

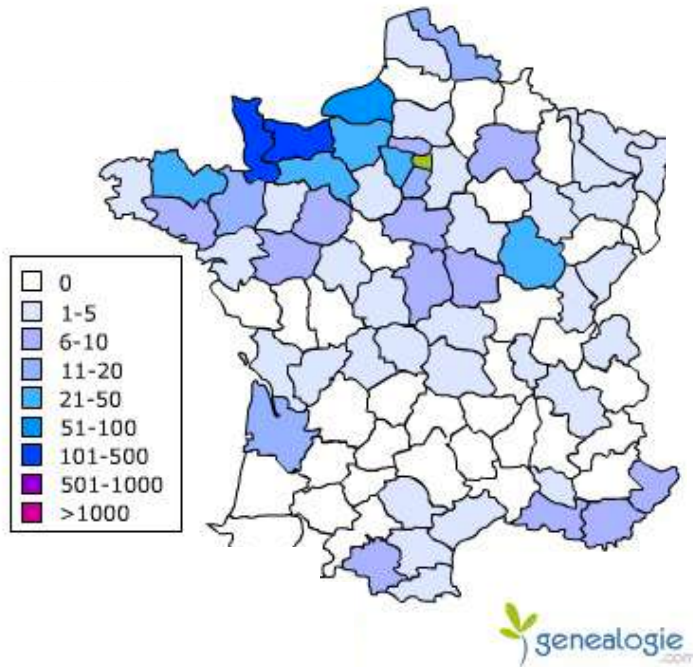
Levasseur

Volume 27 no 2 • June 2015

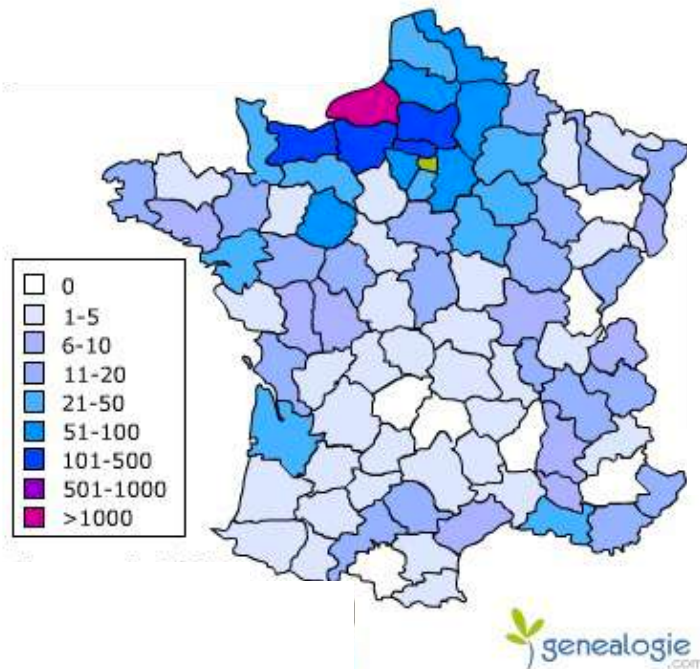


Summary

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Levavasseur from France
From 1966 to 1990: 932 births
Distribution of births in France, by departments



Levasseur from France
From 1966 to 1990: 3256 births
Distribution of births in France, by departments

IMPORTANT :

New postal address

**Association des Levasseur
d'Amérique inc
60 Chemin Public,
Bolton-Est QC
J0E 1G0**

Photo front page

During the celebrations of New-France on August 7, 2013, 36 ladies personified the 36 King's Daughters when they arrived in Quebec in 1663 on the ship, l'Aigle d'or (Golden Eagle).

Photo: Huguette Levasseur

Éditorial

Levasseur and Levavasseur, the same etymological origin.

In this issue of the Levasseur newsletter you will find an interesting article submitted by one of our members, Tyler Levasseur. It offers valuable information about the Levavasseur name and that of Levasseur, the family name our ancestors who immigrated to New France.

The Levavasseur name is found primarily in the Manche (Channel) in France and also in the Calvados, Eure, la Seine, l'Orne and the Paris regions. You are invited to consult the map on the previous page that refers to the distribution of births with the **Levavasseur** and **Levasseur** names from 1960 to 1990 by various departments in France.

In terms of the popularity of family names, the Levavasseur name ranks at 3024th of all French family names in France whereas the Levasseur name ranks at 450.

Levavasseur : its origins

The etymology of the Levavasseur is shared with the Vasseur patronymic, a name that is common in the North of France under the feudal system. Vasseur is a diminutive of Vavasseur, a term that signifies someone who receives land from a Vassal that is owned by a Lord. He is a sub-servant of a servant of a feudal tenant. The names Vassor, Vassord and Vassort have the same meaning.

Here are other variations, less frequently used, of the name: DEVAVASSEUR, LEVAVASSEUR, LAVAVASSEUR, LE WAVASSEUR, LE VAVASSEUR, LE VAVASEURL and DE LEVAVASSEUL.

Refer to the following Web site for detailed information about the origin of the Levavasseur name

www.genealogie.com
www.geneanet.org

For information about famous Levavasseur go to this page on Wikipedia: <http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/levavasseur>

Jean-Pierre Levasseur (250)

Levasseur

Vol 27 no 1 • Printemps 2015



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There are 34 Filles du Roy (King's Daughters) amongst Joceline Levasseur's ancestors – Part 1

by: [Huguette Levasseur](#)

King Louis XIV of France sent unmarried girls to New-France during the period from 1663 to 1673 in order to populate his colony. Yves Landry, in his volume "Les Filles du roi in the 17th century" estimated that 764 ladies came to marry one of the many single men in the country. There was, at that time, six to fourteen times more unmarried men than there were women of marrying age.

I questioned whether any of the King's daughters were amongst our Levasseur ancestors and whether they left descendants.

To answer these questions, I referred to the research work carried out by genealogist Joceline Levasseur who has collected all of her paternal and maternal ancestors up to the 12e generation of ancestors. Joceline is a descendant

of the ancestor Pierre Levasseur who married Jeanne Chaverlange. Two volumes were used to identify the names of 34 King's Daughters who are amongst Joceline's ancestors. They are; *Les Filles du Roy au XVIIe siècle* » by Yves Landry and « *Les Filles du Roy et leurs époux* » by the Société d'histoire des filles du Roy.

There are 34 King's Daughters among Joceline Levasseur's ancestors. They are present on 54 occasions and some of them appear more than once on Joceline's list of ancestors. These women, who are considered the mothers of the Québec nation, are the following:

Marguerite ARDION, a 27 year old widow, arrived in New France in 1663, accompanied by her son Laurent Beudet. She was baptized in the protestant temple of Villeneuve, Diocese of La Rochelle on August 17, 1636. She married Jean Rabouin October 28, 1663, in Quebec City. The couple had eight children and settled in the parish of Sainte-Famille, Île d ' Orléans. Marguerite died between September 28, 1677 and July 25, 1678 aged about 41. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Jeanne BOUCAULT came from Paris. She was born around 1651. She arrived in 1668 with assets estimated at 300 pounds and a gift from the King of 50 pounds. She is the mother of an illegitimate child (Jacques), born October 28, 1668 in Quebec. She married Louis Coulombe, a farmer on September 30, 1670, in the Church Sainte-Famille, Île d ' Orléans. The couple lived in the parish of Saint-Laurent, Île d'Orléans, they had 12 children. Jeanne died on January 23, 1696 at the age of approximately 45. She was found frozen on the shore of the Beauport River. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Françoise BOURGEOIS was born around 1646. She arrived from Paris in 1669, bringing goods estimated at 100 pounds and a gift from the King of 50 pounds. She is the mother of an illegitimate child (Françoise) who was born at Sainte-Famille, île d ' Orléans on October 7, 1670. She married Paul Vignault dit Laverdure, a farmer, on November 3, 1670 at Sainte-Famille, Île d ' Orléans. The couple settled on l'Île d ' Orléans, in the Saint-Laurent parish. Twelve children were born of this union. Françoise died July 21, 1704, at the age of 58 years. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Marie-Claude CHAMOIS is the daughter of the late Henri Chamois, Secretary of the King, Chief Herald of France. She was baptized in Paris, on January 29, 1656. She arrived in New France in 1670, at the age of 14, bringing goods estimated at 100 pounds. She entered into a marriage contract with Pierre Forcier on October 16, 1670 (contract Ameau). This contract was nullified. She was married in Batiscan, prior to 1674, with François Frigon, a farmer and traveler. The couple settled in Batiscan and had six children. Marie-Claude died in France after October 15, 1705. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Michelle CHARLIER arrived in 1668. She came from the parish of Saint-Maclou de Pontoise, Arch-diocese of Rouen. She was about 24 years old, since she was born around 1644. She entered into a first marriage contract with a farmer, Mr. Massé Besnier, on October 9th, 1668 (contract Rageot). They settled in Champlain and they had five children. (Joceline Levasseur is a descendant of this first marriage). After the death of her husband on July 26, 1683, Michelle Charlier married Laurent Castel on January 23, 1684, in Champlain. The couple lived in Verchères and did not have children. The date of her second husband's death is not known. Jeanne then married Louis Petit, a farmer, in Varennes, on March 19, 1710. The couple settled in Saint-Sulpice and did not have children. Michelle was buried at Saint-Sulpice on January 28, 1729. She was about 85 years old and did not know how to sign her name.

Françoise de CHARMESNIL arrived in 1667. She was baptized on May 25, 1651, at Saint-Maclou, Rouen. She entered a marriage contract with Jean Gélinas, a farmer, on October 17th, 1667 (contract La Tousche), at Cap-de-la-Madeleine. The household settled in Cap-de-la-Madeleine and they had seven children. In 1716, the couple separated legally and Françoise died shortly thereafter on July 1st, 1717. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Louise CHARRIER was orphaned of father and mother and came from the Poitou region. She was born about 1643. She arrived in New France in 1663, at the age of 20. She brought goods, estimated value of 100 pounds. She was married at Trois-Rivières, November 19, 1663, to Guillaume Baret, a farmer. The household settled in

Cap-de-la-Madeleine and had nine children. Louise died between June 23, 1705 and April 8, 1706, at the age of 63. She didn't know how to sign.

Denise COLIN came from the Paris region. She arrived in 1673, at the age of about 22 and married first, Roch Thouin, a farmer, on November 17, 1673, in Boucherville. The couple settled in Repentigny and had 8 children. (Joceline Levasseur is a descendant of this first marriage). Roch Thouin died between March 24, 1690 and November 25, 1692. Denise married Antoine Gloria dit Desrochers, employed by the Pointe - aux-Trembles parish on September 19, 1694, at Repentigny. The couple lived in Repentigny and had 2 children. Denise Colin died after August 7, 1731. She didn't know how to sign.

Anne-Julienne DUMONT was born in Metz, in Lorraine. She was born around 1645 and arrived in Quebec in 1665. She married René Dubois dit Brisebois, a farmer, on November 25, 1665, in Quebec City. The couple settled in the parish of Sainte-Famille, on l'Île d 'Orléans. Nine children were born of this marriage. Anne-Julienne died in April 1700 in Saint-François-du-Lac. She didn't know how to sign.

Marguerite DUSSON was born around 1656. Her origins are unknown. She arrived in New-France in 1670. She married Jean Lavallée dit Petit-Jean, farmer and carpenter, in Sorel in 1670 or 1671. The couple moved to Sorel and had five children. Jean was killed by the Iroquois and buried on July 12, 1692. (Joceline Levasseur is a descendant of this first marriage). Marguerite married Charles Vanet dit le Parisien in 1694 in Sorel. Her husband was a farmer, and churchwarden. The couple lived in Sorel did not have a child. Margaret is buried at Sorel on 20 July 1731.

Catherine FERRÉ was born in Paris around 1629. She arrived in New France in 1668, at the age of 39 years. Before the notary, Mr. La Tousche, on November 4, 1668, in Cap-de-la-Madeleine, she entered a marriage contract with Louis Lefebvre dit Lacroix, a farmer. The couple settled in Cap-de-la-Madeleine and had a child. Catherine died on July 20, 1694, at about the age 65. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Jeanne FOURRIER arrived in 1667, at the age of about 16 years. Her origin is unknown. She was married to Jean Baillaux in 1667, in Cap-de-la-Madeleine. Her husband died between the census of 1666 and 1667. The couple had settled in Cap-de-la-Madeleine and did not have a child. Jeanne remarried François Vanasse before the notary Cusson, on August 2, 1671 at Cap-de-la-Madeleine. The couple lived in Cap-de-la-Madeleine and had 11 children. Jeanne died on 31 October 1717. She didn't know how to sign her name sign. (Joceline Levasseur is a descendant of the second marriage).

Jeanne GODEQUIN, native of Amiens, in Picardie arrived in 1669. She was born c. 1649. She brought assets estimated at 300 pounds and a gift from the King of 50 pounds. Before the notary Becquet, she married Vincent Croteau, a farmer and shoemaker, on September 22, 1669. The couple moved to Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly and had eleven children. Jeanne was buried on October 4th, 1727 at the age of 78. She didn't know how to sign her name.

Marie GUILLAUME was born in Paris. She arrived in Quebec in 1670, at the approximate age of 18. She married on January 15, 1671, Nicolas Maheu, a farmer. The couple settled in Ange-Gardien and had 2 children. Unfortunately, her husband was killed by a falling tree on October 12th, 1673. (Joceline Levasseur is a descendant of this first marriage.) Marie Guillaume and Laurent Migneron, entered a marriage contract before the notary, Mr. Vachon, on may 11, 1675. The couple lived in Saint-Joachim, and had seven children. Marie died on December 30, 1705 at the approximate age of 53. Marie didn't know how to sign her name.

Perrette HALIER arrived in New France in 1669. She came from Saint-Pierre of Ebert, Arch-diocese of Paris. She was born ca. 1651, she brought goods estimated at 350 pounds and a gift from the King of 50 pounds. She married Antoine Bordeleau dit Laforest, a farmer on October 15, 1669, in Quebec City. The couple moved to Neuville and had two children. Perrette returned to France in 1681. Her husband was buried on September 18, 1717. Perrette did not know how to sign her name.

Marguerite HIARDIN originated from the region of Champagne in France. She arrived in 1665, at the age of 20. She married Nicolas Vériu dit Labecasse, farmer, boat master and sailor, in December 1665, in Château-Richer. The household moved to the Île d'Orléans, in the Saint-François parish. Nine children were born from their union. Her husband became blind several years before his death on October 1714. Marguerite died May 29, 1720 in the parish of Saint-François, Île d 'Orléans. She didn't know how to sign her name.

The next issue of the Levasseur Newsletter will be presenting another 18 King's Daughters who are amongst Joceline Levasseur ancestors.

Sources:

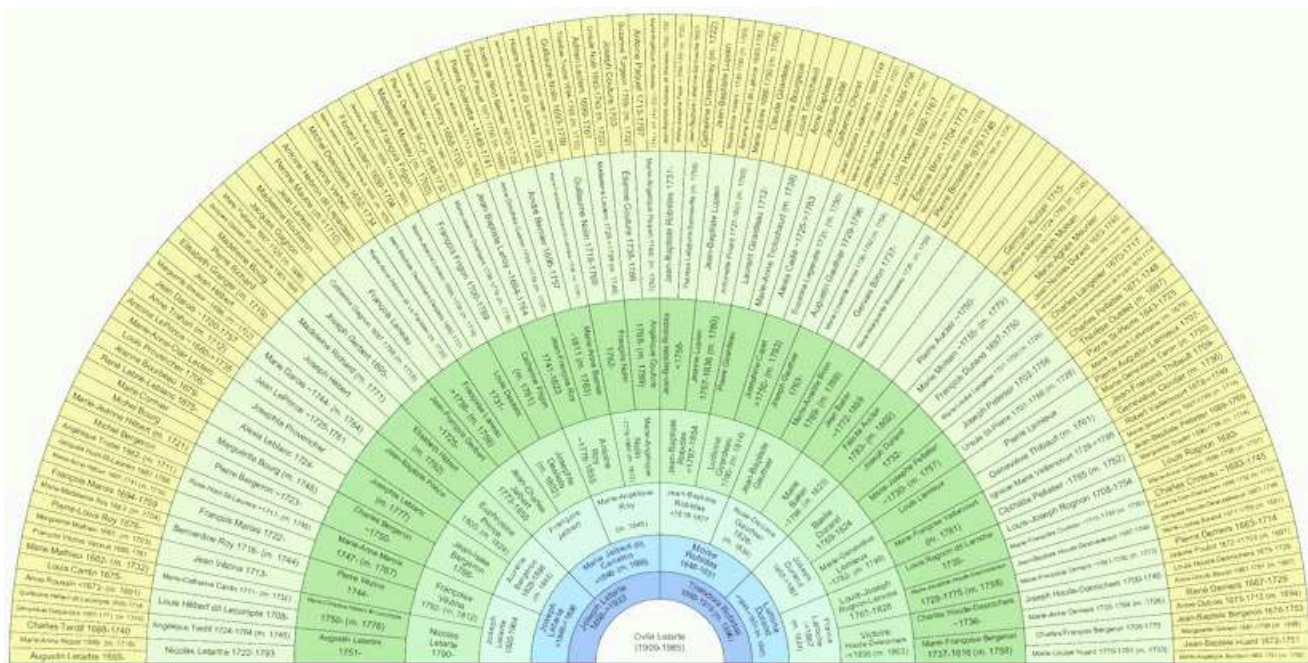
Yves Landry, *Orphelines en France, pionnières au Canada. Les Filles du roi au XVIIe siècle, Montréal, Bibliothèque québécoise, 2013, 276 p.*

Société d'histoire des Filles du Roy, *Les Filles du Roy et leurs époux, Québec, La Société, 2011, 72 p.*

Others :

Société d'histoire des Filles du Roy : <http://www.lesfillesduroy-quebec.org/>

Migrations : <http://www.migrations.fr/700fillesroy.htm>



The semicircular table, called a Peacock wheel, shows paternal and maternal ancestry directly related to an individual. The first semicircle, at the center, contains the information related to the father and the mother of the subject for who the ascendance is being prepared. The second, is that of her grandparents, the third, of her great-grandparents and so on.

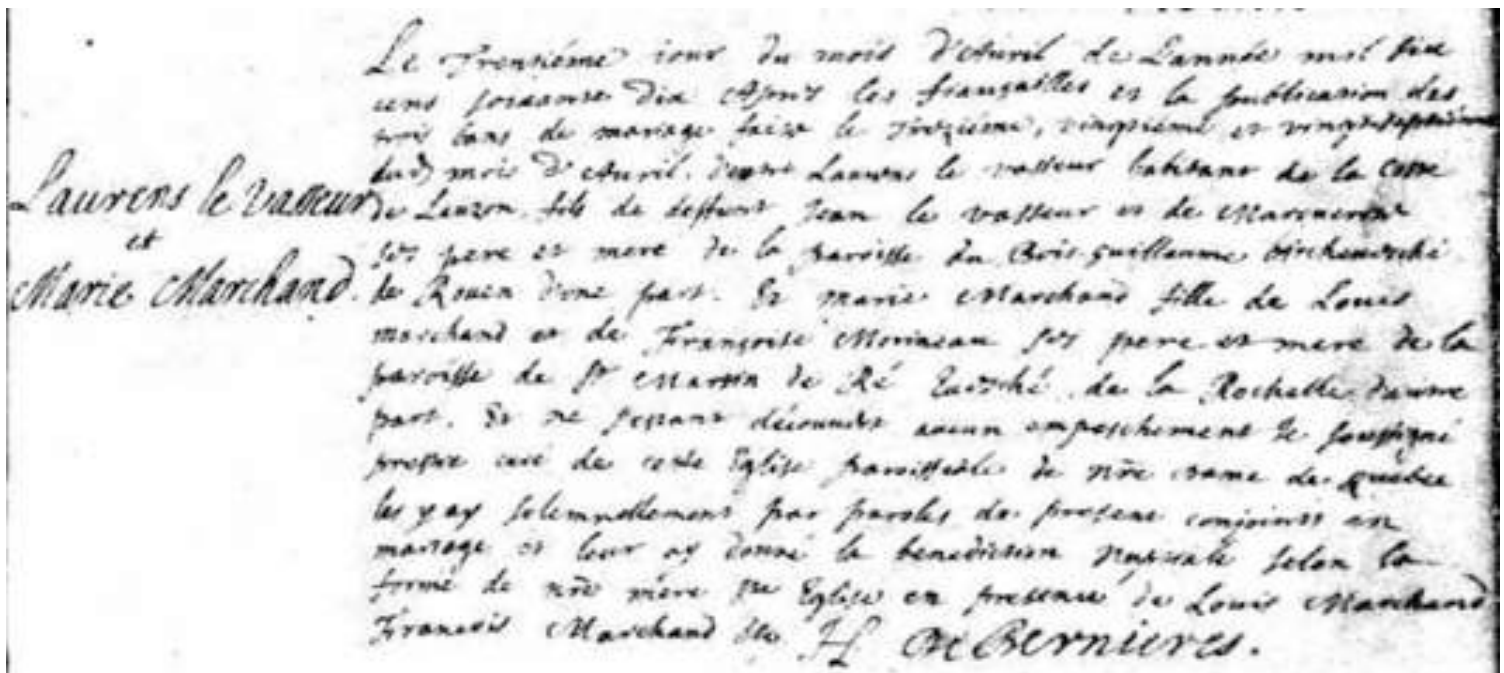
The Levasseur Family in France

by: Tyler Levasseur

Laurent Levasseur is my eight-times-great-grandfather. I've been looking for his French ancestors for some time. Thanks to the great work of Vincent Levasseur, Henri Jean Charles Levasseur and Alfred Levasseur and others, we now know the names of Laurent's parents, grandparents, and his great grandfather; but I still want to see the original documents with my own eyes. Here is what I've found.

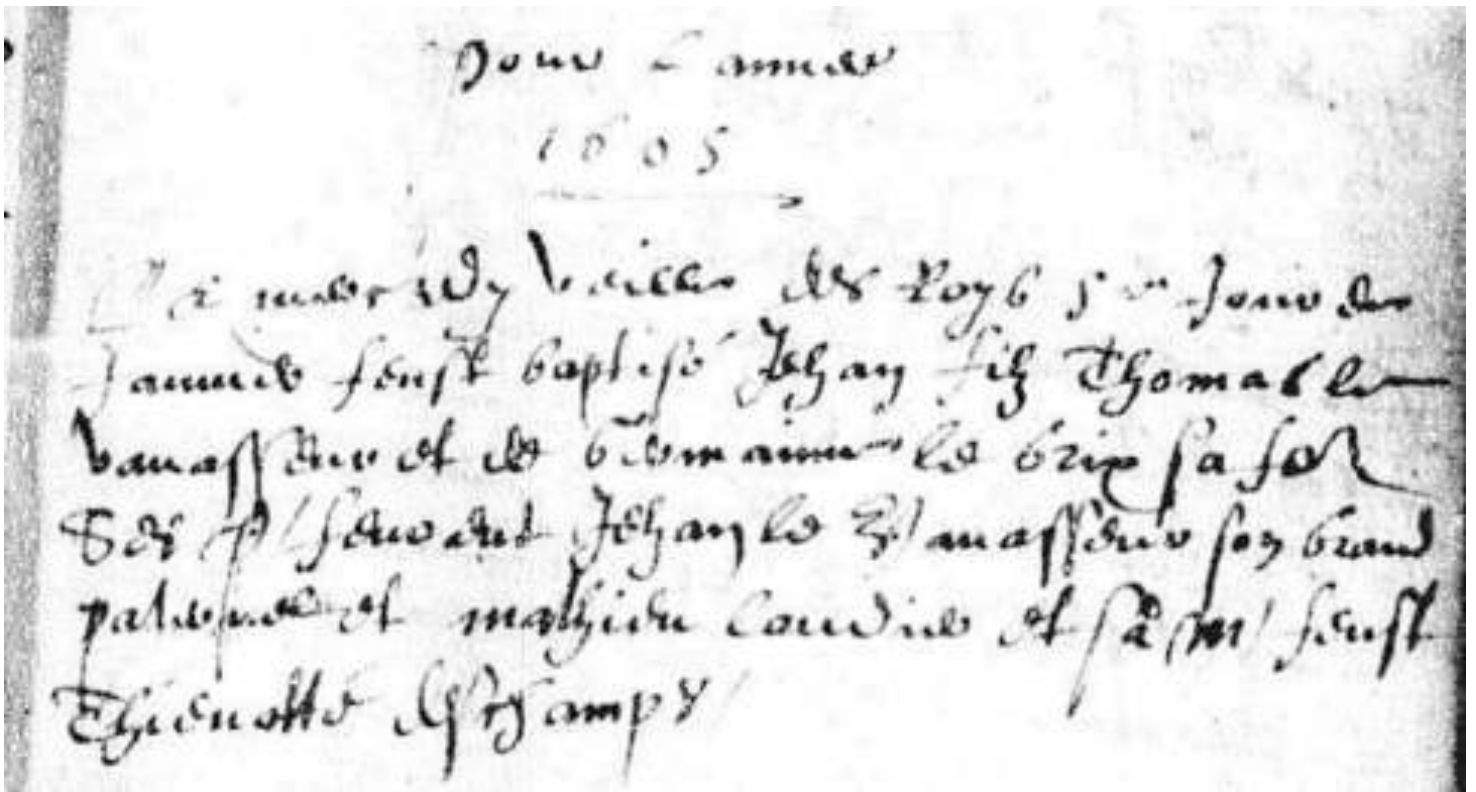
Parish Registers of Québec

To find Laurent's ancestors, I started with Laurent himself. The site ancestry.com is a useful tool for searching the parish registers of Québec on line. There I found the marriage records between Laurent Levasseur and Marie Marchand. According to the record, Jean, Laurent's father, had already died. Marguerite, his mother, was probably still living in France. We also know that Laurent Levasseur's original name was Laurent Levavasseur. Thus Jean's original name would be Jean Levavasseur.



Parish Registers of Bois-Guillaume

The most useful tool that I found to search for Laurent's French ancestors is the website <http://www.archivesdepartementales76.net/rechercher/archives-en-ligne/>. It allows to you see the original parish registers and notary acts from the entire Seine-Maritime department. Bois-Guillaume, of course, is located in the Seine-Maritime, and we are interested in the parish registers there. According to the ALA's database, Jean Levavasseur was baptised on January 5th, 1605. Indeed, the register readily confirms this.



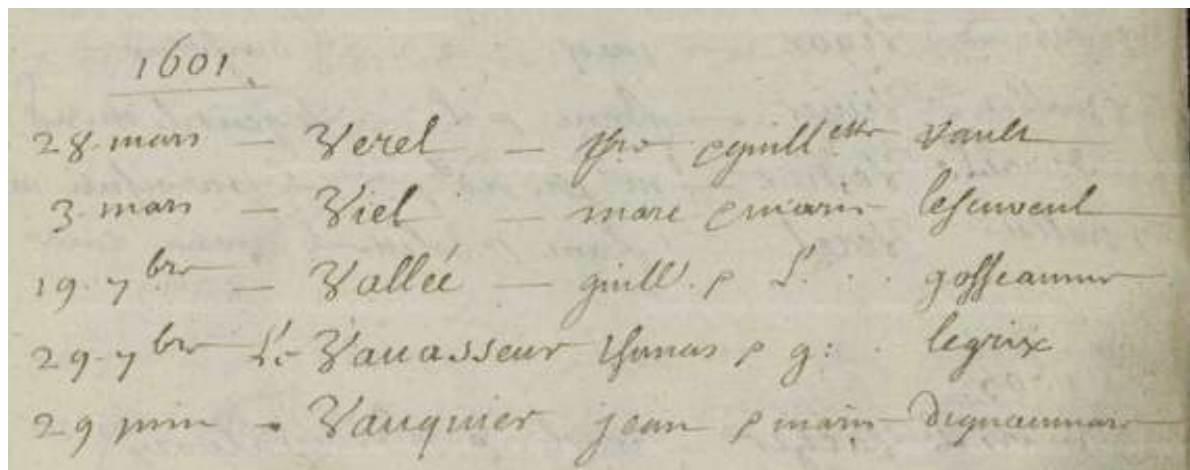
It's difficult to read, but I believe the text is as follows:

«Le mercredi veille des Boys 5e Jour de Janvier feust baptisé Jehan filz Thomas le Vauasseur et de Germaine le Grix sa fe Ses P/ feurent Jehan le Vauasseur son Grand pate[...] et mathieu landrie et sa M/feust Thieuette deschamps/»

Roughly translated, this says : "Wednesday, city of Bois [Bois-Guillaume], fifth day of January were baptised Jehan son of Thomas le Vavasseur and of Germaine le Grix his wife, his godfathers were Jehan le Vavasseur his grand [father?] and Mathieu Landrie and his godmother was Thievette Deschamps".

Note that "Jehan" is the ancient spelling of "Jean".

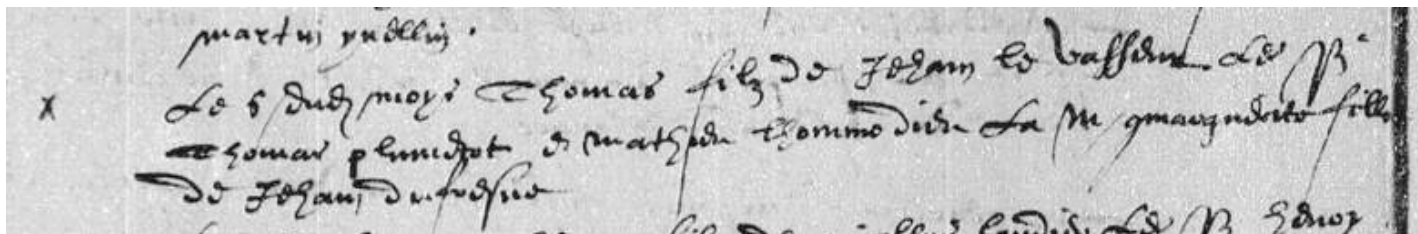
While searching notary records of the nearby city of Rouen, I discovered some information about the marriage of Thomas Levavasseur and Germaine Legrix previously unknown, or at least unknown to me. They were married September 29, 1601.



Unfortunately, there is no more information in those particular records. There are no marriage records for the year 1601 in Bois-Guillaume— only baptisms. Clearly this information was recorded somewhere, because the notary wrote this volume over 100 years after the marriage took place; it is up to us to find the original if it still exists.

Mystery of the little “x”

While looking for baptism record of Thomas, I found the record that I believe was entered into the database. It is the record of the baptism of Thomas Levasseur, baptised in Bois-Guillaume on September 6, 1579 (it is in the same book as the 1580 register, so perhaps that’s why it was listed as 1580).



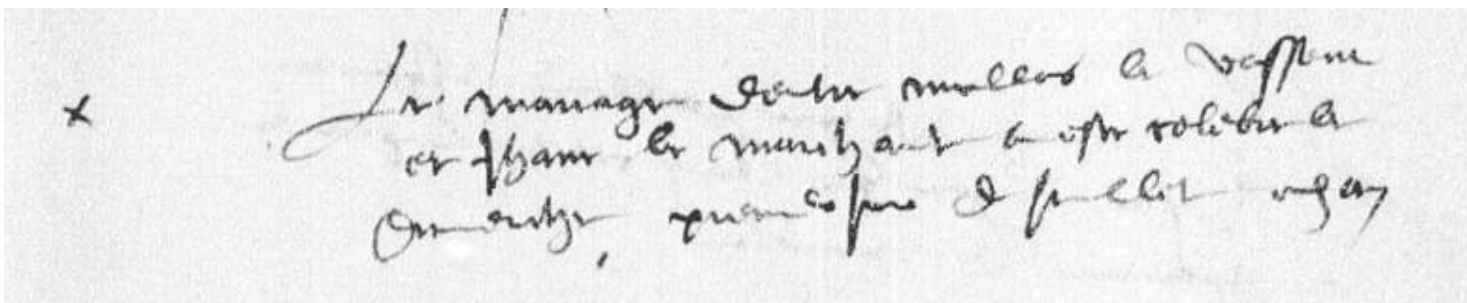
«Le 6 dud moyi Thomas filz de Jeham le Vasseur les P thomas plumetot et mathieu lhomme dieu la M/ marguerite fille de Jeham dufresne»

Roughly translated, this says “The 6th of this month Thomas son of Jean Levasseur The godfathers Thomas Plumetot and Mathieu Lhomedieu The godmother Marguerite daughter of Jean Dufresne”.

But two details instantly got my attention. First, the name clearly states Levasseur, and not Laurent’s name Levasseur. Secondly, what is that little “x” to the left of the entry?

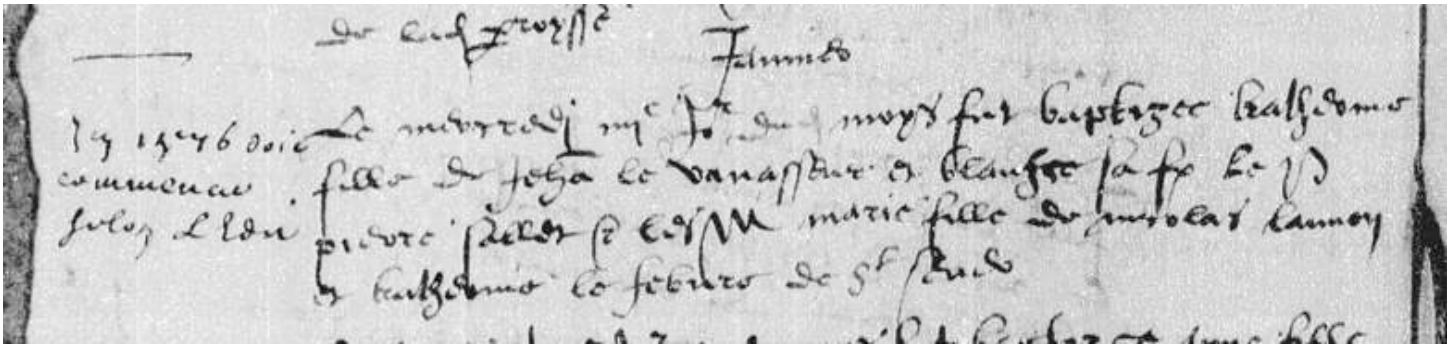
I don’t know. But there are a lot of them in the registers. In fact, I found eleven little x’s by certain entries across several decades of baptisms. Six of these entries involve someone named Nicollas Levasseur, three entries involve Jean Levasseur, one entry involves someone with the name Plumetot (the same name as the godfather of Thomas Levasseur in the above entry), and one more entry involving an illegible name.

Whatever the “x” means, it seems clear that it involves the Levasseur family. The first such mark that I was able to find in the parish registers was next to the marriage record of Nicollas Levasseur in 1565.



The next marks were next to the baptismal records of his five children in the years 1566, 1569, 1571, 1573, and 1575. The next mark is the one shown above, the baptism of Thomas Levasseur in 1579, then again by the baptism of Anne daughter of Jean Levasseur in 1580, and yet again by the baptism of Isaac son of Jean Levasseur in 1583.

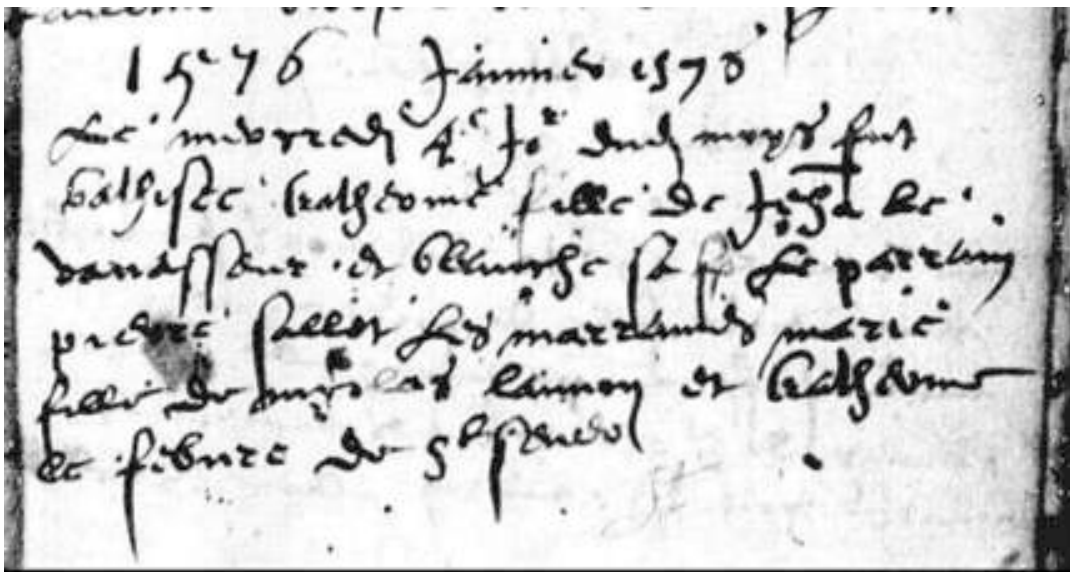
Then I found a real gem – the first time that the name Levavasseur was written in the parish registers of Bois-Guillaume, at least as far as I was able to determine. It is the baptism record for Katherine, daughter of Jean Levavasseur, on January 4, 1576. This could very well be the sister of Thomas Levavasseur. There is no “x” here.



«Le mercredi iiiiie Jour du mois fut baptizee katherine fille de Jehan le Vauasseur et b[...]e sa fe Le P pierre salle[?] et Les M marie fille de nicollas la[...]on et katherine le febure de St seuer»

“Wednesday the fourth day of the month was baptised Katherine daughter of Jean Levavasseur and B[...]e his wife The godfather was Pierre Salle[?] and the godmothers were Marie daughter of Nicollas La[...]on and Katherine Lefebvre of St-Sever”.

The godfather’s last name is either Salles or Sallet, and Jean’s wife’s name looks like it says “Blanhce”, but it is hard to tell. A second copy of the parish registers is available, and her baptism is in that as well.



Le «mercredi 4e Jour dud mois fut baptisee katherine fille de Jehan le Vauasseur et blanche sa fe Le parrain pierre sallet et Les marraines marie fille de myrolas la[...]on et katherine le febure de St seuer»

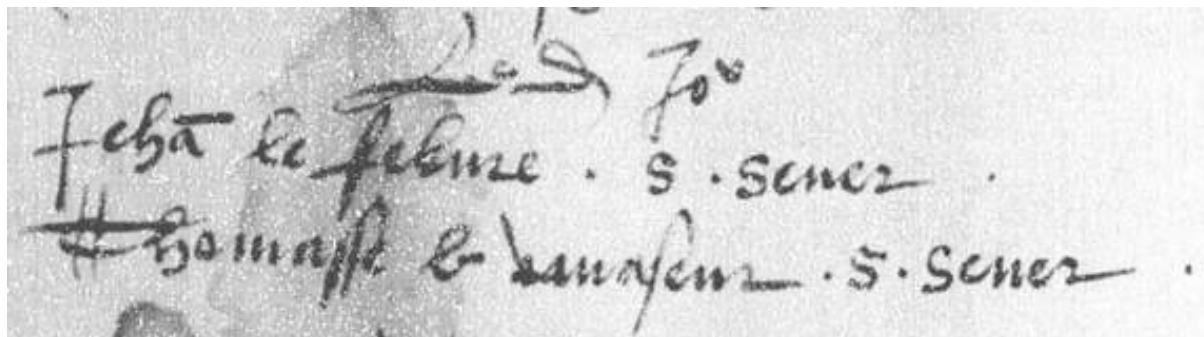
The translation for this one is almost exactly the same, but some of the names are spelled slightly differently. Most importantly, Katherine’s mother’s name is spelled “Blanche” in this record.

At this point, two ideas struck me. First, none of the records that contain the name Levavasseur have a little “x” by the entries, and (almost) all of the ones that have the name Levasseur are clearly marked with a special “x”. So it

seems clear to me that the two families are separate. For some reason or another, the Levasseur family of Bois-Guillaume was distinctive.

Secondly, if Katherine's baptism is indeed the first record of a Levavasseur in Bois-Guillaume, that would explain the lack of a marriage record of Jean Levavasseur in the parish registers. So perhaps the Levavasseur family migrated there from somewhere else. I think a potential clue is that one of Katherine's godmothers was from St-Sever.

St-Sever is a parish in the city of Rouen, not far from Bois-Guillaume. So I began looking for a connection between the Lefebvre family of St-Sever, Rouen, and the Levavasseur family. And I found one. It turns out that in 1574, less than two years before Katherine's birth, that Jean Lefebvre of St-Sever married Thomasse Levavasseur, also of St-Sever.



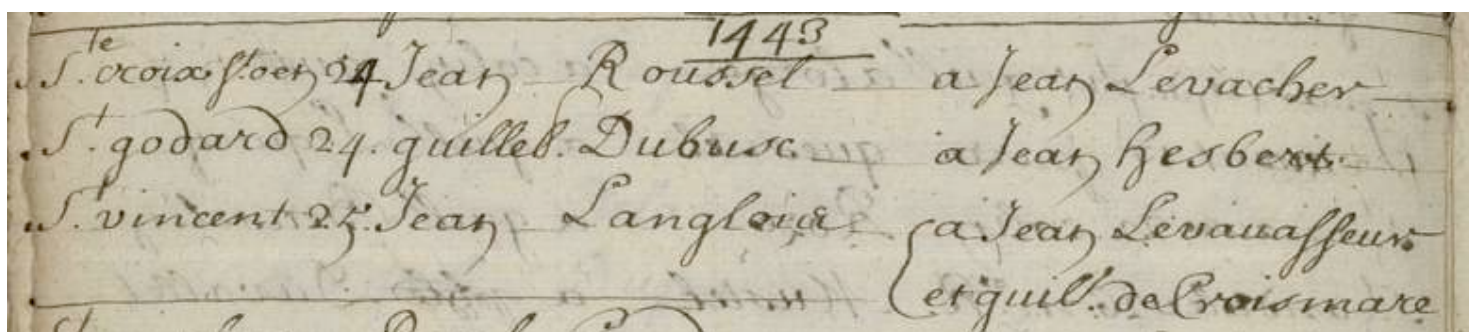
If the Levavasseur family was not from Bois-Guillaume originally, then perhaps they migrated there from Rouen. In any case, there is some vague link between the Levavasseurs of Bois-Guillaume and Rouen and the Lefebvres of Rouen. Unfortunately many years, even decades, of the parish records of St-Sever are missing, including most of the years during which we would suspect to find information on Jean Levavasseur.

Conclusion

It seems clear to me that the Levavasseur family and the Levasseur family were two distinct family that happened to have similar names while coexisting in Bois-Guillaume. Much of their story remains a mystery due to missing parish records, and the vast amount of notary records available in Rouen, compounded by handwriting that is very difficult to read.

To add to the confusion, we don't know where Jean Levavasseur was married or born, and if it is indeed in Rouen, in which parish? There are dozens of parishes in Rouen, and each one has registers with varying degrees of completeness.

There are records of the name Levavasseur in Rouen going back to at least 1443.



It is not immediately clear whether these people are our ancestors. Of course, going even further back, there is the somewhat famous Mauger le Vavasour from Normandy, who accompanied William the Conqueror to England, and is the patriarch of the Vavasour family there. I also believe that some of the Vavasours in England moved back to Normandy, but that point is still a bit unclear. I wonder if there is any connection between the Levvasseur family in France and the Vavasour family in England waiting to be discovered.

Laurent Levasseur direct lineage

Jean (Jehan) Levvasseur		
Thomas Levvasseur Baptized at Bois de-Guillaume, Normandie on September 6, 1579	List of notarized marriage contracts Rouen, September 29, 160	Germaine Legris
Jean (Jehan) Levvasseur Baptized at Bois-Guillaume, Normandie, on January 5, 1605		Marguerite Maheu
Laurent Levasseur	Marriage : Québec, April 30, 1670	Marie Marchand

Brief news

The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation links for 'Français', 'English', 'Google Custom Search', and 'Recherche'. The main heading is 'Bienvenue sur le site de l'Association des Levasseur d'Amérique inc.' Below this is a section titled 'Autres publications sur les Levasseur'. The text explains that most volumes are not for sale but are available for consultation. A list of two books by Adrien Levasseur is shown:

Volumes	Auteur	Titre et année de publication
	Adrien Levasseur	Laurent Levasseur - Origine et Histoire et Première Génération en Nouvelle-France (1988) J.-F. Adrien Levasseur Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec Bibliothèque Nationale, Ottawa Dépot Légal 2e trimestre 1988 ISBN 2-9801208-1-2
	Adrien Levasseur	Pierre Levasseur dit L'Espérance et la Première Génération en Nouvelle-France (1989) J.-F. Adrien Levasseur Bibliothèque Nationale du Québec Bibliothèque Nationale, Ottawa Dépot Légal 4e trimestre 1989 ISBN 2-9801208-2-0

The «[Others Publications](#)» section on the Web site has been updated recently.

We offer you other references on the genealogy and the history of the Levasseur and Carmel families. However, the majority of these volumes are not available for resale.

Those that were available for sale have been sold. The Association has, however, a copy of each of these volumes for consultation by its members. For more information and details, please contact the webmaster.

This list is ranked in alphabetical order by author's name.

Do you know of other volumes or documentation about the Levasseurs? Please let us know and they will be added to this list.

However, the majority of these volumes is not available for sale.

For quicker access, you can subscribe or renew using PayPal®. Go at «Join the ALA» on the menu, then click on [«Paypal»](#)



We would appreciate if you could send us family related documents that would add to our data base of archives and also enable us to continue the publication of the Levasseur Newsletter three times per year. The participation of the Levasseurs and members of their families is essential to allow us to pursue our mission. Send us your photos and texts for the next publication of the Newsletter. [You can download them very easily](#) with this new tool and by providing a brief description of the photo or text that is being sent.

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 2014-2015

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