Du mieux que je puis

LEVASSEUR NEWSLETTER

TO BE READ IN THIS SPRING

2010 ISSUE

DNA ANALYSIS AT THE
SERVICE OF GENEALOGY

April 2010

Vol 22 no 1

www.levasseur.org

Three generations of Levasseur

Part 1: Alphonse Levasseur (1863-1946)

My great-grandfather Levasseur and his wife Odina Boucher had 15 children: 6 girls and 9 boys.

by: Jean-Pierre Levasseur (250)



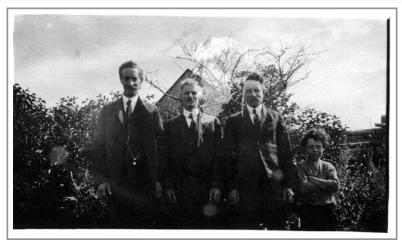




Odina Boucher, Alphonse's wife was born July 13, 1867 in St Éloi (Rivière-du-Loup)









Alphonse and his two brothers, Joseph and Alzéar visiting New England. To the right is Hervé, Alphonse's youngest son

TWELVE CHILDREN: A GUARANTEED PROGENY!

From my paternal lineage, the last four generations of Levasseur consisted of males only. During my initial steps in genealogy research, it was indeed rather easy to complete the first lineage of descendants. Fortunately, when I discovered that my great-grandfather had fifteen children, twelve of whom reached adulthood, I finally had several new entries to add to my genealogy database. Then, I began looking for all kinds of information on my twelve new great-uncles and great-aunts whom I did not know, except for one exception. My parents were deceased at this time and I could only count on myself to make contact with descendants of the children of Alphonse and Odina Boucher. Of the twelve children, only two were still alive. So I needed to contact them as soon as possible to complete my research.

THREE GENERATIONS: ALPHONSE, JOSEPH AND EDGAR LEVASSEUR

In this series of three articles, I will be introducing three generations of Levasseur. You may not find many individual exciting

individual stories, but rather stories of ordinary people who, in their own way, have contributed to the development of Québec, both past and present, with their daily activities in the community. In future issues, I will continue with the next two generations

JEAN ET PIERRE OR LAURENT?

My great-aunt Éva Levasseur, the fourth child of Alphonse and Odina resided very close to our family home in Trois-Pistoles. Éva, or one of her brothers or sisters, had her family tree made by the renowned Institut Drouin. The document led directly to the ancestor Jean Levasseur and Marguerite Richard. This error was perpetuated for many years and was corrected by the Father Archange Godbout in "Mémoires de la Société Généalogique canadienne-française" dated January 1946". According to Tanguay (Dict, 1, page 391) Laurent Levasseur was the son of Jean and Maguerite Richard de Bois-Guillaume, Rouen. There are two errors.

Ordinary stories of people, who in their own way, have contributed to the development of Québec, both past and present, with their daily activities in the community

follow up on page 4

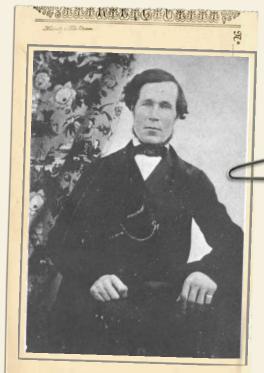


The family of Alphonse Levasseur and Odina Boucher: seated from left to right: Éva (Mrs. George Ouellet), Marie-Rose (Mrs. Robert Dessurault) Odina Boucher (mother), Marie-Anna (Mrs. Anselme Gagnon) and Lucienne (or Lucie). Standing from left to right: Émilia (Mrs. Joseph Ouellet) and Marie-Eugénie (Mrs. William Ouellet). Photo taken between 1930 and 1940.

In 1998, I met Claude Levasseur, a grand-son of Alphonse, who kindly gave me a box of old photographs. Among those, I found a picture of my great-great-grandfather, Octave Levasseur (1823-1894). The photo to the right probably dates back to the second half of the 19th century.



Octave was born in Cacouna, near Rivière-du-Loup. He married Émilie Hébert (left) a native of St-Charles de Bellechasse and born in October 1852. Three boys were born of this union.



Octave Levasseur



The marriage contract of Laurent (April 30, 1670) indicates "son of the late Jean and Marguerite (_ _) "space has been left blank, of Bois-Guillaume. Jean, the husband Maguerite Richard lived in Québec City at that time. Moreover, the couple was from Paris and the parish registers of Bois-Guillaume mentions, in 1639, that Jean Levasseur was the husband of Marguerite Maheu. They were probably the parents of Laurent.

ALPHONSE LEVASSEUR

Alphonse Levasseur was born in Trois-Pistoles on June 14, 1853. I do not have much information about his displacements during his active life. It appears that he spent his active life in St-Éloi. His wife, Odila, daughter of Maxime Boucher and Adéline Beaulieu-Hudon, was from the village of St-Clément, situated 20 km from Trois-Pistoles.

> According to the Association's data base, close to 120 descendants come from Alphonse Levasseur and Odina Boucher's union. It is more likely that this number now exceeds 150.

Transcript of Alphonse
Levasseur and Odina Boucher's
marriage contract

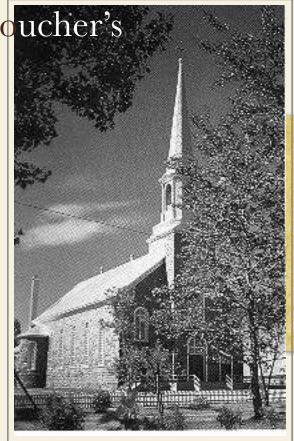
Marriage certificate from St-Clément's register

The twenty seventh of January, one thousand eight hundred eighty five, after publication of three banns and promulgated during the sermon at the regular masses of our parish as well as those of the parish of St-Éloi, as it appears in the certificate of the local parish priest, between Alphonse Levasseur, farmer, residing at St -Éloi, adult son of Octave Levasseur, farmer, and Émilie Hébert of St-Éloi on the one hand, and Odina Boucher, residing in this parish, adult daughter of the late Maxime Boucher, farmer in his lifetime, and Adéline Hudon said Beaulieu, from this parish on the other hand, and having found no impediment to the said marriage, and consent was provided by the adoptive father of the bride, we the undersigned priest have received their mutual consent to marriage and have given them the nuptial blessing in the presence of Paschal Gamache, Octave Levasseur Elzéar Levasseur and several other relatives and friends, some of whom have signed

(signatures)

Paschal Gamache, Alphonse Levasseur, Elzéar Levasseur.

Priest D Lebel



The St-Clément church where Alphonse and Odina were

A bit of history: St -Clément

It is on October 28, 1872 that was signed the donation contract for the first lot of land for future Parish Council of St-Clément. Also, after November 23, Mrg Jean Langevin first bishop of the diocese of Saint-Germain-de-Rimouski delimited the first site of a chapel and a temporary sacristy. It is also in this sacristy that on November 2 and 3, 1873, the first two masses were celebrated by the parish priest Cyprien Joseph Eustache Gagné, pastor of Saint-Paul-de-la-Croix and commissioned by the diocese to serve the mission of St-Clément. The name of the parish dates back to November 23, 1873, Day of Saint, St-Clément, a pope and martyr. The chapel was then blessed and opened for worship November 21, 1874. While church records began in January 1875, the first resident pastor, Father David LeBel, took over the mission on October 6, 1878 and the canonical foundation occurred on 1 November 1881. Also note that the parish of St-Clément was officially recognized on January 11, 1882 with its actual boundaries, less a portion of the 5th line of the Begon Canton.

The children of Alphonse and Levasseur Odina Boucher

Alphonse Levasseur, born on 14 June 1863, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 15 June 1863, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 9 March 1946, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 11 March 1946, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 82 years old), Cultivateur.

Married on 27 January 1885, St-Clément, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Odina Boucher, born on 13 July 1867, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 14 July 1867, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 17 November 1941, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 19 November 1941, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 74 years old), with:

1 - Joseph, born on 19 January 1886, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 20 January 1886, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 6 April 1960, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 9 April 1960, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 74 years old), Cab driver.

Married on 1 April 1913, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Rose-Anna Ouellet, born (around 1894), died on 16 May 1941, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 19 May 1941, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC.

Married on 6 October 1942, St-Paul-de-la-Croix, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Arthémise St-Pierre, born (around 1898).

2 - Cyrice, born on 20 July 1887, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 21 July 1887, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 26 June 1977, Rimouski, QC (age at death: 89 years old), farmer, carpenter.

Married on 21 August 1917, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Alice Lepage, born on 2 May 1897, died on 23 July 1975, Rimouski, St-Germain, QC, buried (around 1975), Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 78 years old).

3 - Émilia, born on 4 August 1889, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 5 August 1889, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 16 August 1966, Montréal, QC, buried on 19 August 1966, Montréal, St-François-d'Assise, Longue-Pointe, QC (age at death: 77 years old).

Married on 22 July 1907, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Joseph Ouellet, born on 3 November 1882, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 4 November 1882, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC.

4 - Eugénie, born on 28 April 1891, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 29 April 1891, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 24 February 1976, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 28 February 1976, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 84 years old).

Married on 25 July 1910, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, to William Ouellet, born on 15 August 1884, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-



Odina Boucher and his youngest son Hervé Levasseur on the family farm at Trois-Pistoles, circa1920.

du-Loup, QC, baptized on 15 August 1884, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC.

5 - Éva, born on 27 January 1893, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 28 January 1893, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 4 February 1986, Trois-Pistoles, Hôp., Riv.-du-Loup, QC, buried on 6 February 1986, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 93 years old).

Married on 10 September 1912, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Georges Ouellet, born on 20 January 1879, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 21 January 1879, Ste-Françoise, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 21 February 1926, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 24 February 1926, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 47 years old).

- **6 A d é l a r d**, b o r n on 23 February 1895, St-Éloi, Rivière-d u L o u p, Q C, b a p t i z e d on 24 February 1895, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 15 March 1895, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 17 March 1895, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC.
- 7 Rose Lumina, born on 9 January 1897, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 10 January 1897, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 10 July 1974, Rimouski, St-Germain, QC (age at death: 77 years old).

Married on 4 October 1926, Trois-Rivières, N-D-des-Sept-Allégresses, QC, to Robert Dessureault, born on 17 July 1898, St-Adelphe, Champlain, QC, baptized

on 18 July 1898, St-Adelphe, Champlain, QC.

8 - Eugène, born on 11 October 1898, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, baptized on 12 October 1898, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, died on 20 December 1961, Montréal, QC, buried on 23 December 1961, Montréal, St-François-d'Assise, Longue-Pointe, QC (age at death: 63 years old), carpenter.

Married on 14 January 1925, Ste-Anne, Madawaska, NB, to Jeanne Gagnon, born on 24 March 1907, Nouveau-Brunswick, died on 16 September 1966, Montréal, QC (age at death: 59 years old).

- **9 Philippe Louis Désiré**, born on 24 April 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 25 April 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 26 October 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 28 October 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 6 months old).
- 10 Louis Philippe, born on 24 April 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 25 April 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 26 October 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 28 October 1900, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 6 months old).
- 11 Wilfrid, born on 25 February 1902, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, baptized on 26 February 1902, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, Électricien.

Married on 9 August 1952, Gatineau, Ste-Rose-de-Lima, Hull, QC, to Rose de Lima Therrien, born (around 1891).

Married on 30 July 1969, Gatineau, Hull, QC, to Alberte Rochon, born on 18 September 1912, L'Orignal, ON.

12 - Marie-Anna, born on 11 August 1903, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 12 August 1903, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 5 September 1975, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, buried on 8 September 1975, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 72 years old).

Married on 24 September 1928, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Anselme Gagnon, born on 20 April 1897, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 21 April 1897, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC.

13 - Louis Philippe, born on 1 February 1906, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 2 February 1906, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, died on 20 August 1981, Rimouski, QC (age at death: 75 years old), Coiffeur.

Married on 28 October 1942, St-Pie, Bagot, QC, to Valéda Langevin, born on 30 May 1900, died on 27 September 1978, St-Hyacinthe, Sacré-Coeur-de-Jésus, QC (age at death: 78 years old).

14 - Marie-Lucie, born on 5 November 1908, St-Éloi, Rivièredu - Loup, QC, baptized on 5 November 1908, St-Éloi, Rivièredu-Loup, QC, died on 5 January 1994, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC (age at death: 85 years old).

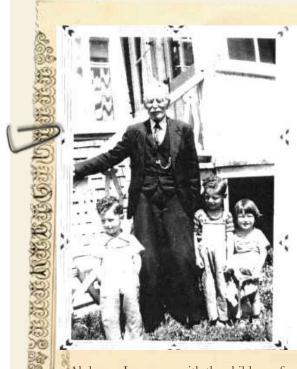
Married on 11 September 1933, Trois-Pistoles, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, to Dassylva Guillemette, born on 29 November 1897, St-Stanislas,

Champlain, QC, baptized on 30 November 1897, St-Stanislas, Champlain, QC, died on 4 May 1966 (age at death: 68 years old).

15 - Hervé, born on 28 May 1910, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, baptized on 29 May 1910, St-Éloi, Rivière-du-Loup, QC, jeweller.

Married on 15 September 1941, Mont-Joli, N-D-de-Lourdes, Rimouski, QC, to Estelle Ross, born on 11 October 1918, Mont-Joli, Rimouski, QC, baptized on 11 October 1918, Mont-Joli, Rimouski, QC, died on 7 September 1955, St-Jean-Baptiste, QC (age at death: 36 years old).

Married on 16 October 1971, Clermont, Charlevoix, QC, to Fleurette Bilodeau, born on 30 December 1912, La Malbaie, Charlevoix, QC, baptized on 31 December 1912, La Malbaie, Charlevoix, QC, died on 28 June 1981, Clermont, Charlevoix, QC, buried on 11 July 1981, Clermont, Charlevoix, QC (age at death: 68 years old).



Alphonse Levasseur with the children of Lucienne Levasseur (married Guillemette)



Five of the daughters of Alphonse Levasseur and Odina Boucher (at a family celebration circa 1970)

In the next issue of the Newsletter: Joseph Levasseur and Rose-Anna Ouellet

The President's world

by: Roger Levasseur (004)

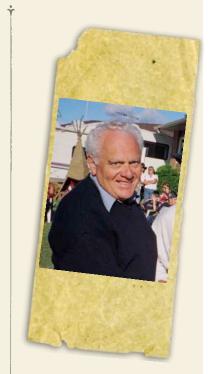
Things are happening at the Association. Read attentively the work undertaken by your Board to elucidate the question whether our first ancestors Jean and his brother Pierre were related to the ancestor, Laurent. Thanks to new scientific research on DNA, we can establish with certainty whether these three ancestors have a common ancestor. Our past president, Gilles Carmel who is interested in DNA research, had no difficulty convincing other Board members on the merits of undertaking this research project. Gilles' article in the Newsletter, is an explanation of DNA testing. M. Jacques Beaugrand's article explains the analysis of the tests carried out on three volunteers of Pierre's descendants and three that are known to be descendants of ancestor Laurent. We will be communicating results of these tests in future issues of the Newsletters.

Mr. Jacques Beaugrand will be the guess speaker at our Annual meeting in Sherbrooke in 2011. He will be speaking about the merits of AND research and the results of his analysis on the six volunteers. What are our true origins? Is it, Vikings, Palestinian, Celtic or other? You will get an answer thanks to DNA

Your Board also decided to stop issuing membership cards. Confirmation of your membership will be sent by E-Mail. For members without an E-Mail address, your cancelled check will confirm your adherence to the Association.

You are encouraged to write your family history. Take time to speak with an older parent. He will relate to you souvenirs of his childhood, the schools he went to, the type of work his father did, the towns he lived in, who his grand parents were, his family etc. Read Jean-Pierre's article and like him, contribute to perpetuate in the record of the Association your Levasseur family history.

Roger Levasseur



«You are encouraged to write your family history.. Take time to speak with an older parent»

Genealogy by DNA or Genetic Genealogy

by: Gilles Carmel (352)

I recently visited "Search for Adam" a National Geographic Society documentary on the Scientific ADAM also called, EURASIAN.

- http://vids.myspace.com/index.cfm?
 fuseaction=vids.individual&VideoID=621625
 98
- http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/ 2005/06/0624_050624_spencerwells.html
- http://www.sur-la-planete-zebulon.net/ article-2620975.html

This National Geographic Society documentary presents Dr. Spencer Wells' research project titled: Genographic Project. The objective of his study was to trace the migratory passage of man based on DNA analysis of individuals on a world wide basis.

For geneticists, Scientific Adam, is the common ancestor for all people. There are sequences in the Y chromosome that permit going back to man's most primitive origins. In our genes we have the history of all our ancestors. They have found for the EURASIANS (Europe-Asia) a common ancestor. It is the M-168 marker. This Scientific Adam, also called Eurosiatic Adam lived approximately 60,000 years ago and originated in Africa. His descendants migrated from Africa.

DNA studies (DesoxiboNucleic Acid) permitted the categorization of a series of genealogical groups that descend from a common ancestor at a prehistoric moment (M-168). They are the haplogroups. There

are two kinds of haplogroups: the haplogroups defining the Y (Y-DNA) chromosome inherited from father to son and those (DNA mt) inherited from the

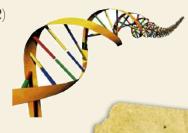
mother. The first is to inform about the agnatic lineage (or patrilinear) and the other, is on the cognatic lineage (matrilinear).

The haplogroups Y-DNA are used to determine if two individuals with the same family name are descendants of a same ancestor in the recent pass. (3 to 20 generations. We use the marker STR (Short Tandem Repeat) for this test.

The SNP tests (Single Nucleotide Polymorphism) is to retrace to ancestral origins much further back and to identify ethnic groups to which our ancestors belonged. (For example Celtic, Jewish, Germanic, Slavic etc.)

The R1B is by far the most common haplogroup in Occidental Europe

Note that many Normans are of the haplogroup I. Effectively, Rollon and his Vikings settled in Normandy at the beginning of the 10th century. Negotiations led to the Saint-Clair-sur-Epte treaty in 911. According to Historians, he is the first Duke of Normandy. Many French Canadian families are from the haplogroup I. For example the following family members are of the haplogroup I: Duseau, Amireau,









Cliquez ici pour visualiser le vidéo du président de «DNA For Genealogy», Bennett Greenspan (en anglais). (Vidéo) Bélanger, Bouchard, Tessier, Auger, Cantin' Hamel, Lacroix etc. Many Normands are of the haplogroup I.

Here are a few examples:

HAPLOGROUP	ETHNIC GROIP
Н	Rom og gypsu
J2	Jew
Q3	American Indian
I	Scandanavian Countries
R1A	Eastern Europe
R1B	Occidental Europe

The R1B can	he	divided	in sub-gre	ours For	example.
THE KID Can		urviucu	III sub-git	Jups, I or	CAMITIDIC.

SUB-HAPLOGROUP	HIGH DENSITY	ASSOCIATED ETHNIC GROUP		
R1B1a (M18)	Sardania	Sardanian		
Rlblcl	Ireland	Irish		
R1b1c2 (M65)	Ireland	Basque		
R1b1c3 (M126)	Germany England and Ireland Ireland	Celtic		
Rlblc6	Iberia (especially) Catalonia, Cornwall, Gallic Country and Ireland	Celtic, Celtic Insular		
R1b1c7 (M222)	North West Ireland and Western Scotland	Scots and Irish		
R1b1c8 (P66)	Northern Italy	Celtic Cisalpines		
R1b1c9 (S21)	Frisland, Netherlands	Occidental Germans		

THE HAPLOGOUPE I				
SUB-HAPLOGROUP	AREA OF HIGHER DENSITY	ASSOCIATED ETHNIC GROUPS		
II	Scandinavia AND Northern Germany	Nordic, Ancient Germanic Tribes and Vikings		
I2al	Sardanian Basques and some Albania, Northern Greece, Bulgaria, Romania Ukraine, Byelorussia and South West Russia	Western Italy, Western France Mediterranean coast, Maher		
I2a2	Ex- Yugoslavia,Moldavia	Slavic dinaric (Croatians, Serbians and Bosnian		
I2B	Central and North Germany, Benelux, Northern Sweden and the Benelux. Part of Denmark, East of England and part of France.	Germanic		

For those wanting more information on the geographic distribution of the ethnic origins of halpogroups check:

- http://www.eupedia.com/europe/ origines haplogroupes europe.shtml
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haplogroup_I1_(Y-DNA)

The Board of directors of the Levasseur Association has decided to capitalize on this scientific discovery and to undertake a DNA project of the Levasseur French heritage. This decision was taken and ratified at the Association's Annual meeting in Bécancour on October 3, 2009.

Three volunteers of the Pierre Levasseur lineage and three of the Laurent Levasseur lineage will be participating on these projects.

• http://www.frenchdna.org/

This DNA French heritage project (DNAFH) is for all those who think they have French ancestors. This project is in operation since May 2005. The results (code name and Family name) are part of a data bank that eventually will become of great importance. In Quebec, Mr. Jacques Beaugrand, a retired scientific researcher, is president of DNAFH and is also a member of the French Canadian Genealogy Society

We met with Mr. Beaugrand in Bromont on November 7, 2009. He will be doing an analysis of the Levasseur DNA test results and the genealogical lineage of six volunteers. Once he has certified that the six volunteers have a common profile, he will proceed with the SNP test to determine our distant ancestral origins (Celtic, Jewish, Germanic Etc)

Mr. Beaugrand has accepted to be the guess speaker at our annual meeting in Sherbrooke in 2011. He will be speaking about genealogy by DNA analysis and the results of his research on the Levasseur family name.

This DNA research on three volunteers of Laurent's lineage and that of Pierre and Jean should enable us to answer certain questions about the origins of Levasseur descendants.

1. Is Laurent a relative of Pierre and Jean Levasseur?

- 2. By what migrations did the original ancestors of Laurent and those of Pierre pass? Is the point of origin is Africa (M-168)? Did they come directly from Africa to France or did they pass by Asia, the Scandinavian Countries, Celtic Countries or Palestine?
- 3. These test will determine the genetic signatures of the Levasseurs and the (Levavasseurs).

The project in Canada is being carried out in association with France. In time, we will be in a position to establish comparisons with Levasseurs living in France. We think that there are many varied groups of Levasseurs in France. The Levasseur Family name is a very common name. In France, there are more than 600,000 different family names and the Levasseur name is in the 495th position in terms of usage

- http://www.nom-famille.com/nom-levasseur.html
- http://wapedia.mobi/fr/Nom_de_famille_en_France

We invite other Levasseur to participate in this project. A large number of participants will provide more points for comparison. These would be useful to determine genealogical links.

Certain Levasseur who have a break in their genealogical link, due to a lack or unavailable official documents, could discover whether they are descendants of Pierre and Jean or from Laurent or possibly another Levasseur lineage. A large number of persons participating in this research will subsequently enable us to retrace a missing genealogical link.

DNA genetic will not modify our data base. Genetic genealogy begins where classical genealogy ends and when there are no more documents to study.

It is important to note that the goal of the DNA project is not to determine whether a specific individual is truly a Levasseur. That is why all tests are anonymous. The only information known is the family name with sample key number.

We therefore hope that this new tool will enable us to learn more about on our origins.

The city of Québec honours Doctor Irma LeVasseur

The City of Quebec inaugurated on November the 5th, 2009 a work of art in honour of Dr. Irma LeVasseur. This work can be seen near the intersection of Canadière Road and the south side entrance of the CLSC and the Limoilou Housing accommodations next to the «l'Enfant Jésus Hospital». Mr. Alain Loubier, President of the Limoilou neighborhood inaugurated the monument.

A bronze sculpture by the young artist, Myriam Van Neste pays tribute to the Doctor Irma LeVasseur, the first Francophone Quebecoise to be recognized as a women physician.

The work of art represents three ferns soaring straight towards the sky. «I decided to represent ferns breaking the soil and being straight, but that are developing in a female fashion. Ferns resemble the spinal column and evoke children growing. I decided to use three ferns because Dr. Levasseur is at the root of three institutions in Quebec», notes the artist when she presented her work.

The artist was impressed by Dr. Irma LeVasseur's determination. Sick children, who died in infancy, were at the heart of this physician's preoccupations. In 1907, Dr. Irma Levasseur founded with Mme. Justine Lacoste-Beaubien the Sainte-Justine Hospital of Montreal. In Quebec, in 1923, she invested her economies for the foundation of a hospital for children that

would become the « l'Hôpital l'Enfant-Jésus». Finally in 1927 she opened a clinic for handicapped children in the Saint-Jean-Baptiste neighbourhood, a forerunner to the

Cardinal-Villeneuve Center in

Quebec

Present at this inauguration were, Mme. Pauline Gill, author of three novels on Dr. Irma LeVasseur. She is happy that an honour has been bestowed to this woman physician who, with determination, worked to establish health care for sick

children. This pioneer who invested her personal fortune in these projects died in poverty and in oblivion. Mme. Gill expressed the following wish for the future. «I would like the city of Quebec to give back to our children this establishment, the Hôpital-de-l'Enfant-Jésus that was founded for them in 1923».





by: Huguette Levasseur (380)





Mme Pauline Gill

A Lamb on Bertrand Street

by: Henriette Levasseur

If it hadn't been for the change in seasons, life would have been pretty monotonous at the corner of Bertrand and Traverse streets where I spent my youth. Apart from Sunday visits to our relatives who lived out in the country, our world was limited to a large rectangle defined by the four pillars of our existence: the family home, the imposing St. Boniface Cathedral - whose services marked the passage of time –, St. Joseph's Academy where the girls went to school while our brothers went to the boys' school across the street, and to close this space of barely one square kilometre, a huge field that served as our playground and that we called, in our rudimentary English, not knowing what we were saying, "artic-ice". It is only later that I found out that Arctic Ice was a company that cut huge cubes of ice from the frozen river and loaded them on horse-drawn wagons for delivery to families still using ice boxes

Albeit small, this world seemed to me to be endless. I had the impression of walking miles and miles to and from school every day, of running long distances to play hide-and-seek and of finding the field at the end of our lane rather distant

Often, when I think about my youth, I recollect things so clearly that I can nearly feel them, but something is always missing: that sense of absolute freedom, that carefree feeling that comes so naturally to children but that we, as adults, can only dream of.

Even though our life was rather uneventful, there were recurring events throughout the year that we anticipated months ahead of time and that gave us the impression of being the world's luckiest children. For instance, there was the Swift annual picnic, where father worked, with its prizes to be won and as many hot dogs and soft drinks as we could eat and drink. Then there was the circus that set up each summer in the field near our home. We were overwhelmed by the various rides and games and the stuffed animals that we never managed to win in spite of the simplicity of the games. And the pink candy floss that we loved so much, so big it gave us the impression of getting much more than our money's worth. And what about Halloween, the one day of the year when we could indulge in our wildest fantasies! But the event that we loved more than any other, possibly because it meant the school year was nearly over, was the St. John the Baptist parade...

Everyone took part, the Knights of Columbus, women's associations, boy scouts and girl guides, no one was left out, and those who couldn't walk in the parade stood by to applaud the show and wave hands to familiar faces. Local businesses competed with each other to mount the largest float and the La Verendrye band, complete with its huge drums resting on large-bellied musicians, led the march, setting the rhythm and stimulating general enthusiasm.



The year 2009 marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of celebrated author Gabrielle Roy. To commemorate this event, the Maison Gabrielle-Roy, which has been turned into a museum, and the Franco-Manitoban newspaper, La Liberté, organized a writing contest. The idea was to relate the story of a childhood souvenir in the style of Gabrielle Roy in her novel Rue Deschambault. Inspired by a photo of her brother Roger Levasseur, president of our Association, Henriette Levasseur submitted the following text, which received a first prize in its category.

There is one year however in which the parade took on a very special meaning for our family. It all started at dinner time, a few days before the event, when Mother said:

- Gérard, Madame Arcand phoned me today

This teacher was known to be very strict so we all turned to Gérard to see what punishment was in store for him – because he was known to be mischievous at times. What a relief, therefore, especially for Gérard, when Mother added:

- She asked me if you would like to be St. John the Baptist in the parade next week. And she said you could have a real lamb!

Now to have St. John the Baptist in one's family was an honour indeed, nearly as important as having a family member sing "O Holy Night" at midnight mass on Christmas day. Excitement mounted around the dinner table as we all spoke at once, giving Gérard our ideas and suggestions as to what he might do.

The night before the parade, someone from the church brought the lamb. But what a disappointment! The little beast was so dirty we would have sworn it had rolled in mud. No one wanted to go anywhere near it.

EAt that time – shortly after the war – soap was hard to come by and we had none at all. So Father went around to a few neighbours and finally

came back with a rough bar of soap that would just have to do the job. Rubbing hard with a floor brush, he finally managed to remove enough dirt and grime to make the lamb worthy of accompanying little Saint John in the parade.

The following day, Gérard, covered in a sheep skin, followed by his little white lamb and accompanied by a retinue of young pages, mounted the largest and most spectacular float, the one that closed the parade

Family pride was at its peak, but the fun was only beginning... because Gérard was offered to keep the lamb as long as he wanted.

So Father built a small enclosure in the garage and Gérard, who had promised to attend to all of the sheep's needs, became inseparable from his new pet. He simply adored it and spent some time looking for a suitable name. After testing a dozen names, he finally settled on Patapon. He walked it at the end of a rope to feed it in surrounding fields and to show it off to friends, boasting about its cleverness.

However, what was a source of pride for us also brought complaints and ridicule from some neighbours who thought we were downright silly with our farm animal in the middle of the city. I can still hear Mr. Lafontaine's comment on seeing Patapon munching in our lawn: "I see you have a new lawn mower! A curly one at that and as quiet as a lamb!"

One day Gérard was playing with Patapon and for some unknown reason, the sheep gave him a strong kick, hurling Gérard against a beam of wood. For a few minutes, Gérard was totally knocked out. He finally managed to get up and walk into the house, but his nose was bleeding profusely. Mother let out a loud scream, but after a while, noting that the cut was not too deep, she managed to get the situation under control and comfort Gérard.

The love story between our brother and Patapon continued nonetheless, although somewhat dampened. Also, Patapon was finding himself increasingly confined in his enclosure and he started bleating louder and louder and more and more often. To top it off, there was a pungent odour emanating from his fleece, especially when it rained, not to say anything about his smelling of manure! The romance with Patapon lasted until the end of summer, when the time came to ask: "What do we do with the sheep?" Father had refused the neighbour's request to let him have it, knowing full well the lamb would quickly have been turned into a piece of meat.

Finally, Gérard agreed to have his lamb brought to my uncle's farm, on condition that he could visit it from time to time. During the first few weeks, he never missed the opportunity to visit Patapon, but over time, he lost interest and hardly ever went to see him. I was therefore alone with my

parents visiting my uncle when I noticed Patapon was nowhere to be seen.

Time stopped... the air seemed heavy... I felt I should not ask any questions. Anyhow, I had guessed, from the knowing look of the adults around me, that what I had feared most had happened: Patapon had ended his days in the center of a dinner table, surrounded by happy guests.

That day I learned that you sometimes have to be mistrustful of adults. They teach children to be frank, but they themselves do not always feel bound to say the truth.

Root Family exhibit 2010

by: <u>Joceline Levasseur</u> (328)

Thanks to the assistance of volunteers, the Levasseur Association of America participated at the of Root Families gathering. It was held at the Laurier Commercial Center on February 26, 27 and 28 2010 in Québec City. A large number of Associations such as ours and exhibitors gather under one roof to talk about history and genealogy. It was an excellent opportunity for descendants of Jean, Pierre and Laurent to fraternise.





Our missing person

DENISE LEVASSEUR



Denise Levasseur, wife of the late Mr. Philippe Grondin and of her second husband the late Mr. Robert Boutet, died at the Sainte-Marie Pavillon of the Regional Hospital Centre of Trois-Rivières, on October 15, 2009 and at the age of 90 years and 8 months..

The funeral was held Monday, October 19, 2009 at 15 hrs in the of Saint-Maurice church. Interment took place at Saint-Michel Cemetary in Shawinigan on 24 October 2009.

She is survived by her son Denis Grondin (Mrs Céline Prévost), her daughter Carmen Grondin (Christian René), her 5 grand-children: Julie Grondin (Frank Nowack), Benoit Grondin (Marie Verdy), Mathieu Grondin (Catherine Clermont), Marilyn René (Marc-Antoine Tessier) and Amélie René (René Paquette), a great-grand-son, Philippe Grondin. She is also survived by her step-sisters: Mrs. Lucille Gagnon (the late Mr. Côme Levasseur), Mrs. Cécile Brodeur (the late Mr. Rodolphe Levasseur), Mrs. Gracia Lebrun (late Mr. Zoêl Grondin). The children of the late Mr. Robert Boutet: Michelle Boutet, Nicole Boutet (Claude Lortie), Huguette Boutet (Mr. Henri-Paul Veillette), Mr. Hugues Boutet (Mrs. Pierrette Cormier), her other stepsisters: Jeanne d'Arc Boutet (Paul Boisvert), Jean-Claude Boutet (Gisèle Frigon), and several nephews, nieces, cousins and friend(s).

Denise Levasseur was Réjean Levasseur's aunt the late Sister Fernande Levasseur's cousin

SISTER FERNANDE LEVASSEUR



Sister Fernande Levasseur died at the Health Care Service of St. Marie de

Beauce, Saturday, July 4, 2009 at the age of 97 years and 7 months. Sister Fernande spent 69 years of her life with the Congregation of the Oblates Sister of Béthany. She was the daughter of the late Conrad Levasseur and the late Arthémise Doucet. Since 2005 she lived in Sainte-Marie de Beauce. She was a native of Saint-Maurice, Champlain County. The funeral mass was celebrated Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at 11am in the chapel of the Monastery of the Oblates of Bethany in Sainte-Marie de Beauce. She is survived by members of her religious family, and her nephews and nieces: Huguette Levasseur (Raymond St. Arnaud), Joceline Levasseur (Francois Dupuis), Fernand Levasseur, Sister Rolande Levasseur s.a.s.v., Réjeanne Levasseur (Pierre Courteau) Robert Levasseur (Roxanne Wilkin). Sister Fernande Levasseur was the cousin of the late Denise Levasseur.

Editor's note: Fernande Levasseur's biography will be published in the next issue of the Levasseur Newsletter.



Regional gathering of Levasseur Families

RIVIÈRE-DU-LOUP, QC

Following the regions of Gatineau, Kamouraska, New-Brunswick and the National Capital, the Levasseur Association would like to hold a regional gathering in Pohénégamook in the Rivière-du-Loup region in mid-August 2010 and greet the Levasseurs and their descendants as well as those named Borgia or Carmel.

All the Levasseur families of the region would be invited to participate at this gathering giving the opportunity to get to know one another rand to fraternize in a cordial and friendship atmosphere. The program would include information about

genealogy and history of the Levasseur family followed by family supper.

To ensure the success of this event we need to form a local team interested in assisting us in the preparation of the gathering.

Thank you for letting us know that you are interested in helping by communicating with us as soon as possible: webmaster@levasseur.org ,or on our web-site: www.levasseur.org or by telephone (418) 658-3593 or (418) 843-1956



Ponik the beast of the lake

The first sighting of the beast from the lake dates back at the beginning of the colonization in 1874. Many inhabitants abstained from navigating on the lake for fear of the mysterious beast. From father to son the news spread. However the news was kept relatively quiet. It was not until 1957-1958, following the use of dynamiting to renovate route 289 that borders the lake that apparitions of the beast began to multiply. The rumour spread like wild fire and the media grasp the news and journalists came from all areas to witness the mysterious sighting

Source: http://pohenegamook.net

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Information from the Webmaster

Updated genealogical data base



Many will notice that the number of entries in our data base now exceeds 113,000 names. Joceline with Gilles' help enter on a regular basis additional data as it becomes available.

As with other sections of our Web site, access to this application is reserved for members only. To access it, do not forget that your user name is; your E-Mail address and your password is; your membership number.

Sometime members change their E-Mail address and fail to not notify us of the change. That being the case, the member will no longer be receiving communication sent electronically and will not be able to access the Data base on our Web site. It is very important that you send us any E-Mail address change by notifying us following: webmaster@levasseur.org.

If you have any problem gaining access to sections reserved for members, notify us and we will readily communicate with you.

DNA Genealogy



As I did, I am sure that you have read with interest Gilles' article on the topic of DNA genealogy.

To quickly find the quoted references in his article for future use, you will find a copy of his article with references on the Association Web site under the title« Genealogy»

The Association is grateful to all the persons who contribute towards the various steps required to prepare the Levasseur Newsletter. It is a team of dedicated volunteers who spend time writing articles, editing, translating and doing the page setting to ensure distribution of the Newsletter to our members by Internet or via the Post Office