

Message from the President



On behalf of your Board of Directors, during this period of festivities, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, happiness and especially health.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Réjean and his team for their work in organizing the 2006 Reunion held in Gatineau. I know they devoted a good number of hours to get the work done.

It was decided by the General assembly that the Newsletter would be published three (3) times a year. Special editions would also be published on our Web site. You will find one of these special editions (in September, 2006) on the 2006 Reunion held in Gatineau. Diane Lacroix, Vincent's daughter, has accepted to help me with the secretarial work. I thank her very much and wish her a warm welcome on the Board of Directors

Your Board of Directors held a telephone conference call on 29 October. The following resolutions were adopted:

The Board approved the publication of two dictionaries, one on the descendants of Pierre and Jean Levasseur and one those of Laurent Levasseur. Publication is expected in early 2008. I wish to salute the colossal work accomplished by our genealogist Joceline Levasseur and her team who worked for more than two years to accomplish this project.

Gilles Carmel, president

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !



A Levasseur with the Pinguins
A two weeks expedition of Réjean Levasseur
in Antarctica



The town of Ushuaia

On Sunday evening on 3 March 2006, our ship the RV Akademik IOFFE left the port of Ushuaia, Argentina. Ushuaia is the most southern city of the planet.

During the next 10 days, we will meet enormous icebergs, majestic sceneries and occasional heavy seas. Everyday, a Zodiac boat will transfers us to an island of the Antarctic Peninsula where we will be met by curious penguins, seals sunning on the beach and birds circling graciously above our heads.

Often, when navigating at sea, enormous whales will gracefully swim along our ship letting escape tall column of water then taking a deep breath to disappear in the sea to catch thousands kilos of krill.

Occasionally, we will visit a Ukrainian research station. Some are disaffected while courageous and intrepid researchers operate others. The VARDNOSKY Station is manned by a dozen scientists will spend a full year on post.



The RV Akademik IOFFE



The Antarctic Peninsula

During dead times, they manufacture souvenirs, vodka and offer postal services to visitors. It is the most southern souvenir shop on the planet

In the evening, the expedition staff will share their knowledge with conferences, films and discussions. We learnt a lot about birds, sea mammals and the effect of the global warming



The Drake Passage

On our return journey, two days will be necessary to cross the Drake Passage. Time is taken to exchange photographs and memories while enjoying our last moments together

An exceptional voyage where a hundred travelers, from all continents, were united with the same ideals and admired this magnificent spectacle.

I am very grateful to the Russian crew and the Perequine expedition staff who facilitated the discovery of this part of the planet. A memorable and most enjoyable experience!.

With the penguins and the icebergs



Our transportation facilities in
Conception Bay



Friendly penguins

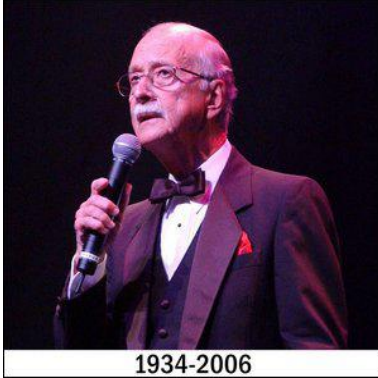




Personality

Name: Fernand Gignac singer and comedian

by : Gilles Carmel



1934-2006

Canadian singer and actor Fernand Gignac passed away on 18 August 2006. He was born on 23 March 1934 and by his songs and humor, he personified the old generation of Québec artists. His career began at any early age after winning an amateur contest at the Faisan Doré. He then worked the Montreal night clubs. At the age of nine in 1943, he topped a talent show named "Les talents de Chez-nous" produced by Radio-Canada. In 2003, he celebrated 60 years in the show business. Two songs: "Donnez-moi des roses" (Give me roses) and "Le temps qui nous reste" (Remaining times) were outstanding successes and greatly appreciated by the public. The famous Minuit Chrétien was one of his greatest hits. He can still be seen on television, on channel

2, in the re-broadcasting of the Symphorien series as Ephrem. Ephrem always repeated backwards, the jokes told by Symphorien, personified by Gilles Latulipe. Symphorien was also accompanied by Juliette Huot and Janine Sutto. Ephrem Laperle was his first great role on television. Fernand Gignac passed away on Friday on August 18, 2006, at the Saint-Luc Hospital in Montreal following complications due to hepatitis. He was a great friend of Claude Blanchard, another renowned comedian, who died two days after him. Sources : http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fernand_Gignac

Fernand Gignac

Jean Levasseur
Anne-Félicité Levasseur
Jean Hamel
Pierre Hamel
Geneviève Hamel
Angélique Rochette
Séraphine Petit
Alphonse Gignac
Joseph-Alphonse Gignac
Fernand Gignac

Fernand Gignac is the grand-son, 10th generation, of Jean Levasseur said Lavigne

More information can be obtained on our website www.levasseur.org

Name: Léopold Simoneau, ténor



A universally recognized tenor for his exceptional interpretation of the Mozart repertoire, Léopold Simoneau is among the most famous opera singer of his time. Born in St-Flavien, Qc, in 1916, he began his singing studies in his early twenties. In 1941, he settled in Montreal and continued his studies with the vocal art studio of Salvator Issaurel. There he met Pierrette Alarie and they married a few years later. At the same time, Léopold Simoneau began performing with “Variétés liriques”. At the time, he also gave his first recital with Radio-Canada. In 1941, he received the Archambault prize and was invited to sing with the Montreal Symphonic Orchestra under the direction of Wilfrid Pelletier. He then moved to France in the late 1940’s and started singing with the Opera Comique de Paris. Quickly, he acquired a great notoriety as an interpreter of Mozart and Gluck. Trough the years, he performed in Milan, Buenos Aires and several large cities of the world. At the time of his death on August 21, 2006, he was 90 years old. For the last twenty years of his life, he lived in Victoria, British Columbia with his wife the soprano, Pierrette Alarie.

**Direct lineage of
Léopold Simoneau**

Jean Levasseur
Angélique Levasseur
Anne-Angélique Hamel
Marie-Anne Gingras
Josephte Demers
Josephte Guérin St-Hilaire
Ambroise Simoneau
Honoré Simoneau
Joseph Simoneau
Léopold Simoneau
*Léopold Simoneau is a
descendant, 10th
generation of Jean*

2006 New-France festivities

by : Joceline Levasseur (250)



On the picture are Joceline Levasseur, Thérèse Pageau (mother of Josée) Josée and Huguette Levasseur

The Levasseurs were present at the 2006 edition of the New-France festivities.

The pastoral Council of Notre-Dame-de-Quebec parish had invited the members of the Association of families, visiting Quebec, to participate in religious celebrations taking place on August 5th and 6th. The Federation of families had worked closely with Father Jean-Marie Chamberland, and received many positive comments from tourists, visitors and the representatives of the various families.



The gold rush in the West Alfred and Charles Levasseur

In the 1850's, many goldfields were discovered British Columbia. The most important ones were located on the sand banks of the Fraser River. On 3 April 1858, the arrival in San Francisco of the first gold shipments from the Fraser Valley signaled the beginning of the "Gold Rush" Then, thousands of people moved into the area and suddenly the population of Victoria increased from 500 inhabitants to more than 5 000. Thousands of others also settled on the continent.

The Village of Lumby, Province of British Columbia, Canada is situated in the North Okanagan, but geographically, in the watershed of the Shuswap - Thompson - Fraser Rivers system. It is twenty five kilometres east of Vernon on Highway Six.

The Gold Range, to the east of Lumby, was officially changed to Monashee Mountains in 1918. Monashee comes from the Gaelic Monadh-sith, "mountain of peace". The name was given in about 1881 by Donald McIntyre, the highlander who first staked the Monashee Mines. In 1848 gold was discovered in California. The news spread like wildfire, bringing hordes of men from the far flung corners of the globe seeking instant riches. They suffered untold hardship to reach the gold fields, only to find on arrival that gold was not, as they expected, lying on the surface of the ground waiting to be pocketed. Mining was rough, dangerous, competitive, exhausting work. Fortunes were made, but most were lost overnight in wild celebrations of the find. No matter. There was always hope of a richer lode the next day or the day after. For many that day never came. In the mid - 1850's, with the decline of the gold fields, thousands of men were stranded.

The History of Lumby - The First Settlers

The gold fever in British Columbia in the early 1860's brought men seeking an instant fortune. Some made a fortune. Others made and quickly squandered their riches. Some were disappointed and disappeared. Some realised the real potential was in the lush valleys of the Okanagan Valley. They became the first settlers.

One of them was Louis Christien who together with William Peon, was one of the so-called discoverers of gold in Cherry Creek. It is both possible and probable that Louis Christien was the first white resident of the Lumby area who would see the future potential for development as an agricultural community.

He was born in St. Anicet, a little village in Quebec just south of Montreal, as were many of the early settlers of this area. Anyone who has visited the lovely little village along the banks of the St. Francois River would wonder why anyone would want to leave such a beautiful spot. The answer lies in the French Canadian custom of dividing the land among the sons as they reach manhood. After several generations the land will not stand further subdivision and the young men had to look further afield for their livelihood. But once one of the relatives had found Lumby, many seemed to follow. Perhaps because the land was good or perhaps because the "family" was so important to them that they stuck together. There were the Bessettes, Quesnels, Deschamps, LeBlancs and just about anybody with a French name in Lumby in those days was related either by blood or by marriage.



Louis Christien discovered gold in Cherry Creek with William Poen



Pioneer's profile

Amongst the pionners in Lumby, we note two Levasseur both descendant of Laurent

Alfred Levasseur came to Lumby with his brother Charles from Kamouraska, Quebec. In December of 1904 he preempted land in Creighton Valley that he worked on but never lived on. Alfred was known as a "Jack of all Trades", clearing land, working the mill, doing carpenter work and barbering.

His pride and joy was his horse who would take Alfred home when he had drank too much. Alfred always said he wasn't afraid of any bull as long as he had a pitch fork in his hand, but on August 24th, 1925 he was gored to death after poking a bull with a pitch fork leading him from pasture.

In June 1881, his brother Charles preempted a half section of land on the outskirts of Lumby. He married Rose Bessette and had four children: Harry, Gaston, Arthur and Delia.

Charles and Rose separated when the children were young and Rose took them to the coast. Charlie rented his farm to John Genier Sr. and also went to the coast. In 1912 he moved back to Lumby to take up farming once again. After moving back to the coast once more he then moved to Vernon where he was found dead in his house after a fatal fall down a set of stairs on February 27th, 1929.

Sources : Library and archives Canada and <http://collections.ic.gc.ca>

Direct lineage of Charles et Alfred Levasseur

Laurent Levasseur
1646-1726
|
Pierre Levasseur
1679-1738
|
Jean Timothée Levasseur
____-1816
|
Étienne Levasseur
1764-1824
|
Étienne Levasseur
1789-1865
|
Étienne Levasseur
1826-1894
|
Charles Étienne Levasseur
1857- 1929
& Alfred Levasseur
1864-1925





Rendez-vous in memory of our ancestors

by : Josée Levasseur (406)



On 25 June 2006 in Lévis, Québec, a monument was unveiled to honor the memory of Jean Huard and his wife Anne - Marie Amiot . Why report this event in the Newsletter? First of all because the Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot's family was amongst the first twenty families to settle on the south shore of the St-Laurence River and more precisely on the Domain of la Seigneurie de Lauzon. Secondly because they are the ancestors of a good number of Levasseur namely I, through their daughter Genevieve

Huard married to Louis Levasseur. It is noteworthy that the marriage/wedding of both Jean Huard and our ancestor Laurent Levasseur was celebrated on the same day in Quebec City on April 30, 1670. Moreover, their respective properties were located close by on the south shore of the St-Laurence River. Thanks to an invitation sent by the Association des Familles Huard Inc. to the descendants of Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot that I, with Joceline Levasseur and Huguette Levasseur, were able to attend this memorable event.

The day started with a mass celebrated in St-Joseph-de-Lévis church. Built in 1830 and inaugurated in 1832, the church is located in the first parish on the shore of the St-Laurence, St-Joseph de la Pointe de Lévis. It was the parish frequented by Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot. A first church had been built on the same site but destroyed by fire in 1830. It was a very moving celebration. Jean Huard, President of the Association provided short history/portrait of our ancestors. Carefully selected hymns/songs and prayers, sometimes in Latin, quickly brought us back to some good old times.



Following a meal in a neighboring parish we all met at the site where Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot lived on the shore of the St-Laurence River. Jean Huard, the President of the Association de familles Huard, thanked all those who contributed to the success of this

gathering. He then spoke about Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot who were married in the church of Notre-Dame-de-Quebec on 30 April 1670. From this union, 13 children were born and all reached adulthood. One daughter became a nun. All other were married and gave 110 grand children to their parents. Jean Huard passed away in 1708 whilst Anne-Marie Amiot followed in 1737. Based on notes from taken from the History of « La Seigneurie de Lauzon » by Joseph Edmon Roy, Jean Huard provided a brief description of how homes were built in the 17th century. Then came the unveiling of the monument and the commemorative plaque followed by a photo session. The monument is located on the land previously occupied by the Huard. It is situated close to the bicycle path named « Le parcours des Anses » on the shore of the St-Laurence River in Lévis. It was a very moving and memorable day because I am a descendant of Jean Huard and Anne-Marie Amiot. It was also a emotional moment to spend time on the land of our ancestors



*Josée Levasseur at the center with
Huguette Levasseur on the left and
Joceline Levasseur on the right*

Direct lineage with Geneviève Huard

Laurent Levasseur – Marie Marchand

Québec, Notre-Dame
30 April 1670

Louis Levasseur – Geneviève Huard

Lauzon, Saint-Joseph-de-Lévis
19 November 1716

Louis II Levasseur – Marie-Anne Journeau

Lauzon, Saint-Joseph-de-Lévis
27 April 1746

Joseph Levasseur – Angélique Bisson

Lauzon, Saint-Joseph-de-Lévis
7 January 1789

Joseph II Levasseur – Félicité Dussault

Lauzon, Saint-Joseph-de-Lévis
22 February 1846

Joseph III Levasseur – Marie-Cécile Aubert

Lévis, Notre-Dame-de-la-Victoire
5 April 1869

Alphonse Levasseur – Corinne Dumont

Québec, Saint-Malo
19 January 1915

Yvan Levasseur – Thérèse Pageau

Loretteville, Saint-Ambroise,
19 May 1951

Josée Levasseur



History page

Edmond Levasseur, owner of the Asbestos Dairy

1913. At the age of 42, Edmond Levasseur makes his debut in Asbestos by purchasing from M. Morell a small butter and cheese factory. This building is located on Wonton Road which became rue Du Rio with the expansion of the city of Asbestos.

Already Mr. Levasseur had a good experience in the business. For more than twenty years he had handled milk to produce butter and cheese. He then saw a good business opportunity to provide his services to the total population of Asbestos.

1921. His business progressed due to increased demand. Having gained additional experience, he decided to expand. That had been a long cherished dream. Daily, his factory supplied fresh milk provided by some 200 local farmers.

1924. Years go by and the business progresses well. To secure his business and ensure its progress Mr. Levasseur registers his commerce. On 12 January 1924 he becomes "Crémérie Asbestos Enrg". It is good news for the coming year.

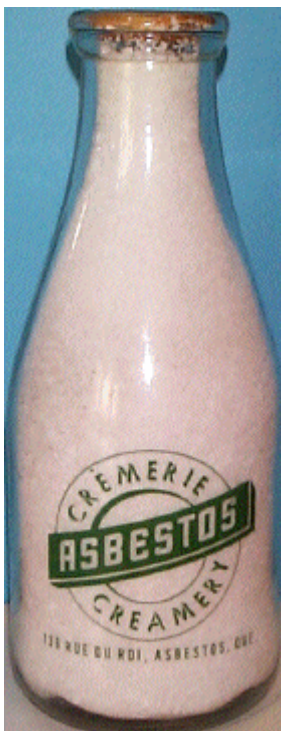
That year, Edmond believes time has come to introduce bottles with appropriate company identification. The first bottles are round with green lettering. Edmond also has each bottle cap printed to better identify his product. He also thinks that it is timely to promote the name Levasseur on each bottle caps.

1927 After year of hard work and success, Mr. Levasseur decides to expand his enterprise once more to "better face the music" as he used to say. With this second expansion, he decided to modernize his equipment to increase to efficiency and the profitability of his company.

1928. After years of efforts, disaster strikes Mr. Levasseur's company. A boiler explodes and destroys the majority of the Dairy. We are in October and it is necessary to rebuild the enterprise. After the explosion, Father Castonguay, with the help of his parishioners collected over \$700.00 dollars to assist Mr. Levasseur with the reconstruction of a new factory. Edmond greatly appreciated the gesture and he rebuilt using the same plans and on the same site as the previous building.

1929 Innovating, the Crémérie d'Asbestos continues to grow by introducing electric refrigeration. It is a first in Asbestos.

1934 The famous VI-CO! History says that in this particular year, consumption of this famous chocolate milk was in excess of 50,000 half-pints.



1941. It is war! Edmond begins to feel age and fatigue. His health weakens. He then decides to pass the torch to his son Antonio who already works as manager.



On May 7th 1895, Edmond Levasseur married Mary Boutin. They had 10 children: Angéline, Noëlla, Marie-Anna, Antonio, Rose, Jeanne, Fernand, Jean-Paul. Two other children deceased at an early age. Edmond was born in Tingwick on 27 February and died 22 July 1947 in Asbestos, Qc He was 76 years old. Edmond Levasseur is a descendant of Pierre Levasseur

Généalogy

Direct lineage of de Edmond Levasseur

Pierre Levasseur -1694
|
Pierre Levasseur 1661-1731
|
Denis Joseph Levasseur 1712-1792
|
François Levasseur\Vigoureux 1747-1827
|
François Xavier Levasseur 1782-1851
|
Joseph Levasseur 1818-1851
|
David Levasseur 1844-1925
|
Edmond Levasseur 1871-1947

Children born from Edmond Levasseur and Mary Boutin

1. Angéline 1896-1951
2. Joseph 1899-1899
3. Émile 1900-1901
4. Noëlla 1902
5. Marie Anne 1904-1905
6. Anna 1907
7. Antonio 1909
8. Marie Rose 1912-1978
9. Jeanne 1914
10. Fernand 1917-1980
11. Jean Paul 1919-1987



Web Site: www.levasseur.org
E-mail : webmaster@levasseur.org

WEB SITE
WWW.LEVASSEUR.ORG



Our motto ,
DU MIEUX QUE JE PUIS

Publié par / Published by :

**L'Association des Levasseur
d'Amérique**

Postes Canada/Post Canada

Numéro de la convention / convention
number: 40069967

Retourner les blocs adresses à l'adresse
suivante :

Return to the following address:

*Fédération des familles-souches
québécoises inc*

C.P. 6700, Sillery, (QC)

GIT 2W2

**IMPRIMÉ—PRINTED PAPER
SURFACE**

Internet News

by : Jean-Pierre Levasseur (250)



On a recent visit to Montreal, I had the opportunity to visit the building and the computer room housing our website and our databank. Located on University street, this building with restricted access is a very important distribution center where thousands of commercial servers are concentrated.

Up-to date
instrumentations
controlling power,
environment and air
conditioning to ensure
the complete
functionality of the
servers.



Thanks to powerful
generators, backed by
batteries, the
uninterrupted access
to Internet is
guaranteed to 100 %
at all time.



The Website of the Association is located on the shared hard disk of the server at the top of the support. The data base is installed on a dedicated server (bottom).