

Levasseur

Vol 26 no 2 • Summer 2014



Gathering of the Levasseurs in
Trois-Rivières September 6, 2014

Join us !

Special issue including the day's program and the registration form



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2014 Gathering Organizing Comitee

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Jean-Marie Levasseur

Gaston Levasseur, Fran oise Levasseur

Jacqueline Levasseur & Jacques Milot

B eatrice Levasseur

Ir ene & [Andr e Levasseur](#)



Le Boulevard et partie du Havre, Trois-Rivi eres, Canada

A word by the editor

Following the Rimouski regional meeting held in 2012, we are looking forward to the gathering of descendants of the ancestor Denis-Joseph Levasseur, who established himself in Trois-Rivières, in 1736. He is the ancestor of most of the Levasseur in the Mauricie and Bois-Francs region and Levasseurs from various regions throughout North America.

The Levasseur Association of America would not exist without the active participation of its members. Your presence, in large numbers, at this gathering would contribute to the continued growth and vitality of our Association. Such gatherings are part the our Mission of getting together, learning about our ancestors and their descendants, exchanging, establishing new friendships and of course, having a celebration.

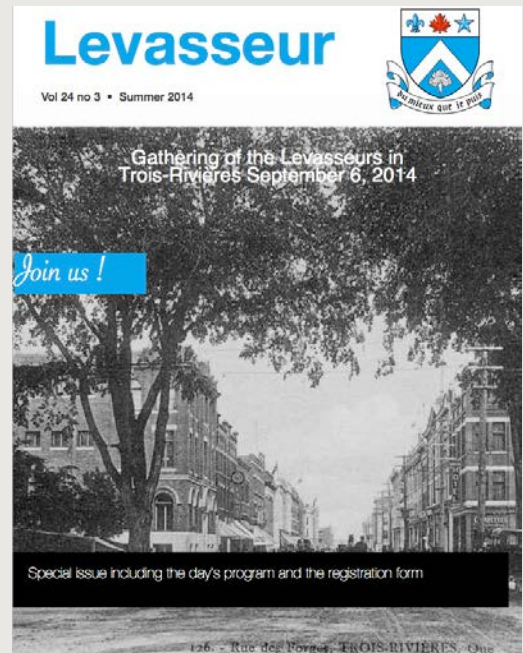
The success of this day is due to the work of the organizing team under the direction of André Levasseur who has been a member of our Association for many years.

In addition to André, we are grateful to the following who have been of assistance.

You are encouraged to register in large numbers to ensure the success of this gathering and to live up to our association's motto:

"Du mieux que je puis» or «As best as I can"

The Board of Directors of the Association the Levasseur



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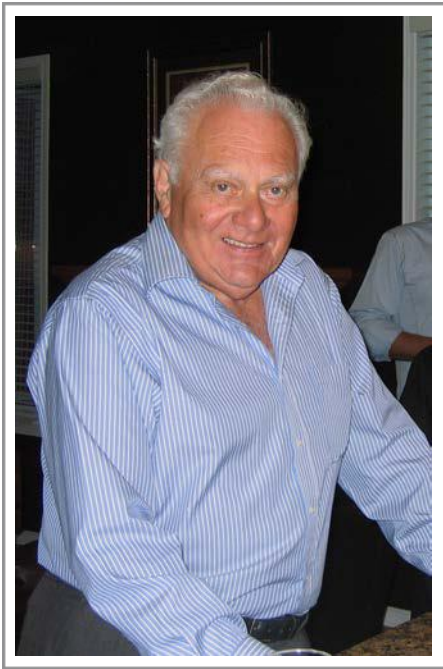
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President's word

The Association's regulations have been re-written. Gilles Carmel from Joliette and Paul Levasseur from Sherbrooke deserve our thanks for the time they contributed to carry out this comprehensive task. We are also grateful to members who sent us suggestions to improve the content of these new regulations. They are in response to the new requirements of the Government of the Canada relating to non-profit associations. In addition, they reflect more the functioning of our association as it is practiced today.

I take this opportunity to invite you to come to Trois-Rivières for this memorable gathering. This meeting will be educational for all the Levasseur, but especially for those whose ancestor was Denis - Joseph Levasseur. You will learn how our ancestors managed to settle and live in this region where we are present today. Denis-Joseph chose to leave Quebec City to settle in Trois Rivières as will a large number of his descendants who left the Trois-Rivières region to settle in Western Canada and the United States.

You are invited to join other Levasseurs and to socialize with members of the Levasseur family. We look forward to seeing you in large numbers.

Roger Levasseur
roma_lev@rogers.com

Our Levasseur ancestors, witnesses to history

First Catholic parish in North America 1664-2014

by: [Joceline Levasseur](#)

The celebrations of the 350^e anniversary of the Foundation of the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec, first Catholic parish located north of the Mexico, began on December 8, 2013. Monseigneur François de Laval founded the parish in 1664. On the occasion of this celebration, the Vatican offered a Holy Door to the church, a first in America and outside of Europe.

Here are the words of the Mayor of Quebec, Régis Labeaume, who invited us to come into the church through the Holy Door:

"In 2014, we pay tribute to those who have preceded us on American soil and who have made Québec «the land of our ancestors». It is here, in the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec, that our culture, our values and our faith originated to radiate to the four corners of the world!

Throughout the next year, Quebec will be, once more, a privileged location for gatherings, for sharing and for celebrating. The festivities that surround this historic anniversary will provide an opportunity to highlight the important religious heritage that has been entrusted to us by our predecessors. They will symbolize also eloquently the passage between a rich past and a promising future. The inauguration of the construction of the first Holy Door outside



Basilica Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Québec

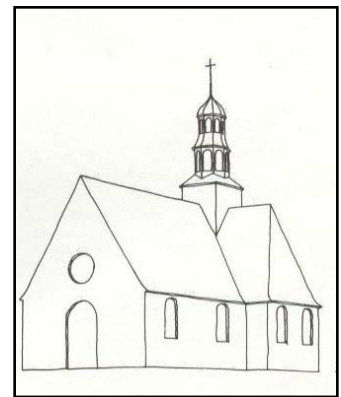
Europe reflects this desire for renewal. Very soon, the pilgrims of all origins and all faiths will find a place of contemplation and healing.

It's not every day that we celebrate 350 years! Join us to celebrate this moment that highlights our collective history! »¹

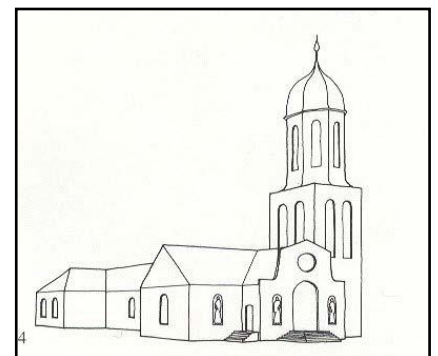
¹ Source : Le Soleil, Notre-Dame de Québec, November 26, 2013, page 2

In 1650, a small stone church, Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix, was inaugurated. It was located within the present Basilica-Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Québec. It was then administered by the Jesuits. Our ancestors Jean, Pierre and Laurent Levasseur have known this little church. Were they present when Monseigneur François de Laval officially erected the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec on September 15, 1664? We ignore it, but we know that our ancestors, at that time, lived in Quebec. (Sketch 1)

Our ancestors have also witnessed, in whole or in part, the expansion of the Church, work done under the direction of architect Claude Baillif, between 1684-1697. (Sketch 2)



Sketch 1: First stone church, called Notre-Dame-de-la-Paix, was built from 1647 to 1650. (drawing by Pierre d'Anjou)



Sketch 2: Reconstruction of the Cathedral became church Notre-Dame de Québec, made under the direction of architect Claude Baillif, from 1684 to 1697. (drawing by Pierre d'Anjou)



Bishop of Trois-Rivières, Gérald C. Lacroix and the mayor of Québec City, Régis La-beaume, co-president of the 350th anniversary feast of Notre Dame de Québec

a

Suggested Web sites:

<http://notredamedequébec.org/> or
[http://notredamedequébec.org/en/feasts-of-the-350th\(english\)](http://notredamedequébec.org/en/feasts-of-the-350th(english))

http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basilique-cath%C3%A9drale_Notre-Dame_de_Qu%C3%A9bec

<http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/quebec/2013/11/18/007-porte-sainte-installation-basilique.shtml>

<http://www.ville.quebec.qc.ca/touristes/voir/attraits/eglises.aspx>

<http://www.patrimoine-culturel.gouv.qc.ca/rpcq/detail.do?methode=consulter&id=92771&type=bien#.U03KGekU-po>

Consulted book:

Luc Noppen, Claude Paulette, Michel Tremblay, *Québec trois siècles d'architecture*, Montréal, Libre Expression, 1979, 439p.



External link for video:
[Liturgy and press release for work related to the gift of the holy door. \(french\)](#)

Notre-Dame de Québec parishioners, in 1664

Laurent Levasseur

Laurent may have arrived in New-France the previous year, on September 15, 1663, after a very demanding and trying crossing. In 1664, he was 15 or 16 years old and he was hired by Guillemette Hébert. The House of the latter was located in the courtyard of the Québec seminary. Her husband, Guillaume Couillard, who died on 4 March 1663, had given land to build the seminar and the Church. Notre-Dame de Québec Basilica-Cathedral was built on this land. Laurent Levasseur married Marie Marchand, April 30, 1670, in the Church of Notre-Dame de Québec. The couple had 14 children. Laurent died at Québec and will be buried on December 27, 1726 in the parish cemetery.

Jean Levasseur

It is expected that Jean Levasseur accompanied Governor Augustin de Saffray de Mézy and his escort at the ceremony which marked the erection of the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec. On 22 April of the same year, the sovereign Council of New France, attributed to Jean, the task of bailiff of the Québec provost ship of Québec.

On August 13, 1654, the church wardens of the Notre-Dame de Québec had also entrusted Jean with the maintenance of the Church. In 1657, he participated in the Foundation of the brotherhood of Saint Anne, a brotherhood of carpenters.

Jean, master carpenter, was closely tied to the Government of New France and the parish church. He arrived in the New France, with his wife Marguerite Richard and his eldest son, Louis in 1651. On September 15, 1664, date of the Foundation of the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec, the couple were expecting their awaiting the birth of their eighth child. The latter was baptized on April 7, 1665, at Notre-Dame de Québec. Listed in the registers of civil status of this parish, there is the record of the baptism of ten children of this couple. Jean Levasseur and his wife Marguerite Richard were buried in the cemetery of the church Notre-Dame de Québec.

Pierre Levasseur

Pierre was Jean Levasseur's younger brother of. He was born in Paris around 1627, in 1654 he was in New France. He is the godfather of his nephew, Pierre Drolet, baptized August 13, 1654, in the Church of Notre-Dame de Québec. Pierre lived close to this church. It was more than likely present at the foundation of his parish.

Pierre Levasseur married Jeanne Chaverlange, October 23, 1655, in the Church of Notre-Dame de Québec. Just like his brother Jean, he is one of the founders of the brotherhood of Saint Anne. Listed in the registers of civil status of this parish, is the baptism of the couple's seven children. His daughter Jeanne will be christened on 20 March 1664, year of the foundation of the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec. Pierre Levasseur was buried on March 12, 1694, at the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec cemetery.

Canonization of the first two saints of Quebec

April 27, 2014, François Pope confirmed the canonization of the first two saints of Quebec: Marie de L'incarnation (née Marie Guyart) and François de Laval. These are two spiritual Giants who played a leading role in the evangelisation of Canada. Both were beatified by Pope John Paul II on June 22, 1980. They were born in France, but they exercised their ministry in Quebec in the 17th century. Monseigneur de Laval's tomb is located in the Cathedral-Basilica of Quebec; that of Marie of the Incarnation, in the Chapel, located next to the Ursulines' chapel in Quebec. <http://notredamedequébec.org/>

When Marie de l'incarnation and Monseigneur François de Laval lived in the upper town of Québec, our ancestors, Jean and Pierre Levasseur were also living in the same locality. Laurent also lived in Quebec for a few years and subsequently moved to Lauzon, on the South shore of the St. Lawrence River.



Saint François de Laval 1623 - 1708

«In 1659, at the age of 36 years, François de Laval arrived in New-France. He was the first bishop of the diocese of Quebec, that covered an area from Acadia to Louisiana. He dedicated his life towards the establishment of the Church in New France.

He was a dedicated pastor, he often travelled long distances on foot, by canoe and on snowshoes to visit and comfort his flock. His great devotion to the Holy Family, our guardian angels and his unwavering faith in Providence make him an inspiring spiritual leader.

He was devoted to education. He created an order of priests for the Québec seminary. He also founded a seminary for young boys, the major seminary for candidates to the priesthood and the school the "Grande Ferme" for craftsmen.

A remarkable administrator and ingenious Lord, he developed the Côte-de-Beaupré, thus ensuring financial stability for the financing of these audacious projects. Man of faith and principles, for twenty years he fought the destructive traffic of brandy which was done between the French and native Americans.

He died at the age of 85 after having suffered and being very sick. His body now rests in the Funeral Chapel of Notre-Dame de Québec Basilica-Cathedral since 1993. Beatified by John Jean-Paul II in 1980 and canonized in 2014, he leaves an invaluable material and spiritual heritage to the Church of Quebec. »
(Source: <http://www.francoisdelaval.com/>)

Sainte Marie de l'Incarnation 1599 - 1672

"Marie de l'incarnation (née Marie Guyart), was born in Tours, France in the latter part of October 1599." She was married at age 17 and had a child and at 19, she was widowed. She entrusted her son to others and dedicated her life to the catholic religion in a cloister. But in 1639, she sailed to New France and established the monastery of the Ursulines in Quebec City, which, at that time, had 250 French souls. She worked to evangelize and educate young European and Amerindian girls. A fire ravaged the monastery in 1650. She directed a new construction. The place of worship at times served as a school, or as a hospital, and at times as a refuge during the wars against the Indians. Marie of the Incarnation died in Quebec City on April 30, 1672.



(Source : Baptiste Richard-Châtelain, *Le Soleil* avril 4, 2014, page 2)

Timeline

- 1608** Founding of Quebec City by Samuel de Champlain.
- 1639** Arrival of Marie de L'incarnation (Marie Guyard), founder of the monastery of the Ursulines in Quebec.
- 1639** Arrival of Marie Catherine de St - Augustin, founder of the Hôtel-Dieu, first hospital in New-France.
- 1651** Jean Levasseur came to the country with his wife Marguerite Richard.
- 1654** Pierre Levasseur was Pierre Drolet sponsor, his nephew, August 13, 1654.
- 1655** Marriage of Pierre Levasseur with Jeanne Chaverlange
- 1659** Arrival of Monseigneur François de Laval.
- 1661** Baptism of Pierre II. He is the son of Pierre I Levasseur.
- 1663** Arrivée probable de Laurent Levasseur (Levavasseur).
- 1663** Jean Levasseur est nommé huissier au Conseil Souverain.
- 1664** Bishop François de Laval founded the Québec seminary for diocesan priests and he created major Seminary to train young people to the priesthood.
- 1664** Foundation of the parish of Notre-Dame de Québec by Monseigneur de Laval.
- 1668** Monseigneur François de Laval founded the Petit Séminaire in order to accommodate the boys as boarders. They follow their course at the Jesuit College, located on the site of the Quebec City Hall.
- 1669** Marriage of Laurent Levasseur with Marie Marchand. The couple settled in Lauzon.



Trois-Rivières

Originally, the site of Trois-Rivières was inhabited by Aboriginal people of the great Algonquin family. In 1535, the explorer Jacques Cartier described the site; in 1599, Captain DuPont-Gravé referred to it as: "Trois-Rivières". Finally, in 1603, the geographer Samuel de Champlain noted that it would be advantageous to establish a permanent dwelling on the site. Lavolette built the first dwelling in Trois-Rivières on July 4, 1634.

It was a trading post and over the centuries the city, of Trois-Rivières expanded in three main spheres: (1) As a Government town, (2) City for education (3) Industrial city.

There were regional governments in Trois-Rivières beginning in 1665.



First under the French Regime, then the British conquest and for a brief period under American occupation, culminating in the defeat of «Boston», at the gates of the city, in 1776.

Over the years, Trois-Rivières will consolidate its role as regional leader by becoming the seat of a judicial district (1792) and of a bishopric (1852).

In terms of education, missionaries educators settled in Trois-Rivières from 1617, prior to the founding of the city, with the arrival of the Ursulines nuns. In 1697, a first school was established and many others followed including the University of Québec à Trois-Rivières, in 1969.

"Originally, the Valley of the Saint-Maurice was inhabited by aboriginal nomads of the large Algonquin family.



For hosting services,
catering and activities, visit
the site of
tourismetroisrivieres.com

Mot du maire

Rassemblement des familles Levasseur



TROIS FOIS « BIENVENUE »

Les familles Levasseur ont choisi de se rassembler à Trois-Rivières. Voilà un excellent choix pour trois raisons.

Premièrement, Trois-Rivières est une ville de tourisme et de congrès commodément située au cœur du Québec.

Deuxièmement, c'est une ville historique qui entretient son devoir de mémoire. Ainsi, les abonnés de nos bibliothèques ont accès à la fameuse collection Tanguay et autres références généalogiques. De plus, nous avons chez nous une dynamique Société de généalogie logée dans un bâtiment municipal.

Enfin, les Levasseur font partie de notre histoire régionale. L'un d'entre eux a même été maire de Saint-Louis-de-France, communauté qui fait aujourd'hui partie de la grande ville fusionnée de Trois-Rivières. D'une certaine façon, il a été mon prédécesseur.

Pour toutes ces raisons, je vous souhaite la bienvenue dans une ville où vous pouvez vous considérer chez vous.

And for the sake of our english speaking friends, I would like to remind that Trois-Rivières, as one of Canada's oldest settlements, is the perfect city to host people like you, celebrating their roots. Please feel home in Trois-Rivières, because you are « part of the family! »

Bienvenue aux Levasseur et bon séjour à tous!

Le maire,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Yves Lévesque'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Yves Lévesque



Saturday September 6

12h30

Welcome and registration of participants.

1:30pm

Welcoming comments by the President of the Levasseur Association of America.

2:00pm

Presentation: Levasseurs settle in Trois-Rivières, Denis-Joseph and his descendants. (Jean-Marie Levasseur)

3:00pm

Break and group photo.

Program

for the gathering

Levasseur Gathering

Trois-Rivières September 6, 7
Salle de réception Théo located at
[4425 boul. Gene H. Kruger,](#)
[Trois-Rivières, \(Québec\) G9A 4N3](#)

3:30pm

Presentation: King's daughters and the Levasseurs. (Huguette and Béatrice Levasseur)

4:30pm

Presentation: Levasseur's on Web. (Jean-Pierre Levasseur)

5:00pm

Pierre and Jean Levasseur descendants' genealogical dictionary. (Huguette Levasseur)

5:30pm

Genealogical activities and exhibits. (Joceline Levasseur and her team)

6:30pm

Dinner and door prizes



Sunday, September 7

9h00

Board of Directors of the Levasseur Association. Meeting on the mezzanine level of the restaurant Théo 4485 Gene-H Kruger.

9h00

Tourist and historic visit (1 h 30) departure to restaurant Theo H Kruger Trois-Rivières - 4485-Gene-H Kruger

10h30

Cold buffet on the mezzanine level of the restaurant Theo H Kruger Trois-Rivières - 4485 Gene-H Kruger

11h00

Annual general meeting of the members of the Levasseur Association, on the mezzanine level of the restaurant Theo H Kruger Trois-Rivières - 4485 Gene-H Kruger

LEVASSEUR ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

www.levasseur.org

Annual gathering of the Levasseur families, September 6, 2014 in Trois-Rivières in the THÉO the Caterer’s room at 4425 Gene H Kruger, Trois-Rivières (Quebec)

Registration Form

Name(s) and sur-name (s) of (a) Participant(s). (if you are a member, please indicate your membership number)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Postal address: _____

Telephone : () _____ E-Mail: _____

Number of adult participants, association member: _____ @ \$35 each, total: \$ _____

Number of adult participants, non-association member: _____ @ \$40 each, total: \$ _____

Number of participants under the age of 16: _____ @ \$15 each, total: \$ _____

Children under the age of five, no charge: _____

Payable by check or Pay Pal: \$ _____

Number of participants to historical tour _____

The price includes participation at all activities and the evening dinner.

August 25, 2014 is the final date for registration. ***It would be appreciated if you could register as soon as possible.*** Return your completed registration form with your check payable to: Levasseur Association of America and send it to the following address:

**A.L.A. – Gathering 2014
7405 rue Des Bostonnais
Trois-Rivières, Qc, G9A 5C9**

Mr. André Levasseur of Trois-Rivières is the coordinator of this activity. His telephone number is (819) 377-4306 or his E-Mail andre@levasseur.org

If you choose to pay using Pay Pal go directly to the Web Site: webmaster@levasseur.org and follow the instructions provided.

For more information on the gathering go to: www.levasseur.org/trois-rivieres

Hosting service



For the Levasseur gathering in Trois-Rivières: twenty-five (25) rooms have been reserved for Friday and Saturday, September (5th and 6th) at the: Motel Le Deauville, located less than a five (5) minute walk from our meeting rooms. The Motel Le Deauville is located at 4691 Boul. Gene-H Kruger, Trois-Rivières, Québec. G9A 4N4. Tel: 819 375 9691 or toll-free: 1 800 354

3889. Web Site: www.ledeauvillemotel.com and

E-Mail: ledeauville@hotmail.com.

Room prices are: (Including continental breakfast)

1. simple room; \$ 75.00 CDN
2. Demi-suite \$ 80.00 CDN
3. And a suite \$ 90.00 CDN

Also available is the Urbania Hotel-Resto Lounge, 3600 Gene-H Kruger Blvd, Trois-Rivières, Quebec. G9A 4M3, located approximately 0.5 km from our meeting rooms. Their Web Site is: www.lurbaniahotel.com

Tel: 819 379 3232

or toll-free: 1 800 463 4620



Our genealogical dictionaries



Does genealogy interest you? Would you like to know about your ancestors? The Levasseur family is privileged to have a genealogical dictionary of Jean and Pierre Levasseur's descendants and another of Laurent Levasseur's descendants. These three ancestors have descendants primarily in Quebec and in Ontario but also in New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the USA.

Thanks to the index at the end of each dictionary, they are easy to consult.

You will find more information about the dictionaries on the Levasseur Association's web site : www.levasseur.org click on « [Our Dictionaries](#) »

Genealogist's Dictionary of Pierre and Jean Levasseur (650 pages)

Hard cover : \$ 80.00

Soft cover : \$ 60.00

Genealogist's Dictionary of Laurent Levasseur (750 pages)

not available

Hard cover : \$ 85.00

Soft cover : \$ 65.00

Taxes are included. Payment can be made by check or by PayPal. Upon receipt of your payment, the dictionary(ies) will be sent to you.

Postal fees for the province of Québec are \$15. If you live in another province or in USA, please contact Joceline Levasseur jolevasseur@videotron.ca.

Make your check or money order payable to:

Association des Levasseur d'Amérique inc.

C.P. 57 063, Succursale Visitation

St-Charles-Borromée, Québec, J6E 9G4

GENERAL INFORMATIONS



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.

Board of Directors 2013-2014

President: [Roger Levasseur](#) (Ottawa, ON) (613) 841-7690

Vice-President (Canada): [Raymond Levasseur](#) (Rimouski, QC) (418) 724-6629

Vice-President (USA): [Joseph Levasseur](#) (Manchester, NH, USA) (603) 623-2695

Past-Président: [Gilles Carmel](#) (Saint-Charles-Borromée, QC) (450) 755-3856

Secretary: [Marie-Noëlle Levasseur](#) (Edmunston, N.B.) (506) 353-1000

Treasurer : [Paul Levasseur](#) (Sherbrooke, QC) (819) 564-0957

Genealogist and director: [Joceline Levasseur](#) (Québec, QC) (418) 658-3593

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Director : [Jean-Marie Levasseur](#) (Trois-Rivières, QC)

The Levasseur Newsletter

You can contact: André Levasseur (819) 377-4306 (andre@levasseur.org) or submit your article via our Web site www.levasseur.org