

*New : the  
Association's Forum  
on Web site*

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# President's message

This message is the report by Roger Levasseur at the Association's annual meeting in St-Grégoire on August 24, 2013.



The President's report must notify the members of an association of the successes and the shortcomings of the organization during the past year. It is always good to have in mind the goal and objectives of the Association. As a report, I have chosen to review with the members, the objectives of our Levasseur Association to ensure that we are on the right track. So here are the [goals and objectives](#) and how we achieve them.

- To join together and unite a large number of Levasseur and other descendants who have adopted the patronymic Borgia, Carmel, Carmell, Vasseur, Vassor and Vasser

Think of the Web site [www.levasseur.org](http://www.levasseur.org), the Newsletter and the report and presentation about the Levasseurs who settled in St-Maurice region.

Think about the gatherings that were held in [Rimouski](#), [Pohénégamook](#) and the one planned for Trois Rivières in 2014.

- 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.

Think of the [many reports](#) prepared by our members and that were published in our [newsletter](#).

- To maintain and update, on an ongoing basis, the genealogical data base available to members at all times on the Internet.

Think about the review of obituaries published in numerous newspapers and the many additions by our genealogist and the regular update of the database.

- To make available for members, an album of family photos and to publish a Newsletters which the Association has been doing since 1988.

New photos are added to the [Family photo album](#) section on the site regularly. It is a good way to ensure that your photos will be preserved for future generations. We encourage you to send your old family photos. Visit the section «[For our archives](#)» on the site.

- To honor the memory of our forefathers and their descendants by way of monuments, plaques or symbolic gestures that commemorate historic events that area chronicle of the Levasseur family.

Despite the refusal of Canada Post to issue a stamp in honor of [Dr. Irma LeVasseur](#) in 2014, the association make a new application next year.

- To gather all documents related to the Levasseur family for the purpose of constructing archives that will constitute the [heritage](#) or our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

[New publications](#) are added by our members related to research on the Levasseur families.

As you can see, thanks to the work of the members of the Board of Directors and you, the members of our association, our association's objectives are fulfilled. The association depends on its members to ensure that the Levasseur Association of America continues to progress.

## Laurent Levasseur fished for eel in the 17<sup>e</sup> century

By: [Jean-Pierre Levasseur](#) (250)

«In the XVII<sup>th</sup> century the Saint-Laurent River concealed a treasure that aroused the interest of French directors. The wealth of this wildlife was such that it was expected to entice pioneers and businessmen, who, with the blessing of the King, would exploit this wealth. At the King's request, in 1668 the Governor, Pierre Boucher, established: The Saint-Laurent Fisheries: [www.ruralys.orgs](http://www.ruralys.orgs)»

Micheline Champoux presented eel fishing in an article titled The Fishing and Preservation of Eel. Her article summarizes a book titled: *EEL*, by Roger Martin.

*«Europeans fished for eel for many centuries. American Indians in the 17th century fished for eel using hoop nets that could contain as many as five to six hundred eels. Each fall they would catch large quantities of eel for the winter months.*

*American Indians placed these hoop nets in the mud on the riverbed. To guide the fish towards the net they would make a stone wall in a «V» form and thus direct fish to the net. The French used nets. This method was also very effective.*

*Pierre Boucher wrote about eel fishing 300 years ago saying: "Catches are unbelievable, actually one fisherman caught more than 50 thousand. They are big and tastier than the one's caught in France. They can be salted and preserved for over a year. Eel is excellent nutriment."*

Another author writes that at the River Ouelle "More than one hundred thousand eel were caught at the mouth of river in 1870" Cold Autumn winds push the eel in the bays and the fish can be caught when the tide recedes». In addition, eel was fished on

the, Île d'Orléans and both sides of the Saint Laurent.

At the time, there was no refrigeration and canning had yet to be discovered. There were three methods to preserve food; salting, smoking or drying. For the preservation of eel, the fishermen would put salt in a barrel and added water to pickle the eel in brine.

To determine whether the brine was sufficiently salted, the fishermen would throw a potato in the brine and if it floated the brine was sufficiently salted to preserve the fish. The fish was kept in the brine until it was sold.

To prepare the eel prior to an expedition, the fishermen would wash it in very hot water. Then they would press the eel until droplets of blood could be seen running from the gills. At that point they knew that it could be kept. Eel was sold in the 1900's by superimposing one row of fish and one of salt.

The barrel, when full, would be sealed and shipped by train. A prepared eel would be sold for 11 to 12 cents. Lent was the best time for the sale of eel because at that time it was forbidden by the church to eat meat during the 40 days of lent.

Eel could be sold dried or smoked. Prior to smoking, the eel would be soaked in brine and after washing it and placing small sticks



H. Vover

Wooden hoop nets to catch the eel



Fishing for eel on the shores of Lauzon

Champlain arrived in 1608 where the city of Québec is presently located. The Algonquins came to the area to fish for eel and barter. They used wooden hoop nets to catch the eel. Some time ago there was ample fishing for eel on the Saint-Laurent.

*Fishing in the estuaries. Photo Canadian Museum of Civilizations, History of Canada in images, Vol 65, no 26*

to keep it open the eel would be suspended over a barrel in which there was a fire in the bottom.

To feed the fire, maple tree sawdust and corn cob hearts from sweet corn were used, thus giving a taste of sweetness to the eel being smoked. After being exposed to smoking for a few days the eel could be kept for some time.

These conservation techniques enable the early settlers to survive if they ran out of cereal products during the winter months. For this reason it can be said that Eel fishing played an important part in the history of Québec. <http://www.uqtr.quebec.ca/~bougaiief/Culture/textes/pechangu.htm>

## LAURENT LEVASSEUR SETTLES IN LAUZON

Our ancestor Laurent Levasseur arrived in Québec in 1663. Upon his arrival and until 1669 he was hired by Guillemette Hébert, Guillaume Couillard's widow. On September 22, 1669, Laurent Levasseur rented land from Henri Breau de Pomerville on Lauzon Hill, today the town of Saint-David-de-l'Auberivière.



Laurent was a very active young man. Within two months after signing his lease, on November 19, 1669, he contracted to marry Marie Marchand, daughter of Louis Marchand and Françoise Morineau, before the notary R. Bacquet. This family arrived in Canada in the summer of 1669 and settled close to the land Laurent Levasseur had rented. The marriage was held five months later on April 30, 1670 in the Notre-Dame church in Québec. Here are two notarized contracts mentioning fishing

*"The first settlers in the colony fish for eel on the shores of the Saint-Laurent. They had the appropriate techniques to preserve it all winter"*

for eel as being one of Laurent Levasseur's trades.

**NOTARIZED CONTRACT DUQUET 22-09-1669**

September 22, 1669, Henri Breau dit Pomerville rents to Laurent Levasseur for a period of three years his farm on the Lauzon Hill. He may: make use of the house and the production of the land. Henri Breau altered and renewed the lease on August 15, 1670 for two years in consideration of one half of the production gains and two barrels of salted eel.

"The first settlers in the colony fish for eel on the shores of the Saint-Laurent. They had the appropriate techniques to preserve it all winter"

**NOTARIZED CONTRACT RIVET 04-05-1716**

Laurent 's wife passed away in late 1715 or early 1716. The nuns at the General Hospital agreed to take care of his daughter Marie Renette (sic) Levasseur "innocent girl, aged 22 years". They agreed to care for the girl during her lifetime in consideration of 300 pounds cash, a parcel of land she inherited following her mother's death and an acre of land on the river willed to her by her grand-father Louis Marchand. In addition Laurent agreed to provide 500 eels to the nuns each year.

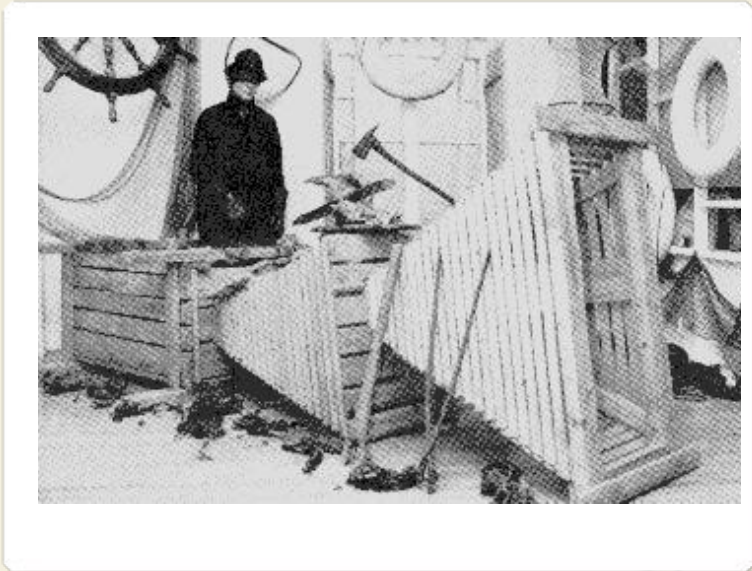
**THE LAST OF EEL FISHERMEN ON THE SAINT-LAURENT**

Since the eighties, researchers and fishermen have noticed a significant reduction of eel in the Saint-Laurent. According to the biologist Guy Verreault with Québec's ministry of resources, this is; "a drastic free fall".

Over the years more than 12,000 dams or other obstacles have been erected on the

Saint-Laurent and the Great Lakes, thus significantly reducing or eliminating the breeding grounds and growth area for eels.

An interesting article on the topic of the disappearance of eel fishing will be published on canoe.ca.



Sources:

<http://www.ruralys.org>

<http://www.uqtr.quebec.ca/~bougaiief/Culture/textes/pechangu.htm>

MARTIN, Roger, L'anguille, Montréal, Éditions Léméac, 1980.

[www.ville.levis.qc.ca/](http://www.ville.levis.qc.ca/)

Musée canadien des civilisations

# Daniel Levasseur

## From Italy to Switzerland

by: **Pauline Levasseur, Québec**

(This text recounts the journey that brought my brother Daniel of the Italy to the Switzerland.)

It was during our stay in Europe that my brother Daniel was born. Our family spent four years in Europe from 1959 to 1963. My father was part of the Canadian air force and was transferred to France. We lived in Belgium and then in Italy during this period.



Article from "IL CORRIERE DE CAGLIARI" January 2, 1962

Born at three o'clock

The first born baby of Cagliari in 1962 is... a Canadian. This new child is the seventh born baby of a Canadian airman stations at RCAF Decimomannu HP Levasseur, age 38, of Montreal.

The baby's mother is a Parisian, Madam Denise Laroche, age 24, who is regaining her forces rapidly and should vacate her room shortly. The Levasseur couple has not yet decided what name will be given to that new child; It seems that according to traditions, and on short notice, his name could be "Joseph" and "Daniele".

The "Piccolo" is born at the San Antonio Clinic at about three o'clock in the morning. With the assistance of Doctor Tullio Usai, the situation unfolded rapidly. Therefore, we are pleased to note that the mother and the baby are going very well. (First baby in Sardinia in 1962)

In fact, the "Piccolo" is going very well!

It is on the island of Sardinia, Italy, that Daniel was born. My mother gave birth to her sixth child on January 1, 1962. According to the birth place of my brothers and sisters, it is possible to follow the different places my parents lived during the ten years my parents spent abroad. Thus Daniel was born in Cagliari, capital of Sardinia. He was the first baby of the year for Sardinia. At the time, an article appeared in the local newspaper about his birth. It was full of errors because the journalist never met my parents and wrote it from information provided by a nurse. It noted among other things, that the parents came from Paris. My father kept this article and translated it into French (see attached article in Italian (Sardinian) and translation)

Regarding Daniel's birth, my mother says that her stay in an Italian hospital was difficult. At the time, following childbirth, practices were not the same in Italy as they were in Quebec. In Québec, the baby was placed in the nursery and nurses took care of newborns while the mothers were resting. In Italy, the baby was in the same room as the mother. In addition, at that time for Canadian women, breast feeding was not as common as it is today. The Italian did not understand this and did not know how prepare feeding bottles. That being the case my mother chose to return home where she had a maid to help take care of the baby and the other children.

Daniel was a year old when we returned to Quebec. He was a bright and mischievous child.

His studies brought him to Europe. Daniel was studying in theology with interest in pastoral care. At the time of his

## Daniel Levasseur's family file

- Born 1 January 1962 - Cagliari, Italie
- Age : 51 years old
- Baptized 14 January 1962 - Nostra Signora Della Salute Poetto, Italie

### Parents

- [Henri Paul Levasseur 1932](#)
- [Ruprime Denise Larouche 1931](#)

### Spouses and children

- Married 16 September 1988, Bulle, Suisse, to [Agnès Seydoux 1959-](#) with
  - ♂ [Jean Levasseur 1989-](#)
  - ♀ [Marie Levasseur 1991-](#)
  - ♀ [Mathilde Levasseur 1993-](#)

studies, he joined the White Father, missionaries of Africa. He first went to study in Switzerland and later he continued his studies at Toulouse. It was in Switzerland that he met Agnès who was to become his wife. Agnès is a native of Gruyère in Switzerland. After leaving the White Fathers, Daniel completed his studies at Université Laval in Quebec City. Thereafter he returned to Switzerland where he married Agnès in 1988. He has lived a small village in the middle of the mountains of Gruyère for 20 years now. He works in the field of pastoral care in prisons.

Agnes and Daniel have three children who feel they have a Swiss/Quebec identity: Jean (see his article on the Swiss Army), Marie and Mathilde. When Daniel settled in Switzerland, he and Agnes have decided that they would visit Quebec every two years. Daniel and Agnes have been faithful, visiting their family on a regular basis and thus, forging Quebec roots for their children and creating an attachment with the Levasseur family. The Levasseurs in Québec have also visited Daniel and his family in Switzerland.

Daniel has developed a particular attachment to Pohénégamook, the home of his ancestors, where my brother René has his cottage and where Rosaire, my dad's cousin lives. Daniel left Sardinia when he was one year old and never returned. Next fall, Daniel, Agnès and I will be in the Mediterranean area to visit Cagliari. It will be a homecoming for Daniel and I after more than 50 years... and an opportunity to celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



Daniel and Agnès' wedding photo (1988)



Pauline Levasseur and Daniel Levasseur (2012)

# Jean Levasseur and the Swiss military service

by: **Pauline Levasseur, Québec**

## Swiss Military service

Military service is an obligation in Switzerland like it is in many other countries. For women it is optional however they can do it on a voluntary basis. Foreigners are exempted.

In principle, Swiss men must do their military service. For Swiss with dual citizenship certain agreements pertaining to questions related to military service requirements have been signed between Switzerland and the following countries: Germany, France, Italy, Austria and the United States..



**My military career**

I was invited to attend an information session about the requirements of the Swiss military at the age of 18.

A year later I was convened to a two day session to pass physical, psychological and medical tests to determine in what area I would be most suited to serve.



On November 1st I went to the Poya military barracks in Fribourg. After being greeted in a strict military fashion I entered in the Swiss military system completely unknown to me. During the first seven weeks I was initiated to basic general information (BGI) that included training in the following areas: armaments, nuclear biological chemistry, self-aid and comrade assistance etc. After this training I was re-evaluated based on my competence and my ability to

learn. I must have done well because I was promoted.

After these seven weeks of training I was promoted to the rank of soldier and shortly before Christmas I was sent to the Moudon barracks where I was to train as a non-commissioned officer. The first week I felt hesitant and unmotivated. A warrant officer succeeded in giving me some courage and motivation to pursue but it was the friendship and camaraderie of my fellow classmates that really supported me giving me the required perseverance to succeed.

I was able to successfully share my knowledge with new recruits. There were some comics in the class but I chose to link up with the hard workers and that paid off when came time for inspection.

After 8 weeks of non-commissioned officer training I was sent to Fribourg in March for the schooling of new recruits (March, July and November). After seven weeks of basic instructions we started teaching the methods of transmission (radios, telephones, and vehicles).



Ascendance de Jean Levasseur sur deux générations. Jean est descendant de l'ancêtre Laurent Levasseur



After 12 weeks with this new recruit school, I was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The atmosphere that prevailed in our section was agreeable, joyful and we were a close knitted group, thus our section manage to score the best marks for all inspections.

For the last six weeks of my training, I left the Fribourg barracks and went to the Bernese Langnau region where we put our knowledge to use in a supply company. We were the first group in the final inspection. All came to an end on July 15, 2011. A hard time for a return to civil life but it was well appreciated.

Pour les 6 dernières semaines de cette école, nous avons quitté la caserne de Fribourg pour nous diriger dans la région bernoise de Langnau où nous avons pratiqué notre fonction au sein d'une compagnie de ravitaillement. Nous sommes sortis les meilleurs à l'inspection finale.

Military services for the Swiss does not end after having graduated from recruit training. Each year I am assigned for 4 weeks of continued training. I am required to follow these courses until I am 29 years old. It is a good occasion to renew friendship with old colleagues and instructors.

\* Battalion site:

<http://www.lba.admin.ch/internet/lba/fr/home/verbaende/logbr/unterstellmoblog.html>

Swiss Army site

<http://www.vtg.admin.ch/internet/vtg/fr/home/schweizerarmee.html>



## New : The Association's Forum

by: [Jean-Pierre Levasseur](#) (250)

According to Wikipedia, an Internet forum is an online discussion feature where people can hold conversations in the form of posted messages. They differ from chat rooms in that messages can be archived. Forum, is a term of Latin origin (popularized in English), designating a place in a city for discussion on commercial issues.

You are welcome participate in this forum. Its principal goal is to allow the Levasseurs, Carmels, Carmells, Vasseurs, Vassor and Vasser to exchange information about matters pertaining to genealogy.

It is easy to register.

- Click on «Register», on the top right of the page and select your language.
- If you are already registered, click on «Login» to accede.

What you will find:

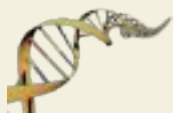
- Genealogical request for marriage dates, missing parent's name that are not in our data base.
- Information about various activities of the Association.
- General information about the Levasseur families. They will be handled by members participating on the forum or by the administrator of the site.

This application (phpBB) is an Internet forum package written in the PHP scripting language. The name "phpBB" is an abbreviation of PHP Bulletin Board. Available under the GNU General Public License, phpBB is free and open source software.

The screenshot displays the phpBB forum interface for www.levasseur.org. The header includes the site name and a search bar. The main content area shows a list of forum topics with columns for 'SUJET(S)', 'REPONSE(S)', and 'CONSULTATION(S) / DERNIER MESSAGE'. The topics listed are:

SUJET(S)	REPONSE(S)	CONSULTATION(S) / DERNIER MESSAGE
Looking for parents - Suzie Bellavance & Réal Levasse par jpi1947 • Ven Jul 19, 2013 8:13 am	1	5 par Jean-Pierre ☺ Ven Jul 19, 2013 8:15 am
Mariage & parents of Rémi Levasseur Claire Marengère par Admin • Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:04 pm	0	4 par Admin ☺ Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:04 pm
Mariage et parents de Rémi Levasseur et Claire Marengère par Admin • Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:03 pm	0	3 par Admin ☺ Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:03 pm
Parents de Robert G. Levasseur de Nashua par Admin • Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:02 pm	0	2 par Admin ☺ Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:02 pm
Donald Levasseur marié à Ann Llimatainen par Admin • Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:00 pm	0	2 par Admin ☺ Jeu Jul 18, 2013 1:00 pm
Recherche mariage L. Barrière et R. Levasseur par Jean-Pierre • Jeu Jul 18, 2013 9:30 am	0	4 par Jean-Pierre ☺ Jeu Jul 18, 2013 9:30 am
Welcome to phpBB3 par Admin • Jeu Août 30, 2012 10:35 am	0	0 par Admin ☺ Jeu Août 30, 2012 10:35 am

Below the table, there are controls for displaying subjects (All subjects), sorting (Date du message), and ordering (Décroissant). At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with 'Retour vers Index du forum' and 'Alter vers : www.levasseur.org/forum'.



# Triangulation of Levasseur ancestors

Source : Jacques Beaugrand (Message posted Nov 24, 2012 on [www.Forum-ADN.org](http://www.Forum-ADN.org))



Jacques Beaugrand

**Definition of genetic genealogy:** The use of DNA for genealogy purposes in order to validate research from documents or to complement the genealogical research findings. Also, it is to learn about our ancestral origins, i.e. who were our ancestors since their exit from Africa, and prior to surnames being commonly used. The reader is invited to consult the online encyclopaedia Wikipedia or the author's website: [www.miroise.org](http://www.miroise.org) to understand the definitions of certain technical terms used in this article.

The LEVASSEUR family association has, a few years ago, proceeded to the triangulation of the signatures of two of their ancestors who were early settlers in New France, Pierre LEVASSEUR dit l'ESPÉRANCE (m: Jeanne CHAVERLANGE) and Laurent LEVASSEUR (m: Marie MARCHAND).

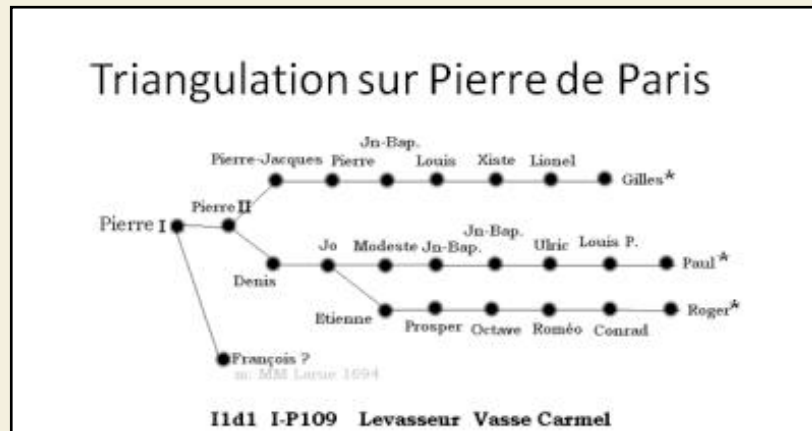
To learn more about Pierre Levasseur visit the site: [http://www.levasseur.org/fr/Nos\\_anc\\_tres/Pierre\\_Levasseur](http://www.levasseur.org/fr/Nos_anc_tres/Pierre_Levasseur). He is the ancestor of a portion of the LEVASSEUR, the CARMEL and the BORGIA of America. The yDNA signature of the descendants of Pierre (who have it in their line of fathers) belongs to the haplogroup I-P109.

To learn more about Laurent Levasseur [http://www.levasseur.org/fr/Nos\\_anc\\_tres/Laurent\\_Levasseur](http://www.levasseur.org/fr/Nos_anc_tres/Laurent_Levasseur). The yDNA signature of the descendants of Laurent belongs to haplogroup R-L21 (R1b1-DF13 probably).

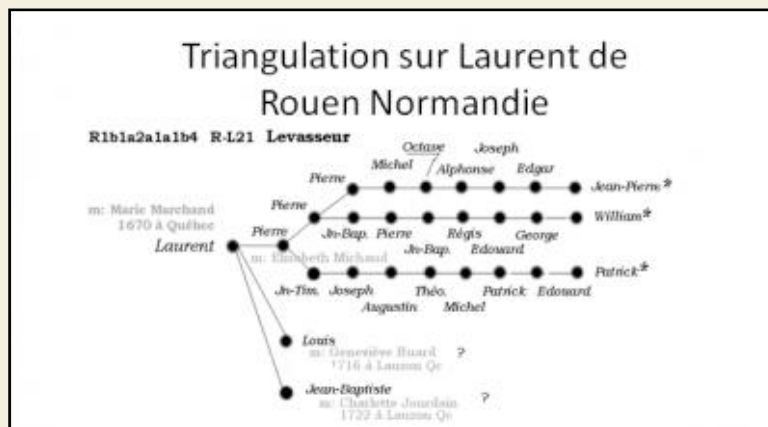
Here are the haplotypes of the LEVASSEUR:

kitno	patronym	yhg	dys393	dys390	dys19	dys39	dys385	dys385	dys426	dys388	dys439	dys389	dys39	dys389ii
171603	LEVASSEUR	I-M253	13	23	14	10	14	14	11	14	11	11	11	27
N102751	LEVASSEUR	I-M253	13	23	14	10	14	14	11	14	11	11	11	27
166740	LEVASSEUR	I-M253	13	23	14	10	14	14	11	14	11	11	11	27
169065	LEVASSEUR	R1b1-L21	13	25	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29
171680	LEVASSEUR	R1b1-L21	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29
166883	LEVASSEUR	R1b1-L21	13	24	14	11	11	14	12	12	12	13	13	29

From alleged descendants of each of the ancestors, it was possible to partially validate signatures from each of the lines by triangulation. Here is a graphical representation of these triangulations. Here's the Triangulation on Pierre II son of Pierre I.



**Triangulation on Pierre II, son of Pierre I**



**Triangulation on Pierre LEVASSEUR son of Laurent**

As you can see, none of these triangulations guarantees that LEVASSEUR descendants possess the signature of the founding ancestor of their lineage in New France. Thus, between Peter I and Pierre II there is a possibility that NPE (non-parental event) has occurred. It is improbable but it could have occurred. To eliminate this rival explanation, it would be necessary that a descendant of François, son of Pierre I participate in the triangulation.

Similarly, with regard to the other lineage of LEVASSEUR, Laurent, a NPE (non-parental event) could have occurred between the son Pierre and his father Laurent. To eliminate this possibility, the descendants of Louis or Jean-Baptiste should also be involved in triangulation.

LEVASSEUR descendants who have Pierre I or Laurent LEVASSEUR in their patrilineage are invited to have their DNA tested.

Jacques Beaugrand  
ADN Héritage Français

# News of the August 24th General Meeting

On Saturday, August 24, the annual general meeting of our association was held in St-Grégoire. The President's report can be read in the September Newsletter in the section "word of the president".

Here are the highlights of this Assembly:

The financial report prepared by Paul, our Treasurer, reveals a small deficit (\$868.) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013, which leaves our association with assets of \$22 160.

Joceline, our genealogist, Informed us of her work during the year. Joceline, assisted by Gilles Carmel, uses different software and information sources to maintain and enrich our database on our Web site. This database, with nearly 130,000 records, is available to members in good standing. A call is made to members so they can make their contribution by giving new information about marriages and births, mainly for the past two decades. We are also informed that twenty copies of genealogical dictionaries are still available for sale to members or associations.

Two reports one on the situation of Internet services and the other on the Newsletter were submitted during the meeting. Statistics on the number of active cyber and non-cyber members of our association by age group were also presented by Gilles Carmel. Our president, Roger Levasseur, informed us of the failure of getting approval by Canada Post of a commemorative stamp in honor of Dr. Irma Levasseur. Subsequently, during the period

set aside for the election of Directors, a motion was passed to postpone these elections until the next regular meeting. This is due to new requirements pertaining to the law regarding non-profit organizations enacted by the federal Parliament in October 2011 that requires certain modifications to our regulations. Our association is incorporated federally.

A Committee comprised of Roger Levasseur, Gilles Carmel and Paul Levasseur, received the mandate of the Assembly to undertake the comprehensive study of our statutes and regulations to conform to the requirements of the Act on NPOs (Non for Profit Organizations). After this mandate completed, one or more resolutions will be presented, for adoption at the next meeting of the Board of Directors in May 2014. These documents will be then sent to the Government for acceptance. Subsequently, a General Assembly will be convened in order to present the results of this work for their adoption.

At the next gathering of the Association planned September 6, 2014 at Trois-Rivières, the new regulations will be presented to the Assembly for adoption. At that time we should have received the confirmation of compliance by the Federal Government. New elections are also held on this occasion.



*« At the next gathering of the Association planned September 6, 2014 at Trois-Rivières, the new regulations will be presented to the Assembly for adoption »*

## Romeo Levasseur receives Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Source: <http://www.thedailyobserver.ca>



Long-time community volunteer and former Pembroke city councillor Romeo Levasseur was honoured recently with a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of nearly half a century of service to Pembroke and the Ottawa Valley.

Levasseur was nominated by Stan Halliday, who provided an abbreviated list of Levasseur's accomplishments, including 38 years volunteering with the Royal Canadian Legion, 35 years serving on the board of directors for the Pembroke and Area Fiddling Association and nearly a decade on the Ottawa River Power Corporation board.

For Levasseur, the award was particularly touching, given his family's longstanding respect and love for the British royal family.

Speaking to an audience attending a small presentation ceremony at Branch 72 of the Legion, he recalled having the honour of serving on the Boy Scouts honour guard during a visit to Canada by then-Princess Elizabeth, and thanked everyone involved in the nomination process for the honour.

Carolyn McCaul, chairwoman of public relations with the Royal Canadian Legion's Ontario Command, left, and deputy district commander Stan Halliday, right, present former Pembroke councillor and long-time community volunteer Romeo Lavasseur with a Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal in the Branch 72 lounge. Levasseur, who has been an active volunteer in the community at a variety of levels and in many different functions, said the medal was a special honour since he has childhood memories of serving in the Cubs honour guard during a visit to Ottawa by then-Princess Elizabeth.

Note : Text by By Ryan Paulsen, Daily Observer.  
Ryan Paulsen is a Daily Observer multimedia journalist

## Gilles LeVasseur, «builder of the City of Ottawa»

Source: <http://www.lapresse.ca/le-droit/>



Photo : Étienne Ranger, LeDroit

Last week, the City of Ottawa awarded the Builder's prize to Gilles LeVasseur. As a lawyer and professor of law and Economic management, the native of the Alta Vista area of Ottawa is active on various files related to linguistic rights. He is president of the Ontario Cooperation Council and for the regrouping of organizations for the patrimony of Franco Ontarians. He has also published eight books, three of which are about the Francophone situation in Ontario and in Canada. LeVasseur also contributes to cultural development of the arts in the region. He is presently a member on the Board of Opera Lyra, an organization that has now become bilingual.

## Heidi Levasseur honored

Source: [Journal L'Appel, membre du groupe Québec Hebdo](#)

The long distance swimmer, Heidi Levasseur is the winner in the sports category for the Gala Femmes (Women Gala). Heidi Levasseur is known for her involvement in free style swimming projects in distances that exceed ten Kilometres.

«The events in which she participates last for a few days and enable Ms. Levasseur to sensitise people on living a healthy and balance lifestyle. The events are also used to raise funds for various social causes. Long distant swimming is how Heidi expresses her thanks to the people of a region that let her compete in their surroundings», as stated by the Female Movement of Mauricie who also congratulated the swimmer for her accomplishments.



The competition and the YWCA Gala Femmes (Women Gala) of merit's aim, for the past 15 years, is to recognize the accomplishments of Quebec women who, with passion, actively alter and modify their personnel and professional milieu. They distinguish themselves by their engagement, leadership, creativity, and their determination. One of the winners for this evening is Heidi Levasseur, professional swimmer

and a speaker for Cap Rouge on sports events.

This event, where there were 525 participants, raised \$110,000 for the Quebec YWCA mission.

Other winners at this event were; Marie Plante, gynecologist and oncologist and professor at the Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec and at l'Université Laval; Lucie Couturier, associate at Malette in organizational performance for the Business category and Josée Bastien, professor with tenure in Civil engineering and aquatic engineering at Laval University in the category of Sciences and technology. They are part of group of 12 women, amongst 33 finalists in this competition for women, all of whom are worthy of being honored. The complete list of winners is available at; [www.ywcaquebec.ca](http://www.ywcaquebec.ca).

# Bay County author, teacher and volunteer Odeal LeVasseur Sharp dies at age 100

Source: <http://www.mlive.com> (by Brianna Owczarzak)

Odeal LeVasseur Sharp was known in Bay County as an author, long-time teacher, community volunteer and a woman with a passion for local history.



Sharp died Wednesday, May 29, at Bay Medical Care Facility. She was 100.

"She was very loved by her former students," said

Ron Bloomfield, director of the Bay County Historical Museum. "We had a book signing for her (at the museum) and almost everyone who came in was a former student of hers and they all had memories of her."

Sharp volunteered in the community through various organizations including 4-H, Bay County Historical Society, Junior Women's Club, Garber's Heritage House, Michigan Historical Society, Michigan One-Room School Organization and People to People Organization.

Sharp volunteered at the Bay County Historical Society for more than 20 years, Bloomfield said.

"She was very dedicated to the work that she did," Bloomfield said. "Any project that she got involved with she made sure she saw it through."

Sharp was born in a French-speaking family in Beaver Township on Aug. 25, 1912, to Edmund and Eva LeVasseur. She started her education at Siedler's one room school in Beaver Township, where she learned English and continued her education at St. Mary's High School in Bay City.

Then, through Central Michigan University and the 'County Normal' Program, Sharp taught school during the Depression in country schools until the end of World War II.

In 1937 Sharp married Virgil Sharp, who died in 1995. The couple had one daughter, Rhea. They also hosted young people from Thailand, Australia, Mexico and Tanzania.

Odeal influenced young women through the Essexville/Hampton Cloverette Pipe Band, a band that she formed. The band was made up of young women who traveled around Michigan and performed in the 50s and 60s.

They performed at various venues including the opening of the Mackinaw Bridge in 1957, summer parades throughout the state, welcoming foreign visitors, Highland Festivals, the World's Fair in Montreal, West Point and Washington, D.C., in 1967.

Odeal became a physical education teacher at the parochial schools in Bay City, Essexville and Saginaw throughout the 50s and 60s, teaching folk dancing.

Odeal also was an author whose books include "Ghost Towns of Bay County," "Something About a Quilt" and "One Room Schools of Bay County."

"She had a passion for preserving history," Bloomfield said.

Odeal is survived by her daughter, Rhea (James) Thompson, her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; two brothers and one sister: Jerome LeVasseur, Norma (Virginia) LeVasseur and Clara Eastman.

## Odeal LeVasseur direct lineage

Pierre LeVasseur vers 1627-1694

Pierre LeVasseur 1661-1731

Denis Joseph LeVasseur 1712-1792

Joseph LeVasseur 1741-1825

Modeste LeVasseur 1773-1840

Modeste LeVasseur 1797-1887

Olivier LeVasseur 1820-1906

Joseph LeVasseur 1854-1937

Edmund LeVasseur 1888-1968

Odeal Mary LeVasseur 1912-2013



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Send us your business card and it will be published in all printed and electronically produced issues of the Levasseur Newsletter. It will also be listed on our Web site in the section «Our Sponsors». The cost: \$ 30.00 per year. This opportunity offers you a modern and ideal method to reach potential clients. It will also help support the Association financially. You can contact us at: [webmaster@levasseur.org](mailto:webmaster@levasseur.org) to initiate this promotion.



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

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 or our Association and that will provide a source of information for historians and genealogists.

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