

Levasseur



The Board Members wish a happy holiday season to all members, their family and friends.

Trimestrial info

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The Association's Coat of Arms

by: [Joceline Levasseur](#) (328) and [Paul Levasseur](#) (044)

The Levasseur Association of America was formed on March 21, 1989 in accordance to the charter issued by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the laws governing Canadian corporations. The objectives of the Association are:

- Gathering the Levasseur Families of America together,
- Safeguarding their collective heritage,
- Encouraging the research and the transmission of historical and genealogical data about the Levasseurs of America
- Honouring the memory and accomplishments of our ancestors Jean, Pierre and Laurent and their descendants with written articles, plaques and other distinctive signs.

In the early 1990's the Association wanted a Coat of Arms by which members could distinguish and identify themselves. Many associations had Coats of Arms but few were officially recognized by the Heraldic Authority of Canada.

Our Association began the official steps to create its Coat of Arms by hiring an artist who produced various options, based on the advice he was given. The Coat of Arms was to be relatively simple and not overcrowded, reflecting the origins of our ancestors Jean and Pierre, who were master builders, and Laurent, who was a farmer. It was also to represent all Levasseurs of America from the early 1650s to today, and the values that animated our ancestors and their descendants.

After reviewing many models, the Board of Directors selected Coat of Arms slightly different than the one recommended by the Heraldic Authority of Canada.



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Here is the meaning of first our coat of arms

- ★ SILVER : the Coat of Arms is Azure, a sky blue color that is the emblem of justice, loyalty and beauty : two characteristics of the works of our ancestors and their descendants
- ★ AZURE : A sky blue color representing justice and loyalty, a privilege to us.
- ★ CHEVRON: The Chevron (rafter form) refers to a supporting member. It signifies mutual aid and support amongst the Levasseurs. The point also symbolizes the plow of the Laurent branch of the Levasseur family.
- ★ THE OAK: tree represents the wood used by our ancestors who were sculptures and builders. It represents on the coat of arms our roots, continuity and our traditions.
- ★ FLEUR DE LYS: Represents France our country of origin.
- ★ MAPLE LEAF: The Levasseurs of Canada.
- ★ THE STAR: The Levasseurs from the United States and the five continents.



First coat of arms

OUR MOTTO: «Du mieux que je puis» «As best as I can» (Doing the best one can) Encourages us to do the best we could do, aware of our limitations. It is a source of growth and forces us to surpass and to excel.

The actual Coat of Arms has been granted and assigned by the Herald of Canada on October 15, 1997 to l'Association des Levasseur d'Amérique.

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

Azure a chevron between an oak tree an base and a chief Argent charged with a maple leaf Gules between dexter a fleur-de-lis and sinister a mullet Azure ; And for a Motto: DU MIEUX QUE JE PUIS. The new coat of arms is simpler without the plow and the chisel. The tree is clearly defined as an oak tree.



Actual Coat of arms

SILVER : the Coat of Arms is Azure, a sky blue color that is the emblem of justice, loyalty and beauty : two characteristics of the works of our ancestors and their descendants

AZURE : A sky blue color representing justice and loyalty, a privilege to us.

CHEVRON: The Chevron (rafter form) refers to a supporting member. It signifies mutual aid and support amongst the Levasseurs. The point also symbolizes the plow of the Laurent branch of the Levasseur family.

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Obtaining the Association's Coat of Arms

Letter dated January 23, 1995:

Herald, Saint-Laurent Auguste Vachon of Rideau Hall, informed the Levasseur Association of America that he entrusted the revision of a request for the Coat of Arms to two heraldic advisors as there had been an official grant.

Letter dated October 31, 1995:

Vincent Levasseur wrote to the Chief Herald, Robert D. Watt, requesting a grant of the Coat of Arms for the Levasseur Association of America.

Letter dated November 25, 1995:

Herald, Saint-Laurent, Auguste Vachon of Rideau Hall, accepted the request to grant the Coat of Arms for the Levasseur Association of America.

Letter dated March 12, 1997:

Herald, Saint-Laurent, Auguste Vachon indicated that a Coat of Arms would be granted to the Levasseur Association of America. In his letter he explained the reason for the choices that were made.

Letter dated June 18, 1997:

The heraldic directorate suggested a concept for the graphic design of the Coat of Arms.

In a letter dated July 16, 1997:

Herald Saint-Laurent, Auguste Vachon approved the design of the Coat of Arms for the Levasseur Association of America.

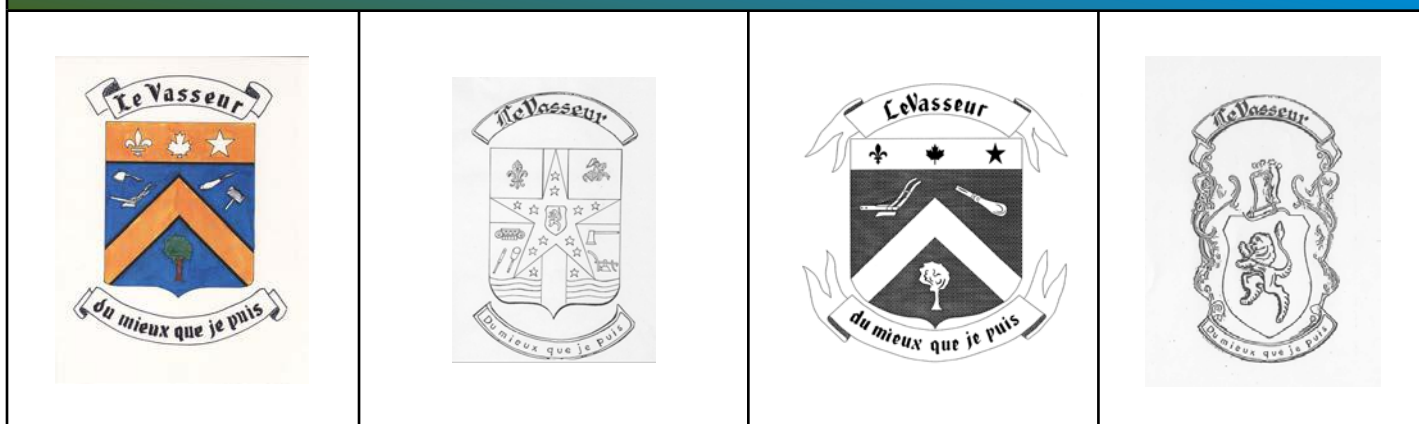
Letter dated October 8, 1997:

Herald Saint Laurent Auguste Vachon, provided the official texts of the Coat of Arms in French and in English.

October 15, 1997

The Chief Herald, Robert Douglas Watt, officially granted the Coat of Arms to the Levasseur Association of America.

Different proposals for the Coat of Arms over the years





Notes : Photos used in this article were taken from Heidi Levasseur's Web site

I recently met a young woman, Heidi Levasseur, from Trois-Rivières. She is a descendant of Pierre Levasseur and this is the story of her experiences as a long distance swimmer.

From July 19 to August 5, 2011, she achieved a remarkable feat in swimming 350 km in the St. Lawrence River from Québec to Matane. You may have heard of her. She is a pleasant young woman, who answered all my questions with simplicity and grace.

Heidi was born in Cap-Rouge in 1979 and completed her high school in the Québec region. At a very early age, she enrolled in swimming lessons and by age 13; her love of swimming inspired her to enroll in a sport study program in Québec City. She participated in many competitions with the Rouge et Or swimming club, without really being noticed in any particular way. But at 15, Heidi successfully crossed Lake Memphrémagog, finishing seventh in the women's category and becoming the youngest swimmer to complete this event.

Heidi would have loved to participate in the Olympics Games but to her disappointment she failed to meet the standards of the time.

Heidi lived four and a half years in Australia, where she went to university and obtained a BA in biochemistry, while perfecting her English. During her studies there, she discovered a new sport, the triathlon. As she was already a very competent swimmer, she concentrated her training on cycling and running, and managed to participate in the Australian Junior Championship. Unfortunately, she broke her foot and was forced her to abandon the sport until she recovered and could resume her training for competition. Bad luck continued to follow her, though, as she later fell and fractured a collarbone. Needless to say it was a disappointing and even depressing period for her.

Back in Québec City, Heidi taught school for a year and lived in Victoriaville close to her parents, Gilles

Levasseur and Denise Lalancette. She decided to return to school and enrolled in education and psychology at the University of Québec at Trois-Rivières where she obtained a BA in psychology. Simultaneously, she worked as a lifeguard and instructed CPR(cardiopulmonary resuscitation), but her passion for swimming was ever present and she constantly dreamt of training again.

In July 2009, after intensive training in the pool, Heidi attempted to cross Lac St-Jean, but after five hours of swimming, she experienced hypothermia and was forced to abandon her goal. The following month, after she had recovered, she entered a race down the Saguenay River. The swim was easy and she finished first among the women who crossed the finish line!

Heidi wanted to continue swimming and sought out projects that suited her abilities and would help her fulfill her dreams. Also in 2009, she swam down the Saint-Maurice River, a 5 day, 165 km expedition, from La Tuque to Trois-Rivières.

In June of 2010, she hired a team to accompany her, and she began her swim down the St-Lawrence River from Montréal to Québec, a distance of 250 km. It took a great deal of courage and determination to complete this journey. Mid-way and close to her hometown of Trois-Rivières she was hospitalized for gastroenteritis, probably contracted in the waters of the St. Lawrence. Fortunately she was able to leave a day later. The following month, she swam the perimeter of Lac Saint-Jean (130 km) in 5 days. At the end of summer 2010, she swam the St. Maurice River a second time in three days. This event was held concurrently with the annual International Canoe Race on the same river.

This year, our "mermaid" from Trois-Rivières brilliantly completed two new challenges: the first was a 24 hour swim in La Tuque and the second was her swim down the St. Lawrence River between Québec City and Matane, a distance of 350 km.

Heidi swam for her own pleasure and for a good cause. The organization of these events requires a great deal of planning: research for sponsors, escort teams, food and journalists for her arrival at each step along the way. ... She explains that she swam 5 to 6 hours a day without leaving the water very much at all. She ate bananas and granola bars for energy and drank water to stay hydrated.

The Quebec City to Matane trip was rich with challenges and surprises. At Rivière-du-Loup she did not have a safety boat until a few days before her arrival. A local navigator became available to accompany her only 48 hours before her scheduled departure. On the second day, strong winds and storms were forecasted, and she could not leave as planned. Her captain agreed to accompany her at night though, during the 45 km, 6 hour swim between Saint-Michel-de-Bellechasse and Cap Saint-Ignace.

Heidi emphasized that her parents, Gilles and Denise, her boyfriend, a few paid staff and many volunteers were always with her during her long distance expeditions. She also mentioned that she received good press coverage in the region.

She has one or two projects in mind for next year. Right now, she is concentrating on rebuilding her energy and preparing for a conference- dinner and show scheduled for October 22. She also wants to also to take time to prepare lectures using her knowledge of psychology and experiences in competitive sports. Her lectures will concentrate on primarily three areas:

- 1- Testimony
- 2- Motivation;
- 3- Health

In closing, Heidi, a person of heart and courage, said, "With this success, I imagine new swimming challenges. In my dreams, there is also a great mission in my heart. I wish that my projects will



transmit my energy to the young and old alike, so that everyone can achieve their deepest dreams."

Our best wishes and may God speed be with you in your future projects.

For more information, visit their website <http://www.nageverstesreves.com>.



Genealogy of Heidi Levasseur

Pierre Levasseur - Anne Mesnage

Denis Joseph Levasseur - Charlotte Couturier\Labonté

Joseph Levasseur - Madeleine Horne~Lancuville

Etienne Levasseur - Antoinette Genest/Labarre

Etienne Levasseur - Marguerite Larivière

Hilaire Levasseur - Philomène Martin

Adélarde Levasseur - Eugénie Boucher

Gérard Levasseur - Thérèse Forcier

Gilles Levasseur - Denise Lalancette

Heidi Levasseur



From Left to right, Kim Vincent, a good friend, who accompanied Heidi in her kayak from Montréal to Québec City, Denise Lalancette, Heidi's mother, her father, Gilles Levasseur and M. Jean-Claude, mayor of Lavaltrie

Message from the President

by: [Roger Levasseur \(004\)](#)



I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of the Board Members of your Association. Offering our greetings and wishes of happiness and joy at Christmas, is a pleasant task that was voiced by our ancestors and merits being perpetuated by generations to come. It was and always will be a source of gratification for all the Levasseur descendants of Pierre, his brother Jean and Laurent to maintain this great tradition.

Recent accomplishments by the Association.

A new group has been created for the Levasseur families on «Family tree DNA» The E-Mail address is: <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/levasseur/default.aspx>

The objective of this initiative is to reunite all Levasseur and Carmel descendants to explore common genetic heritage. There are presently seven members participating in this project. In the next issue of the News Letter there will be explanations on how to join the project and encourage other Levasseurs to do so. We are one of the few families participating in this project. The Smith family have more than 1400 participants. Our goal is to eventually have 20 participants from various regions in America and Europe.

The Association has initiated discussions with Levasseurs from the Rimouski and Trois Rivières regions to organize regional gatherings as was done in Pohénégamouk in 2010. This method of regrouping many Levasseurs was very effective. The Association will provide assistance to the local organizers of such gatherings. We will be offering work shops on genealogy, the web site, the dictionaries, information on DNA and other related topics.

The Association will be participating at the annual exhibit of the «Famille Souche» (family root). It will be held in Quebec City at the Laurier Center. The exact date of the event will be posted on the web site. It is usually on the last weekend of February. If you are interested in participating notify us by E-Mail at www.levasseur.org



Genealogy

by: [Joceline Levasseur \(328\)](#)

We thank members who sent information pertaining to their families. This information contributes to maintain and develop our data bank. It presently has more than 120,000 entries.

If you have not already done so, please take some time to verify the accuracy of the information about your family in the data bank. If there are corrections to be made please notify us.

http://www.levasseur.org/en/Online_database/

The Association appreciates being notified of any new births, death notices and marriages occurring in your families. Do not forget to mention the name of parents and the location where they occur. The information will be added to the Association's data bank. Your descendants, interested in their family history, will find this information about their family very useful.

Marc R. Levasseur

October, 16, 2011



Marc R. Levasseur, 52, of Manchester died comfortably at his home on October 16, 2011, surrounded by his family and friends. Marc is finally at peace after a five and a half year battle with Lou Gehrig's disease.

He was born in Manchester on September 28, 1959, the son of Joseph A. and late Jeannette I. (LeBlanc) Levasseur.

A dedicated family man, he leaves behind his loving wife, the apple of his eye, Sandi (Sam) Veilleux Levasseur; his favorite son, Joshua R. Levasseur; and his favorite daughter Melissa (Missy) Levasseur Neilsen and his guard dog Scrappy.

He provided great comfort and care to family and friends throughout his life time.

After being a dedicated handyman his entire life, he never missed an opportunity to assist in any way he could through his ideas and tools.

He was employed by Portland Glass for more than 30 years. He considered this not only a job but his second family.

Marc was an Eagle Scout and a member of the Elks Lodge #146. He never missed an opportunity to support his family's activities whether he was involved as a coach or sitting on the sidelines.

He enjoyed fishing, traveling, being a prankster, and having a Jack and Coke with friends.

He was predeceased by his brother Paul A. Levasseur in 1984 and mother Jeannette I. Levasseur in 2007.

He lives on by way of his loving wife of 30 years, Sandra L. (Veilleux) Levasseur; one son, Joshua R. Levasseur; one daughter, Melissa (Levasseur) Neilsen and his favorite son-in-law Richard L. Neilsen, all of Manchester; his father, Joseph A. Levasseur of Manchester; one brother, Denis R. Levasseur and his wife Chantal of Pembroke; one sister, Lesa A. Levasseur of Manchester; his in-laws, Sharon Gomez and husband Richard of Munkton, VT, Brenda Butkus of Manchester, Kevin Veilleux and wife Betty of Manchester, Linda Parkhurst of Lee, Michael Veilleux of Manchester, James Veilleux of Manchester; his mother-in-law, Helen Veilleux of Durham; and special family friend Kelly Britton of Manchester; many nephews and nieces.

In addition to family, we express our love and appreciation to the many special people in his life for their care and support through the years.

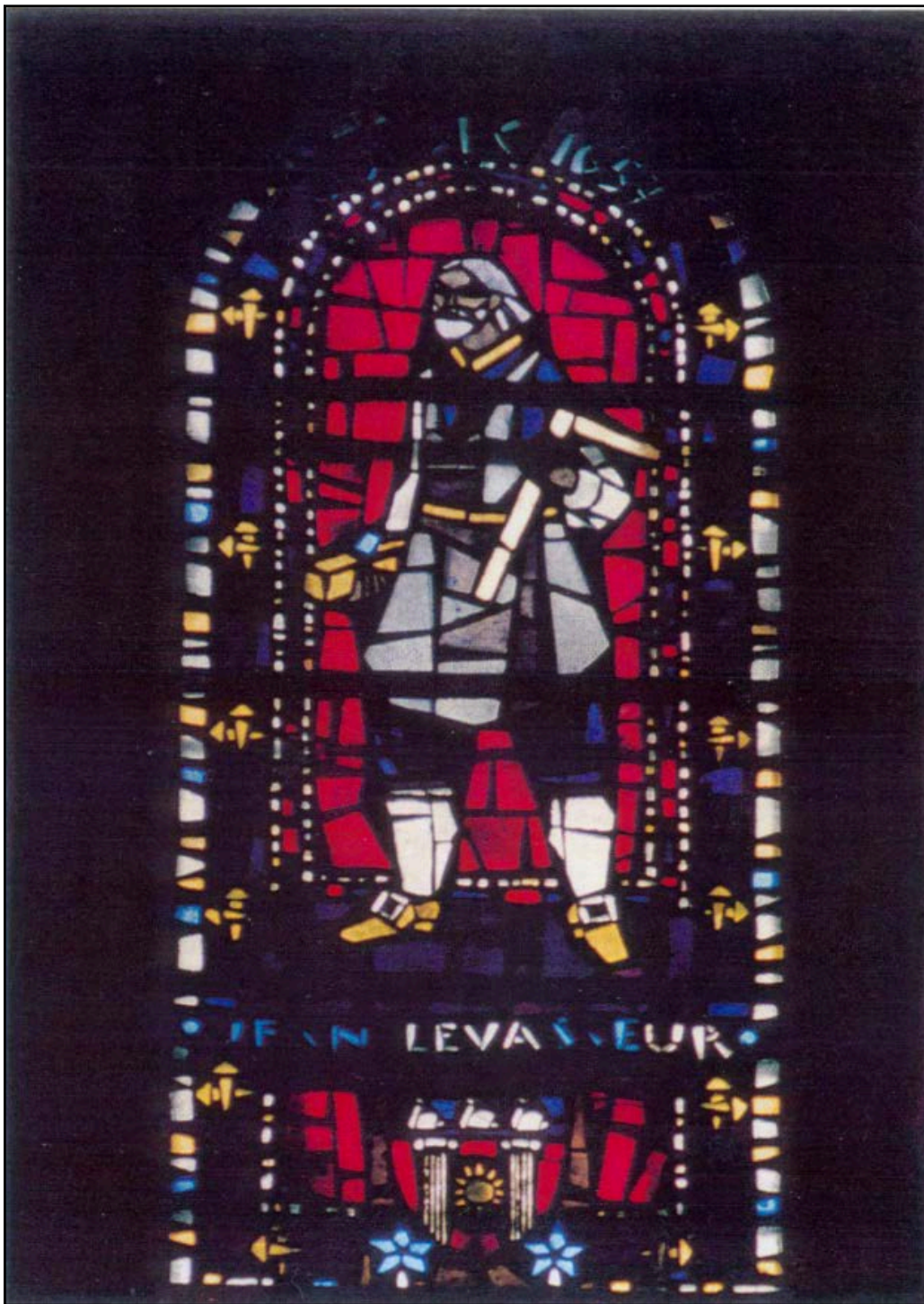
A memorial Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Thursday, October 20, 2011 in Blessed Sacrament Church, So. Elm St. Urn burial followed in Pine Grove Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the E Hope Foundation, Care of Jeffrey Woods, PO Box 7794, Portland, ME 04112 or visit www.ehope.nu for more information.

Marc was Joseph Levasseur's son who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Levasseur Association of America. The Association offers its sympathy to Joseph and his family.

Jean Levasseur dit Lavigne's three grand sons were members of the Récollets

BY: [Joceline Levasseur](#) (328)



Jean Levasseur's drawing in the Sanctuary of Sainte Anne de Beaupré. Jean is the founder of the Sainte-Anne Brotherhood. The drawing represents the City of Quebec in 1657

History

When the French settled in New France their faith came with them. When the Colony first began, between 1615 and 1629, the Récollets (missionary order) came to Canada. They evangelized the Aboriginal people and provided religious services to the French Catholic settlers.

In 1629, following the takeover of Quebec by the Kirke Brothers, the members of the Recollet Order returned to France and did not return to Quebec until 1670. During that period, the parochial duties were carried out by the diocesan clergy. Eventually members of the Recollet order were invited to resume their religious duties in the Colony, due to the vacancies that existed in many regions. They provided religious services at numerous missions and this eventually led to the creation of parishes. The Recollets were also military chaplains at the various forts and garrisons. They accompanied the military on their expeditions, prayed, preached, and administered sacraments in the Chapels. They also assisted the wounded and the dying during battles and accompanied explorers on their perilous expeditions.

Three grand sons, of our ancestor, Jean Levasseur dit Lavigne, were ordained as Recollet priest.

Information about Fathers Bernardin Levasseur and his brother, Michel, was found in the Biographical Dictionary of the Recollets Missionaries of New France. This dictionary was written by Father Odoric Jouve, (Franciscan) based on original documents. In the book, *The Clergy of New France: demographic study and biographical index*, there is information about Hyacinthe Levasseur. He was Bernardin

and Michel's brother. He was not mentioned in the Recollet's original documents, possibly due to the fact that he died at an early age. Also, the Recollet Order's archives were destroyed in a fire in their convent in 1796.

Father Bernardin Levasseur

Pierre-Marie Levasseur, son of Noël Levasseur, master builder, and de Marguerite Guay, was born in Québec on April 19, 1686 and was baptised the following day. Pierre-Jacques de Joybert, squire, Lord of Soulanges (Registry Notre-Dame de Québec) was his godfather. Pierre-Marie studied Humanities at the Jesuit College in Quebec. He joined the Recollet Order in 1716, and was given the name Brother Bernardin. On May 28, 1717, while still a novice, he signed an affidavit attesting to a cure that was attributed to an intercession by Brother Didace Pelletier for the benefit of a companion at the novitiate, Brother Louis-Hyacinthe Dumesny.

Brother Bernardin Levasseur joined the religious order in 1717. He was pleased when his younger brother, Jean-François, followed him to the novitiate. He was given the name Brother Michel.

Brother Bernardin received a clerical tonsure and minor orders on December 5, 1717. He was ordained as a sub deacon on June 30, as a deacon on July 7, and as a priest on July 14, 1720. As a young priest, Father Bernardin went to the Montréal convent where he worked until the end of the summer of 1722. He also provided religious services to many parish priests in the area. On February 20, 1722, he was in Varennes, on March 3rd and April 4th in Lachenaye. On August 23, he was in Saint-François de Sales where he was a curate to Mr Desnoyers, the parish priest of the l'Île Jésus. (see registries of these parishes).

In the fall of 1722 Father Bernardin traveled to France on the vessel, Le Chameau. The trip was at the request or with the consent of the Director of the Saint-Denys Recollets in Paris. This news was sent from Paris on May 31, 1722 to the steward, Bégon, of the Marine Council: «Father LeVasseur, Récollet, who will be going from Quebec to France: the Council requests that you give out the necessary orders for him to embark on the ship, Le Chameau within the Captain's quarters.» The Father Levasseur referred to in this document had to have been Father Bernardin, since his brother had not yet been ordained. Father Bernardin Levasseur did not return to Canada. He died in Versaille on March 31st 1733 at the age of 36, having spent 17 years with the Recollet order. (Orbituary, fol. 9). – Odoric Jouve.

Father Michel Levasseur

Son of Noël Levasseur, of Québec and master builder, and Marguerite Guay, Jean-François Levasseur was born and baptised in Québec on July 26, 1698. His godfather was François de Lajoue, architect. He studied at the Jesuit College where he completed his philosophical studies. He spent some time at the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital from February 3rd to 23rd 1714. (registry of the sick). Like his brother, Pierre-Marie, he took the Franciscans' cloth and the name Michel with the Recollet order in 1718. He took his vows on September 5, 1719 in the company of Brother Ambroise Rouillard (Table of Rouen). In 1723, in the Church of the General Hospital, he received his tonsure and minor orders as a sub deacon on November 30th. He became a deacon on December 5th and was ordained a priest on December 18 with three other Recollets.

The following year he became a military chaplain, a position he held for a quarter of a century. He accompanied the troops and was sent with Mr. de Plainville to the Chagouamignon post on Lake Superior. Following his return to Quebec, he served as a Chaplain in Chambly

On his way to Montreal, he visited Father Antoine Martin de Lino in Batiscan where he presided over a burial on October 25, 1724. On November 18, 1724 he signed a first official act in Chambly where he was chaplain of the fort and a missionary for the inhabitants until January 1747. On August 17, 1730 he celebrated a baptism in Laprairie since the parish priest, Father Jorian, was sick. He returned on February 17, 1736 and performed another baptism. At that time, Father Jacques Marchand de Lignery was the parish priest. In Chambly, he had a church constructed and it was dedicated to La Conception. The territory had been divided in two parishes, Chambly, and the parish of Saint-Joseph previously Saint-Louis and that of La Conception, known today as Saint-Mathias de Rouville. We believe that Father Michel Levasseur supervised the construction of the new church and it was blessed on November 24, 1732. Father Levasseur served both parishes. He also kept the registry in La Conception that began with the blessing of the church.

Father Michel was frequently assisted by many of his confreres. On June 30th 1746, supplies were given to him for a special delivery. «Father Michel (Levasseur), Recollet, to visit Fort Frédéric on behalf of the king.» This information was obtained from the registry of the King's store in Montreal. The special delivery was mentioned in the «Expenses for Fort Saint-Frédéric».

His signature appeared on the registry of La Conception parish in Chambly on September 3rd, 1746. On September 26, he presided over a baptism in Laprairie-de-la-Madeleine as the parish priest was absent. The final record bearing his name in the Chambly registry was on January 7, 1747. After that, there is a record of him having celebrated a baptism in Laprairie on January 15, 1747, when the parish priest was absent. On February the 12, 1747, he celebrated a baptism in Boucherville, which

was recorded by the parish priest but signed by Father Michel. On April 4th, he was in Lanoraie to preside over a burial. On March 30th, April 4th and 16th he presided over four baptisms in Lavaltrie. The Parish priest ,Father Gaspard Dunière, was absent. Father Michel Levasseur was ther after in Berthier-en-Haut where he was the parish priest, until 1751.

In 1757, Father Michel departed for France. On October 13, 1757, E. Mongolia, Superior of the Sulpiciens religious order wrote to Mr Deville, bursar of the Saint Sulpice Order in Paris telling him to « pay to the order of P. Michel Levasseur Recollet, of Versailles the sum of sixty seven pounds and ten sols, sum received from Father (Jacques Marchland) de Lingerie, Priest.»This payment was made on February 19, 1768 when Father Michel was in Versaille. Though we do not have a record of his death, he more than likely died in France since there is no indication that he returned to Canada. – Odoric Jouve

According to Levasseur-Borgia, « Father Michel Recollet, Canadian born and named Levasseur was chaplain to the Queen of France, Marie Leszinski, wife of Louis XV and daughter of Stanislas King of Poland. (Cf. ASQ, Journal de Joseph Levasseur)

Joseph Levasseur-Borgia was a second cousin, two generations, to Fathers Bernardin, Michel and Hyacinthe Levasseur.

Father Hyacinthe Levasseur

Son of Noël Levasseur, master builder, and Marguerite Guay, Charles-Thomas Levasseur was born and baptised on November 6, 1701. He chose the Franciscan cloth and the religious name of Father Hyacinthe Levasseur.

According to: The Clergy of New France: demographic study and biographical index, Father Hyacinthe Levasseur was ordained in 1723. He died in Québec, on April 29 1727 at the age of 25.

Sources:

-JOUVE, Odoric. Dictionnaire biographique des Récollets missionnaires en Nouvelle-France, Canada, Éditions Bellarmin, 1996.

-PELLETIER, Louis. Le clergé en Nouvelle-France : étude démographique et répertoire biographique, Montréal, Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1993.

-PRDH. Programme de recherche en démographie historique, [<http://www.genealogie.umontreal.ca/fr/>].

Récollets

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Former Récollets monastery in [Saverne](#)

The **Récollets** (*English: Recollects*) were a French branch of the Roman Catholic order, the [Franciscans](#) (*Latin: Ordo Fratrum Minorum*), which developed out of a reform movement that began in the 15th century in Spain and established itself in France in [Tulle](#) in 1585, at [Nevers](#) in 1592, at [Limoges](#) in 1596 and in [Paris](#) in 1603. According to one historian, "Recollection-houses are, strictly speaking, those monasteries to which friars desirous of devoting themselves to prayer and penance can withdraw to consecrate their lives to spiritual recollection". The French Récollets had 11 provinces with 2534 [cloisters](#) by the late 18th century. The order was suppressed during the [French Revolution](#).

Another reform of the Friars Minor that took the name "Recollet" existed in the countries of the German-Belgian Nation of the [Order of Friars Minor](#). By the end of the 17th century all the provinces of the German-Belgian Nation of the Order of Friars Minor were Recollet. This branch of the Recollects did not die out with the French Revolution but survived and was reinvigorated in the 19th century. It was one of the four branches of the Order of Friars Minor that united in the Leonine Union of 1897.

Phélanise Levasseur (1883-1941)

by: Bernard Gaouette

Bernard Gaouette is a new member to our Association. He recently discovered our web site and would have liked to be at our annual meeting in Sherbrooke Unfortunately he was not able to attend because his 90 year old wife was hospitalized. He is also 90 years old. In the past, prior to the foundation of our Association, Bernard was involved in organizing family gatherings for the Levasseur and Gaouette. They were held in St-Patrice de Tingwick (1983), St-André de Kamouraska (1984) and Saint-Éleuthère (1988)



PHÉLANISE LEVASSEUR
EPOUSE D'EUGÈNE GAOUILLETTÉ

Phélanise Levasseur was born on August 30th 1883 in Saint-Patrice de Tingwick, close to Victoriaville. She was the daughter of Rémi Levasseur and Amanda Cayouette. Phélanise was the 14th child of a family of 16 children.

At the age of sixteen she taught French in the morning and English in the afternoon in a parochial school. At nineteen, she entered a convent in Longueuil but left after 18 months. She continued teaching until she was 32 years old, prior to settling down to have a family. One day a young widower from Wotton, Eugene Gaolette, visited her and invited her to come to teach in Wotton, where he lived with his eight children. The eldest was twelve and his baby was one year old. His visit was a pretext to ask Phélanise to marry him and she accepted.

They were married in Saint-Patrice de Tingwick, on January 11, 1916. Eugène was 37 years old. The day after the marriage Phélanise moved into Eugene's home with his children. It was a strange feeling for Phélanise to be surrounded by all of the memories of the deceased mother, but she had decided to make the best of things, for better or for worse. At that time the family lived without electricity or running water and without much money. Like most families in Wotton at that time the Gaouette were poor.

On November 20, 1916, Phélanise gave birth to her first child, Clément. He brought joy to the family. On April 1st 1918, Margueritte was born and the

following year on April 29, Conrad was born. On June 4, 1920, Phélanise gave birth to Rémi. Roland arrived on September 24, 1921. He died 10 years later. On March 12, 1924, another boy arrived, who died soon after his birth. On April 27, 1925, Bernard was born - that's me - and thus the family of Eugène Gaouette and Phélanise Levasseur was completed.



Eugène Gaouette's father was Remi and his mother was Mathilde Lemire. He was born on February 10, 1869 in Wotton and baptized the following day. He married Phélanise Levasseur (daughter of Rémi Levasseur and Amanda Cayouette on January 11, 1916 in Tingwick. Eugène died on February 5, 1956. Phélanise who was born on August 30, 1883 in Tingwick passed away on October 13, 1941. The two are buried in Wotton. Their son Conrad was ordained to the priesthood on June 7, 1952. He was a parish priest in Asbestos and in Compton. Marguerite is Eugène and Phélanise's daughter.

Phélanise had 37 cousins who were in various religious orders and she frequently corresponded with them. Phélanise did not like to leave her home. In fact, I only saw my mother go out once to a New Year's family gathering. For her it was imperative that she stay at home. She was happy to be with her children.

With his first wife, Eugène Gaouette had three boys and five girls. One joined the order of «Les Sœurs de la Providence». Her religious name was «Sœur Angèle du Sacré-Cœur».

With his wife Phélanise Levasseur, Eugène had one daughter and for boys. Conrad was ordained to the priesthood on June 7, 1952 in Sherbrooke.

My mother, who had been a school teacher, spent whatever free time she had reading, writing and praying. She transcribed five lengthy volumes on the history of the Catholic Church, the lives of popes and other religious topics. The books she copied into hundreds of note books, belonged to a cousin in a religious order. This was a voluminous task.

My mother had three sisters in Asbestos: Cécile, wife of Louis Blanchette; Oliva, wife of Louis Deshaies; and Angéla, that of

Edmond Carignan. The three sisters frequently visited my mother in Wotton.

I remember when I was ten years old going raspberry picking with my mother. She enjoyed picking berries to make jams. When I was twelve years old I would hitch the horse to a buggy and my mother and I would visit the eighteen homes on the concession to collect donations for Sainte Anne. I am very pleased to be writing about this activity. My mother had an outstanding devotion for the Blessed Virgin. She went once to the sanctuary in Cap-de-la-Madeleine and four times to Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. When we would be out for a drive to do errands with my father, my mother would say the rosary.

In the years spanning 1920 to 1925, the telephone was introduced in Wotton. The town needed someone to maintain and repair the phones. My father applied for the job and got it without knowing much about telephones. My mother, who was very resourceful, took a correspondence course from Boston on maintaining and repairing telephones. Within two months, my father learned everything he needed for maintaining and repairing telephones, thanks to my mother, who was an excellent teacher.

After a lengthy disease and a fruitful life my mother passed away on October 13, 1941 at the age of 58. Her funeral was held two days later in the Wotton parochial church. She had been an active participant in that church for more than 25 years.



Conrad Gaouette

Paternal Ascendance of Phélanise Levasseur

First generation

Laurent Levasseur (1648-1726) & Marie Marchand (1651-1716)
 Marriage: April 30, 1670, Québec, QC

Second generation

Pierre Levasseur (1679-1738) & Élisabeth Michaud (1685-1766)
 Marriage: May 8, 1703 Rivière-Ouelle, Kamouraska, QC

Third generation

Joseph Levasseur (1719-1781) & Marie-Madeleine Albert (1717-1763)
 Mariage : 15 janvier 1742 Kamouraska, QC

Fourth generation

Joseph Levasseur (1748-1823) & Josephte Ouellet (1748-1829)
 Marriage: January 15, 1742 Kamouraska, QC

Fifth generation

Raphaël Levasseur (1787-1867) & Félicité Lebel (1792-1861)
 Marriage: April 26, 1773 Kamouraska, QC

Sixth generation

Adolphe Levasseur (1813-1892) & Archange Gagné (1824 & 1902)
 Marriage: August 17, 1812 Kamouraska, QC

Seventh generation

Rémi Levasseur (1848-1915) & Amanda Cayouette (1859-1934)
 Marriage: May 15, 1877 St-Patrice, Tingwick, Arthabaska, QC

Eighth génération

Phélanise Levasseur (1883-1941) & Eugène Gaouette (1879-1956)
 Marriage: January 11, 1916 St-Patrice, Tingwick, Arthabaska, QC

Received from our members

Many thanks to [Jennifer Varin \(490\)](#)



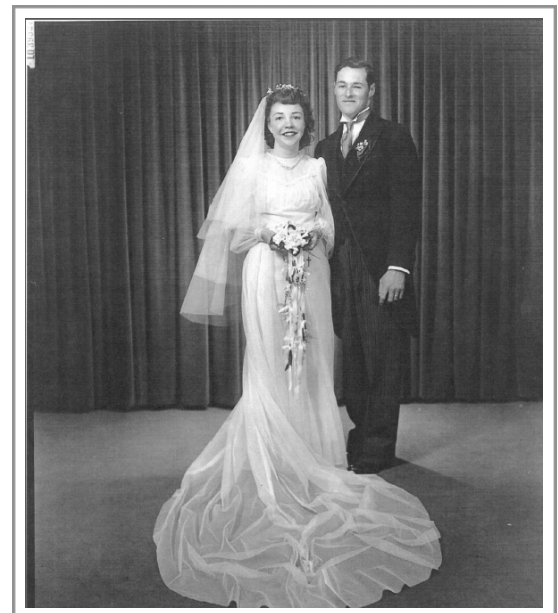
Photo of Louis and Scholastique Levasseur (elderly couple in the middle of the front row), and their children. My great grandmother, Marie Levasseur, is second from the left, and is seated.



This photo is of Marie Levasseur and John Michaud, shortly before they were married. The photo is dated August, 1921, and the couple were married August 31, 1921.



John and Marie (formerly Levasseur) Michaud are pictured with their children. My grandmother, Rita, is the oldest of the children, and is the fourth person from the left. She would have been about 13 in this picture. Her siblings, from left to right, are Pauline, Dot (Dorothy), and Jerry. The photo was taken in late 1935



This photo is of the wedding of my grandparents, Rita Michaud and Camil Beland. The photo was taken April 30th, 1946.

Lineage of Jennifer Varin to Laurent Levasseur

by: Joceline Levasseur

First generation: Laurent Levasseur (1648-1726) & Marie Marchand (1651-1716)

Marriage: April 30, 1670, Québec, QC

Second generation: Pierre Levasseur (1679-1738) & Élisabeth Michaud (1685-1766)

Marriage: May 8, 1703 Rivière-Ouelle, Kamouraska, QC

Third generation: Joseph Levasseur (1719-1781) & Marie-Madeleine Albert (1717-1763)

Marriage: January 15, 1742 Kamouraska, QC

Fourth generation: Joseph Levasseur (1748-1823) & Josephte Ouellet (1748-1829)

Marriage: April 26 1773 Kamouraska, QC

Fifth generation: Joseph Levasseur (1790-1873) & Marie-Angélique Vaillancourt (1797-1821)

Marriage: January 30, 1815 Kamouraska, QC

Sixth generation: Joseph Levasseur (1816-1903) & Aglaé Lacroix (1828-)

Marriage : 26 mai 1846 Beaumont, Bellechasse, QC

Seventh generation: Louis Levasseur (1852-1943) & Scholastique Goulet (1866-1926)

Marriage February 5, 1883 Saint-Zénon, Frontenac, QC

Eighth generation: Marie-Ann Levasseur (1895-1968) & John Michaud (1890-1943)

Marriage: August 31, 1921 Lowell, MA

Ninth generation: Rita Marie Michaud (1922-) & Camil Alfred Beland (1922-)

Marriage: April 30, 1946 Lowell, MA

Tenth generation: Joyce Louise Beland (1953-) & Richard Goedel (1944-)

Marriage: December 9, 1972 Tuscon, AZ

Eleventh generation: Jennifer Dawn Goedel (1975-) & Dana Varin (1975-)

Marriage: June 24, 2000 Safford, AZ

Historical facts about the city of Lowell, MA

New immigrant groups moved into the city. In the 1870s and 1880s, [French Canadians](#) began moving into an area which became known as [Little Canada](#). Later French Canadian immigrants included the parents of famed [Beat generation](#) writer [Jack Kerouac](#), a native of the city. At the end of the 19th century, [Greeks](#) moved into the sections of the old Irish Acre. Other Europeans such as the [Portuguese](#), [Polish](#), [Lithuanians](#) and [Swedes](#) as well as [Jews](#) came to work in Lowell and settled their own neighborhoods in Back Central and Lower Highlands. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, approximately 35 percent of Lowell's 100,000 residents were foreign born.

The Levasseur Association

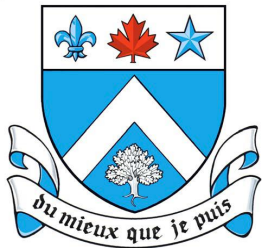
The Association, Levasseur d'Amérique Inc. is a non-profit organization, founded in 1988, in accordance to a federal charter. Its goals are:

- ★ To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor, Vasser.
- ★ To organize meetings and gatherings that reinforce links between the members of the great Levasseur family.
- ★ To promote, develop and diffuse historical genealogical knowledge about the Levasseur families with Internet, an electronic Newsletter published three times per year also the publication of genealogical dictionaries.

- ★ To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base available to members at all times on the Internet.
- ★ To make available to members a family photo album and the Newsletters that the Association has published since 1988.
- ★ To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that are chronicle the Levasseur family.
- ★ To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the heritage of our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

Your Association is managed by a board of directors made up of official members who offer their services voluntarily and who come from various regions in North America. (Québec, Ontario, Maritimes and New England). Official members of the Association come from all parts of Canada but (40%) come from the United States. Our executive meets two to three times per year to discuss mainly future meetings, publications for our members and genealogy.

L'Association des Levasseur d'Amérique is also a member of the Fédération des familles-souches québécoises (www.ffsq.qc.ca).



The Coat of Arms has been granted and assigned by the Herald of Canada on October 15, 1997 to l'Association des Levasseur d'Amérique:

*Azure a chevron between an oak tree an base and a chief Argent charged with a maple leaf Gules between dexter a fleur-de-lis and sinister a mullet Azure ; And for a Motto:
DU MIEUX QUE JE PUIS*

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The Levasseur Newsletter

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