christmas and Felicite (Coulombe) Christmas. (Drouin)

SOPHIE CHRISTMAS – Born on 3 February, 1840 at Yamachiche, Quebec.

Listed on the Federal Census of 1850 for Williston as the fifth child born to Francois and Felicite and the last to be born in Quebec. She is listed in the 1850 Census as having been born in 1838. Nothing further has been discovered about her.

LEWIS CHRISTMAS – Born in 1842 at Williston, VT, the seventh child of Francois (Noel) Christmas and Felicite (Coulombe) Christmas. He married, 2 January, 1871, PHILENA BARTTRO the daughter of Louis and Julia Barttro, who was born in 1852 the second of 18 children born to Louis and Julia (see "A Vermont Franco-American in the Civil War" by John Fisher for a detailed account of the Barttro family). Lewis died on 23 June, 1913 and was buried in Holy Rosary Cemetery, Richmond, VT. Philena died 28 August, 1929 and was buried alongside Lewis. Their children were:

Clarence Christmas – Born on 3 March, 1889 at Williston. Died on 19 July, 1939. He married Ruby E. Jennette (Genest) on 10 November, 1910. She died in 1972.

Their children were:

Mary, Margaret, Esther, Charles, Joseph, Louis, Jennette, Philena and Sarah.

Leo Francis Louis Christmas – Born on 20 September, 1878 at Richmond, Vermont the son of Louis/Lewis Christmas and Philena Barttro. He married Mae D. Lorraine on 24 November, 1903. She was born in 1882, died in 1962 and Leo, on 14 September, 1936. Both are buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery Annex, Burlington.

Their children were:

Mary Agnes – 1909-1995 Dolores L. – 1913-1992 Edith Clare – 1915-1999 Leroy- 1916-1982 Sarah – 1917-1986

Louise Christmas - Married Charles Martell in 1905. They had:

Ruth Martell Malcolm Martell

ADELAIDE CHRISTMAS – Born in Williston, VT on 23 March, 1850, baptized on 19 June, 1850 as "Anathalie" in St. Joseph's, Burlington, VT. She married PAUL LAPAN, born in Canada in 1847, died in 1924. Addie died in 1929, both buried in Holy Family Cemetery, Essex Junction, VT. There was one child: John Lapan, born 12 February, 1863, died 28 December, 1950.

ELLEN CHRISTMAS – Born on 2 February, 1849 at Williston, VT and baptized on 19 June, 1850 in St. Joseph's, Burlington, VT as "Helene" Noel, daughter of Francois Noel and Felicite Coulombe. There was a son, Charles Christmas, born on 9 August, 1866 when Ellen was 17 years old. The father is listed as "unknown" in Town of Williston records. Ellen married, on 9 August, 1879, JOHN A. PLACE of Burlington. There were two children:

Jesse Eugene Place – Born 3 September, 1881 at Williston, VT Unnamed child – Born 12 July, 1885, died on 13 July, 1885.

CHARLES CHRISTMAS – Born 9 August, 1866, married Jennie B. (Jeannette) in St. Joseph's on 23 February, 1892. She was the daughter of Joseph Jeannette and Virginia Marchand, a.k.a.

Prospere Letourneau and Virginie Marchand as they are listed on the marriage record at St. Joseph's. She was born in 1869. The record shows that Ellen attended the ceremony as Ellen Christmas, with no mention of John Place. Perhaps he may have passed away by then, but no record. Charles died in 1942. Jennie's death date is unknown. Both buried in East Cemetery, Williston, VT.



The Christmas Family Living Room

GEORGE HENRY CHRISTMAS – Born 7 January, 1847 at Williston, Vt.
The eighth child of Francis Christmas and Fidelia/Phylinda/Fannie Christmas. He married KATHERINE
LANDER, born 15 September, 1850 in Pittsford, Vt. George died on 21 May, 1928 and Kate on 25 September,
1917 in Pittsford. Both are buried in Saint Alphonsus Cemetery, Pittsford, Rutland County, Vt. George served in
the Civil War as Private in the 11th Vermont Infantry a.k.a. the 1st VT Heavy Artillery, Co. "D". There were three
children:

Nellie – 1867-1868 George Henry, Jr. – 1869-1930 Cora Ethie – 1873-1875

GEORGE HENRY CHRISTMAS, Jr. – Born 4 February, 1869 at Pittsford, Vt. He married EMMA JENNIE FRANCIS, born 22 November, 1874 at Pittsford, Vt. the daughter of Charles Henry Francis and Celinda Rabidew. Emma died on 5 May, 1955 and George on 15 June, 1930. Both are buried in St. Alphonsus Cemetery, Pittsford, Vt. Their children were:

Frederick George – 1896-1896 Francis Edward – 1898- 1975 George Raymond – 1901- 1975 Bertram Joseph – 1904-1965

THE FAMILY OF GEORGE HENRY CHRISTMAS, JR.

FREDERICK GEORGE CHRISTMAS – Born 15 August, 1896 at Proctor, Vt. He died at 2 months of age on 1 November, 1896. Buried in St. Dominic Cemetery, Proctor, Vt.

FRANCIS EDWARD CHRISTMAS – Born 1 November, 1898 at Proctor.

Died 24 February, 1975. He married GRACE FRANCES CASEY, (1897-1970) and ANNA MABEL

JOSEPHINE STEELE, (1900-1935). Family of George Henry Christmas, Jr. (continued)

GEORGE RAYMOND CHRISTMAS – Born 16 December, 1901 at Pittsford, VT, died on 27 October, 1975, buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Rutland, Vt. He married first, MILLICENT ELIZABETH GARDNER, (1906-1936) and secondly, CATHERINE A. RACZKA (1917-1988). The children were: by Millicent Gardner – Marian Edna (Christmas) Harrison, 1926-2004) and Raymond Francis Christmas, (1929-1990). By Catherine A. Raczka – Lawrence Edward Christmas, born 26 July, 1941 at Proctor, Vt, died on 11 May, 1991 at Rutland, Vt. Buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Rutland.

BERTRAM JOSEPH CHRISTMAS – Born on 27 October, 1904 at Pittsford, Vt. Died on 13 April, 1965 at Tewksbury, Middlesex County, MA. Buried in St. Alphonsus Cemetery, Pittsford, Vt. He married CYNTHIA EMELINE (Smith) CHRISTMAS, (1907-1991) IN 1927. Their children were:

Bertram James Christmas – 1927-2005 Charles Edward Christmas – 1929-1977 David Smith Christmas – 1932-1946 Evelyn Louise Christmas – 1936-2013

Note: I wish to thank Mr. Fisher once again for his help and that of the Society, in locating various church records of the family.

#### REFERENCES

Records of the Drouin Society via the LaFrance collection.
PRDH records of the Noel family, Yamachiche, Quebec.
Vermont Archives, Middlesex, Vt.
Genealogie du Quebec et d'Amerique francaise (on-line).
Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society.
Findagrave.com
Vermont Federal Census 1850, 1860 and 1870 for Chittenden County, Vt.

Bernard C. Young, 136 Highland Way, No. Ferrisburgh, VT. 05473-4018

## Library of Congress' Newly Digitized WWI Newspaper Clippings Collection Includes Canadian articles

Posted on December 11, 2018 by Gail Dever

My heart swells and chokes me when I think of dear mother opening that cable and reading merely "We regret to inform you that on June 2, 1917, Pte. Leonard Young, 530640, was dangerously wounded." That was all they knew for a whole week, and they waited with a sick dread every time the postman rang the bell, in case.



Leonard Young, c1916.

Sitting among almost 80,000 pages of World War I-era newspaper clippings in 400 bound volumes at the Library of Congress is a letter my great-grandmother's cousin, Leonard Young, a Canadian soldier, wrote to a friend.

Leonard lost his leg in June 1917 during a battle in France. After he recovered, he joined the Dumbells, a vaudeville troupe that entertained the Canadian soldiers in the battlegrounds in France. Later, they performed across Canada and on Broadway.

Leonard wrote a letter from London to his friend, Grace, in October 1917, about the loss of his leg, his feelings of loneliness, the concern he had for his mother, and the thrill he received when performing for the troops.

I, even I, have danced to wilder applause than Bernhardt ever got, and have thrilled to a response that she might envy. To sing and dance and act to laughing men who will lie dead at the dawning of the second day afterward – to give them perhaps, their last note of music, their last jest, that is to experience a weird thrill even the Divine Sarah can never have.

The <u>letter</u> to Grace was published in the *New York Globe* on February 21, 1918, and thanks to a massive digitization project, it is now available online. The Library of Congress yesterday announced it has fully digitized its collection, *World War History: Newspaper Clippings*, 1914 to 1926, and it is available on its website. The 79,621 pages are packed with war-related front pages, illustrated feature articles, editorial cartoons, and information about the political, social, cultural, and economic impact of the war.

### Canadian newspapers

Coverage begins on June 29, 1914 with articles focusing on the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and continues into the post-war world through December 31, 1926. The clippings provide a tremendous resource for the examination of the devastating Great War and its aftermath. The chronological arrangement of daily press coverage from multiple sources is invaluable. Keywords can be searched over the entire date range of the volumes or for a time frame as small as a month. New York City newspapers predominate, but newspapers from all over the United States and some foreign titles, such as from Canada, are represented.

Canadian newspapers that were clipped include the *Toronto Daily Star*, *Globe and Mail*, *Ottawa Citizen*, *Montreal Herald*, and *Le Soleil*.

Search results can be improved by adding quotation marks around a name or phrase. For example, *Leonard Young*, without quotation marks, produced more than 1,600 pages of newspaper clippings that included *Leonard* and *Young* in different parts of the article. A search of "*Leonard Young*" resulted in only two clippings, and one of them had the letter.

https://www.loc.gov

## Archives Recalls Fire That Claimed Millions of Military Personnel Files

By Kerri Lawrence | National Archives News



On July 12, 1973, a devastating fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Missouri, damaged or destroyed approximately 16–18 million Official Military Personnel Files documenting the service history of former military personnel discharged from 1912 to 1964. (National Archives photo)

WASHINGTON, July 23, 2018 — The National Archives and Records Administration recently marked the 45th anniversary of a devastating fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Missouri, that destroyed approximately 16–18 million Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF) documenting the service history of former military personnel discharged from 1912 to 1964.

Shortly after midnight on July 12, 1973, a fire was reported at the NPRC's military

personnel records building in St. Louis, Missouri. The fire burned out of control for 22 hours and it took two days before firefighters were able to re-enter the building. Due to the extensive damage, investigators were never able to determine the source of the fire.

The National Archives focused its immediate attention on salvaging as much as possible and quickly resuming operations at the facility. Even before the final flames were out, staff at the NPRC had begun work toward these efforts as vital records were removed from the burning building for safekeeping.

"In terms of loss to the cultural heritage of our nation, the 1973 NPRC fire was an unparalleled disaster," Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero said. "In the aftermath of the blaze, recovery and reconstruction efforts took place at an unprecedented level. Thanks to such recovery efforts and the use of alternate sources to reconstruct files, today's NPRC is able to continue its primary mission of serving our country's military and civil servants."

Removal and salvage of water- and fire-damaged records from the building was the most important priority, according to NPRC Director Scott Levins. Standing water—combined with the high temperatures and humidity—created a situation ripe for mold growth. This work led to the recovery of approximately 6.5 million burned and water-damaged records, Levins said.

The estimated loss of Army personnel records for those discharged from November 1, 1912, to January 1, 1950, was about 80 percent. In addition, approximately 75 percent of Air Force personnel records for those discharged from September 25, 1947, through January 1, 1964 (with names alphabetically after Hubbard, James E.) were also destroyed in the catastrophe.

However, in the years following the fire, the NPRC collected numerous series of records (referred to as Auxiliary Records) that are used to reconstruct basic service information.

Bryan McGraw, access coordinator at the NPRC, emphasized the gravity of the loss of the actual primary source records. "Unfortunately, the loss of 16–18 million individual records has had a significant impact on the lives of not only those veterans, but also on their families and dependents," McGraw said. "We can usually prove eligibility for benefits and get the vet or next of kin their entitlements; however, we cannot recreate the individual file to what it was—we don't know what was specifically in each file, and each of these was as different as each of us as individuals. So from a purely historic or genealogical perspective, that material was lost forever."

In the days following the fire, recovery teams faced the issue of how to salvage fire-damaged records as well as how to dry the millions of water-soaked records. Initially, NPRC staffers shipped these water-damaged records in plastic milk crates to a temporary facility at the civilian records center where hastily constructed drying racks had been assembled from spare shelving. When it was discovered that McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corporation in St. Louis had vacuum-drying facilities, the NPRC diverted its water-damaged records there for treatment using a vacuum-dry process in a chamber large enough to accommodate approximately 2,000 plastic milk cartons of water- and fire-damaged records.

"This is a somber anniversary," Levins said. "In terms of the number of records lost and lives impacted, you could not find a greater records disaster. Although it's now been 45 years since the fire, we still expend the equivalent of more than 40 full-time personnel each year who work exclusively on responding to requests involving records lost in the fire."

Much has been written about the fire and its aftermath. A white paper, *The National Personnel Records Center Fire: A Study in Disaster*, provides an extensive account. It was originally published in October of 1974 in *The American Archivist*, *Vol. 37. No. 4*. In addition, *Prologue* magazine published "Burnt in Memory: Looking back, looking forward at the 1973 St. Louis Fire."

Each year, the NPRC connects more than a million veterans with their OMPFs as part of the National Archives' services to the nation.

## **Burlington Employee Knighted for Promoting French Heritage**

Submitted by John Fisher, Member #2

WCAX By Neliana Ferraro Posted: Jan 02, 2019 Updated: Wed 5:52 PM

BURLINGTON, Vermont (WCAX) A Burlington Police and Fire Employee has received a special honor from the French government of France.

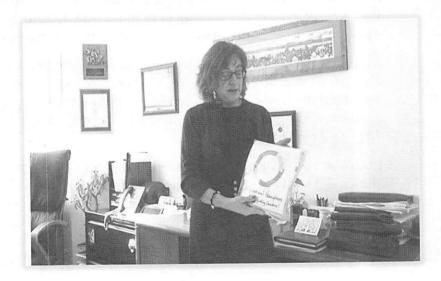


Lise Veronneau, the department's business administrator, has received the rank of Knight, earned for her work on French initiatives in Vermont. More correctly; "Chevalier in the National Order of Merit."

Lise is the chair of the Honfleur Sister City Committee, a partnership with the City of Burlington.

Veronneau says she's carrying on her own cultural traditions with her work. "My mom and dad came from Quebec, Montreal -- Lac-Mégantic -- not speaking a word of English, and it was very important to them, that we kept our "French," she said. One of her upcoming projects is helping businesses in the area learn to speak French and reach foreign customers. She says even a few Burlington Police officers will be attending.

Read more at VT-FCGS web page: http://www.vt-fcgs.org/honfleur.html



## French-Canadian Special Interest Group

at The Vermont Genealogy Library
Starts February 12, 2019, 6:30pm
2nd Tuesday of the Month - Jan-Jun & Sep-Dec

- \* Bring your research questions
  - new successes
  - challenges AND
  - brick walls.





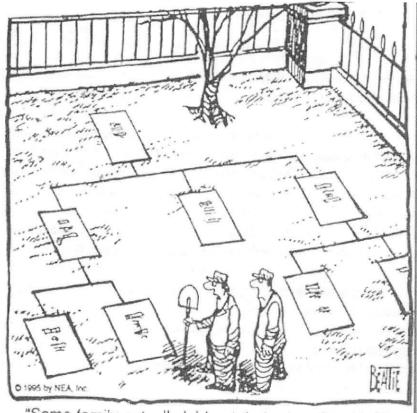
Franco-American Flag

- \* Each month we'll discuss topics such as
  - French-Canadian genealogical resources
  - Quebec history
  - Organizational tools to enhance our family research
  - New articles, websites, or podcasts

to add to our understanding of our ancestors' lives, culture and traditions.

Join us in exploring our rich French-Canadian family history!

Genealogy Chuckle......
Shared by member,
Joan Alexander



"Some family actually laid out their plots like this?!"

## An Irish Brick Wall Breached the Hard Way By Peter Crosby, Member #1071

How can one link ancestors from one generation to another when the paper records do not exist? That is a problem every genealogist runs into eventually. Some are so perplexed that when they hit the "brick wall" they assume that is all they will get and the lineage will stop there. I do not share that point of view. At least, if there is some evidence of ancestors associated with others that lived in the same area, in that same period of history, a back door may be found. To provide a clear pedigree, we may need to look into the context of history and other circumstantial evidence that will blend together to build a case, much like a good prosecutor would in a criminal case. One must build up a preponderance of evidence that can make as much sense as an unambiguous baptismal or marriage record.

Here is case in point, as I am lacking a clear cut baptismal record that would link Michael Crosby with his suspected father Thomas Crosby, who both lived in Wexford Town, County Wexford, Ireland from the time frame of the late 1600s through the first half of the eighteenth century. Questions I need to answer are: how and why did the alleged father, Thomas Crosby, a Catholic, settle in Wexford; were there any other Crosbys from Wexford at the time that could have been a suspected father; how do the family Christian names assigned to their children fit into the established Irish naming tradition spanning from one generation to the other; can I prove a case?

## Michael Crosby and Mary Rath my 6th great grandparents

Michael was probably born in Wexford Town (about 1710) and he and his wife, Mary had eight children which all are listed in Wexford Church records. Mary Rath was from a large local family that had roots in Wexford for many years. Michael and Mary's children are the foundation for the Crosby family pedigree which almost all of the Wexford Crosby's, to this day can trace their roots to this couple. There is no known record of Michael's baptism in the Wexford Parish baptismal records.

## Context of Wexford and Irish History of the Seventh Century

The Kings and Queens of England over the last eight hundred years subjugated the Irish people bringing an inconceivable series of wars and revolts. The 1600s were no exception. The thirty years war, which was mainly fought in Central Europe, was the most devastating war to date where up to eight million people died of famine and disease as well as battle wounds. While the war in Europe was still going on, the English Civil War was being fought and the English monarchy was destroyed giving Oliver Cromwell's Parliamentarians "Roundheads" rule over England in 1651. The last half of the century brought a seesaw of control over the Irish people. In the English civil war, King Charles I, leader of the "Cavaliers," was executed by Cromwell's Parliamentarians. Cromwell had eliminated the monarchy for the period of about fourteen years. As a result, during his control, Cromwell raised an army that were mostly anti-Catholic Protestants and invaded Ireland; they ravaged the population by capturing the east coast and south central Ireland. Wexford was no exception. A relatively short siege in Wexford Town left the castle walls breached by cannon fire and hundreds of Wexford citizens were summarily executed by Cromwell's Army. Subsequently, at that time an elite person that had showed loyalty to the King undoubtedly had his land confiscated and granted to another, possibly as reward for mercenary army service to the Parliamentarians. As a result of the war and genocide, the indigenous Irish Catholic population took many years to recover; and all were relegated to perpetually renting in the English feudal system. Cromwell's Parliamentarians had been eventually defeated and replaced by Charles I's son, Charles II in 1660. In 1685 King Charles II's reign ended with his death. His successor was his brother James II who was, to the dismay of others, a Catholic.

King James II was soon ousted by rival King William, a Protestant, and James II was deposed to France. While in France, with the help of the French and Spanish, he raised an army of mercenaries and Catholics. Then in turn, invaded Ireland. In 1689, James's army was defeated at the battle of Boyne, which was very decisive. James returned to France, never to return to Ireland, and his broken army continued to fight for their lives. In the 1690s, William finally put down the Catholics, and this is the point in time where my alleged ancestor, Thomas Crosby enters the scene in Wexford Town.

### Thomas Crosby and Elizabeth Redmond My alleged 7th great grandparents

Thomas Crosby is estimated to be born about 1670. I think his family was originally from Yorkshire, England and was the alleged father of my 6th great grandfather, Michael Crosby from the following assumptions and facts:

- Assumption: Thomas (a Catholic) was of the right age, in the right place and time to be marooned from James II's defeated Catholic army in Ireland after King William's war. He might have initially sought refuge behind the walls in the long established Franciscan Friary in Wexford Town, in which local Catholics routinely went to receive the sacraments in secret and out of sight of the English Protestants.
- Fact: Up to 1699 there are no other individuals named Crosby in the Wexford Franciscan Friary records which actually go back to 1671. We may assume from those records that Thomas apparently was a relative newcomer to Wexford Town.
- Fact: There is a strong coincidence that the name, "Thomas" was traditionally handed down over the generations from the family branches of Crosbys from both Wexford and Yorkshire, England.
- Fact: There is a strong coincidence, descendants of the same Crosbys of Wexford and Yorkshire, England traditionally for many generations named one of their oldest sons "Miles." This was a custom that started in the 1500s in Yorkshire, according to the 1914 book by Eleanor Francis (Davis) Crosby; Simon Crosby The Emigrant; Thomas Crosby 1510-1559 from Yorkshire, England named his oldest boy Miles when he was born in 1543, starting a tradition which carried into several branches of the family for hundreds of years.
- Fact: Michael Crosby's third oldest son was named Miles.
- I estimated around 1695, Thomas married the local woman, Elizabeth Redmond. The Catholic Redmond family had been long established in County Wexford, as there are many entries in the church records of members of that family. Thomas and Elizabeth must have had several children two of which are found recorded in the Wexford baptism records.
- Fact: In 1699 Thomas and Elizabeth had a son named Fergus, and in 1700 they had another named Christopher. There are no other records of offspring, but there are many gaps in the old records by missing and torn pages some with staining which makes the surviving existing pages illegible.

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- Modern science added to the evidence. My personal autosomal DNA results show a possible genetic
  relationship of distant cousins, showing a connection to a Thomas and Simon Crosby (father and son) that
  emigrated from Yorkshire, England to the Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts in the 1630s. Their pedigree
  has long been established going directly back to Yorkshire, England. Again see the book Simon Crosby
  The Emigrant.
- Thomas was recorded twice around 1727 as a godparent in two baptismal records, with his future alleged daughter-in-law, Mary Rath. From those church records, we have established that there was a connection of familiarity between Thomas to Mary Rath. Having said that, the older Thomas and younger Mary were possibly neighbors living close to the Church, and were asked occasionally to help when there were not any sponsors available. However, I believe that the most likely truth could be that Mary was actually Thomas's housekeeper; either way that association probably brought Thomas's alleged son, Michael and Mary Rath together thus marrying the proverbial girl next door.

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 According to church records on September 15, 1728, Michael and Mary Rath were married; the following year in 1729 according to a Wexford proven will Thomas had passed away.



Summation: I think I proved my case by showing that Thomas Crosby, Mary Rath, and Michael Crosby were undoubtedly closely associated. Thomas leaves me with little doubt, he is a descendent from the Yorkshire Crosbys. Considering the available written records, coincidences and facts. plus the context of the time and location, I judge I have successfully placed Thomas and Michael Crosby together in a relationship of father and son. Demonstrating there is more than one way to get around a brick wall.



## Discovering More Family By Madge Kokenburg, Member #1506

My paternal great grandparents' story was pretty much an open book, not too different from any other French- Canadians living in Quebec and Vermont in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, or so I thought.

Joseph Lareau (1833-1903) married Rosalie Bessette (1839-1897) in 1858. Both were born in County Iberville, Quebec, where they married and started their family. Children born in Iberville included Eupherine (baptized 25 July 1859), Marie Louise (born 25 November 1860 and baptized 26 November 1860), Joseph Ozias (born 5 December 1862 and baptized 8 December 1862). That son is my grandfather. For twenty years I thought that was their entire family.

A short time ago, while researching another family in Middlebury, Vermont, I found a Transit Permit for the body of Emma Larrow. I knew about her because she is buried in the family lot at St. Mary's Cemetery in Middlebury, Vermont. The headstone is clearly engraved with my great grandparents' and my grandparents' names and all their vital statistics except Emma's. Emma has only a footstone marked Emma. Emma's statistics found on the Transit Permit follows: Emma Larrow died in Putnam, Connecticut, 15 July, 1904, age 31 years, 11 months, 15 days, born Middlebury, Vermont, indicating a birth date of 1873. Again, I thought this completed the records of this family.

I did not know when Joseph and Rosalie along with Joseph Ozias had migrated to Vermont. Wanting personal information on them, I subscribed to Newspapers.com. I soon found the notice of Probate for Emma Larrow. I was not aware that this young lady had an estate. The estate papers indicated that Emma owned a 47 acre farm in Middlebury, Addison County, Vermont. And, that her heirs were Joseph Ozias Larrow, John Larrow, Charles Larrow, Mary Wells and Mrs. Rosa Emery.

This called for a trip to the Middlebury Town Clerk to review the land records. I found the following information:

- ... May 22, 1885, Philco Jarrett to Rosalie Larrow: 47 acre parcel VOL. 27, Page 33.
- ... May 13, 1897, Death of Rosalie (Bessette) Larrow at Middlebury, VT.
- ...May 28, 1897, Quit Claim Deed signed by Mary Wells of Dennison in the County of Addison and State of Connecticut, Charles Larrow, John Larrow, Joseph O Larrow and Anna Larrow, his wife for the consideration of one dollar. The deed stated that Mary, Joseph, John and Charles were children of Joseph and Rosalie Larrow,
- ...July 26, 1897, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, Rosa Emery and her husband, Charles F. Emery signed a Quit Claim Deed to the same property. The deed stated that Rosa was the child of Joseph and Rosalie Larrow.

Both of these Quit Claim deeds are filed in Addison County Clerk's office and clearly state that the signers are children of Joseph Larrow and Rosalie Larrow.

More research for John Larrow led to his marriage in Canada. They lived in Piercefield, St Lawrence County, New York. The marriage record gives his parents' names. They had four children: (1) John Baptiste Lareau (died 10 March 1923 in Malone, Franklin County, New York and buried 18 Apr 1923 in St, Telesphore, Quebec). (2) Charles Larrow married in Middlebury to Anne Flanagan in 1902. This record also gave the names of his parents. (3) Mary Wells. The 1900 Census of Danielson, Windom, CT showed a Mary Wells, age 41, widowed with two children. No clues as to her husband. (4) Rose Emery - I have not found any definite records for Rose or her husband, Charles F. Emery. He also signed the Quit Claim deed.

Nothing was heard of the other two siblings, Eupherine or Marie Louise, who were born in Canada about 1859 and 1860. Is Rosa Emery actually the child Eupherine born in Canada about 1859? Is Mary Wells actually the child, Marie Louise Lareau born in Canada 25 Nov 1860? I need to find the person who inherited or purchased the farm after Emma died.

Research Continues.

## **GREAT NEWS!**

Our library is now a Family Search Affiliate Library By Sheila Morris, Member #417

**Family Search** is the world's largest repository of genealogical records and manages the famous Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. It has amassed billions of birth, marriage, death, census, land, and court records of genealogical significance from over 130 countries. Record access is available for both the United States and International records.

**What does this mean?** You can use our Genealogy Library computers or use your own laptop while at our library to access records which you cannot access from home. Simply log-in at our library and use the Username and Password you may already have. If you don't have a Username and Password, just create a FREE Username and Password. Then, start searching.

**Search for FREE** for your ancestors among the FamilySearch databases using a surname OR search the FamilySearch catalog for a geographic area associated with your ancestors.

**Add to your family tree** with the surname search results you receive for FREE. There will often be digital images of records when searching the FamilySearch database. There is also an online catalog for the geographic places where your ancestors might have lived. You can download to your computer or bring a flash drive to save the digital images.

**Our volunteers will provide one-on-one help** showing you the Family Search resources. To make your visit successful, bring as much information you know about the ancestor you wish to research, including birth, marriage and death information.

**Take the Family Search class offered by our library.** You will learn how to effectively use the Family Search database at our library. This class is on Saturday, February 23 at 10:30 am. The cost is \$10 for members and the public.

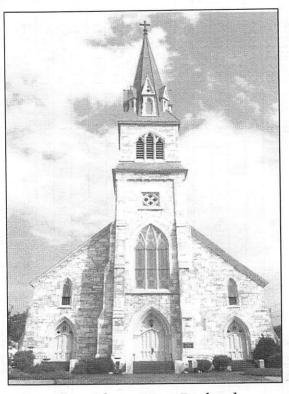
**Family Search no longer sends microfilms** to their Family Search libraries. Information is now digital and will be accessed only on the Internet. Affiliate Libraries like ours can provide you with access to records you cannot access at home.

We are very excited to offer this new service at our library!

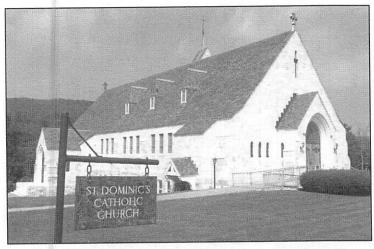
## Two More NEW VT-FCGS Parish Books Completed in 2018

61 total volumes published since 1998!

St. Bridget & Sacred Heart Catholic Churches West Rutland, VT Baptism Repertoire 1857-1968 \$55



St. Bridget- West Rutland



St Dominic - Proctor

St. Dominic
Roman Catholic Church
Proctor, VT
Marriage & Baptism Repertoire
1886-1953
\$45

For a complete list of all 61 volumes and an order form see http://www.vt-fcgs.org/publications\_for\_sale.html

	Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society - Publications For Sale Chronological Society - Publications - Publication -	cal Listii	ig Eff	ective 10	/11/201	8
	Description of Publications All Churches are in the Diocese of Burlington	BMD	Record	Num.	Year	Cost
	Newest books listed first - All books have Hard Covers		Years	Pages	Pub	\$US
61	St Dominic, Proctor, VT Baptisms Marriages	BM	1886-1953	300	2018	\$45
60	St Bridget (Irish) and Sacred Heart (French) at West Rutland VT Baptisms	В	1857-1968	488	2018	\$55
59	St Ambrose, Bristol, VT Baptisms Marriages	BM	1893-1951	217	2018	\$40
58	St Anthony, Burlington, VT Baptisms	В	1903-1954	236	2018	\$40
57	St Jerome E. Dorset, St Columban Arlington, St Paul Manchester Baptisms Marriages	BM	1860-1961	699	2018	\$65
56	St Teresa, Hyde Park 1872-1957; All Saint, Richford 1887-1951; St Isidore, Montgomery 1908-53	BM	1872-1957	745	2017	\$75
55	St Monica, Barre, VT Marriages	M	1892-1950	414	2016	\$50
54	St. Monica, Barre, VT Baptisms	В	1892-1950	536	2016	\$60
53	St. Peter, Rutland, VT 9,040 Baptisms	В	1855-1930	721	2016	\$70
52	St. Anthony, White River Junction, VT Baptisms and Marriages	BM	1868-1940	398	2015	\$50
51	St. Charles, Bellows Falls, VT Baptisms and Marriages	BM	1872-1940	443	2015	\$55
50	St John, N. Bennington, VT Baptisms and Marriages Orig 2015 - Reprinted 2017	BM	1875-1955	206	2017	\$35
49	St Joseph Burlington, VT Marriages	M	1930-1955	464	2015	\$50
48	St Michael's Catholic Church, Brattleboro, VT	BM	1855-1942	588	2015	\$65
47	St Louis & Seven Dolors Fair Haven; St Paul, Orwell; St John, Castleton; St Joseph, W. Castleton	В	1859-1959	521	2014	\$65
46	St Mary, Brandon Baptisms & St Monica, Forestdale	В	1856-1948	391	2014	\$55
45	Northwest Baptisms (Alburgh, St Amadeus; Isle La Motte, St Joseph; No. Hero, St Benedict; Grand	В	1860-1934	331	2013	\$50
	Isle, St Joseph; So. Hero, St Rose)					
44	St Patrick, Fairfield 1850-1931 - St George, Bakersfield 1868-1966 Baptisms	В	1850-1966	317	2013	\$50
43	Notre Dame & St Aloysius, St Johnsbury Baptisms 7,932 baptisms	В	1858-1942	628	2013	\$65
42	St Elizabeth, Lyndonville, VT Baptisms & Marriages 1874-1950	BM	1874-1950	289	2012	\$40
41	St Mary, Newport, VT Baptisms 1874-1930	В	1874-1930	313	2012	\$40
40	St Augustine, Montpelier Baptisms	В	1856-1930	389	2011	\$45
39	Assumption Middlebury – St Bernadette Bridport Baptisms	В	1845-1949	492	2011	\$55
38	St Marys, St Albans Baptisms and Burials	BD	1847-1934	372	2010	\$45
37	St Peter, Vergennes Baptisms 1855-1945	В	1855-1945	320	2010	\$40
36	Immaculate Heart of Mary, Rutland, VT 1869-1939	В	1869-1939	362	2010	\$40
35	Cathedral, Burlington, VT Baptisms 1858-1936	В	1858-1936	664	2009	\$60
34	Holy Angels, St Albans Baptisms, Burials, Cemetery	BDC	1872-1942	730	2008	\$65
33	St Thomas, Underhill Baptisms	В	1855-1991	353	2008	\$45
32	St Francis, Sacred Heart, Bennington and Lourdes, Pownal, VT	M	1859-1950	414	2008	\$50
31	St Francis, Sacred Heart, Bennington and Lourdes, Pownal, VT	В	1859-1954	532	2008	\$55
30	Swanton Baptisms & Highgate Baptisms & Marriages	BM	1853-1949	682	2008	\$65
29	Northwest, VT (Sheldon, St Anthony BMD; Franklin, St Mary BMD; Fairfield, St Patrick M;		1868-1951	441	2007	\$60
	Bakersfield, St George M; Alburgh, St Amadeus M; Isle LaMotte, St Joseph M)					
28	St Ann, Milton Baptisms & Marriages	BM	1859-1943	281	2007	\$45
27	St Stephen, Winooski & Missions	BM	1882-1936	664	2007	\$60
26	St Andrew, Waterbury, VT	BM	1894-1936	205	2007	\$35

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	TY I D D'	1 1 177				В	1857-1931	214	2007	\$35
25	Holy Rosary, Ric	nmona, V I	In a state NT			BMD	1858-1946	236	2006	\$40
24	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Charlotte, VT St John, Northfield Bap to 1930; Marr. To 1951					BM	1870-1951	306	2006	\$50
23	St John, Northfie	la Bapto 19	VT 181 VT Church	2 0/12 Pontice	me	В	1830-1858	607	2006	\$60
22	St Mary Cathedra	al, Burlington	, VT, 1 <sup>st</sup> VT Church	1 8,943 Dapusi	1115	BMD	1872-1946	242	2006	\$45
21	St John, Enosburg					BD	1893-1997	463	2006	\$55
20	Holy Family, Ess	ex Junction,	VI	VT C	- Delere & St Louis de France:	M	1857-1953	453	2006	\$60
19	Central Vt Parish	es (Brandon	VI, St Mary; Fair H	aven VI, Seve	n Dolors & St Louis de France;	141	1037 1733	133	2000	"
	Castleton VT, St	John; Orwell	VT, St Paul; and Sh	iorenam v 1, st	( Genevieve)	В	1868-1930	513	2006	\$55
18	St Francis Xavier					M	1855-1930	425	2005	\$55
17	St Peter's, Rutlan		414 VT	<del></del>		M	1869-1930	236	2005	\$40
16	Immaculate Hear	t of Mary, Ri	itland, VI	/T Church		M	1830-1930	792	2005	\$70
15			Burlington, VT - 1st V	VI Church		M	1857-1930	225	2005	\$40
14	St Bridget, West		. 370			M	1873-1930	248	2005	\$45
13	St Mary Star of t					M	1854-1930	285	2005	\$45
12	Nativity of the B					M	1858-1930	437	2005	\$55
11	St John the Evan					M	1855-1930	268	2005	\$45
10	St Augustine, Mo					M	1856-1947	232	2005	\$45
9	St Peter, Vergeni					M	1850-1930	212	2005	\$40
8	St Mary, St Alba					M	1873-1930	374	2005	\$50
7	Holy Angel, St A					M	1859-1930	124	2005	\$25
6	Holy Rosary, Ric		1.70°			M	1845-1930	258	2004	\$40
5	Assumption BVI	M, Middlebui	y, V I		morriogog	B	1834-1963	1502	2004	\$120
4	St Joseph, Burlin	igton, VI, 2	Volumes – 25,409 b	aptisms; 8000	- marriages	M	1857-1998	1485	2007	\$110
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## Some Introductions in Rural Vermont

By Ginger Anderson, Member #887

"Is this seat taken?" A burly man pointed to the folding chair beside me. I shook my head, and he squeezed into the narrow row. We were attending a conference about issues in rural Vermont at Vermont Technical College in Randolph.

The man stuck out a calloused hand. "Hi, I'm Bill, and my family came to Vermont in 1785!"

This is not the usual introduction I encounter at work-related meetings, but I was game. "Oh, some of my family came here then, too," I replied. Actually the Stanhope family probably came to Vermont in 1786, but that's close enough for casual conversation.

Bill paused, but only for a moment. "Mine settled Braintree, yours?"

"They went first to Guilford, then up to Richford." I left out the fact that after some time in Vermont, my branch of the Stanhopes headed further north to settle in Sutton, Quebec.

Bill looked thoughtful. "Well, now. Revolutionary War?"

"Yup, mostly from Massachusetts and New Hampshire. One ancestor fought at Saratoga and two overwintered at Mt. Independence." I decided not to bring up my Loyalist relations from New York who had to flee to Canada because I did not know where Bill was going with this conversation.

He nodded, then after a moment. "What's your Civil War ancestry look like?"

"The 13<sup>th</sup> Vermont and the 5<sup>th</sup> Vermont." I didn't see a reason to add that I also had ancestors who fought in that war from New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine.

A slow grin spread across Bill's face. He leaned back in his chair and crossed his arms. "Those were both infantry units, weren't they?"

I nodded warily. Probably best not to say my ancestors in those units were French Canadian right now.

Bill raised his eyebrows in triumph. "I have my great-great grandpa's Civil War Cavalry sword!" I couldn't help but smile back at him.

Now properly introduced, we could get down to the discussions of beef cattle, property taxes and timber values!

## The Lafleur Brothers Go to War

By Ginger Anderson, Member #887

I am not a very good student of the Civil War. I shiver to think of the huge toll of human life and the unrealized potential of young men due to death and maiming from battle. But, I appreciate the way it shaped the lives of my family.

Three young Canadian brothers named Lafleur (the family name is Braza dit Lafleur) answered the call to serve. While the family was from Yamaska Quebec, the young men were working with their father, Theophile in Montgomery, Vermont at the time they enlisted. Oliver (listed as Levi) and his older brother Octave joined in Berkshire and mustered to the 13<sup>th</sup> Vermont. Their brother Prieste joined the 9<sup>th</sup> Vermont infantry.

I learned more about the 13<sup>th</sup> VT when my husband and I visited the battlefield at Gettysburg a few years ago. As we wandered from one regimental monument to another, a man asked if we were looking for something specific. When I told him we wondered if there was a monument to the 13<sup>th</sup>, VT, his eyes grew wide.

"That's the site of Pickett's Charge," he said quietly, and pointed to a towering granite pillar on a nearby hill.

I stood at the site where Oliver, Octave and their comrades in the 13<sup>th</sup> had faced their enemies. I wondered what two young French farm boys must have felt when they heard the bloody Rebel yells and saw a sea of gray and brown swarm over the low stone wall below them, with the heat and smoke and sweat all around. I knew that not far behind their position, Oliver's and Prieste's future father-in-law, Dio Peno was also waiting - with the 5<sup>th</sup> Vermont Infantry. All three men survived the bloody battle and all suffered from physical exhaustion afterwards. Soon after the battle, his hitch was up and Levi quietly returned to Vermont, married Julia Peno and made a home in Richford. Eventually Octave and Prieste left Vermont for land grants in the West

By family accounts, "Levi" was a hard worker, but suffered from ailments; it was known he drank a little and had back and leg problems. He worked as a laborer, often for the Town of Richford. I have often wondered if his experiences in the Civil War left Levi with what we now call PTSD. He qualified for a military pension based on his physical ailments.

I became aware of how the Civil War continued to influence the rural economy of the North when I began to transcribe the journals of another great-great grandfather and Union veteran, Hiram Durrell of Freeman, Maine. He describes applying for and regularly having to update his pension papers, sometimes paying people to help him. The surviving papers show how desperate life could be for these veterans. The money they received for their war service helped to keep them and their communities out of poverty in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Like clockwork, when the pension checks arrived, veterans visited the local stores, smithies and grist mills to pay on their credit tabs for food, seeds, tools and grain. When the men died, their widows took over the pensions, and continued to honor the soldiers through GAR events and meetings. It might seem like this took place a long time ago, but this legacy helped my family to make through hard times in New England, and is likely why they stayed in the U.S.

## Ruth Elizabeth Dalley: Uncovering the Past with DNA

By Bonnie Ratta, Member #1346

Ruth Elizabeth was born to Frank and Anna (Newell) Dalley in Waterbury, Vermont on July 9, 1932. State records show that she was the eleventh child of twelve to Anna. Anna had three children from her first marriage to Harry Fairbanks in 1913. Anna and Harry divorced in 1919. Anna gave up her two oldest children and kept her third child. Most of Ruth's brothers were in and out of prison, quite often for unmentionable crimes. In the late thirties, her mother and half-sister were also arrested for running a "disorderly house."

Both were sent to the Women's Reformatory in Waterbury, Vermont. Ruth and her youngest brother, Lloyd were taken away when one of her older brothers fell through a bridge and drowned. He was only three years old. T hey were put in several foster homes. During this time, Ruth and Lloyd were abused physically and mentally. Ruth grew up having to care for herself, and oftentimes would have to steal food from her caretakers. Ruth shared some awful stories of her foster families and running away from school to try to escape. In 1947, she was sent to The Brandon Training School. It is here that she endured electroshock therapy, and other forms of abuse. She said she doesn't know why, and doesn't remember what happened to her. If you were to ask her now, at 86 years old, she would tell you she doesn't care to talk about bad memories. However, we have gotten her to share various good and bad memories with us. The search to uncover the past continues.



Ruth Dalley: circa 1947

When Ruth was seventeen years old, she went back to live with her mother in Burlington. Ruth doesn't know why she wanted her back, because during her foster years she recalls her mother being mean during the times she was allowed to visit her. Her mother had been very poor, and lived among the gypsies in covered wagons. Around this time, Ruth remembers going on a trip to Canada with an older man. She had never met him before, but she remembers her mother forcing her to go. Ruth tells us this man did not like her because she refused to do things he told her to do. She reciprocated the hate. Later, after returning from the week long trip, she found out she was pregnant with her first child. Born in June of 1950, adoption records show this child was immediately taken from her and placed in the St. Joseph's Orphanage. During the pregnancy, Ruth and the baby developed severe kidney infections, and the baby had to remain in the hospital until he was seven weeks old. The baby, named Gerald, was adopted by Lorraine and Anthony Wells of Fairfax, in 1952.

In the early 1950s, Ruth worked as a waitress and housekeeper in various places throughout Burlington. She lived in multiple apartments owned by the Bessery family in the same area. Already pregnant with her second child, she married Bernard R. Aiken on December 2, 1951. However, for reasons we will never know, Ruth was not allowed to live with her new husband. On March 26, 1952, Ruth gave birth. She gave the baby the name of her bushand. December 2, 1951, and the same area.

husband, Bernard R. Aiken, Jr. When this child was only three months old, Ruth's mother-in-law attempted to take him from Ruth, resulting in the state taking the child and placing him in St. Joseph's Orphanage. This baby was also adopted at a very young age, and named Clement by his adoptive parents. After this, Ruth became homeless. This is something she refuses to talk about. She will only say she went to live with her sisters, one of whom lived in Connection.

Mrs. Ruth Aiken, 20, pleaded guilty to vagrancy. The case was continued for sentence pending word from her sister in Connecticut.

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in Connecticut. The other lived in Vermont. Her third baby was born in December of 1953. This child was adopted by Ruth's sister and her husband, Pauline and Clyde Whittemore of

Burlington, whom she lived with at the time. Ruth had to hide this pregnancy from her mother-in-law.

After Ruth's third baby was taken from her, she tells us a story which exhibits how strong a woman she really is. She built up her savings for a few weeks, and ran away from the only life she knew. With a good friend, she left everything behind and went to Chicago. While there, she discovered she was pregnant with her fourth child. In December of 1954, Ruth had no choice but to deliver the baby at Catholic Charities Hospital for unwed and unfit

mothers. She was insistent on keeping this child, but the staff of the hospital refused to let that happen. They informed her that her baby would be adopted by the famous Roy Rogers and he would have a great childhood. However, this was proven to be untrue. Being poor and unfit to parent, she had no choice but to let go of her fourth baby. He was adopted by a family when he was 6 days old.

Ruth had found a good job and a decent apartment with her friend whom she moved to the city with. They both made enough money and were able to pay their bills adequately. She talked to her brother Lloyd, in Vermont, quite often, and even visited her family and husband once or twice by train. She exchanged letters often with Bernard, convincing him to move to the city in which she had found a new life. Then one day in March of 1955, she received a phone call from Lloyd, saying Bernard had been in a bad accident, which left him mentally disabled, and in danger of passing away. Ruth told us she loved her husband so much, she took everything she had and left for Vermont, leaving behind her stable job and home. Again, her mother-in-law told her to stay away from Bernard, as she believed he was now unfit to be a husband and unable to father any more children.

In January of 1956, Ruth had her fifth child, and she was immediately taken to St. Joseph's Orphanage. The baby, Susan, was adopted by a family from New Jersey in 1957. Because Ruth wasn't allowed to be with Bernard, she said goodbye to her family again, and went back to her job in Chicago. Ruth eventually met a man that she married and had her sixth baby with. Robin was born on June 21, 1957. With her husband at the hospital, and a stable job, she was finally able to bring her baby home. Then, Ruth's second husband left when Robin was a little baby, leaving her to raise her daughter by herself. Now, having a child to support, Ruth would often bring Robin to work with her.

After Ruth's daughter grew up, they both moved to Pennsylvania. Robin eventually married and had children. In the late 1970s, Ruth went back to Vermont, inevitably looking for her first husband, Bernard. After his accident that left him disabled, she never heard from him again. Because she still loved him, she wanted to see how he was doing. When she contacted her mother-in-law, she told her that Bernard had died. This was false information. Around this time, Ruth and Bernard have state documentation of a legalized divorce. We know Bernard did not sign the paper, but someone else did. Ruth was able to visit a few family members and, sadly, had to leave Vermont once again. She returned home to Pennsylvania. So what happened to Ruth's children? Where were they all?

When I was a little girl, my parents had always told me that my father, Clement, was adopted and had a biological family. I remember not knowing what that meant, or how people would find family members. After all, I was perfectly content with my grandma Lorraine, the woman that adopted my father, and loved him fiercely as her own. She is a very special lady in my heart, and I will always love and cherish her. For medical purposes, my parents started researching my father's relatives with the only thing they had; Bernard's name. My mother spent many long hours making phone calls, writing letters, and even visiting town offices. When I wasn't in school, I was more than happy to help. The thought of uncovering records, and information, intrigued me.

Christmas Eve, 1995. My father called his biological mother, Ruth. For the first time, he was able to call and to talk to a blood relative. Robin, her husband, Bob, and their children were on the call as well. During the next few weeks, my dad called another of his siblings. Susan and

her family in New Jersey, were ecstatic to hear from him. She was not aware of her other family members, even though she knew she was adopted. The following summer, we organized a family reunion. I will never forget what it was like to meet for the first time, and being able to watch my dad meet Ruth was surreal. The best part of it all was that Ruth was able to confirm that my dad's older brother, my Uncle Gerald, was indeed his biological half brother! For two weeks, we got to know them and delighted ourselves in the many ways we were alike. They were amazed at the Vermont landscape and how beautiful Ruth's home state

was. Spending most of our time together in an Isle La Motte campground truly



Left to right: Gerald, Ruth, Susan, Robin, Clement

felt like we were visiting family we knew all along. Unfortunately, when my father, Susan, and Robin went to visit the third sibling born to Ruth in Burlington, it did not go well. The woman he lived with was not friendly, and his mother, Pauline, had never informed him of his adoption. He thanked them for coming to visit and even let them take a few pictures with him. The woman told them to not come back.

Sometime in the early 2000s, my father contacted Bernard Aiken's family. Karen B. Ely is his cousin, and was his caregiver (from the accident) until he passed away peacefully in his sleep in 2013. Over the years, she shared with us what she knew about him. We taught her of his life with Ruth before he was disabled. Karen did not know he was married. We were able to share the good memories that Ruth had of him. He will always be known as our "Papa."

That left one last child we needed to find for Ruth. The one born in Chicago. After many years of on and off research, I decided to dig deep into building my family tree. I started my Ancestry account about two years ago. When I moved back to New Hampshire from the midwest, my mother and I started visiting the Vermont Genealogical Society. I am determined to find more information on Ruth's past and what it was like growing up for her. Ruth had an interesting life in Vermont.

Like many genealogists, I decided to jump on the bandwagon and buy a few DNA kits. The results are astounding. Not only was it fun, but it was another confirmation that Ruth and her children are all indeed DNA



Lt to rt: Top: Gerald, Clement, Patrick Middle: Robin, Ruth, Susan Bottom: Unnamed sibling for confidentiality

related. Out of the stories that Ruth shares, some of them change, and some remain a mystery. In September of 2018, my dad, Gerald and I went to visit my grandmother and family in Pennsylvania. My cousin Christina had been working on the tree for a few years and had her DNA done along with Ruth's, which helped fast forward the results. We were able to compare many notes and research that we had done. I was able to spend time with my grandmom, Ruth, and talk to her about her past. We marveled at some of the amazing stories she shared. However, she liked talking about Bernard the best, and remembering how he cared for her. It turns out that the only child Ruth had with Bernard was after his accident in 1956. Ruth's fifth child, Susan is his biological daughter. Again, we

are unsure of why Ruth and Bernard were separated so many times, but Bernard's mother must have known something about Ruth that nobody else did. Bernard's family helped us connect the DNA to Susan, but who are the fathers of her other children?

When I learned how to transfer DNA files to other sites, I uploaded my

father's DNA to MyHeritage right away. After waiting just 48 hours, my dad had a match that read as his half-brother. The excitement was hard to contain! We knew then, that we had to get Ruth's DNA transferred to MyHeritage. Sure enough, the results showed that this was Ruth's last child we were trying to find. Writing him an email and waiting for a reply was nerve wracking. He finally replied about 3 weeks later and we were soon on the road to Pennsylvania, to meet Patrick Hines for the first time. We were all very thrilled!

Christina and I were both able to connect with DNA matches from Ruth's mother/ grandmother's side. We were also able to connect with DNA members that are from Anna Newell's first marriage to Harry Fairbanks. There is some thought and evidence to believe that Ruth is actually the daughter of one of her older half-siblings. Ruth shared with us that throughout her life she was told to stay away from her older half-sister, who is also named Ruth. Why would that be? Anna (Newell) Dalley is most likely her grandmother, not her mother. Ruth also has no direct relation to Frank Dalley, which was Anna's second husband- who Ruth believes was her father. There are high matches on Ruth's DNA that have helped us put some relations together. There are still many missing pieces to Ruth's story, but we hope to uncover them soon.

## **QUERIES** - Janet Allard, Member #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 \$10.00 check for each query. Queries should be sent to VT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, Attn: Query Editor, P.O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05406-MA

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

### Query 467

### **BUSHWAY or BOURGEOIS**

Looking for a death record for John Bushway (born Thedule Bourgeois) in Grand Isle County, VT or Mooers, NY. We know he was born 1805 in Ste. Antoine sur Richelieu, Quebec. He married Marie Florence Perotte in 1846 in South Hero, VT. Marie died 13 June 1878 in Grand Isle, VT. She is buried in the Grand Isle cemetery (no stone found). Inquiry from: Carol Vallee.

## Query 468

#### LOUIS DESFORGES dit PICARD

Looking for death record for Louis (Lewis) Desforges dit Picard and wife Elizabeth Donat dit Laverdure. Louis was born in 1758 in Ste. Anne Beaupré. He died in or near St. Albans in 1848. Elizabeth was born in Chambly in 1764, death date unknown. Inquiry from: John Ricco.

If someone has information about the above individuals, please contact Janet Allard at above address.

## Publicity Update By Lynn Johnson, Member #581

#### 2019 Burlington Free Press History Space article

The articles that our members have contributed to the History Space articles for the past three years have been very popular. Members tell me they have enjoyed sharing the stories of their ancestors, and a number of first time visitors and new members have mentioned the articles, so this is a win all around.

This year's theme is our parish books. Our society has been collecting, translating and organizing books of Vermont Catholic parish baptismal and marriage records since Paul Landry initiated the project and we published our first two books in 1998 and 1999. This project has always been accomplished by teams of dedicated volunteers. John Fisher has led this project since 2003. 2018 marked the publication of our 57<sup>th</sup> through 61<sup>st</sup> books. We want to mark this milestone by making the parish books the main topic of this year's history space article.

In addition to explaining how the project started and why, we would like to show examples from members of how the parish books helped them. Has information in one of our parish books helped you break through a brick wall? Did the church record provide information that was not a part of the civil record? Did you seek the church records because a civil record did not exist? If the parish books helped you in any of these ways, I would love to have you write up your story and send it to me at <a href="https://dx.nd.com">ALJOHN1927@aol.com</a>. Your story can be whatever length you desire to convey your story. Grouping the stories into one article has usually meant stories will be shortened to include them in the Free Press article. However, the full length articles will also be published on our society's Face Book page. Repeating the articles on Face Book has also proved very popular and has drawn the interest of additional readers.

My deadline for submissions will be the end of June. The article will be printed in the Free Press in late August, in time to let people know about our Open House. I look forward to reading your stories. Thank you for helping us share this fascinating hobby with others.

#### The Ambassador Program

The Ambassador Program is where we ask you to consider taking an envelope of introductory materials about the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society and our library to your local town clerk's office, library or historical society. We have found that introducing yourself as a member and explaining that we have materials that will help all genealogists in their searches makes a lasting impression. Sometimes people will ask a question or two. Surprisingly, I still hear that people didn't know we existed. Or they know, but haven't made it over yet. Whether an introduction or a reminder, my deliveries have been met with interest and enthusiasm. If you would like to help deliver in your town, or one you visit, contact me for more information.

#### **Front Porch Forum**

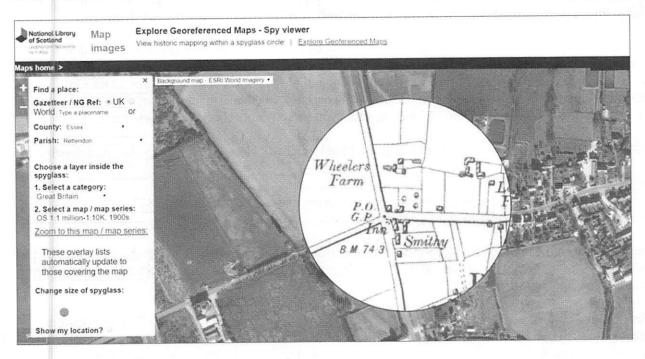
Having more people post about classes on Front Porch Forum is always a welcome addition. We all need reminders of things we want to do. If you have not seen notices of our classes on your forum we could use your help.

I'd like to thank the many who work with me on publicity, especially Jane Whitmore, Ed McGuire, Sheila Morris and Maureen O'Brien, along with all of those who post on the forums or have delivered information. Remember too, that you play an important role every time you talk up our society with friends and acquaintances. Your help and enthusiasm make for a strong, vibrant society.

# Maps of Your Ancestors' British Hometown (yesterday and today) on National Library of Scotland's website

Posted on July 31, 2018 by Gail Dever at http://genealogyalacarte.ca

The National Library of Scotland has a new interactive tool on its website that overlays old maps of Great Britain with satellite imagery and allows you to see how the country has changed from when some of your ancestors lived there to now. The old maps of England, Scotland and Wales were published from the 1890s to 1950s.



All you need to do is select a county and a parish. You can also select old maps from different time periods.

Use the wheel on your mouse to move from the satellite image to the historic map and zoom in and out, or you use the plus and minus signs in the top left corner of the screen.

In some cases, especially cities, it can be easier to first locate a particular street on Google Maps and then look for it on the old map and satellite image.

If you like exploring British maps, the National Library of Scotland's website has a tremendous number to view. It's a site worth bookmarking.

The National Library of Scotland's Web Site is: https://maps.nls.uk/index.html

#### New Books in Our Library

By Member, Lynn Johnson #581

Repertoires continue to be good sources of information on our family lines. With marriage books be sure to see how the book is formatted. In many you will want to look up both spouses separately to find the information as to the parents of each. For Quebec burial records (sepultures), be sure to look for the woman under her maiden name.

#### **United States**

"Repertoire French-Canadian Settlement in the Champlain Islands, Grand Isle County, VT," by Virginia Easley DeMarce, 1985. This is a newer, clearer copy than our previous edition.

"Marriages 1834-1916, Southbridge, Massachusetts." This southern Massachusetts town had a big population of French-Canadians. The introduction and pages detailing when families arrived in the area might be very helpful to you. This material is written in both French and English. While the information was gathered from town records it includes marriages that were done by missionaries, as well as at Notre Dame and Sacré-Coeur.

The three volume set, "The History of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations" was donated to us by the American French Genealogical Society and we had it rebound. The set was published by Thomas W. Bicknell in 1920. One volume is history, but the other two are biographies. The biographical volumes have over a thousand pages of information and very crisp black and white photographs in wonderful condition. This is not limited to just very early settlers. If you have Rhode Island ancestors you should come check these books out.

Additional volumes of Mayflower research and other books on early New England have also been donated recently.

#### **Quebec**

"Paroisse-Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle, Repertoire de baptemes, mariages et sepultures, 1843-1940." This is a brand new repertoire by the Société d'histoire du Haut-Richelieu.

Other additions to the repertoire collection are, "Les mariages de la Paroisse de Batiscan (St. Francois-Xavier) 1682-1900," "Mariages du Comte de Brome," and "Repertoire des mariages de la paroisse Notre Dame de la Visitation de Champlain 1679-1985."

"Dictionnaire National des Canadiens Français 1608-1760, Historical Sketches Tome II," by The Institut Genealogique Drouin. The book is composed of some of the stories that were found in the records of Quebec. This English version published by The American French Genealogical Society makes the information accessible to all. An index is being prepared to help one find the name of all of the settlers mentioned in the book, not just the main characters.

#### <u>France</u>

We purchased an additional copy of "Emigration Rochelaise en Nouvelle-France" by Archange Godbout. If you have ancestors from La Rochelle, France, you need to look at this book. Father Godbout spent eight years going through the records in France searching out additional information on those who left for Quebec. La Rochelle was an important city with a largely Protestant population – all of which was very threatening to the Catholic King, Louis XIV. Thus, he and Cardinal Richelieu made plans to eliminate this population. Because of this threat many of our ancestors converted to Catholicism and left France in order to survive. I discovered that Etienne Truteau (Trudeau, Trudo) was actually a descendant of French Huguenots even though generation after generation was baptized in the Catholic Church. A translation of the introductions to the book is being prepared but one can easily look up an ancestor without knowing French.

Please note that most of the books mentioned here are the ones we have purchased. Members donate books to our collections as well, so be sure to go to <a href="www.vtgenlib.org">www.vtgenlib.org</a>. Look for the library tab and search the catalog to see what we might have to help you in your genealogy quests.

# Original or Derivative Sources: What's the Big Deal? By Diana Elder

Have you ever found a marriage listing of an ancestor in an online index or in a book of marriage abstracts and been so excited you didn't question it? Just added the information to your database, researched the couple and their children and went merrily on your way?

I did this a few years ago, but unfortunately I connected the wrong marriage record to my ancestor. Essentially I married her to the wrong man. How did I completely miss the boat? It all has to do with original versus derivative sources.

An original source is just what it says, original: a handwritten marriage record in the county marriage book, a death certificate filled out at the time of the death, a birth entry of a child in a family bible at the time of birth.

Thomas W. Jones' definition of original records is clear and succinct. Original records are written reports of an action, event, or observation, often (but not always) made at the time of the event or soon after. Original records are not based on prior records.'

On the other hand, a derivative record is created from the original: a book listing all of the county marriage records, a birth registration index, a will book abstracting pertinent information. As defined by Dr. Jones: Derivative records are created from prior records by (1) transcribing a prior record or part of it by hand, keyboard, or optical-character recognition, speech-to-text, or other technology, (2) abstracting information from it, (3) translating it from one language to another, or (4) reproducing it with alterations.<sup>2</sup>

With all of the digitizing and indexing of records in our modern genealogy world, we've all experienced or will experience errors in the process of looking at an original record and trying to decipher the handwriting. It is no wonder that names or dates may be incorrectly reproduced in a book, online index, or other derivative record. We are grateful for the efforts of those who give their time to index or transcribe a record. The burden of genealogy proof is not with the indexer, it is with us, the researchers.

Do we always take the time to locate the original record. Do we look at the image provided by FamilySearch? Or do we just quickly attach the record and move on? We can make major errors if we are not careful to evaluate the sources we use.

For example, a few years ago I was researching my great great grandmother Eliza Ann Isenhour's sister, Texana. I found a marriage record for a Texana in a Bell County, Texas marriage book. Her maiden name wasn't Isenhour, but since the family lived in Bell County Texas, I thought it was probably her and linked her to the groom, J.W. Drake. I thought perhaps she had married previously and was using that name at the time of the marriage. How many Texanas could there be in Bell County anyway? A few months ago, I returned to that family and warning bells went off in my head. Something didn't seem right and I decided to revisit my research. I headed to the Family History Library and looked up the marriage record again in the book abstracting the marriages of Bell County, Texas.

I found the record of Texana married to J.W. Drake. Then another Texana caught my eye at the bottom of the page, "Texana Gochouner." This marriage showed Texana married to a Richard Blevins. My Texana had a stepbrother named Richard Blevins; could this be the same family? Only one way to tell – I needed to look at the original marriage record in the microfilm. When I located the marriage record, my heart started racing. This was my Texana!

# THE STATE OF TEXAS.-COUNTY OF BELL.

JUNE OF THE DISTRICT COURT, JUDGE OF THE COURTY COURT, OR JUSTICE OF THE PRACE.

Jou, or either of you are hereby authorized to solemnize, or join in the John Minimum,

M. Kichard Stevens and Muss Toxana Steven of this, your

authority, to my Office, in sixty days from date hereof, certifying how you have executed the same.

Given under my Hand and Seal of this County,

this 13 day of Necessary 18:10

Janua Leach Elah.

Co. Court Bell Co.

County Court, Bell County, Texas, "Marriages, 1850-1935," v. D-E, Blevins – Isenhour marriage, 1870, FHL Film 981034, Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

If you were indexing or abstracting this record, how would you have spelled Texana's last name? I've used this example in several classes and not once has anyone come up with the correct name. But, because I knew what I was looking for, I clearly could read "Isenhowner" or "Isenhowner." I've seen this name spelled multiple ways, so this wasn't a problem. I had my Texana and she wasn't married to J.W. Drake. She married her stepbrother, Richard Blevins.

Turns out Richard Blevins married again about 1872, so Texana almost certainly died soon after their marriage in 1870. I haven't been able to find any record of her after the marriage or mention of any children they had together. Locating the original marriage record made all the difference in getting Texana's story right.

Recognize that derivative sources such as indexes, abstracts, and transcriptions can all introduce human error. The only way we can verify the information in a source is to view the original. The next time you might be tempted to quickly attach a source in FamilySearch Family Tree and move on, take a minute, view the original image. You won't be sorry. Best of luck in your research efforts!

<sup>1</sup>Thomas W. Jones, *Mastering Genealogical Proof*, National Genealogical Society Special Publication No. 107 (Arlington: National Genealogical Society 2013), p. 9

<sup>2</sup>Thomas W. Jones, Mastering Genealogical Proof, p. 10.



Diana Elder AG® is a professional genealogist, author, and speaker. She is accredited in the Gulf South region of the United States through the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen). Diana graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in Elementary Education and has turned her passion for teaching to educating teens and adults in proven genealogy techniques. Diana is the author of Research Like a Pro: A Genealogists Guide and creator of the "Research Like a Pro" study group. She writes regular articles for FamilyLocket.com, the genealogy website created by

her daughter, Nicole Dyer. She presents regularly at genealogy conferences, sharing the methods she uses every day to solve challenging genealogical problems.

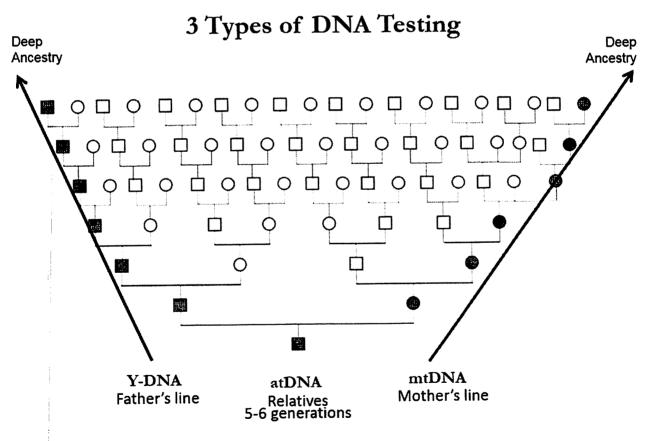
# The Value of Testing DNA of Multiple Family Members with Multiple DNA Companies = New Cousins Found

By Jane Duchesneau Whitmore, Member #486

Sometimes DNA testing and contact with new DNA matches can help confirm our genealogical research, solve a family mystery, enhance what we know about certain ancestors, or even provide us with photos of relatives we have never seen before. These can be fun and exciting breakthroughs.

For starters, in a perfect situation, a genetic genealogist would be able to test

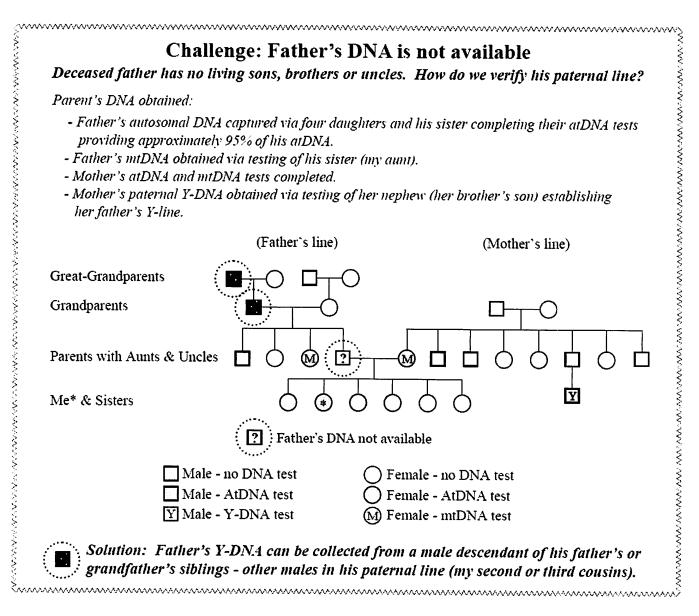
- the **Autosomal DNA or atDNA** of both their parents <u>OR</u> grandparents to help locate unknown cousins and relatives up to 5-6 generations back in time;
- the Y-DNA of their father and maternal grandfather, to explore or verify a man's patrilineal or direct father's-line ancestry deep into the past. The Y chromosome, like the patrilineal surname, passes down virtually unchanged from father to son;
- the **Mitochondrial or mtDNA** of their father and mother, to explore or verify a woman's matrilineal or direct mother's-line ancestry deep into the past. Mitochondrial DNA passes down virtually unchanged from mother to child, regardless of gender.



In my case, obtaining my father's Y-DNA was not possible. I am one of my parents' six daughters. We have no brothers. My paternal grandfather and my father died many years ago. My father has no surviving brothers. In order to verify the accuracy of my paper-based genealogy, my research challenge has been to find a way to virtually recreate my father's Y-DNA in the absence of paternal uncles or male first cousins to test. A few years back I made a list of who these individuals might be - grandsons or great grandsons of my grandfather's brothers, or any adult male who is a direct descendent of my great-grandfather, or my great great-grandfather, etc.

In some cases I had names for these individuals gleaned from obituaries or census records but had no clue where they lived currently or how to contact them.

Since the Fall of 2013 a number of my family members have willingly had their DNA tested at Family Tree DNA. Each of them has generously allowed me to manage their kits. I and three of my sisters have done Autosomal DNA tests, known as Family Finder tests at Family Tree DNA. I was able to obtain my mother's atDNA and her mtDNA. Then a male maternal first cousin contributed his atDNA and Y-DNA, adding to our family DNA project. On my father's side, I was lucky to get my one remaining paternal aunt to also do the atDNA test along with her mtDNA test. So I have captured a good deal of my both of my parent's DNA with access to the results of all of these kits. At this point, I can recreate about 95% of my father's atDNA using the "Lazarus Tool" at GED Match.com. With all of us having tested, my sisters and I will match most of the people our father would match on an atDNA test. The crucial missing piece in this DNA puzzle has continued to be my father's Y-DNA.



With all this DNA testing completed, a breakthrough would surely be imminent. While I waited, I continued to work on my family tree with the wealth of records available for French-Canadian ancestry.

In March of 2017, an email message from a DNA match with a male third cousin who lives in Quebec led to my seeing this photo of my great-great grandparents Francois Duchesneau and Louise Plamondon (seated) for the first time. How exciting this was for me! The date (prior to 1892), and the location and identification of the two men standing are unknown at this time. The man standing on the right could easily be my great-grandfather Charles Duchesneau, though I don't have other photos of him at this young age. Unfortunately, this third cousin is related to me on his mother's side. His Y-DNA was not going to be helpful to me - although seeing his tree, benefitting from his knowledge of the family tree and having this photo have been wonderful!

Six months later, my father's cousin's wife, Melina Duchesneau who had been helping me to fill in some gaps in my paternal family tree since 2008 put me in touch with her nephew, Norm Duchesneau. Norm is a second cousin who lives in North Carolina who I had previously not known about.





Without Melina's assistance I would not have known about Norm nor known how to contact him. Norm and I have paternal great-grandparents in common, namely Charles Duchesneau and his wife Georgiana Veillette. Charles was a son of Francois and Louise in the above photo. Our grandfathers, sons of Charles and Georgiana, were brothers. I was happy to share this photo of our great-grand parents with Norm.

Norm was the cousin I had been waiting to meet! He is a carrier of my Duchesneau family Y-DNA - a direct paternal descendent of my great grandfather Charles, his father Francois, etc. Our phone conversations have been long and exciting as we have gotten to know each other and exchange family stories. Eventually, I learned that Norm who was born just a few months after me and in the same hospital as me, had already done a DNA test with Ancestry DNA! He had received his Ancestry DNA test kit as a gift and had taken the test

on a whim. He was not particularly interested in the technical results nor following up on contacts. He <u>is</u> very interested in hearing about our common family history and stories that come about as a result of our DNA matches. Norm was more than happy to share his DNA testing results with me, allow me to contact his matches, and happy to transfer his atDNA results to Family Tree DNA where all the other kits I manage are located. In addition, Norm agreed to do a Y-DNA test with Family Tree DNA and share the results with me. Y-DNA matches to this cousin are Y-DNA matches to my father. MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! From now on, thanks to Norm's generosity, new Y-DNA matches to him are essentially matches to my father and thus to me and my sisters. Norm's DNA results will continue to enhance our understanding of our family history.

In mid-November of 2018, Norm forwarded an email to me from Tina Ducheno Massey. She was an Ancestry DNA match to him. He was unsure what to do with it. I promptly suggested he reply and offer my contact info to Tina. The email flurry (more like a major snowfall) and research that ensued resulted in surprises for all of us. After hours of creative research complicated by multiple given names for two people (French-Canadian spouses) and their surname spelling variations in English Ontario records, we eventually discovered that Tina was our paternal third cousin once removed. She is descended from our paternal great-grandfather, Charles Duchesneau's brother, Ferdinand. I had not been able to locate information on Ferdinand Duchesneau in my tree after finding his baptismal record from 1849. It turns out that our great-granduncle "Ferdinand" was her great

great-grandfather "Frederick." In Ontario records his given name was sometimes recorded as Fred, Alfred, or Joseph. His surname has appeared as Duchesneau, Ducheneau, the new-to-me anglicized spelling of Ducheno and several other variations. The Ducheno version is the spelling that Tina has always known her surname to be. Previously she could not find her great great-grandfather's ancestors anywhere. Tina is now able to trace a whole branch of her family tree back to the 17th century in France after being in touch with me. Thanks to Tina, I now know what happened to my great-grandfather's brother. Since those first few days of discovery we have connected via FaceTime a few times and are getting to know each other, sharing photos and discovering family resemblances. We will happily continue to do research together.

Finally, I am delighted to have a relative on my father's side who is as interested in genealogy as I am. Tina has over 8,000 people in her tree, is a curious researcher, and communicates regularly. A dream DNA match! None of this would have been possible without

- the communication I have enjoyed over the years with my father's first cousin's wife, Melina Duchesneau, and her connecting me to Norm;
- the generosity of my newly found second cousin, Norm Duchesneau who having tested at Ancestry DNA, moved his DNA results to Family Tree DNA and tested his Y-DNA. Then he provided me with access to all of his results.

My third cousin, Tina and I would not know about each other and would still have our brick walls with no clue as to how to scale them. I probably would not have continued researching my great-grandfather's siblings, and thus not have improved my tree as I can now. And of course, without the introduction to Norm - my Dad's Y-DNA would continue to be a mystery.

In mid-December 2018, with permission of the eight relatives whose DNA kits I manage, I transferred our DNA data to My Heritage DNA. As soon as the results were ready at My Heritage, I saw matches to relatives I have not previously seen on the other DNA websites - a female first cousin on my mother's side that I did not know had tested and a male second cousin, along with other second and third cousins I have yet to meet. The coming year promises to be another one of meeting cousins and together discovering more of our family story. The fun continues!

My results demonstrate the value of DNA testing with multiple companies and the importance of testing multiple family members particularly when a parent's DNA is not available. It also shows that you should not expect great results initially, but that if you persevere and continue with your research to enrich your family tree, you never know when your DNA dream match will come through!

Thanks to Ed McGuire for his assistance with this article and providing the well-drawn image of the "3 Types of DNA Testing" graphic on the first page of this article. Ed has literally taught me everything I know about genetic genealogy via information gleaned in conversations, resources he has directed me to, and his many extremely helpful DNA classes at our library. I am also grateful to the members of our DNA Special Interest Group that meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the Vermont Genealogy Library for their information, ideas and encouragement.

Some of the resources I have found helpful along my genetic genealogy journey thus far include:

#### **Book**

Bettinger, Blaine T. (2016) *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, Family Tree Books. Cincinnati. Available at shopfamilytree.com and Amazon.com, \$29.99.

#### Websites and Blogs

Blaine Bettinger's website *The Genetic Genealogists: Adding DNA to the Genealogist's Toolbox*, at https://thegeneticgenealogist.com

CeCe Moore's website *Your Genetic Genealogist* at http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com/ and *The DNA Detectives* at https://thednadetectives.com/

Roberta Estes' Blog DNAeXplained - Genetic Genealogy Discovering Your Ancestors - One Gene at a Time

Kitty Cooper's Blog Musings on Genealogy, Genetics and Gardening at http://blog.kittycooper.com

The Family Tree DNA Learning Center at https://www.familytreedna.com/learn/

GED Match - https://www.gedmatch.com

#### **DNA Testing Company websites**

Family Tree DNA - https://www.familytreedna.com

Ancestry DNA - https://www.ancestrydna.com

My Heritage DNA - https://www.myheritage.com/

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## DNA Testing TIP: Know how to use your DNA budget wisely

Members of our DNA Special Interest Group (SIG) who meet on the first Tuesday of the month have reported seeing DNA matches to parents, children, and even grandchildren of the same family.

- \* If both parents take an Autosomal DNA test there is no need for a person to procure the DNA of their children or grandchildren unless you are trying to verify parenthood of the children or determine the DNA of the grandchildren's other set of grandparents. Children's DNA matches will be the same as those of the parents.
- \* Likewise, once a male member of a family line has taken a Y-DNA test, there is no need for other brothers or male offspring to do this test. The Y-line is established with one male testing. All other directly related males (sons, brothers, paternal uncles, paternal grandfather, paternal great grandfather, etc.) will have the same results.
- \* And once a female member of a particular line has taken a mtDNA test, there is no need for other sisters or female offspring, or other direct female relatives to take this test. The results will be the same as the original tester in all these cases.

More information on the topic of maximizing your DNA testing dollars can be found via a webinar by Blaine Bettinger at

https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar\_id=720 (requires a subscription to Family Tree Webinars),

or in an article found at https://blog.myheritage.com/2017/09/developing-a-dna-testing-plan/.

# Commentary on "History of the Canadian Congregation of Winooski in Vermont" 1

By Louis Mario Izzo, Member #761

This book is a translation of a work written in French in 1898 by Rev. J. F. Audet, the first pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in Winooski, Vermont. In 2018, the Winooski Historical Commission

commissioned Kim Chase to translate it into English. The Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society assisted the project.



The book gives a glimpse of the settling of Vermont, the immigration of Catholic Canadians to Winooski, and contains stories about the formation of the St. Francis Xavier Catholic community i.e. how the community came together to raise funds to build the Church, and how the parishioners laid the foundation for a strong faith community that exists today under the pastor, Monsignor Richard Lavalley, the 15th pastor since St Francis Xavier Church was founded by Fr. Audet in 1868.

The book is a treasury of information for many reasons but it has special significance for my family because it records and acknowledges the

contributions of the ancestors of my wife, Carol Niquette Izzo, and myself, **Joseph Niquette** and **Bruno Pepin**. Joseph was Carol's paternal Great-Great-Grandfather, and Bruno was my maternal Great-Great-Grandfather. Both Bruno and Joseph were very influential in accomplishing wonderful things for the Winooski Catholic community. Their names are mentioned many times in this book;

Bruno Pepin was nominated to begin raising money to build the church (page 33).

**Bruno Pepin**, **Joseph Niquette** and others approached Bishop Louis DeGoesbriand (1<sup>st</sup> Bishop of Burlington) to obtain his assistance with building the new church. (page 34)

There is a full page photo of **Bruno Pepin** with the caption: "**Bruno Pepin**, born in Vercheres, Quebec in 1827, died in Winooski, Vt in 1903. Faithful and devoted servant, he was the collector of the rent for church pews until his death, for 35 years, without ever accepting remuneration. R.I.P." (page 35)



<sup>1</sup> Authored by J.F. Audet; originally printed in 1906 at Printers of the Institute of Deaf Mutes, Montreal, Quebec. Translated by Kim Chase and the Winooski Historical Society in 2018

Bruno Pepin and Joseph Niquette were named, along with Frank Leclair and Rev. Audet, to be the first council members of St. Francis Xavier Church. (page 43)

The "godfathers" of the new convent bell included **Joseph Niquette** and **Bruno Pepin.** (page 51)

There is a full page photo of **Joseph Niquette** with the caption: "**Joseph Niquette**, born in Lavaltry, Quebec in 1817, died in Winooski in 1904, zealous promoter of religious establishment in Winooski". (page 52)



One of the nuns in the convent died from an accidental burn from a fire from an oil lamp. **Joseph Niquette**, **Sr** and 5 others accompanied her body to Montreal for burial. (Page 53)

The parish requested permission from Bishop DeGoesbriand to construct a church bell tower, signed by 3 counsellors, including **Bruno Pepin**. (page 56)

At the parish council meeting, 3 counsellors, including **Bruno Pepin**, were put in charge of hiring a carpenter to build the church bell tower. (page 57)

On the bishop's 50th anniversary, **Bruno Pepin** collected \$180 as a parish gift. (page 72)

There is a list of all the supporters of the St. Francis Xavier Church congregation, many being blood relatives of Louis Izzo and/or Carol Niquette Izzo. (pp.85-94)

There is a list of persons who conducted business in Winooski; **Joseph Niquet** (butcher) (page 95)

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the contribution of another lay person, Francois Leclaire, who is also mentioned many times in the book, for his efforts to promote the development of St Francis parish.

#### **SUMMARY**

For those who have minimal or no knowledge of reading French (myself included), having access to the translation of Fr. Audet's original work has provided many of us with a better glimpse into the incredible story in Winooski's history which lives today..

This book is available in both French and English at the Vermont Genealogy Library.

#### 2018 Annual Fall Conference

By Sheila Morris, Member #617

The Annual Fall Conference was held on October 20, 2018 at St. John Vianney Parish Hall.

Over seventy people attended and enjoyed a great day networking with other genealogists. Featured were three very interesting speakers. First, St. Michael's History Professor, Susan Ouellette spoke about "Why Historians Need Genealogists – Social and Cultural History at Its Best." Then, we heard Quebec Journalist, Guy Paquin speak about "The Loyalists in Southern Québec." The third speaker was retired History and English teacher, Michael Dwyer telling us about "Half-Truths and Lies: Why Records are Wrong."



On display in the "Pin Room" were the historical pins produced by our society and information about how to earn them. Pins displayed were the Samuel de Champlain pin, the Acadian pin, Les Filles du Roi/Soldats du Carignan pin, and the Civil War pin. Pam and Peter Crosby were on hand to answer questions about each pin.

Another room had a large array of genealogy books for sale, organized by Ed McGuire and staffed by our volunteers.

Lynn Johnson had a table with information about how to become an Ambassador for VT-FCGS.

Ed McGuire had another table with advice about DNA and Genetic Genealogy. The first Tuesday evening of each month, Ed is at our library to discuss and inform about DNA testing.

John Fisher again had his wonderful displays, including one about the history of St. Joseph church (now the Cathedral) in Burlington. John also displayed a 20 foot long photograph taken by famous local photographer, Louis McAllister in June 1928, showing the Convention of the Union of St. Jean Baptiste in Burlington's Battery Park.

Elaine Riley and Mary Jo Brace brought in their impressive genealogy charts. Elaine's was in color, and Mary Jo Brace's chart included many photos of her ancestors.



John Fisher was presented with an "Individual Achievement Award" from the Vermont Historical Society for his work over the years for VT-FCGS and publishing 61 Parish Books (and still counting) with baptisms and marriages from the early Vermont Catholic Church records. Note: if you cannot find a record of your ancestor in the Vermont records, you should search these books at our library.

Just before lunch our president, Marcie Crocker, held our annual meeting. The minutes of that meeting are included in this issue of LINKS.

Lunch was ordered for individuals and delivered by Subway from South Burlington. Everyone enjoyed networking with fellow genealogists and shopping for books with several well-timed breaks.

If you have not attended our Fall Conference in the past, make sure you put the date for next year on your calendar now. The next Conference will be on October 19, 2019, and again will be held at the spacious and comfortable St. John Vianney parish hall in So Burlington, Vermont.

# Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

Minutes of the Conference & Annual Meeting on October 20, 2018

Board Members present: President: Marcie Crocker, Vice-President: Tom DeVarney, Past President: Sheila Morris, Treasurer: Elaine Riley, Janet Allard, Pamela and Peter Crosby, Lynn Johnson. Absent: Janet Zell, Secretary

Marie Crocker and Sheila Morris presented John Fisher with a prestigious Individual Achievement Award given by the League of Local Historical Societies and Museums at the Vermont Historical Society for his work on behalf of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society.

#### 11:30 Business Meeting

Marcie went over what we know, and do not know, about the possible need to relocate the library. Marcie shared that we are now a Family History Affiliate Library and showed the certificate. She presented President's awards for outstanding service to Sheila Morris and Elaine Riley. Marcie also encouraged volunteering especially in the library.

The treasurer's year-end report was included in member packets. Elaine asked if there were questions or comments. Edward Fisette said that he would like to see some additional information in the year end report, such as what percentage of our income comes from various sources, and general categories of expenses with percentages.

Ruth Ring suggested we look into making it easier to donate to the society through our website. Currently on vtgenlib.org you have to go to the store and then find the button to donate. Ruth shared that it was much easier to donate on other society's websites. Ruth also suggested that we look into an association with Amazon that would bring a donation into our treasury when members make purchases from Amazon.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Joann Flynn and seconded by Barbara Baraw to accept the treasurer's report as printed. The motion was approved.

Nominations- Tom DeVarney stated that he checked with the serving members who were up for reelection, Marcie, himself, Elaine, Janet Z., Janet A., and Lynn to see if they were willing to run for reelection. Since all were willing he didn't look any further.

Tom went over nominations and asked three times if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. Barbara Baraw moved to accept list of nominees. Gary Nokes seconded this.

Tom explained that each person could be voted in individually or members could vote for the full block (slate) of candidates. Joann Flynn made a motion that nominees are voted as a block. Lillian Robinson seconded this. The motion carried.

The following were elected:
President- Marcie Crocker
Vice President- Thomas DeVarney
Treasurer- Elaine Riley
Secretary- Janet Zell
Member- Janet Allard
Member- Lynn Johnson
Sheila Morris remains as Past President

Lynn Johnson spoke about how members have contributed with publicity. The topic for the Free Press History Space article in 2019 will be the parish books. She is looking for stories about how the books helped members with their family research. Lynn also explained the Ambassador Program.

The motion to adjourn was made by Marge Allard and seconded by Lillian Robinson. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Johnson

# **Special Interest Groups**

These groups meet every month

(except July and August)

6:30 - 8:00 PM

VT-FCGS Genealogy Library

Bring a list of your favorite websites and resources along with your 'brick walls' and questions.

1st Tuesday - Genetic DNA
2nd Tuesday - French-Canadian
3rd Tuesday - Irish
4th Tuesday - Italian
5th Tuesday - Open Discussion

#### HOW MANY ANCESTORS DO WE HAVE

You

2 Parents

4 Grandparents

8 Great Grandparents

16 Great Great Grandparents

32 Great Great Grandparents

**64 Great Great Great Grandparents** 

128 Great Great Great Great Grandparents

256 Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

512 Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

1024 Great G

and after just ten generations you have

2,048

4,096

8,192

16,284

32,568

65,136

130,272

260,544

521,088

1,042,176

.over one million in twenty generations.

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# LINKS

Volume 22, No. 2

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Fall 2019



Journal of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

#### THE VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

President Marcie Crocker
Vice-President Tom DeVarney
Treasurer Elaine Riley
Secretary Janet Zell
Past President Sheila Morris

Directors Lynn Johnson, Janet Allard, Peter Crosby, Pamela Crosby

Librarian Janet Allard
Publicity Lynn Johnson

Genealogical Researchers Janet Allard, Tom DeVarney, Ralph Mitchell

The Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society was founded at Burlington, Vermont in March, 1996. Its volunteers help members and visitors with their research every Tuesday and Saturday at the Society's \*Library located in Rooms 201A, 201B, 202, 203, 204 and 206 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 the second and fourth Saturday each month during July and August. 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: Ed McGuire (802-310-9285), or Janet Allard (802-878-8081).

#### Online Resources

John Fisher: Webmaster for VT-FCGS.org Bill Craig: Webmaster for VTGENLIB.org

Maureen O'Brien: Facebook Editor

#### Tax Exempt Status

The Internal Revenue Service granted the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society tax exempt status April 15, 1997 (Ref. Case # 117050081). The determination letter reads, in part: "Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code." Please request a receipt when making a donation of cash or material items.

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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To submit articles (electronic files are appreciated but not mandatory):

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#### A Message from the President

Dear Members and Friends:

We have gotten word from St. Michael's College that the building housing the Vermont Genealogy Library in Fort Ethan Allen has been sold. We do not have any details regarding the buyer, or when we will need to move, but we have been looking. So far, any places that we have investigated involve a significant increase in rent and utilities. If you hear of any place nearby that might be available for us to rent at a reasonable rate, please contact us at <a href="mailto:library@vtgenlib.org">library@vtgenlib.org</a>.

Thanks to Ed McGuire's organization, we were treated to a great group of classes last spring, including popular repeats of "Beginning Genealogy," "Introduction to DNA Testing," and "Using FamilySearch.org." We also offered classes on French-Canadian, Italian, and Scottish genealogy, as well as some interesting offerings on AmericanAncestors.org, orphan trains and solving brick walls.

This fall we are offering our popular classes, mentioned above, and some new ones on "Solving some Irish Brickwalls" with Michael Dwyer, "Using Tools at Ancestry DNA," and "Using MyHeritage.com." Also this fall, our annual conference in October should be an interesting one, with presentations by Howard Coffin, Diane Gravel, and Joe Perron and Kim Chase.

This past February, we continued with our Tuesday night Special Interest Groups (SIGs), adding a French-Canadian one back into the mix. This brings us to SIGs on DNA, French-Canadian, Irish, and Italian, with an open one for the fifth Tuesday of the month.

John Fisher and his volunteers have published two new parish books: "St Raphael, Poultney, VT, Marriages and Baptisms" and "St Joseph, Burlington, VT, Marriages 1834-1930." The St Joseph's book is a redo of Veronique Gassette's earlier tome, with listings for both brides and grooms. No more looking in the back for the brides names. I would once again like to thank all the volunteers who help with all the things that keep us running, including staffing the Vermont Genealogy Library, helping with the parish books and various events where we have a presence. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:library@vtgenlib.org">library@vtgenlib.org</a> if you might be interested in volunteering. You don't have to be an expert to volunteer, and you will be amazed at how much you learn.

We are considering adding MyHeritage.com Library Edition to our current roster of available databases. This would cost about \$2,400 a year and would work similar to the Ancestry.com Library Edition with one major difference. MyHeritage.com's Library Edition would allow our members to login from home through the Members Area of our website. We want to hear from you. Would you be willing to pay a little more to have access to this database from home? Would it be useful to you? If you have used MyHeritage.com in the past, tell us your thoughts. Please let us know at <a href="library@vtgenlib.org">library@vtgenlib.org</a>.

Best Wishes and Successful Research!

Marcie Crocker, President Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society Marcie.Crocker@uvm.edu

#### **Welcome New Members**

Since the Last Edition of Links

Elaine Riley, Member #14

William Roberts Melanie LaClair Scott W Fenton

Jo-Ann Roberts Gisele McRae Jason Stephens

Madeleine Hebert Thomas Soules Marylouise White

Maude LeBlanc Eileen Donlan Terry Abair

Sierra LeBlanc Francesca Moravcsik Rita Abair

Tullus Bergeron Mary Jane Russell Linda Johnson-Rubick

Todd Bergeron Annette Zeff Tonya Pettit

Gail Orr Grace Nelson Charles Rousseau

Bill Orr Robert Dowley Claire Bergeron-Rousseau

Steven Mitchell III Joan Laundon Thomas Poutre

Kathryn Pratt Linnea Swahn Packard Keren Weiner

Diane Perrin Patricia Caron Faye Lawes

Cindy O'Hara Andrea Olsen

Tom Carney Philiip D Briere

Sue Carney Bernadette Marshall

Ronald Morin Rickie Emerson

Michele Morin Kim Chase

Janet Kilmer Elaine Bellavance

Johnna Ferguson Laurie Sabens

Kenneth Morris Susan M Doherty

Jan E Hughes Burton Bell

Janice A Ely Benilda Avila Fenton

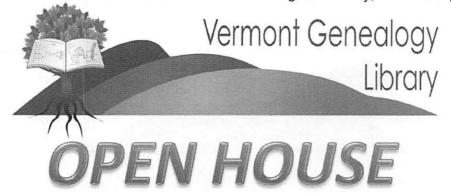


## 2019 FALL CLASS SCHEDULE

All classes are held on Saturdays at 10:30 am and end at noon Fee is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for the public

07 Sep	STAFF	OPEN HOUSE
14 Sep	Sheila Morris	Beginning Genealogy
21 Sep	Ed McGuire	Introduction to DNA Testing
28 Sep	Marcie Crocker	Using FamilySearch.org
05 Oct	Michael Dwyer	DNA Cousins: Mysteries Solved and Unsolved
12 Oct.	Ed McGuire	Using AncestryDNA: Tools & Tips
19 Oct		ANNUAL CONFERENCE
		ANNUAL CONFERENCE
26 Oct	Marc Juneau	Basic French for Translation & Travel
	Marc Juneau Jane Whitmore	
26 Oct		Basic French for Translation & Travel
26 Oct 02 Nov	Jane Whitmore	Basic French for Translation & Travel Powerful Research Tools at GenealogieQuebec.com
26 Oct 02 Nov 09 Nov	Jane Whitmore Ed McGuire	Basic French for Translation & Travel Powerful Research Tools at GenealogieQuebec.com Using DNA Networks to Solve Brick Walls

For Class descriptions please visit our website: vtgenlib.org



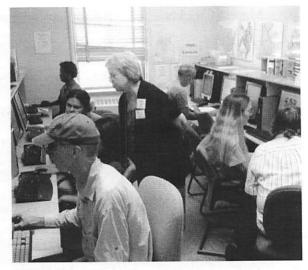
Saturday, September 7th - 10 am to 4 pm

## **Rotating 30-Minute Demonstrations:**

- Family Tree Maker vs RootsMagic
- Ancestry.com & FindMyPast Tips and Tricks
- DNA Tests Which test? Which company? How to use results

## Volunteers will demonstrate our 6 online subscriptions





### **Huge Family History Book Sale**

- Vermont, New York, Quebec & New England Research
- English, French-Canadian, Irish, Scottish, German & Italian guides
- Using census, probate, property, estate & courthouse records
- Books & guides on DNA Testing and Interpretation

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - BRING YOUR FRIENDS

### Janet Amblo Eno Landry



Janet Amblo Eno Landry of Burlington, passed away at Our Lady of the Meadows in Richford on July 11, 2019. She was born in Burlington the daughter of Leonard and Leola (Lemieux) Amblo on Flag Day June 14, 1932. She attended Burlington Schools and was employed with the Howard Bank. Janet was married on October 12, 1954 to Edwin C. Eno in St. Peter's Catholic Church in Vergennes. Together they owned and operated Eno's Market on Maple Street for many years. In 1977 they opened the Early Learning Day Care Center with their daughter Mary-Ellen and continued until 1996. On March 4, 1998, Edwin predeceased her. Her favorite times were with her grandsons. She enjoyed teaching them life skills and being a "kid" with them. She was their best friend. She proudly and happily volunteered many years at the Ethan Allen Homestead as an avid tour guide. genealogist, member of board of directors

(presently emeritus), and "surrogate grandmother to everyone." Also, she proudly and happily volunteered at the French Canadian Genealogy Society serving in many positions and she loved helping people in their research efforts. It was here she met Paul Landry. They were married on May 5, 2001. Together they enjoyed seven years as "recycled teenagers" traveling around the US in their RV. Paul predeceased her on July 27, 2008. Janet is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Mary-Ellen and Robert Brown of Essex Jct., two grandsons and their spouses, Christopher and Joanne Brown of Burlington and Andrew and Danielle Brown of Essex Jct., great-grandson Liam Trombly Brown; brother, James and his wife, Barbara, of Charlotte and sister, Suzanne Sawyer of New Haven and many nieces and nephews. She is also survived by Paul's children who were very close to her, daughter Lynn and Art Johnson, son Michael and Nancy Landry and their children Kaitlin and Joseph, and son Stephen Landry. Janet was also predeceased by her brother, Charles Amblo and his wife Beverly and brother-in-law Kenneth Sawyer. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, July 15, 2019, at 11:00 AM at Christ The King Roman Catholic Church with burial following in Resurrection Park Cemetery, South Burlington. There were no visiting hours. Donations in her memory may be made to the Bishop's Appeal, care of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403. Her family would like to thank all the nurses and staff at Our Lady of the Meadows for all the care and respect they gave to Janet and her family during her stay.

# Matchmaking and My Third Great Grandparents Peter Crosby, Member #1071

Historically in all cultures there was a system that was probably steeped in social and religious traditions; a system had to be established to arrange and permit the mating of a man and a woman into a rite and sacrament known as marriage. To perpetuate the human species this tradition of matchmaking was necessary as people in olden days did not have the flexibility and to some degree the liberty to allow offspring to make their own decision on whom they were going to spend the rest of their life with. After all it is Tradition!

On a larger scale, there were programs over the years created by governments or monarchy to expand the population in remote far off lands. Most are familiar with the French Fille du Roi (the King's Daughters) who were about 800 marriageable age women granted a small dowry and given passage which was paid for by King Louis XIV to settle in New France to try to even the imbalanced ratio of men to women. Today, anyone having French/Canadian genealogy can research and trace their ancestry to at least several of these women.

Interestingly, whether it was the government programs of the Fille du Roi or the English program named the Earl Grey Scheme or just the local town Matchmaker there is always one common element that was apparent in all these programs and that is the woman getting matched had the final say if a marriage was going to take place or not.

Today it has been estimated that over half of today's marriages worldwide are still arranged to some degree even though they may seem like a relic of a bygone age. They are still surprisingly popular around the world. Some families may still arrange a marriage of their children to gain or preserve wealth or social status.

Imagine placing one's self into the context of the past; people were bound to their homes and farms, there was very little discretionary leisure time as we see today. Sundays were a day of rest for a reason. Women's liberation back in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries was only a dream. Traditionally in the home there was always the customary woman's work of cooking, cleaning; and sewing, plus milking the cow and garden work almost all the time while being pregnant. To bring in the money the men faced going to work at a hard labor job such as mining or out in the field cutting hay or plowing the fields. Culturally speaking, the Man of the house possibly had more time away from home, being able to stop into the local Pub.

Going to church, if you lived close enough, was one of the only opportunities that the family could go as a unit. Church was the main social network of activities as men and woman could get together and visit and talk. I can visualize the women and the men in separate clusters after a church service, getting caught up on the week's gossip. Some of that gossip might have been passed around in the form of trying to find a husband or a wife for their son or daughter or getting the word from a cousin that it was time for a young man to look for a wife. A person from the local area might have a reputation as a Matchmaker which maintained a running list of eligible bachelors and marriageable-age girls for possible matches.

Parents might consider some or all of these listed points in of selecting and approving a match. These major factors might be taken into account are:

• Reputation - Personally and of the family.

- Vocation the more prestigious, and affluent the better.
- Social Status Are they "Landed Gentry"?
- Wealth measured in land, cows, goats, chickens, gold and silver plus, the size of a Woman's dowry if any.
- Appearance height and color are the main traits to consider.
- Values- traditional / liberal, Patriot or Loyalist.
- Religion most religions frown on mixed marriages.
- Medical Hereditary disease if known was an important factor.

A family that had "marriageable" daughters started to consider marriage at the age range of fourteen and up; in some cultures much younger than that. If a family was generally poor and had a surplus of daughters, these girls were not seen as valuable asset to the family unit as they were not as able to work as much in the fields or have much prospect to get a meaningful job outside the home other than housekeepers. Many nineteenth century girls were never formally schooled, and the larger and poorest families probably could not afford a dowry of any kind, so parents might have a stronger motivation to arrange a marriage with the first prospect to come along. In some cases, I'm sure, some girls were shown the gate to a convent rather than waiting for a gentleman caller prospect or just farmed out as a housekeeper. Boys when they reached about the age of thirteen or so, were expected to go to work and probably were taken in as an apprentice to learn a trade. I am reminded of the old rhyme:

A girl of fourteen; is in her prime,
A girl of sixteen; there is still time,
A girl of eighteen; the altar she better run,
A girl of twenty; Daddy should get his gun!

In the Irish culture the father of the family, if living, had the authority to grant permission to any young suiter for the hand of one of his daughters. This tradition of paternal permission was common in most all of the European cultures. In some cultures the responsibility of granting permission was passed to the oldest adult brother if the father was no longer living. I'm sure today's tradition that the Father of the Bride is the one who pays for his daughter's wedding must have originated from these old customs. Today Women are liberated in most western cultures. We also have the economics, energy sources and innovations that make life easier as well as transportation and communication systems that allow the rapid movement of people and ideas from one end of the world to the other. These modern breakthroughs have made the activity of matchmaking and arraigned marriages more or less obsolete in the West.

Through my Irish genealogy research and by immersing myself into the available records and coupling an old family story with my ancestors I was able to assemble this story about my 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandparents.

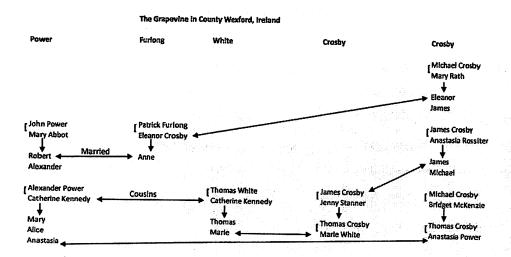
#### **Thomas Crosby Meets His Bride**

The time is late spring 1836 and the place is the south-west corner of County Wexford, Ireland. A grapevine of letter writing and whispers between friends and kinfolk might have conveyed the match possibilities to prompt a man to travel about twenty miles to a new place to seek his bride; as this was no doubt the case of my Irish 3rd great grandfather Thomas Crosby.



This is a present-day photograph of the actual Power family farmhouse situated on Prior Hill in Ballystraw Township, County Wexford along with a good view of the long walkway where the Power girls peeping out the second floor windows got their first look of the suitor Thomas Crosby.

There had to be at least one family member to broker a deal on Thomas's behalf. With some research and putting together the available evidence, it turns out Thomas Crosby had a 1st cousin whose name was also Thomas Crosby born in Kilmore area of County Wexford. This cousin Thomas had been living in the Templetown Parish area and was married to Marie White. They had two children. Sadly Marie died young in 1835 leaving her husband Thomas with their two young boys. For support and help with his young children the widowed Thomas moved back home to Kilmore area where his family was. As a result, by this Thomas moving back to Kilmore there was an opportunity for him to have a renewed contact with my eventual 3rd great grandfather Thomas. Once his interest of finding a bride was made known, Cousin Thomas must have spoken with his brother-in-law Thomas White doubt Thomas White was no any possibilities on marriage matches. matchmaker that spearheaded the bride search by contacting his mother Catherine Kennedy. Thomas White's Mother was Catherine Kennedy and the Powers' Mother was Catherine's cousin, and future mother of the bride also was named Catherine Kennedy linking the grapevine between the Power, White, Kennedy and Crosby families. There was one more interesting connection to the Crosby family. The father of the bride to be, Alexander Power's brother Robert was at that time a farmer in Colchester, Vermont since 1830, and his wife Anne Furlong's mother was Eleanor Crosby. Eleanor Crosby was an aunt to both Thomas Crosbys. Possibly there were some inquiries floated around between the families and extended families from both sides of the Atlantic for possible marriage prospects.



Robert Power and Anne Furlong get married and move to Colchester Vermont in 1830.

Catherine Kennedy and Catherine Kennedy must be cousins possibly from New Ross, County Wexford.

Thomas White son of Thomas White and Catherine Kennedy was the "best man" in wedding he was the matchmaker connection possibly suggested by his brother-in-law Thomas Crosby.

Mary Power oldest daughter of Alexander Power and Catherine Kennedy was "maid of honor" in wedding.

Marie White died in 1835 her husband Thomas Crosby possibly moved back to Kilmore, County Wexford with the two young children.

Thomas Crosby and Anastasia Power were married on June 30, 1836 in Templetown, County Wexford. In 1850 they move to Burlington, Vermont with their family of seven children.

Above is a chart showing the relationships of the matchmaking family connections between Colchester Vermont, Ballystraw /Templetown and Kilmore, County Wexford.

In the spring of 1836 after a short vetting process, an arrangement for marital matchmaking was made behind the scenes by family members and friends to gain an agreement between Thomas Crosby of Kilmore Parish and Alexander Power of Ballystraw Township, Templetown Parish, County Wexford. As a result Thomas was tentatively promised one of the Power's marriageable daughters. A personal visit to the Power family home on Prior Hill to meet the forthcoming suiter was arranged.

The specific details of their meeting will never be known for sure, but the following was told to me in 1978 by my great aunt Ruth Crosby Garno during an interview I had of her Crosby family memories: "...on the appointed time Thomas was walking up the walkway approaching the Powers' home, the Power sisters were all peeking out of the second floor window to sneak a glimpse of the suitor. As Thomas was approaching the front door, (Marie and Alice) the oldest daughters having their curiosity fulfilled were not impressed and each said, "I don't want him, He's too old." At the bottom of the pecking order the youngest daughter 18 year old Anastasia, seized the opportunity and responded, "very well, I'll take him."

Meanwhile downstairs and outside at the front door, I can imagine the scene as a nervous clean shaven Thomas tried to make a good first impression. He must have been dressed in his best suit of clothes that he had owned or borrowed. He must have been wearing a coat, waist coat and top hat as he walked through the gates and up the long walkway to the front door and with a deep breath knocked. The scene must have looked something like the set from the screenplays The Quiet Man and Fiddler on the Roof. I'm sure Thomas must have arrived promptly at the appointed time and was asked to sit down while the girls were at the top of the stairs, huddled inaudibly whispering, with ears trained to try to hear the conversation between their father and the suitor.

Their conversation could have gone something like this:

Picture the father, Alexander Power, sitting in the parlor or in the dining room in his chair smoking his pipe as Thomas was shown in by his wife Catherine. As a father of three single girls Alexander could have been privately relieved and willing to have a marriage prospect for one of his daughters at last.

We can't be sure what they talked about specifically; did they speak only in English or Gaelic or a combination of both? This is what I think they could have talked about:

As Thomas walked in Alex said, "Sit down Tom, I understand you are kin to my Brother's wife's family."

Thomas sat down and placed his hat on the table or balanced it on his knee and responded, "Yes sir; that is what I understand."

Alex then asked if he didn't know better, "That isn't those rich Protestant Crosbys' from Kerry is it?"

Thomas responded, "No Sir! My family is originally from Wexford Town."

Alex continued with the interview and asked as if he didn't know already, "How old are you Son?" Thomas, "About thirty, sir."

Alex, "Thirty! You finally planning to settle down now and raise a family are you?"

Thomas affirmed, "Yes Sir, gulp."

Their conversation must have circled around from the weather, mutual associates, favorite pub, politics; and then finally back to the subject of marrying one of his daughters.

As the men were talking, the girls' mother Catherine was probably doing an optional chore because the housework and farm chores must have been promptly completed in time before the appointed hour; she was possibly quietly polishing the family silverware or something while attentively listening in from the kitchen. In the meantime, still upstairs were the sisters with their ears trained in the direction of the bottom of the stairs. Anastasia must have been on pins and needles having in her own mind committing to a formal courtship for marriage with a total stranger and was just waiting for the obligatory Father's consent.

At a point in the Men's conversation the girls were asked to come down to meet Thomas. How it was made apparent that Anastasia was the chosen one is lost in time but I'm sure it was made obvious somehow; possibly, Anastasia walked up to meet Thomas ahead of her sisters. Alex and Catherine might have been puzzled at first that their youngest daughter had been the chosen and not one of older girls. About that time, Alex granted the approval and an impromptu celebration erupted and congratulations with best wishes came forth. At some point during the festivity Thomas might have felt an immediate bonding to the Power family and been so moved to break with Irish naming tradition and promise to name his first born son Alexander. It is possible that the relatives and neighbors on Prior Hill had been alerted to the pending engagement and were invited to join in the festivity.

After a fairly short engagement by today's standards of possibly less than a month; which had to include the customary three consecutive Sundays to fulfill the required Banns of Marriage, a wedding ceremony was performed on Thursday, June 30, 1836 as was recorded in the Templetown Roman Catholic Parish record book. Thomas White the matchmaker and Anastasia's oldest sister Marie Power were the witnesses.

Irish folklore, traditions and superstition sometimes dictated which day was the best to get married and what the bride's dress color should be as these old Irish poems explain:

Monday is for health,
Tuesday is for wealth,
Wednesday is the best day of all,
Thursday for losses,
Friday for crosses,
Saturday is no day at all.

Married in white is chosen right, Married in grey go far away, Married in brown live in the Town, Married in black wish yourself back.

After a dosing of rice and or confetti the newlyweds leave for their home. Tied to the vehicle is an old slipper adorned with ribbons. When the Bride approaches her home she is carried over the threshold by her husband. On the night the Bride comes home there is a "party of the Boys." Men dress in strange costumes in the vain attempt to try disguising themselves and show up at the Newlyweds home in what is called "fooling." They demand a meal and a bit of a dance. If the Boys are not taken in the right spirit they can cause a lot of mischief.

After being married Thomas and Anastasia continued to live in Ballystraw possibly working on the Power farm until the death of Alexander Power around 1840; having two children there and possibly living within the Power household itself or in a cottage on the farm.

According to entries in the Kilmore Parish baptismal records and Griffith's Valuation I determined they had moved to Bastardstown Township, in the Kilmore Parish part of County Wexford which is about twenty miles away. In Kilmore they had five more children over the following ten years. In 1850 they left Ireland and immigrated to Burlington, Vermont with the assistance of the Powers in Colchester, where they later had two more children.

#### GenealogyQuebec.com Website is WAY More Than Just the LAFRANCE Database

Jane Duchesneau Whitmore, Member #486

One of the many genealogy subscription websites that visitors to the Vermont Genealogy Library can use for research is GenealogyQuebec.com at <a href="https://www.genealogiequebec.com">https://www.genealogiequebec.com</a>. This site features various powerful tools for researching French-Canadian ancestry.

An individual annual subscription to this site would cost \$100 Canadian (about \$77 U.S. at the time of this writing), but it is available at our library for free as part of your annual membership. Many of us refer to this website as "LAFRANCE." Yes, the LAFRANCE database is the most-visited place most of us go to on this website. In LAFRANCE we currently find indexed records of marriages from 1621-1918 and baptisms and burials from 1621-1861. Yes, it is a very reliable source with the indexing done by French speakers. The Drouin Institute is always working on adding to the indexed records and expanding the timeframe for this tool covers.

BUT...Did you know that the LAFRANCE database is just <u>one</u> of the <u>sixteen</u> tools currently available on the GenealogyQuebec website? Over 45 million records and images are found on this site! I've used many of the other tools and links found here. Space limitations here allow only for the names of the tools and the briefest of descriptions here:

- Marriages and Deaths 1926-1997
- Obituaries all of Canada 1999 to present
- o Drouin Institute's Great Collections (many tools)
- o Petit NBMDS tool (5 regions 1727-2011)
- o Connolly File (BMD in CA & US, 1621 to 2018)
- o Drouin Family Genealogies (660 families)
- o Census tool 1881-1901 Quebec & Ontario
- o Notarized documents tool-83,000 docs, 18-1900s

- o Post cards tool -1980-2002
- Acadia Families tool 96,000 families
- o Drouin Collection Records key resource!
- o Drouin Institute's Miscellaneous Collections
- o Kardex marriages 1621-1950, QC, ON, US
- o Loiselle File same as on our microfiche
- o City Directories Montreal (1843-2000) and Ouebec City (1822-1904)

A post found at <a href="https://www.genealogiequebec.com/blog/en/category/help/#7">https://www.genealogiequebec.com/blog/en/category/help/#7</a> outlines which of the sixteen tools to use for each century from the 17th to the 21st; which ones to use by region - U.S, Quebec, Acadia and the rest of Canada; and which ones to use for Catholic or Protestant research.

My second most used database on this site is the Drouin Collection Records. The collection consists of images of the same type of records in LAFRANCE, but from 1621 to as recent as 1967 in some locales. It is not indexed, but the wider date range means more records are accessible here than in LAFRANCE. I have been able to find many records here previously not found in LAFRANCE or on Ancestry.com's indexing of the Drouin Collection. I learned how to search the Drouin Collection using approximation and the indexes the priests typically wrote at the back of each parish register.

For more info on all the tools found on this website and how to use them see <a href="https://www.genealogiequebec.com/blog/en/category/help/">https://www.genealogiequebec.com/blog/en/category/help/</a>. This page lists the contents of each tool and clearly explains how to use it. You can access this blog and its articles from home for free and then apply your new knowledge when you visit the library. I, for one, am extremely grateful to have access to the tools the Drouin Institute has made available online!

# BOOK ABSTRACT "A DISTINCT ALIEN RACE - THE UNTOLD STORY OF FRANCO-AMERICANS" INDUSTRIALIZATION, IMMIGRATIONS, RELIGIOUS STRIFE

Submitted by Barbara Baraw, Member #752

AUTHOR: David Vermette,

PUBLISHER Baraka, Montreal, 2018, third quarter. 388 pages.

As I read the introduction I got the impression that I was going on an adventure of a family history that many genealogists enjoy. "A Distinct Alien Race" is more than that. The Vermette family story is the spice that is sprinkled throughout the four distinct sections of the political and social history of the *Canadiens*- Quebekers whose descendants emigrated to New England. The early history of economics of New England helps to set the stage for the arrival of various groups of French Canadiens. The four sections, each with several chapters, divide the focus a bit, but cover economic, social and political topics of an era.

Section one: From Ships' Captains to Captains of Industry holds a somewhat surprising explanation of the early years of the U.S. republic. Many of the New England leaders gained their wealth in the shipping business. Thomas Perkins of Massachusetts is one who was active in the slave trade, selling American ginseng to Chinese and returned with opium until the blockades of the War of 1812. His later investment was in early cotton textile manufacturing. Francis Cabot Lowell, Benjamin Gorham, Uriah Cotting, Patrick Tracy Jackson, Israel Thorndike, and the Cabots were shipping magnates who also got involved in the young textile industry, abandoning much of their shipping interests. The Cabots took the "produce of slaves [cotton] to transform into cloth for slaves' clothes." Textile manufacturing was labor (female) and capital-intense. Through the many owners & their minibios by date and activities the life of "Cabot Mills" was developed. Many of the Boston owners were related and owned or were partners in other mills throughout New England. By 1860 it was the largest industry and employment in New England.

Because Vermette's ancestors emigrated to Brunswick, Maine, its place in the narrative is important although it may not be the focus of the majority of activities of French Canadians in New England. Beginning in 1809 machinery made in Brunswick was used in textile manufacturing. The history of "Cabot Mills" Brunswick was developed including the interfamilial relations of the owners-managers.

#### Section two: The Other Side of Cotton- Franco Americans rescue King Cotton

Through analysis of the Canadian 1861 census, the reader is introduced to the author's paternal second great-grandparents and their life situation a few years before their sons immigrated to Brunswick. Since the 1837 revolution in the Eastern Townships many farm sons followed the Richelieu River to cross the southern border to work in Vermont. "There were no controls on the border in this era. Many of the "travelers" sought temporary employment and returned to Quebec." By 1860 the New England 'canadiens' became more permanent and brought families. "Rather than owning the bodies of laborers, they were kept indebted by purchase in company stores, living in company housing and multiple family members employed by the company." This implies little difference between slavery and working for the "Mill." Recruits for the Union side in the Civil War left open thousands of jobs for more than five years. The Grand Trunk RR brought folks from Montreal, St Hyacinth, St Jean, and Sherbrook to Lewiston and Portland from which French Canadians migrated to mill towns.

According to the 1870 census 100,000 French Canadians were in the states. "Little Canadas" became enclaves with national societies and national churches, with mass said in French, and education conducted in French. This large cohort of French Canadians yielded recovery and expansion of the textile industry. Working conditions were difficult at best. Strikes were common. The first one was in 1824 by the women of Pawtucket, R.I. In Brunswick there were 6 between 1881-1887, the last one led by women.

Franco-Americans Come to Brunswick: A vivid image life in Brunswick's "French Quarter" through at least four decades and 15 families from the Richelieu valley is portrayed. Contemporaneous press stories demonstrate the nativist negative attitude toward newcomers. Many families returned to Quebec to marry and baptize children because there was no national church in the early 1860s.

The Case of the Brunswick Cabot Mill: The company housing was bleak, typhoid and diphtheria rampant, and drinking water contaminated as was reported by Albert Tenney in 1886 of the Brunswick Telegram. Reports by Albert Tenney of Brunswick Telegram -1886 exposed the conditions. A study released by Eli Anderson in 1937 of Burlington, Vermont paints a picture similar to that of Brunswick.

A Rich Uncle from the States? The families who remained in Quebec held a common misunderstanding about the living situations of French Canadiens in New England. There was a difference in the nutritional value of food between rural Quebec and that in mill towns. Several reasons cited for the emigration were higher wages, sizeable number of French Canadiens moving nearer to family. There was a 19<sup>th</sup> C baby boom in Quebec at the same time as exodus of New Englanders to western states. The reason many émigrés did not go to Canada West was unfamiliar culture, lack of French Language and Quebec clergy effort to keep Quebec rural. Who were the Immigrants? Indebted farmer, those who didn't want to work in extraction industries emigrated. The author's grandfather's story is an example. 42 % of mill workers were wage earners in Canada.

Section three: The Reception of Franco Americans: Franco Americans and Americanism. The similarity of Franco Americans of 1850s-1950 and the Latin Americans of the 21<sup>st</sup> C is very strong. They each threaten the "Anglo-protestant" cultural myth-although from the beginning there was substantial diversity. German Dutch Swedish Swills, Danes, Finnish, French Huguenot, Jewish Portuguese, Scots, Ulster Scots, Irish and English came. These were northern Europeans and not so different from the New Englanders. Little Canada was different from Lil Tokyos, Italys etc. in that they became permanent settlements, not way stations to assimilation. There were folks who accommodated Survivance with Patriotism and civil involvement. By 1881 French Canadian population became permanent.

Fears of Franco-American Conspiracy: 19<sup>TH</sup> C Anglo Protestants were fearful of French Canadien Catholics. The claim was the Catholic hierarchy was conspiring to conquer New England. By 1908 the Irish, and the Franco American were "good citizens" & eastern Europeans were the "troublesome element" as quoted from 1880's newspapers. 1885 Fr. Harmon stereotyped Anglo Protestants in order to keep Quebecois in Quebec. Rev. Aramon, a European Calvinist campaigned against Franco American - Romish ideas. In 1888, social scientists observed conflict between non-Franco American women who envied Franco American women working. Irish leadership managed Catholic Church in New England and they were unsympathetic to "national Church" of the French Canadians.,i.e. Brunswick, Fall River, Burlington. Ultramontanes- descendants of the Rebellion 1837-1838 – (independence) resurrected 1960s- plan to dismantle Anglo Protestantism from the north- Quebec, and Spanish Catholics to the south. The author could not find any evidence of Franco-Americans attempting to missionize Protestants.

Eugenics & The Alien in Our Midst; There was a slow down of emigration late 1890s early 20<sup>th</sup> C, and post WWI increases. The great migration of Blacks from the South to northern Midwest yielded the resurgence of the KKK toward all "others" including Franco Americans. In order to "assist" the selection of the northern European races a program of sterilization of those thought to be mentally deficient was created. Vermette addresses Vermont's participation, including Prof. Perkins, R E Robinson, Pres. Bailey of University of Vermont from the early 1920s.

KKK in New England – Black leaders knew that mid 20th C clan was different from 19th C – pamphlet from NAACP the new Klan was anti-Catholic, anti Afro-American, anti-Jewish & anti labor. The immigration from Eastern Europe was Catholic & Jewish. The Klan Comes to NE: In mid 1920s between 10-15 %. in VT NH ME were KKK members. Eugene Farnsworth's statement "America was built upon the foundation laid out by the Protestant Bible" and "Protestant Americans in the lead" was a 20th century KKK mantra. Some southern KKK's couldn't understand the element of anti-Catholics in the New England Clan rhetoric. It was not new; it was present in the Know-Nothings of 1840-1860, the American Protective Association of the 1880-1890s and the KKK of the 1920s. Across the northern border the Klan was found in border provinces from the Maritimes to the Prairie. Just because they were Catholic: Foment throughout the entire USA by the Klan against Franco-Americans was excessive. During WWI there was much confusion, created by outside influence makers, between Franco-Americans and Canadians who, for the most part, were on opposite sides of the issue of US and Canadian involvement in the war. Franco Americans were enthusiastic volunteer soldiers and home activists. Quebec Canadians were opposed to the draft and much less inclined towards the war effort. The Klan burned Roman schools and churches in towns and cities that had substantial FA populations. They were opposed by Methodist, Episcopal, and Baptist clergy, and Samuel Gompers of the AFL., Violence by Klan and anti-clan is part of the history of many New England cities where there was a concentration of Franco American workers. Using

Brunswick, hometown of his grandparents, Vermette outlined the "political coming of age" for the Franco Americans. In 1912 Paul Morin was elected selectman. By the 1920s a speech by Farnsworth fanned the anti-Franco American fear. The Klan became emboldened.

#### Section four: Tenacity and Modernity

Textiles go south: 20<sup>th</sup> Century In the 1850s one bale in 6 stayed in the south. The other 5 went to New England to be spun and woven. Change to steam and then electric driven plants influenced the move the south; new tooling is less expensive than retooling and shipping raw product. Again citing data from the history of Brunswick, Vermette follows the decline of the cotton industry in the northeast, beginning in 1937 and continuing through the mid-1950s. Drifting away from Little Canadas: Franco American elites cajoled others to maintain language and culture, especially the clergy of the "National" Roman Churches, who themselves had push-back from the Diocesan hierarchy predominantly Irish and Italian-newer immigrants. Popular literary individuals such as Jack Kerouac (On the Road), Grace Metalious (Peyton Place) and the Durants, Will and Arial (The History of Civilization) were "transgressors" according to the elite; La survivance was fading. Enclaves of FR Am broke down as nuclear families started to move away to other cities and the suburbs as occupations change. By the time of author's generation, families often identified with maternal ethnic heritage even with Canadian or Acadian surnames.

A Distinct Alien Race no More; When did "non-Hispanic white" change the idea that Franco Americans were "A Distinct Alien Race"? Vermette asserts that Elin Anderson in her 1937 study of Burlington VT 1937 "race" had various meaning; ethnicity, phenotype and color such as Negro and Chinese. By the mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century race no longer meant cultural and language populations. If French Canadiens /Franco Americans are no longer a separate "race" what is their identity?

Franco Americans – Quebecois Many left in 1800s from the farm and small communities to the industrial communities in New England. There is a divide between those who hold onto the recollection and those who realize that their kin live in and participate in a much less rural and more industrialized province that is less attached to and influenced by the RC church. The Quiet Revolution of the 1960s-1980s brought about the change of identity from French Canadian to Quebecois, which identifies with Quebec, not Canadien–francais.

I started this essay as a review and discovered I would not do it justice. It became an abstract. It is my hope that if any of the brief overviews sparks interest, with the use of the extensive endnotes and bibliography one will get the sense the journey is worthwhile. The use of primary sources was balanced with analysis. Citations from texts, journals, governmental documents, newspapers, obituaries and on-line sources provide material for additional study. Example: Vermette inserted several footnotes quoting "A Short History of QUEBEC" by John Dickenson and Brian Young. I recognized the name Brian Young, purchased the book and reconnected with my UVM advisor of almost 50 years ago. As I have been disconnected from most of the events and trends in Quebec for about 40 years, this answered many questions I had as I read "A Distinct Alien Race No More."

By no means is this book an academic tome, it is more than a memoir; it the story of a people through the lens of an historian and his family. It is well researched, documented and light enough for all readers.

For tips on using the tools on the Genealogy Quebec website and many other sources for French-Canadian Genealogy join us at the library on the second Tuesday of the month for our French-Canadian Special Interest Group. We meet next on September 10th at 6:30 p.m. For those of you who live at a distance from the library, you can participate online. Directions on how to join us remotely will be in the email message announcing the group meeting. Please join those of us with French-Canadian ancestry from home or in person in September. Send topic suggestions for the upcoming meetings to me at wandering JW@gmail.com.

#### Family History is an Adventure

#### Monica Savage Heath, Member #721

The beauty of the Champlain Islands has always drawn me. Visiting my relatives each year around Memorial Day weekend was tradition. Not only did we visit relatives, my family would always stop at cemeteries to put flowers on the graves of my grandparents, great grandparents and cousins. The tradition didn't end with my parents.

I kept the tradition going when I started my family. However, the sudden death of my father steered me into the world of genealogy. Not only did I visit the cemeteries, I became curious about my father's French-Canadian ancestry. Who were they really? Being all French-Canadian, I thought this is going to be easy. I talked with relatives. I got help from Allen Stratton, author of the history books of the Islands. And, the town clerks were wonderful! They would guide me through their vital records and I would sit for hours writing down all the names, dates and the Who's Who of my family, and talk with relatives some more and say with eyes wide,

"Did you know...?" This was 34 years ago before laptops and the internet. Life was good...until I hit a brick wall...the surname was Valley or so I thought!

Minnie Valley, my 2nd great grandmother, was buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Isle La Motte. She married Alex Jarvis in 1879 and the rest was history. According to the Isle La Motte town clerk's vital records, she was born in Canada, her father's name was Joseph Valley and mother's name was Laura Proneiounco (sic or as copied). I had never heard the name Proneiounco in the family so that was a mystery, nor could I pronounce it so I left that for a while. I started searching for a Joseph Valley with a wife named Laura. I found many by the name of Joseph Valley or LaValley without a wife name Laura. I even searched a variation of the name Vallee to no avail. I was at a brick wall and so I left that for a while.

Being a member of the Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society for many years, I knew that there were members of the society working on collecting Vermont Catholic parish baptismal and marriage records and publishing the results of this work. When they published the Northwest, Vermont Baptisms 1860 – 1934, I was curious to see if the Valley name was in there. Sure enough, not only was the surname Valley there, but next to it was "see Violi". Well, I had never heard that name either! So, the next book I researched was the Northwest Vermont Parishes Baptisms, Marriages and Burials. Sure enough my 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandmother and grandfather, Hermine "Minnie" and Alex Gervais "Jarvis" were there. Not only were they in the book, Minnie's sister was also in the book. This was huge! I went back to the town clerk's office and with those clues, it led me to Napierville and then to Henryville, Canada. There I found Minnie's father and mother, Joseph Violi and Ursule "Laura" Benassio and Minnie's brothers and sisters. They were Italians! Who knew! Joseph's father was from Emilia Romagna, Italy and Ursule "Laura's" father was from Turin, Italy. Both fathers were soldiers of the Swiss Meuron Regiment which had served under the English command against the Americans. They fought at the Battle of Plattsburgh.

Well, I'm not too sure that my French-Canadian ancestors who fought with the Patriots during the Revolutionary War and then again at the Battle of Plattsburgh would have been too happy with this find, but I'm tickled. All this time, I thought my father was 100% French Canadian. Wouldn't I love to talk with him once again?

Researching my family history is an adventure, and with the help of others like the Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society, you may find a surprise or two, and then talk with your relatives with eyes wide and say, "Did you know..."

#### **My Desrochers Research Trip**

Lynn Johnson, Member #581

In the Winter 2018 issue of <u>LINKS</u> I wrote an article about my grandmother's uncle titled, "Felix Desrochers, General Librarian" in which I wrote of Felix's campaign to win that position at the Parliamentary Library in Ottawa. Felix won the position in 1933 and held it until 1952 when he retired. I also made note of an important article by Ross Gordon. In this article he mentioned that Felix had a habit of making copies of all of his outgoing correspondence, as well as saving the correspondence he received. I couldn't help but wonder what a treasure trove of information this correspondence must be! But even if I could get access to it trying to go through so much material in Ottawa would be impossible. At that time I settled for organizing the information I already had.

During the organizing I rediscovered a letter that Felix had written to my grandmother, Germaine Desrochers Landry, in which Felix mentioned that after retiring from Ottawa he held the position of librarian at the Seminary in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec. An idea began to form. Had Felix continued to keep correspondence during his time at this library too? I got more excited about this idea when I realized that St. Hyacinthe is little more than an hour from Burlington.

One day at our library I mentioned Felix's habit of keeping letters and wondering if he had carried on with this same habit while at the seminary. Sue Valley was in the room and she immediately said, "I'll go with you." How could I pass up the opportunity to go to Quebec with someone as knowledgeable as Sue? Sue grew up with French as her first language and taught advanced placement French and Spanish. Sue also spent several years in the Canadian Studies Program at UVM.

I found a website for the seminary, (www.bibssh.qc.ca) where in addition to learning more about the collection I learned that the library had a genealogy room run by Mme. Marie-Marthe Bélisle (genealogy@chsth.com). There was also reference to the Centre d'histoire de Saint-Hyacinthe (www.chsth.com). I began an email correspondence with Mr. Bernard Auger, the librarian at the seminary and during the planning was put into contact with Mme. Bélisle and Mr. Paul Foisy, the archivist at the Centre d'histoire de Saint-Hyacinthe. It turned out that all three are located within the former seminary.

My plan for the trip in July 2016 had us taking Route 133 north until we turned east on Rte. 116 towards St. Hyacinthe. We would visit the genealogy center that afternoon, check into our hotel and then have dinner. As they say the best laid plans get torn asunder. We were chatting so much that we missed the turn off for St. Hyacinthe and ended up in St. Charles-sur-Richelieu where the Desrochers had lived. As Dad's sister Charlotte used to say, "Coincidence is God's way of being anonymous." That certainly turned out to be the case in this instance. Since we were already in St. Charles we visited the village offices and the nearby churchyard where we were able to locate the graves of many family members.

We also visited the park with the Monument aux Patriotes where we learned a great deal about the involvement of the citizens of this tiny village in the Rebellion of 1837-1838. It was while we were in the park that we came to realize the family home was only a few houses away. So we took a walk and after conversing with a workman outside the house we went across the road to look at the Richelieu River and to gaze upon the family homestead. Soon the mistress of the house came out and after chatting with the workman crossed the road to greet us.

Mme. L'Esperance is fluent in both French and English. After a brief chat she invited us into her home. A home I hadn't been inside since 1987. It was such a treat. Mme. L'Esperance was excited that I had brought photographs of the home from that era, as they explained some things they had always wondered about. While she made copies Sue and I gazed around at the one room that encompassed most of the main floor of the small home. Sue noticed a guitar on the wall and Mme. explained that it was their practice to invite forty or so people over on a Friday night for music. It was hard to believe they could fit in that many people. As we departed for St. Hyacinthe we exchanged email addresses and said our goodbyes. My aunt's statement came home to me again when Mme. explained that if we had stopped in St. Charles on Thursday as we had originally planned she would not have been home!

Our afternoon at the genealogy center was cut short by our detour. It also turned out that Mme. Bélisle did not speak English. I was doubly glad Sue was with me. Mme. and a volunteer threw themselves into searching for more information about my great, great grandfather, Charles Desrochers, which I greatly appreciated. It had been a long day though.

The next morning Mr. Auger gave us a tour of the seminary. I expected to see where Felix had worked for over eight years but my interest and sense of wonder were heightened when we learned that Felix and his brother Napoleon "Paul" had both attended the seminary for their classical studies as boarding students. Suddenly the museum displays about life at the school in the early 1900s and the sights around us took on a whole new meaning. Another surprise was learning that Father Paul was entombed in the crypt beneath the chapel. On the morning of our departure we visited Father Paul.

We made several visits upstairs to the archives during our three days in town. Mr. Foisy could not have been nicer and Felix had indeed left a lot of material. There was a box of photographs that had been donated after Felix's death. Mr. Foisy carefully showed me

REV. DOMINUS PAULUS DESROCHERS,
Qui, die 9ª Januarii 1880 natus,
In cantu sacro et prædicatione
Pulchritudinis studium habuit;
Beneficentia sua opes collegit
Potius æternas quam temporales;
Cleri S. Hyacinthi natu maximus,
Die 3ª Octobris 1965 interiit.
R. I. P.

each photograph in hopes that I could identify the subjects. Sadly, I could not. I knew that Felix had hired Joseph Drouin to do his genealogy in 1919 so I was hopeful that there was a copy of this work in the collections. Alas this was not the case. But there were four file boxes filled with what turned out to be years of correspondence between Felix and Father Paul as their bonds always remained strong. There were so many letters I was overwhelmed with the prospect of deciding what to have copied. We started skimming to find letters in which other family members were mentioned, and I came home with copies of about forty.

I should explain that my great grandfather, Arthur Louis, was the first child born to Charles Desrochers and Hermine Geoffrion. They had fourteen children in all, four of whom died as infants.

Their second son, Amédé Joseph died in 1887 at the age of 18 and both Arthur and Armand were only in their forties when they died. The longest surviving children were Delvina, the only daughter, Charles, Azarie, Leon, Joseph, Paul, and Felix. I had asked my dad and Aunt Charlotte about these people, but their memories of them were limited as they didn't see them very often. So I left hopeful that these letters would help me learn what they were like as people.

Another incredibly important find was a typed document that Mr. Foisy suggested I would probably want to copy. This turned out to be a speech by Felix given on the occasion of Paul's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a priest. Felix must have liked captive audiences because it was a long speech. But what a find! Felix outlined Paul's entire career, listing each and every church he served in, but with details I would never have found in any book. For example we learned that in 1897 Paul had had to leave the school in order to recover from typhoid fever. After two and a half months at the family home he was able to resume his studies. Then Felix took us to 1917 when Paul was the pastor in St. Hyacinthe,

"In the spring of 1917 a violent epidemic of typhoid fever befalls the citizens of Saint-Hyacinthe. They would not all die but all were stricken. "A dangerous situation for the minister obliged to assist the ill at every moment of the day and night. The inevitable did not take long to occur. The son of St. Charles was struck a second time by the sinister visitor twenty years after the attack of 1897. The shock was horrible and almost sent him "ad patres" (to heaven), but death had to cede to the resistance "Desrochers" (of the rocks) and Father Paul healed slowly but progressively."

Rallying from typhoid a second time spoke volumes of Paul's determination to help his flock and to regain his health.

Any numbers of other amazing developments have resulted from this trip. Mr. Foisy showed me how to use the Quebec newspaper section of the Library Archives Quebec website (banq.qc.ca) and once home I was able to find many obituaries for family members in my great and great, great grandparents' generations. I even found a full-page article about the dedication of the monument to the Patriots, and to my amazement I learned that Charles Desrochers had sold the village the piece of land that became the park, that his sons and son-in-law were very involved in the design and commissioning of the memorial and that Felix gave a speech at its dedication. (Unfortunately this website has since been drastically changed and with my lack of French I haven't been able to make use of it anymore.)

My grandmother had said that her father, Arthur, was a talented musician who could play the piano, organ and coronet. At the Seminary we learned that Father Paul was noted for his singing. Later I found newspaper articles that told me three of Arthur and Paul's brothers had a trio. They were famous in the area and frequently performed in Montreal. Felix played clarinet, Armand the piano, and Joseph violin. Later as Sue and I worked on translating the letters we learned that their parents, Charles and Hermine Geoffrion, were both talented violinists and their only daughter, Delvina, played the organ. Unfortunately none of this musical talent was handed down to me. I still remember my grandmother sadly pronouncing that I was tone deaf like my father. But Mme. L'Esperance was absolutely delighted when I emailed her to tell her of her home's musical history!

In December 2017 I emailed Mr. Foisy and asked to hire their services in order to learn more about the boys' time at the seminary. What did they study? Were they good students? How much did it cost to attend the school as a boarding student? Mr. Foisy set to work. I received bundles of images via email that included some examples of the curriculum for various years. I learned Father Paul was always a good student but Felix was brilliant and won many academic awards.







Photos: Left to right, Paul as a student and as a younger priest, Felix as a student. Photos from the files of the Centre d'histoire de Saint-Hyacinthe.

It was also interesting to see the ledger entries for the tuition and fees that were paid for their educations. As a true sign of the times tuition went from \$50.00 to \$100.00 for the semester. A field trip was an extra 50 cents. And 20 cents was accessed for damage to a desk!

I can't say enough about how important this trip was. Even though I was hopeful at the outset, I never in a million years would have expected to learn all that I have. The trip cemented a friendship between Sue and me and we both continue to learn as we work on translating the letters... so much so that I hired Mr. Foisy to copy more for us. We've been quite busy translating 83 letters to date. More on what we've learned next time.

#### **New Books in Our Library**

Lynn Johnson, Member #581

#### **New York**

Those of you searching for elusive ancestors in New York will want to check out these publications by the American Canadian Genealogical Society.

Holy Cross Parish, Salem, (Washington County) New York, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials
Salem, New York is almost due west of Manchester, Vermont. From the 1820's to 1840 missionaries were sent from Canada to cover sacraments and mass for the people living on the New York and Vermont border. Many Irish immigrants settled in Salem, including many who came to work on the Delaware and Hudson Railroad. Irish Town in Salem, and Castle Green in Hebron, were heavily settled by the Irish.

St. Joseph's Parish, Fort Edward, (Washington County) New York 1869-2005

St. Joseph's parish was founded in 1869. Fort Edward is not far from the Vermont border. There are 7,294 baptism records included with some additional notes on conditional or adult baptisms, and marriages.

Keeseville, (Clinton & Essex County) New York Baptisms 1853-2002

Repertoires for Keeseville that we already owned were helpful but they only covered 1853 to 1880. This volume of baptismal records covers a much longer timeframe, which will hopefully make for more successful searches.

St. Lawrence, Troy, (Rensselaer County) New York, Baptisms, Marriages, Burials 1868 to 1983. This parish was incorporated in 1868 after a group of German Catholic residents sought their own parish.

#### Maine

Maine can also be a difficult state to glean information from so we were happy to find a copy of St. *Francis de Sales, Waterville, Maine*, by Robert E. Chenard, published by The French Connection.

In addition to marriage records there is a section on the history of French-Canadians in the area, a chronological history of Waterville, lists of men who served in the Civil War, and those who served in World War I. There is also a lengthy history of the churches in the area along with St. Francis de Sales, and information on the priests. The author noted that many of the entries in the parish registers were incomplete, with one or more names missing. The author used town, state, death, cemetery and census records to fill in much of what had been missing. While many lists of Anglicized French surnames exist, the one in this book would be of special interest to Maine researchers.

We have also added 10 more volumes to the 200 Families Trees from France to Canada series by Youville Labonte. We now have 65 of the 82 volumes on our shelves. In each book Fr. Labonte traced the direct surname lineages of roughly 200 individuals with ties to the Lewiston/Auburn area of Maine. Some individuals were from NH, MA, or northern Maine. Each line is documented back to Canada and then France. There is a surname index in each book. Each entry includes info from an individual's obituary and then provides the marriage date and location for that person's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on. Sometimes other information is included such as occupations, hobbies, children, and more.

#### Vermont

The following have been added to our collection of Vermont town histories.

New Haven in Vermont by Harold Farnsworth, Published by the Town of New Haven, VT 1984 This book covers material common to town histories along with information on Native Americans and the French and English rivalry. Another unique feature is the section on "Houses and Their Owners" which might allow one to learn exactly where an ancestor lived and when, as well as who their neighbors were. The houses in New Haven were cataloged according to the old school district maps. An example from District #8 Beldens Road, going west, is house Number 22 which was owned by the following; "George & Irene Desci 1942; Roy Potter & Walter Hunt 1939; Albertus & Maude Shedrick 1924; George & Anna Shedrick 1890; John Shedrick 1889; Thomas Woodworth 1884; Isaac Perry 1872; Edward Alexander 1871; John Shedrick 1866." The book is indexed.

History of the Town of Middlebury in the County of Addison Vermont by Samuel Swift, Charles E. Tuttle Co. 1971. Originally published in 1859, the first pages are a history of Addison County. The history of Middlebury starts on page 135 with a preface and then the founding of the town in 1761 with a grant from Governor Benning

Wentworth of New Hampshire. While the book does not have a specific genealogy section there are snippets throughout with details of lives one is not likely to find elsewhere. For example, "The sons of Daniel Foot, who returned with him in 1783 brought with them a considerable number of cattle, and remained through the succeeding winter to take care of them, and make some further preparations for the family. As they had no hay, or much other fodder, they undertook to winter the cattle on browse. For this purpose they had, during the winter, cut over a considerable tract covered with maple trees; and in the spring they drove their cattle to the swamps for feed. But the cattle became much emaciated and many of them died...." The book is indexed.

Lyndon, Gem on the Green by Venila Lovina Shores, The Town of Lyndon, 1986 This history includes information on the history of all of the many hamlets and villages that eventually made up the town of Lyndon in Caledonia County, Vermont. As many histories do, it details the businesses, houses of worship, and public services that make up a town. The book is fully indexed.

Colchester, Vermont, From Ice-Cap to Interstate, by Ruth Wright, 1963
The history of Colchester includes Native Americans, Samuel de Champlain, and members of the Green Mountain Boys. Of special interest are sections with lists of residents at various times including, Colchester light keepers, town officers, Grange masters, postman, etc. There are twelve pages detailing the Civil War units where the men from Colchester served. The book is not indexed but the short chapters and the lists at the end will be helpful in finding information on subject matters of interest to you.

Weathersfield, Century One and Weathersfield, Century Two by John L. Hurd, Phoenix Pub., 1978 This two book set contains detailed information of the founding of the town of Weathersfield in Windsor County, including the competing claims made by the Governors of New Hampshire and New York. While there is no genealogy section as such, the names are indexed in each book. There is also an index for the set and a foldout map showing the boundaries of the thirteen school districts.

#### Rhode Island

Gleanings From Rhode Island Town Records: Providence Town Council Records, 1770-1788 and 1789-1801. These two slim books were published by the Rhode Island Genealogical Society in 2006 and 2007 and are filled with brief notes taken from town records including estate papers, guardianship and apprentice records, arrest records, and others. The books are fully indexed.

#### Miscellaneous news

The Burlington Free Press History Space – We are sad to announce that the Free Press is no longer publishing the History Space series. However we would still like to have you submit your personal stories of exciting genealogy finds, especially those where our parish book publications or library resources were key to your success. We have several ideas on how to use them in the future including our Face Book page, LINKS, and as part of press releases to local media, so do keep them coming.

Downsizing - As you have heard we will be moving in the future and we have some items that are in great shape but are in need of new homes. They are,

- Overhead projector with 4 boxes of unused films to go with it
- Past issues of LINKS and journals from other New England societies (second hand)
- □ Journals in French
- Metal cabinet with 7 drawers designed to hold 5X8 file cards
- Microfiche readers
- Microfilm viewers

Donations would be gratefully accepted.

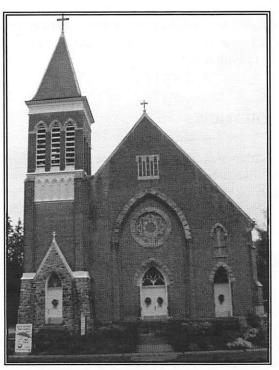
To send genealogy stories, or to grant a home to any of these items, please contact Lynn Johnson at ALJOHN1927@aol.com or call 872-0721.

# Two More NEW VT-FCGS Parish Books Completed in 2019

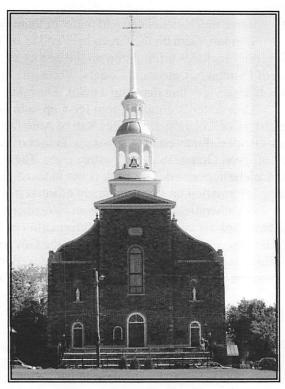
63 total volumes published since 1998!

Newly Researched!
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Burlington, VT
Marriage Repertoire 1834-1930
Volumes 1 & 2 \$100

Includes Burlington French-Canadian marriages from -Congregational Church 1825-1842 Civil records 1814-1849 Irish Church 1830-1850



St Raphael Catholic Church Poultney, VT



St Joseph Catholic Church Burlington, VT

Marriages & Baptisms of St. Raphael Catholic Church Poultney VT 1866-1963 \$45

For a complete list of all 63 volumes and an order form see http://www.vt-fcgs.org/publications\_for\_sale.html

Note: Books that contain multiple parishes or towns appear more than once on this list All Churches are in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, VT

\* Record Type key

B=Baptism, M=Marriages, D=Burials, C=Cemetery

Northern Vern	nont		Record		
Town	Book #	Book Title or Partial Title/Name of Parish(es)	Type *	Date Range	Price
Alburgh	45	Northwest Baptisms (1 book/5 parishes) St. Amadeus	В	1868-1930	\$50
	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. Amadeus	М	1868-1930	\$60
Bakersfield	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. George	М	1868-1930	\$60
	44	St. Patrick & St. George (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1868-1966	\$50
Burlington	22	St. Mary's Cathedral	В	1830-1858	\$60
!	35	St. Mary's Cathedral	В	1858-1936	\$60
į	15	Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (St. Mary's)	М	1830-1930	\$70
į	4	St. Joseph (2 Volumes)	В	1834-1963	\$120
	49	St. Joseph	М	1930-1955	\$50
1	58	St. Anthony	В	1903-1954	\$40
	63	St. Joseph, Burlington	м	1834-1930	\$100
	n/a	St. Joseph, 3 Mt. Calvary Cemeteries - Stone Inscriptions & maps	С	1878-1990	\$15
Charlotte	24	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Charlotte, VT	В	1858-1946	\$40
onanotte :		Cur Lady of Mount darmer, Stratistics, V.	м	1859-1923	*
li li			D	1872-1935	
Colchester	27	St. Stephen's & Missions (1 book/3 locations) St. Edmund Mission	В	1947-1959	\$60
Colchester	2'	3t. Stephen's & Missions (1 book) 5 locations) 3t. Editional Mission	М	1947-1959	700
!	177	St. Stephen's & Missions (1 book/3 locations) Fanny Allen Hospital	B	1896-1935	
	27	ist. Stephen's & Missions (1 book) 5 locations) ranny Allen Hospital	_		
:	<u> </u>	100 - 11 - 10 - 11 - 10 - 11 - 12 - 12 \( \text{1} \)	M	1916-1964	Ć110
	3	Winooski and Colchester (2 Volumes)	M	1857-1998	\$110
Enosburg Falls	21	St. John the Baptist	BMD	1872-1946	\$45
Essex Junction	20	Holy Family	BD	1893-1997	\$55
	2	Holy Family	M	1893-1999	\$35
Fairfield	44	St. Patrick & St. George (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1850-1931	\$50
	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. Patrick	M	1850-1930	\$60
Franklin	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. Mary	BMD	1894-1951	\$60
Grand Isle	45	Northwest Baptisms (1 book/5 parishes) St. Joseph	В	1860-1934	\$50
Hyde Park	56	3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes), St. Teresa	BM	1872-1957	\$75
Highgate	30	Swanton & Highgate (1 book/2 parishes) St. Louis	В	1879-1949	\$65
			М	1907-1950	
Isle LaMotte	45	Northwest Baptisms (1 book/5 parishes) St. Joseph	В	1881-1930	\$50
<u> </u>	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. Joseph	М	1881-1930	\$60
Lyndonville	42	St. Elizabeth	BM	1874-1950	\$40
Milton	28	St. Ann	В	1859-1941	\$45
			М	1859-1930	
Montgomery	56	3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes), St. Isidore	В	1908-1953	\$75
			М	1908-1951	
Newport	41	St. Mary Star of the Sea	В	1874-1930	\$40
•	13	St. Mary Star of the Sea	М	1873-1930	\$45
North Hero	45	Northwest Baptisms (1 book/5 parishes) St. Benedict	В	1887-1902	\$50
Richford	56	3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes) All Saints	ВМ	1887-1951	\$75
Richmond	25	Our Lady of the Holy Rosary	В	1857-1931	\$35
	6	Our Lady of the Holy Rosary	M	1859-1930	\$25
St. Albans	34	Holy Angels & Our Lady of the Lake	BDC	1872-1942	\$65
ou rudiis	7	Holy Angels & Our Lady of the Lake	M	1873-1930	\$50
	38	St. Mary's	BD	1847-1934	\$45
į	8	St. Mary's	M	1850-1930	\$40
Ct Johnshumi			M	1858-1930	\$65
St. Johnsbury	43	St. John the Evangelist, Notre Dame de Victoire & St. Aloysius **	B	1858-1942	\$55
at II a ti	11	St. John the Evangelist, Notre Dame de Victoire & St. Aloysius **	BMD	1907-1951	\$60
Sheldon Springs	29	Northwest Vermont (1 book/6 parishes) St. Anthony		<del></del>	
South Hero	45	Northwest Baptisms (1 book/5 parishes) St. Rose of Lima	В	1860-1934	\$50

\* Record Type key

#### **Northern Vermont - continued**

B=Baptism, M=Marriages, D=Burials, C=Cemetery

Record

Town	Book #	Book Title or Partial Title/Name of Parish(es)	Type *	Date Range	Price
Swanton	30	Swanton & Highgate (1 book/2 parishes) Nativity of the BVM	В	1853-1930	\$65
	12	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	М	1854-1930	\$45
Underhill	33	St. Thomas	В	1855-1991	\$45
	1	St. Thomas	М	1869-1991	\$30
Winooski	18	St. Francis Xavier	В	1868-1930	\$55
	27	St. Stephen's & Missions (1 book/3 locations) St. Stephen	В	1882-1936	\$60
			М	1882-1961	\$60
	3	Winooski and Colchester (2 Volumes)	М	1857-1998	\$110

<sup>\*\*</sup> These two parishes merged w/ St John in 1966. Records are at St. John.

**Central Vermont** 

Central Vermor	<u>nt                                    </u>				
Barre	54	St. Monica's	В	1892-1950	\$60
	55	St. Monica's	М	1892-1950	\$50
Brandon	46	St. Mary, Our Lady of Good Help & St. Monica (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1869-1948	\$55
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Mary	М	1857-1943	\$60
Bridport	39	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary & St. Bernadette (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1887-1949	\$55
Bristol	59	St. Ambrose	BM	1893-1951	\$40
Castleton	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. John the Baptist	Μ	1859-1950	\$60
	47	Baptisms - Fair Haven, Orwell, Castleton (1 book/5 parishes) St. John the Baptist	В	1859-1941	\$65
West Castleton	47	Baptisms - Fair Haven, Orwell, Castleton (1 book/5 parishes) St. Joseph	В	1893-1913	\$65
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Joseph	Μ	1859-1950	\$60
Fair Haven	47	Baptisms - Fair Haven, Orwell, Castleton (1 book/5 parishes) St. Louis de France	В	1869-1923	\$65
	47	Baptisms - Fair Haven, Orwell, Castleton (1 book/5 parishes) Seven Dolors	В	1859-1959	\$65
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Louis de France	М	1870-1901	\$60
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) Seven Dolors	М	1866-1930	\$60
Forestdale	46	St. Mary, Our Lady of Good Help & St. Monica (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1856-1868	\$55
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Monica Mission	М	1857-1943	\$60
Leicester	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Agnes Mission	М	1857-1943	\$60
Middlebury	39	Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary & St. Bernadette (1 book/2 parishes)	В	1845-1943	\$55
	5	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	М	1845-1930	\$40
Montpelier	40	St. Augustine	В	1856-1930	\$45
•	10	St. Augustine	М	1855-1930	\$45
Northfield	23	St. John the Evangelist (Baptisms to 1930, Marriages to 1951)	BM	1870-1951	\$50
Orwell	47	Baptisms - Fair Haven, Orwell, Castleton (1 book/5 parishes) St. Paul	В	1866-1959	\$65
	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Paul	М	1887-1942	\$60
Poultney	62	St. Raphael	ВМ	1866-1963	\$45
Proctor	61	St. Dominic	BM	1886-1953	\$45
Rutland	36	Immaculate Heart of Mary & Sacred Heart & Mother of Sorrows	В	1869-1939	\$40
	16	Immaculate Heart of Mary	М	1869-1930	\$40
	53	St. Peter's	В	1855-1930	\$70
	17	St. Peter's	М	1855-1930	\$55
West Rutland	60	St Bridget (Irish) and Sacred Heart (French) (1 book/2parishes)	В	1857-1968	\$55
	14	St. Bridget, includes 1857 Parish Census	М	1857-1930	\$40
Shoreham	19	Central Vermont Parishes (1 book/9 parishes) St. Genevieve	М	1930-1953	\$60
Vergennes	37	St. Peter	В	1855-1945	\$40
	9	St. Peter	М	1856-1947	\$45
Waterbury	26	St. Andrew	ВМ	1894-1936	\$35
White River Jct	52	St. Anthony	ВМ	1868-1940	\$50

#### LINKS, Journal of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society, Volume 22, No. 2 (Fall 2019)

Note: Books that contain multiple parishes or towns appear more than once on this list

\* Record Type key

All Churches are in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, VT

B=Baptism, M=Marriages, D=Burials, C=Cemetery

1			
South	orn V	arma	nt
Journ	- I I I V		<i>,</i> ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

Arlington	57	M & B of 3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes) St. Columban	В	1890-1938	\$65
		100 (all 100	M	1896-1963	
Bellows Falls	51	St. Charles	BM	1872-1940	\$55
Bennington	31	Bennington & Pownal Baptisms (1 book/3 parishes) Sacred Heart	В	1877-1954	\$55
	32	Bennington & Pownal Marriages (1 book/3 parishes) Sacred Heart	M	1877-1930	\$50
	31	Bennington & Pownal Baptisms (1 book/3 parishes) St. Francis de Sales	В	1859-1930	\$55
	32	Bennington & Pownal Marriages (1 book/3 parishes) St. Francis de Sales	М	1859-1941	\$50
North Bennington	50	St. John the Baptist	BM	1875-1955	\$35
Brattleboro	48	St. Michael's Catholic Church	BM	1855-1932	\$65
East Dorset	57	M & B of 3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes) St. Jerome	BM	1860-1961	\$65
Manchester	57	M & B of 3 Roman Catholic Parishes (1 book/3 parishes) St. Paul	В	1939-1963	\$65
			M	1896-1963	
Pownal	31	Bennington & Pownal Baptisms (1 book/3 parishes) Our Lady of Lourdes	В	1881-1940	\$55
	32	Bennington & Pownal Marriages (1 book/3 parishes) Our Lady of Lourdes	M	1910-1950	\$50

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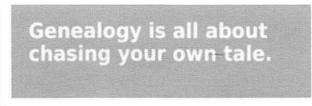
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#### QUERIES - Janet Allard, Member #48 and Tom DeVarney, Member #441

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 \$10.00 check for each query. Queries should be sent to VT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, Attn: Query Editor, P.O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05406-

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

#### Query 469 WRIGHT AND INMAN

Looking for the source record of the marriage mentioned as 24 June 1772 So. Kingston, R.I. of William Wright b. 1755 CT - d. 1802 VT to Joanna Inman b. 1755 - d. 1833 VT.

Inquiry from: Marcie Crocker

Janet Allard VT-FCGS Librarian

#### The Paperless Genealogist

From Eastman's Genealogy Newsletter

Too many genealogists are addicted to paper. In this day and age, that's sad. I have no statistics about the amount of paper, ink, and toner consumed by genealogists every year, but I am sure we spend hundreds of thousands of dollars purchasing printers, paper, and supplies. That's a huge waste of money, in my opinion. I wonder how many filing cabinets are sold to genealogists for in-home use. I will suggest there is a better way to store personal copies of genealogy records and related information.

The "paperless office" was an early prediction made in the June 30, 1975, issue of Business Week. The article quoted George E. Pake, then head of Xerox Corp.'s Palo Alto (California) Research Center:

"There is absolutely no question that there will be a revolution in the office over the next 20 years. What we are doing will change the office like the jet plane revolutionized travel and the way that TV has altered family life."

Pake says that in 1995 his office will be completely different; there will be a TV-display terminal with keyboard sitting on his desk. "I'll be able to call up documents from my files on the screen, or by pressing a button," he says. "I can get my mail or any messages. I don't know how much hard copy [printed paper] I'll want in this world."

The same article also stated:

"Some believe that the paperless office is not that far off. Vincent E. Giuliano of Arthur D. Little, Inc., figures that the use of paper in business for records and correspondence should be declining by 1980, "and by 1990, most record-handling will be electronic."

Of course, the predictions never came true by 1990. In fact, the phrase "paperless office" became a joke, frequently used in offices around the world, usually in offices that are drowning in more paper than ever before.

However, "paperless office" is much less of a joke today. The transition took longer than what Vincent E. Giuliano predicted but many offices are paperless today. That includes many in-home "offices."

The adoption of computers by office workers and home consumers alike has placed a highly flexible tool in the hands of individuals. Computers are flexible in that they can be used either to eliminate paper or to easily create paper – far more paper than ever possible before the introduction of personal computers and networks.

Most people are creatures of habit. Since these people are accustomed to using paper, they use computers to generate even more paper than what might be reasonably required to meet every day needs.

Younger people who have grown up in the computer age are generally comfortable with electronic documentation and have little need or desire for paper. However, older workers who were reared in an age when everything was documented on paper often still cling to the belief that paper is required for nearly everything. In my conversations with those over the age of 50, I find many still claim that they "need" paper documents and cannot do the same things by reading on a screen.

Of course, such "needs" are ridiculous. These aren't needs at all; they are simply ingrained habits. I am reminded of one famous saying:

"We do things this way because we have always done things this way."

Could there ever be a worse reason for doing something?

As has been proven millions of times by the younger generation, there is no "need" to read paper. Reading on a computer screen or an iPad screen or a Kindle screen or even a cell phone screen is perfectly acceptable to anyone with an open mind. Millions of people do it every day. It makes no difference if we are talking about an entire book or a one-paragraph note from Aunt Millie: reading text on a screen is always as effective as reading it on paper.

For those with vision problems, optometrists and ophthalmologists often recommend the use of e-book readers or tablet computers instead of large-print books. When adjusted to use larger fonts, e-book readers and tablet computers typically are easier to read than anything published on paper.

Trying to imagine the expenses of using paper, toner, and ink is an easy task. However, I find there are even additional "costs" that are not easily measured in dollars. In the case of printed books and magazines, what is the cost of the required bookshelves? If you collect photocopies of documents, what was the expense of purchasing a filing cabinet and related supplies? I also know people who purchased larger homes in order to have room for their books. I would estimate the cost of "upsizing" to be \$100,000 per home or more, and yet this happens thousands of times every year. The bottom-line total? I don't know. The number is probably so large that it would boggle the mind if we could calculate it.

In fact, I will suggest there is no demonstrated need for a large storage space for a personal library.

Many of us learn another term as we get older. Once the children leave home and we near retirement age, we start thinking about "downsizing." Why pay thousands of dollars in heating bills, air conditioning bills, maintenance, and property taxes for a big home that is no longer needed? Once the children are gone, many people start to think about moving to smaller homes, apartments, or condominiums.

In my case, the "downsizing" was even more extreme. Some few years ago, I purchased a Winnebago motor home with the intention of living in that vehicle full-time at least part of the year. I didn't plan to halt my genealogy research while living in the motor home; I wanted to continue as normal. Not only did I plan on full Internet access, but I also wanted full access to all my genealogy papers, books, and magazines, wherever I am. In a 31-foot motor home that moves frequently, that is difficult with the 200+ books and hundreds of printed magazines I owned at the time. (I own even more books and magazines than that today although most of them are now digitized.) Then there's a 4-drawer filing cabinet to think about.

Where do I put all my bookcases and filing cabinets in a 31-foot motor home? Where do you put your personal library in a condo or smaller house?

I eventually sold the motorhome and moved back into a traditional house, one that was smaller than the last traditional house I had lived in. I have since maintained my "downsizing" lifestyle and have avoided the accumulation of paper, books, magazines, bookshelves, and all the other space-consuming items required when reading information in the traditional way: on paper. However, I probably read more these days than ever before. That's easy: today I read almost everything on a computer screen, including desktop, laptop, tablet and even cell phone computer screens.

Downsizing is a fact of life for many of us, and we cannot escape it. I would suggest that downsizing is, in fact, a desirable goal for many of us. Even those who plan to remain in their present homes can benefit from downsizing their personal libraries. With today's technology you don't have to throw away any books, papers, or magazines. In fact, your collection of printed materials can become more accessible than ever before. Would you like to be able to search EVERY word in EVERY book and in EVERY magazine in your collection at once? You can do that if you digitize, but don't try doing that with paper!

Digital libraries consume a fraction of a square inch on a computer someplace. The amount of space required is so small that we can ignore it completely. Compare that to the hundreds of dollars' worth of bookshelves required to store the same information in books and magazines and filing cabinets. Of course, with digital libraries, you will always want to have backup copies stored in multiple locations to protect against a disaster of any kind. If you still have books in bookshelves, what protection do your books have from a fire or a burst water pipe in your home? Printed books and papers are easily damaged by disasters while proper storage of digital libraries can be safer and much more reliable than any paper-based libraries. A disaster in the home won't destroy multiple backup copies of digital files that are stored "in the cloud" or on digital media at a friend's or relative's house. The same disaster will wreak havoc on your printed books and papers.

Next, digital libraries are easier to access wherever you are. Cloud-based storage is cheap these days, even if you are traveling. Want to look up something in a book at home when you are in a library, at a courthouse, at a genealogy meeting, or traveling in New Mexico in the motor home? If you have a

digital library, you can access any book or document from an iPhone, iPad, or laptop computer, wherever you are. Try doing that with a paper book sitting on the shelf back home!

An acronym that is becoming well-known amongst computer owners is L.O.C.K.S.S. That is, "Lots Of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe."

In summary, digitizing your books, magazines, and papers provides:

- a reduction in storage space requirements
- a reduction in expenses
- quick search capabilities
- easy access from anywhere, anytime
- increased protection of your valuable books and papers due to multiple backups stored in multiple locations

What's wrong with this picture? Why isn't everyone digitizing?

Obviously, a big reason why people are not digitizing is inertia. It is too "difficult" to get started. Next is the perceived lack of need. Many people don't yet realize the advantages.

In my case, I am not just digitizing genealogy materials. Instead, I am attempting to digitize EVERY PIECE OF PAPER of importance in my life. I haven't yet finished the backlog of thousands of pieces of paper from years past that are still in my old filing cabinets but I am making progress towards that goal. All NEW paper received in the past 5 or 6 years has been digitized and the original paper has been shredded and recycled.

I now use a sheet-feed scanner when opening my mail. I scan any bills or other documents that seem important, and then I throw away or recycle the paper. I save the results to a private file space in the cloud (and sometimes to Evernote, depending upon the document in question) so that each image is available within seconds on all my computers: desktop computer, laptop computer, and iPhone. With the use of proper keywords, I can find and retrieve any document within seconds.

I once stored the Winnebago motor home for a few weeks in a facility in Jacksonville, Florida. As I was filling out the paperwork in the storage facility's office, I was asked for a photocopy of the insurance papers to prove that the motor home was insured. Insurance papers? Here? Now? I don't carry a hard copy of the insurance papers with me. Yet with digital storage, the answer was easy. I took my cell phone out of my pocket, opened Evernote, and entered "winnebago insurance." An image of my insurance policy appeared on the screen within seconds since I had previously scanned the policy when I received it in the mail. (The image was stored on Evernote's servers but was easily retrieved to the cell phone.)

The Jacksonville storage facility manager wanted a hard copy of the policy. Obviously, he has not yet converted to an all-digital life. In the cell phone version of Evernote, I pressed EMAIL and then asked the manager for his email address. As he told me, I entered the address into Evernote and then pressed SEND. The storage facility manager received the copy of the insurance policy a second or two later in his email in-box. Total time consumed? A minute or two. That's much easier than trying to obtain a copy of a piece of paper that is back home.

Of course, the storage facility manager had to print the insurance policy on his local printer if he wanted a hard copy. Had it been me, I wouldn't have printed it.

#### How to Digitize

Digitizing your collection doesn't mean that you must physically do the work yourself. In fact, there are other solutions.

Anyone with a Kindle, iPad, or other "tablet" computer has access to tens of thousands of books that are already available as digital downloads. This includes hundreds of genealogy books. In many cases, digital books are cheaper than physical books because of the reduced costs of printing, warehousing, and shipping.

Google Books at http://books.google.com has thousands of genealogy and local history books available. Those that are out of copyright can be downloaded and saved on any computer or saved to an online service or to disks or flash drives. Downloading out-of-copyright books is free of charge.

The Internet Archive at http://www.archive.org has millions of out-of-copyright books available at any moment, including genealogy books. The same non-profit also has images of the U.S. Census records although those images are not indexed. The Internet Archive never charges for any of its services.

Archive CD Books USA had thousands of genealogy and history books but has since been shut down. However, most of the books are still available through the company's former partners and dealers at prices that are much cheaper than buying printed reprints, probably cheaper than buying the bookshelves required to store printed copies of the same books. Start at http://www.archivecdbooksusa.com/ to find these e-books.

Heritage Books sells thousands of ebooks on line and on CD-ROM disks. More "books" are being added to the list every month. Details can be found at https://heritagebooks.com/.

Genealogical Publishing Company continues to sell books printed on paper but of the company's newer releases are also available as digital downloads. Start at https://genealogical.com/ to find the many ebooks,

Ancestry.com's classic book, The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy, is available online at

https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php?title=The\_Source:\_A\_Guidebook\_to\_American\_Genealogy while the Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources is available at https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php?title=Red\_Book:\_American\_State,\_County,\_and\_Town\_Sources. These thick reference books used to be very expensive as printed books and consumed a lot of space on the shelf. Now they are both available online to everyone FREE of charge, and they are updated frequently. They now require no shelf space at all, not even in my compact motor home.

I suspect that we will see even more magazines and books become available as digital downloads every year. As paper, printing, handling, and postage charges continue to rise and electronic publishing expenses continue to drop, I believe we will see fewer and fewer printed books and magazines become available every year. It won't happen for a few years yet, but someday electronic publishing will become the norm, and printing books on paper will only be performed by a very few small, "boutique" publishers.

For those books you have already purchased in print, you can find a number of services that will digitize them for you at reasonable prices. I have used One-Dollar-Scan at http://ldollarscan.com/ and was pleased with the results. You package your books and send them to the company in California, where they charge an average of one dollar per book to scan the books and create indexed PDF files. You then download the files from the company's servers. You can store the digitized books on your laptop computer or flash drive or external hard drive or cloud-based backup service or even in your tablet computer, as you wish. Of course, you are encouraged to make multiple copies and store them in multiple places for backup purposes.

At one dollar per book, digitizing books is probably cheaper than buying another bookshelf for physical books!

For scanning of individual pieces of paper, you can find many services that will do the work for you for modest fees. You place the loose pieces of paper into an envelope and mail them to the scanning service. Some of the services even have extra-cost options, such as indexing the papers or performing OCR conversion to text.

You can also use your "smartphone" as a scanner. See my earlier article, The Best Portable Scanner, at https://blog.eogn.com/2016/12/16/the-best-portable-scanner/.

Indeed, technology is changing the world around us. We have options today that did not exist even ten years ago. We can now carry an entire personal library of thousands of books in a Winnebago or even in a flash drive that is in your pocket. We can also easily access thousands of books, magazines, and individual papers from an iPhone or Android phone that has Internet access. Doing so is easier and cheaper than storing books published on paper.

The "paperless office" no longer needs to be a joke. The capability is here today if we are smart enough to use it. You can have a paperless office and a paperless home.

The next time you think about purchasing a book or magazine, please ask yourself, "Paper or plastic?" In this case, "plastic" refers to a CD or DVD disk. Probably the best option is "download." Plan

for the future: make sure you will always have physical room and easy access to whatever information you choose. Downsize!



#### The Study of Coat of Arms

Extracted from Dick Eastman's Newsletter

The study of coats of arms is called heraldry. Those who control the issuance of arms are the heralds. Typically, each country in Western Europe as well as in England, Scotland, and Ireland has an office of the heralds, sometimes called the Kings of Arms. The heralds are empowered to decide who is authorized to display a certain coat of arms. If you do not have authorization from the heralds, you are not authorized to display any coat of arms. That authorization must be on paper, signed, and made out to you personally, not to your entire family and never to everyone of a certain surname.

Most Americans seem ignorant of one very basic fact: in Western Europe and in the British Isles, there is no such thing as a "family coat of arms." A coat of arms is issued to one person, not to a family. After that person is deceased, his eldest heir may apply for the same coat of arms. Again, when he dies, his heir may apply. The rules for determining who is eligible to display a coat of arms are very similar to the rules for becoming King or Queen of England. However, even the proper heir cannot display the coat of arms until he or she has received authorization (been confirmed) by the heralds. At any one time, only one person may rightfully display a coat of arms.

According to the American College of Heraldry, "While Americans are usually fascinated by the beauty of heraldry, they are rarely familiar with its meaning and traditions and, therefore, often misunderstand and even abuse this rich cultural heritage. They seldom understand that a coat of arms is usually granted, certified, registered or otherwise recognized as belonging to one individual alone, and that only his direct descendants with proven lineage can be recognized as eligible to inherit the arms. Exceptions to this rule are rare."

The American College of Heraldry also says, "It is highly inappropriate for one to locate the arms of another person sharing the same surname, and to simply adopt and use these arms as one's own." My interpretation of this is that, if you are displaying an unauthorized coat of arms, you are impersonating someone else.

You can read more on the American College of Heraldry web site at http://www.americancollegeofheraldry.org/body.html.

#### **2019 Conference Speakers**

#### The Expression of French-Canadian Culture in Winooski

Kim Chase is a second-generation, bilingual Franco-American Vermonter. She comes from a family rich in the oral tradition of folklore and music. She has master's degrees in French, English and Bilingual Education and has been teaching for over thirty (30) years. In addition to teaching French, English and English Language Learners, Kim has also shared the many folksongs of her family with students of every age from preschoolers to adults.

Kim has published articles, essays, poetry and short stories about her culture. She has also edited two books about Franco-American history, as well as many articles on French-Canadian and Native American heritage in Vermont.

She has collaborated on several projects with the Vermont Folk Life Center, beginning 35 years ago, with Jane Beck, who was serving as the Vermont Folklorist at the Vermont Council of the Arts. She has also written many grants promoting Franco-American folk-music, dance and oral histories of people of French-Canadian descent. She is currently working on a book about the history of French-Canadians in Vermont.

**Joseph Perron** is a local historian and lifelong resident of Winooski, VT. In his time growing up in Winooski, he witnessed the rapid evaporation of the community's remaining French culture, and so he became an active annual participant in the French Heritage Day hosted in that city. He is an ardent historic preservation advocate, as well as a current member of the VTFCGS. He currently serves as the president of the Winooski Historical Society, and as the secretary and archivist for the Chittenden County Historical Society.

#### Civil War Historian - Vermont Women in the Civil War

Howard Coffin is a seventh-generation Vermonter, with six ancestors who served in Vermont Civil War regiments. He has given more than 300 talks on the Civil War in Vermont alone, and leads tours of Civil War battlefields. A member of the Vermont Sesquicentennial Commission, he was appointed by the U.S. Senate to the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and served on the boards of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites and the Civil War Trust.

He is the author of four books on the Civil War: Something Abides: Discovering the Civil War in Today's Vermont; Full Duty: Vermonters in the Civil War; Nine Months to Gettysburg; and The Battered Stars, as well as Guns Over the Champlain Valley, a book on military sites along the Champlain Corridor.

Howard has brought his books which are for sale and he will be available for book signing.

#### **Exploring New England Town Records**

Diane Florence Gravel, CG<sup>®</sup>, is a Board-certified genealogist, working as a full-time genealogical and historical researcher and lecturer. A native of Atlanta, Georgia, she lived in Miami, Florida, before moving to Thornton, New Hampshire, in 2001.

There, she became immersed in New England research, and in 2002 was appointed co-editor of *New Hampshire Families in 1790*, a project of the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists documenting the families of the 1790 census. She lectures at regional and national conferences and has served on the faculty of the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG).

Diane will explore the abundance of available town records, including: first settlers, land transactions, governing boards, taxes, warnings out, town meetings, schools, churches, manumissions, indentures, military, licenses, estrays/earmarks, published town reports, and WPA records.

#### **VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

#### ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

#### Saturday, October 19, 2019

St. John Vianney Church Parish Hall, 160 Hinesburg Rd.
South Burlington, Vermont



8:30 AM	Registration: \$35	(come early to browse	genealogy displays ar	nd visit our book sale)
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9:30 AM Kim Chase and Joseph Perron - The Expression of French-Canadian Culture in Winooski

11:15 AM Meet Lise Veronneau - Awarded "Honor of Merit" by Government of France

11:30 AM VT-FCGS Members Annual Meeting

NOON Break for Lunch

1:00 PM Howard Coffin, Civil War Historian - Vermont Women in the Civil War His books will be for sale plus he will be available for book signing

2:30 PM Break and Browse

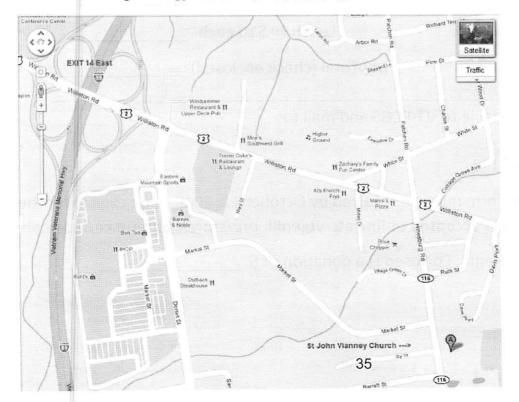
2:45 PM Diane Gravel, Certified Genealogist - Exploring New England Town Records

This Event is Open to the Public - Lunch Available for \$10

Early Registration online or at VT Genealogy Library: \$30 (must register by October 12)

Register online at vtgenlib.org/store/conference/index.php

The Vermont Genealogy Library will have books for sale to help you find French, Irish, German, Scottish, Italian and English Ancestors in addition to other genealogy related topics (like DNA).........



#### **DIRECTIONS**

From I-89 take exit 14E Go 1/2 mile east on Route 2 (Williston Road).

Turn right onto Hinesburg Road.

St. John Vianney Church is on Left at 160 Hinesburg Road.

There is a large parking lot behind the church and facilities for handicapped.

Watch for the VT-FCGS signs along the way.

Questions? 802-310-9285

# VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## **Annual Fall Conference**

Saturday, October 19, 2019 ◆ St. John Vianney Parish Hall

## **Pre-Registration Form**

Name	Member #
Guest Names	
Address	
	Zip
Telephone	Email
Registration is: \$35.00   \$30.00	per person per person (if registered before October 12)
No Persons attend	ding the Fall Conference @ \$35 each
NoPersons attend	ing the Fall Conference @ \$30 each
	Lunch @ \$10 each
	My Total (check enclosed)
Please make checks payable P.O. Box 6518 Burlington, VT 05406-5128	to VT-FCGS and mail to:
	must be received by October 12, 2019 to be eligible for the cepted online at: vtgenlib.org/store/conference/index.php
I'm sorry, we cannot attend.	Enclosed is a donation of \$



#### VERMONT FRENCH-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

#### REVOLUTIONARY WAR PIN PROGRAM

#### **Program Rules**

- 1. This program is intended for "Revolutionary War" descendants to become aware of, appreciate, and experience pride in their ancestor's historical participation.
- 2. Participation is for those who are able to trace a direct blood-line to someone who served in the "Revolutionary War." Only those ancestors who served in the "Revolutionary War" as **PATRIOTS** are eligible.
- 3. The VT-FCGS "Revolutionary War" Pin Program begins on July 4, 2019.
- 4. A \$9.00 application fee (includes 1 pin) must be submitted along with a completed Chart. The Chart must show the applicant's connection to a "Revolutionary War" Participant (Veteran, Nurse, Spy, etc.) and must be accompanied by proof of the participant's\* involvement (a copy of information found on an online database or from a local war registry publication. The application, how-to and blank chart template are available at <a href="http://www.vt-fcgs.org/new Project Programs.html">http://www.vt-fcgs.org/new Project Programs.html</a> for you to print out and complete.

Add \$6.00 if the pin has to be mailed (anywhere in the USA).

Zip Code

- 5. Upon receipt of the application and fee, one 1 " round specially designed pin will be awarded to each successful applicant. Additional pins can be purchased for \$9.00 each.
- 6. The Application, Chart and <u>proof of participation\*</u> in the Revolutionary War should be brought to the VT- FCGS library in Colchester, VT or mailed to VT-FCGS, Revolutionary War Pin Program, P. O. Box 65128, Burlington, VT 05406-5128. \*Printed page from any registry, in book form or online image. While only 1 proven chart is required for this program, you can submit as many charts as you like.

library.	ary War Charts will be stored in a 3-ring binder and available for viewing at the VT-FCGS
	Application Form - If Member please write in your Member#
Name	
Mailing Address	
Town/City/State	

E-mail address

# LINKS, Journal of the Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society, Volume 22, No. 2 (Fall 2019) -- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY --

	<b>Common Ancestor</b>	
our line of descent from Common Ancestor		Your Revolutionary War relative's line of descent from Common Ancestor
	Parent of	descent for destinour and established
◆		•
		<del></del>
Parent of		Parent of
1		•
Parent of		Parent of
•		▼
Parent of		Parent of
<b>1</b>		1
Parent of		Parent of
•		▼
Parent of	<del>-</del> -	Parent of
1		•
Parent of		Parent of
•		<b>₽</b>
Parent of		Parent of
<b>₽</b>		₽ Parent of
Please draw a box around the Revol	lutionary War Particip	ant's name and indicate below how
	mple, Rank, Company,	



#### **How-To Complete the Chart Instructions**

- 1. In order to qualify for this program, you must have a blood connection to the "Revolutionary War" Participant.
- 2. Remember that you don't need to be a direct descendant of the Revolutionary War Participant but you do need to be related to them via a "Common Ancestor". Most likely your connection will be through a Father, Grandfather, or siblings or cousins.
- 3. A chart template is available at http://www.vt-fcgs.org/new\_Project\_Programs.html For examples, please see the included charts found at the link.
- 4. To find written proof of your Revolutionary War participant's service you can look at some of these resources:
  - www.ancestry.com
  - www.familysearch.org
  - www.Fold3.com
  - Revolutionary War Pension Cards index listing
  - Revolutionary War Pension papers
  - Photo of Gravesite Markers (findagrave.com)
  - Sons of American Revolution (sar.org)
  - Daughters of American Revolution (dar.org)



### Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society

#### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday, December 11, 2019 Cocktails 5:30 Dinner 6:30 Eagle's Club 1233 Shelburne Rd, So Burlington

#### Reservations Required

<u>Number</u>	*	Meal Choice	*		<u>Cost</u> **	Total
1 1 - 1 - 1	Pri	ne Rib Dinn	er		\$32.00 ea	INCH A
	Gril	led Salmon [	Dinner		\$28.00 ea	TOTAL TOTAL
<del></del>	Gril	lled Balsamic	: Chicken		\$27.00 ea	
		udes a garden s l Gratuity inclu	alad, mashed po ded	tatoes, carrot	Total of Above	
Names of Attend (for nametags)					97/15 2	
			form with your P.O. Box 65128	1400		

Or register online at: <a href="http://www.vtgenlib.org/store/index.php">http://www.vtgenlib.org/store/index.php</a>

# **Special Interest Groups**

These groups meet every month

(except July and August)

6:30 - 8:00 PM

VT-FCGS Genealogy Library

Bring a list of your favorite websites and resources along with your 'brick walls' and questions.

1st Tuesday - Genetic DNA

2nd Tuesday - French-Canadian

3rd Tuesday - Irish

4th Tuesday - Italian

5th Tuesday - Open Discussion

Vermont French-Canadian Genealogical Society P.O. Box 65128 Burlington, VT 05406-5128

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