

# Levasseur

June 2016 Volume 28 No 2

[www.levasseur.org](http://www.levasseur.org)



Charles Levasseur  
(1665-1704)

**page 3**



Benoit Albert Levasseur  
(1918-1943)

**page 6**



The popularity of the  
surname Levasseur in the  
U.S.

**page 12**



Exhibit of family  
Associations, a great  
success

**page 13**

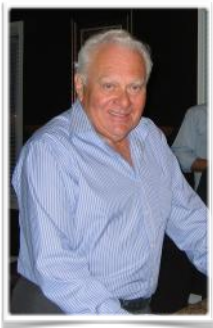


Charles Levasseur and Benoît-Albert Levasseur. Charles was a Compagnon de Cavalier de La Salle due to his discovery of the mouth of the Mississippi River and Benoît-Albert gave his life, during an air operation overseas on February 18, 1943, in Europe. The life of these two soldiers is presented to you in this copy of the Levasseur Newsletter. Other biographies will be published in future issues of the Newsletter

We found hundreds of Canadian and American soldiers, amongst the Levasseur, Carmel and Borgia, who served in the military during different eras and wars in our respective countries. Based on the significant amount of data available, relating to the careers of the service men and women in the Arm Forces, a Web site (French version at this time) will be dedicated to them. We wish you pleasant readings. If you have photos or stories about members of your family who served in the military, please consider sending the information for future publications.

<http://militaires.levasseur.org>

## The President Word



Thank you for completing the survey sent to you about the services offered by the Levasseur Association of America. The overall results were very gratifying. The board members were extremely pleased to realize how the Newsletter, the Web site and the data base were greatly appreciated. However, there are areas where services can be improved. We have taken note of activities suggested and all efforts will be made to better respond to the needs of our members. Specifically

there will be a board meeting by telephone conference on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 and the activities requiring attention will be prioritized and appropriate actions taken to respond to them, within our means and abilities.

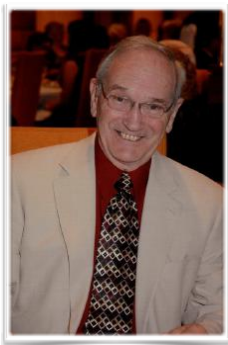
One area, where you as members can be of assistance, is to undertake genealogical research of your individual Levasseur families and provide us the results. Recording where your grand-parents came from, how and where they settled in various locations in America, the type of work they did, the children they had and their accomplishments. This type of information could be published in the Newsletter. In addition, if there are old family photos available, they could be incorporated in our photo archive section. By doing so, future generations of your Levasseur families will have a record of this information. Otherwise, if not recorded, it may be lost.

We therefore look forward to hearing from you and thank you for the support. For your information a summary of the results of the survey is included and compares the answers received by our French and English speaking members.

Roger Levasseur

Follow this link for survey report: [http://www.levasseur.org/doc/sond\\_a.pdf](http://www.levasseur.org/doc/sond_a.pdf)

## Joseph Levasseur (1934-2016)



He grew up in Manchester, son of Alphonse and Irene Levasseur. In high school he loved being involved, and playing basketball. He went on to serve his country in the US Army, where he served as a medic. He then went on to become a mechanical engineer, and was self-employed most of his working career. He married my mom Jeannette Leblanc and they had four children, Marc, Paul, Denis, and Lesa. He was also the proud great-grandfather of Jameson and Raelyn. He

loved his family more than anything. In his retirement he spent his winters in Florida and was always helping his community and church here in Manchester and in Florida.



## Newsletter Team

**Newsletter responsible**  
Roger Levasseur

**Setting and layout**  
Jean-Pierre Levasseur

### Contributions to the texts

Huguette Levasseur  
Jean-Marie Levasseur  
Jean-Pierre Levasseur  
Raymond Levasseur  
Roger Levasseur

**Review of the texts**  
Huguette Levasseur

**Translation**  
Roger Levasseur

**Mail distribution**  
Gilles Carmel

**Genealogist**  
Joceline Levasseur

### Photo on page 1

« Douglas BOSTON aircraft of the Royal Air Force taking part in Operation JUBILEE, the raid on Dieppe. » [Source](#)



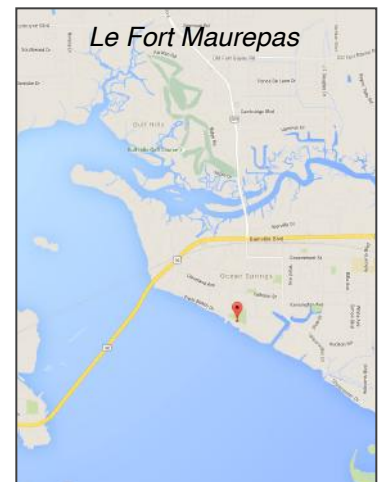
## CHARLES LEVASSEUR (1665-1704) (J)

Charles Levasseur was born, April 7, 1665, in Québec. He was the son of Jean Levasseur dit Lavigne - the first Levasseur to be established in New France - and Marguerite Richard. Charles was attracted at a young age to the military life. He received his assignments from Paris where he was recognized for his abilities. His name was "Charles Le Vasseur, Mister de Bagaret", or, more often, 'Charles Le Vasseur de Boussouelle' or 'Ruessavel' . Whichever name he was given, Charles was always recognized as a "Canadian officer". His ambitions were to explore the new world and he was fascinated by the Mississippi River. Charles was with **Le Cavalier de La Salle** when the Mississippi was discovered. He was then appointed to accompany **Pierre Le Moyne, Mister D'Iberville**, to establish the first permanent French settlement in Louisiana<sup>2</sup>.

### Fort Maurepas (or « Vieux Biloxi »)

The expedition left La Rochelle in September of 1698 and arrived in the Bay of Biloxi, in February 1699. Le Moyne searched at length to find a suitable place to build a fort. The location where they were was marshy and infested with mosquitoes. Drinking water was not easy to find and the expedition was wary of hurricanes. Finally he found an elevated location on the northeast side of the Bay of Biloxi (today: "Ocean Springs", Mississippi State). The present city of "Biloxi" (today: in the State of Mississippi) is located on the West side of the Bay of Biloxi. Biloxi was the name of a group of native peoples in the region, belonging to the Sioux family.

Top photo: preliminary map of the settlement in Fort Louis de Mobile, Louisiana by Charles Levasseur in 1702.



[Click for a larger view](#)

Started in April, the construction of Fort Maurepas was completed, on May 1, 1699. Three days later, Pierre Le Moyne, returned to France after organizing the colony in the following fashion:

- **Commandant:** his cousin, Sauvolle de la Villanry, lieutenant;
- **Second:** his younger brother, Jean Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, the King's lieutenant of the maritime guard;
- **Major of the fort :** Charles Levasseur, a Canadian with military experience.

He left a garrison of about 70 men, which he considered to be his best soldiers. Amongst them, there were several Canadian, including Jean-François Levasseur (1654 -), Charles' brother.

Daily life was very difficult: mosquitoes were pervasive, food was rationed, drinking water was scarce and even the fort's well water could have caused disease. On July 2, 1699, following a surprise visit to the Fort Maurepas, M. de Montigny, missionary in the Mississippi Valley, confirmed how difficult the situation was for the occupants of the fort, and he noted that he found amongst them, « two gentlemen Levasseur of which, one was the fort's major, Major Charles Le Vasseur<sup>3</sup>. The second Le Vasseur... was called Jean-François. He commanded the ship "La Précieuse", it was the largest ferryboat of the d'Iberville's flotilla's<sup>4</sup> ».

### The Fort Louis de la Mobile<sup>5</sup> (or Fort Louis in Louisiana)

In 1700, it was decided that a new fort should be built, a little more to the East, in Mobile Bay. Charles Levasseur, who was at the head of the expedition, was assigned the task of finding a more suitable location. He continued his search in 1701 and he chose the location where Fort Louis of the Mobile would be built: it would be on a promontory about 20 feet in height, on the right bank of the Mobile River, near the mouth of the river that overlooks Mobile Bay. The site was located approximately 120 kilometres east of Fort Maurepas (Biloxi). At the beginning of 1702, Charles Levasseur himself drew the plans for the fort that would dominate the Mobile River and also the plans of the town that surrounded the fort. The fort was square with four bastions, the guns being concentrated in the four corners of the fort. Charles Levasseur also directed the construction of the fort. The new fort impressed everyone, including native Americans, who had been invited to visit the fort. In the course of the year 1702, Fort Maurepas on Biloxi Bay was destroyed to prevent the enemy of occupying the Fort. The command of the Louisiana French colony was transferred to Fort Louis de la Mobile (which is today in the State of Alabama).



Localisation of La Mobile ([Louisiana française](#)) and Pensacola (Spanish Florida).  
[Click for a larger view](#)

Unfortunately, two years later, during an epidemic, Charles Levasseur died of yellow fever, in the fort he had designed and built. It was September 4, 1704: he was only 39 years old. He had been an experienced soldier, a talented military architect and a daring explorer. His death was considered a great loss to the Louisiana colony.

[Jean-Marie Levasseur](#) (033)

1. 'Ruessavel' is obtained by reading "Levasseur" from right to left: Charles may have given himself this nickname in his youth, for fun or to make fun of the titles of nobility. The nickname would have then been distorted into Russouelle, Roussouelle, etc.
2. See the documents collected by **Pierre Margry** in *Discoveries and Settlements of the French in the West and in the South of North America (1614-1754)*, volume 4, *Discovery by sea of the mouths of Mississippi and Lemoyne D'Iberville's establishment of institutions on the Gulf of Mexico (1694-1703)*, Paris, Maisonneuve et Cie, 1880. <https://archive.org/> (accessed January 4, 2016). On the appointment of Charles Levasseur, see p.63, the letter of the Minister of the Navy (Jérôme Pontchartrain) to the Mister d'Iberville, on June 25, 1698: «Mister Levasseur, who formerly served under late Mr. de la Salle and accomplished different jobs in the Canada, offered his services. I thought that he would be the right person to assist you for this campaign and able to serve usefully. It is necessary that you have him embark with you to command a group of Canadians that will be accompanying you. I leave it to you to employ him for tasks that you deem appropriate. »
3. *Autographed letter of father François de Montigny to Mgr de Saint-Vallier, from his mission of the Taensas, dated August 25, 1699*, in **Noël Baillargeon**, *Les Missions du Séminaire de Québec in the Mississippi valley 1698-1699*, Québec, Musée de la civilisation, 2002 (online), p. 81. (The notebooks of the Musée de la civilisation), <http://collections.banq.qc.ca> (consulted January 5, 2016).
4. *ibid.*, p. 91, note 25 by **Noël Baillargeon**, with a reference to **Marcel Giraud**, *History of French Louisiana*, Paris, 1953, 1, p. 21, n. 4 and references to the *Roll of the officers, majors, etc. left in garrison by M. D'Iberville at the Maurepas Fort*, AC, C13A, vol. I, f. 209 f. 219.
5. **HIGGINBOTHAM, Jay**, *Old Mobile. Fort Louis de la Louisiane, 1702-1711*, Mobile, Museum of the city of Mobile, 1977 (New issues: Tuscaloosa and London. The University of Alabama Press, 1991, 587p.), <https://books.google.ca> (accessed January 11, 2016). Note online, on pages 40-52, the beginnings of the establishment. See also **Gilles-Antoine Langlois** writings, *Des villes pour la Louisiane Francophonee*. He writes about the theory and practice of the urban colonization in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2003, <https://books.Google.ca> (accessed January 11, 2016).



Editor's Note: Wikipedia online encyclopaedia is a good starting point to learn about the history of Louisiana and the forts mentioned in this article.

« **Fort Louis de la Mobile (Old Mobile Site)**, also called Fort Louis de la Louisiane, because it is located in Louisiana, was built in 1702 near the mouth Mobile River in Alabama. The fort was built to provide, political, military and religious services. The fort was the residence of Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville and his officers. It also served as the chapel and had a variety of structures. This Colonial site has been recorded in the National Register of historic sites on May 6, 1976 and as a National historic site on January 3, 2001. This fort was built following the construction of two French forts that had been previously built and were located to the South of the vast territory of French Louisiana. » [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\\_Mobile\\_Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Mobile_Site)

«**Fort Maurepas** was a French fort built in 1699 to protect the French Louisiana coast overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. In 1699, the two brothers, Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville and Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville founded a first colony at fort Maurepas (now Ocean Springs, near Biloxi). (From 1699 to 1702, Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville was Governor of French Louisiana. His brother succeeded him in this post from 1702 to 1713. He was also Governor from 1716 to 1724 and again from 1733 to 1743). » [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort\\_Maurepas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Maurepas)



## THE LEVASSEUR IN THE FIELD OF HONOUR

BENOÎT-ALBERT LEVASSEUR (1918-1943)

by: [Raymond Levasseur](#) (276)

Born in Clair, New Brunswick, Benoît Albert Levasseur, a descendant of Laurent, served in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) with Squadron 419 and died in service on February 18, 1943, at the age of 24.

He was born on November 9, 1918, the sixth of a family of 11 children, of whom 4 died at a very young age. The eldest of the family, Edgar, died at the age of 16, on October 2, 1925, and the eldest of the daughters, Gertrude, died at the age of 27 on December 22, 1943. His parents, Oscar Levasseur and Délina Cyr, are natives of Madawaska, where they married, in the parish of Saint-Hilaire, on July 5, 1909.

The other 4 members of the family, who were residents of Clair on October 24, 1944, are: Armand, Leonard, Grégoire and Martine, aged respectively, at that time, 33, 29, 23 and 21 years.



Benoît-Albert attended public school in Clair from 1925 to 1933. He completed his studies at Saint-Joseph University from 1933 to 1937. In 1938 he was enrolled in science at the University of Saint-François-Xavier in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. He left his studies and enlisted in Moncton, on January 10, 1941, with the RCAF because he wanted to become a pilot.

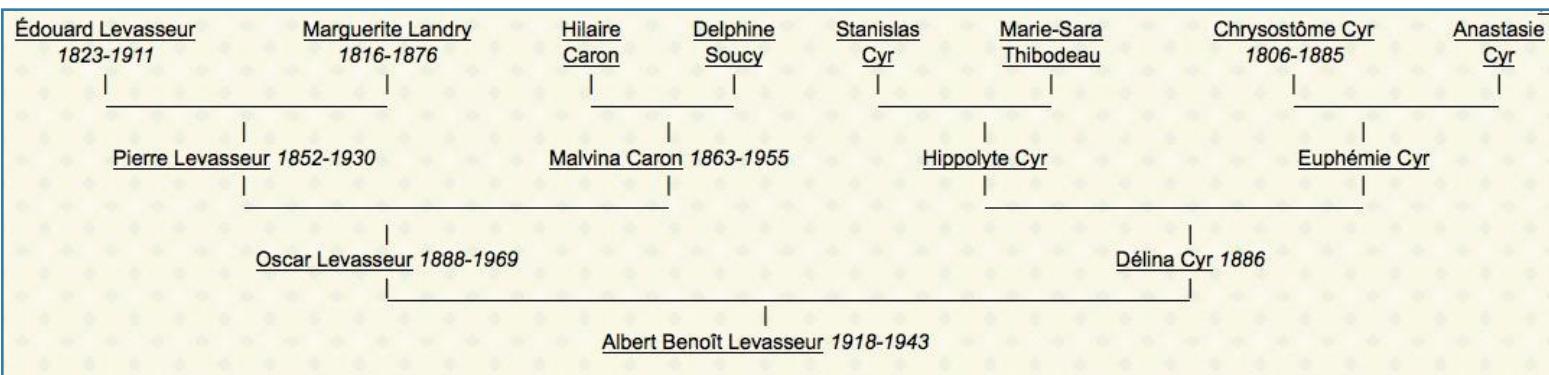
As a 2nd class Airman, he attended flight schools and continued training courses that brought him to different bases in Ontario, Nova Scotia and Quebec. When BENOÎT-ALBERT LEVASSEUR presented himself in Victoriaville on May 29, 1941 before the military commission, he was 22 years old and single. He enjoyed playing hockey and football and his hobby was photography.

He was considered as being an excellent recruit and he progressed rapidly to the rank of Airman on June 9, 1942. By mid-June to the end of July, he completed 55 hours of flight time, of which more than half at the controls of the aircraft.

In October 1941, he embarked for Europe. He participated in training sessions and did some operational training prior to joining the ranks of squadron 419 on August 8, 1942. On April 1st 1943 he had been promoted to the rank of Flight Sergeant.

*With this issue begins a series of articles devoted to Levasseur who participated in World War II and who, for the most part, were killed in action.*

**Benoît-Albert Levasseur  
Direct Lineage**



Albert-Benoît Levasseur's lineage to his great-grand-parents

During his last leave, granted in 1942, Benoît-Albert was married. He married Grace Betty Foster, a 20-year old British girl, who served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force of the Royal Air Force (RAF). The marriage took place on December 8, 1942 in [Lossiemouth](#), in Scotland, where the RAF had an air base.

Between 1942 and 1948, notations about Grace can be read in different air bases of the R.A.F., including Balnageith, in Scotland, and [Downham Market](#) in Norfolk English speaking. In May 1948 documents from the Royal Canadian Air Force suggest that she remarried. Grace is, at that time living in Peckham, in the Londonian district of Southwark and was still a resident in Peckham in April 1952.

Less than a month after returning from his leave, on December 24, 1942, the pilot, Benoît Albert Levasseur, led his crew on several missions as part of operation GARDENING, code name designating an operation related to the launching of mines. The most frequent targets of squadron 419 were the islands of Friesland or Frisian Islands, located north of the Netherlands. The last mission of the team was on 18 February 1943.

The instructions regarding this form are contained in Chapter XIII, A.P. 1301 (War Manual Part II) R.A.F. Form 1580.

### ROYAL AIR FORCE AIRMAN'S/AIRWOMAN'S RECORD SHEET (Active Service).

Official No. CAN/R.94617 Name LEVASSEUR, BENOIT ALBERT Rank T/Sgt.  
 (In full in block capitals, surname first). (Or acting appointment).

R.A.F. Trade P.R.C. Special Qualifications \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e.g., Gas Instructor, Fire Fighter, Boxing Instructor).

Date of Birth 9.11.18. Religion R.C. Occupation in Civil Life Student.  
 Last Enlisted 10.1.41 Current Engagement OgW.

If a member of the Auxiliary Air Force \_\_\_\_\_  
 If Reservist, which Class ("E," "F," V.R.) SR Whether Married, Single, or Widower S.

Name, address and relationship of legal next of kin (to be entered in pencil):  
M.C.D. Levasseur, Clair, Madawaska, N.B. (?)

Name, address and relationship of person (or persons) to be informed of casualties (to be entered in pencil).  
 (If this person is the legal next of kin, it is only necessary to insert here "Next of Kin.")  
NJK

Any alteration to above (e.g., Promotions) to be made by crossing out and writing above.

SECTION 1.—MOVEMENTS AND CASUALTIES.			SECTION 2.— PROMOTIONS, ACTING APPOINTMENTS (PAID OR UNPAID), REDUCTIONS, REMUSTERINGS.		
Unit FROM which.	Unit TO which.	Date of Effect.	* Authority.	Description.	Date of Effect.
8 S.F.T.S. 140 Halifax	170. Halifax	?	Enlisted	AC2, P.O. "Std."	10.1.41
	RAF. TP. Emb. Canada.	22.10.41		Reclass. AC2, P "Std."	9.6.41
	3 PRC	4.11.41		Promoted T/Sgt, Pilot "Sp"	?
3 P.R.C.	2 S.F.T.S.	1-12-41			
2 S.F.T.S.	3 PRC	5-1-42			
3 PRC	20 OT. 4	20-1-42			
20 O.T. 4	419, OgW Mildenhall	8-8-42			
HQ(RCAF) SQDN.	NO. 1. RAF. DEPOT UXBRIDGE	18-2-43			
	REPORTED MISSING 18/2/43. P.O. R. 14/43.				

Extract from airman Albert-Benoît Levasseur's service record sheet.



Among some 90 aircraft participating in the operation, the [Halifax DT639](#) aircraft took off late in the afternoon, to drop mines off the coast of the Frisian Islands. On board, in addition to the pilot, Flight Sergeant Benoît-Albert Levasseur, there were 6 crew members:

Sergeant John William Grant, 20 years, Bomb Aimer;  
Flight Sergeant William Reid Gray, 26 years, Rear Gunner;  
Sergeant Harold Thomas Jacobson, 24-year-old, Wireless Operator;  
Sergeant Griffith Arthur Lloyd, 21 years, Navigator;  
Sergeant William Albert Robinson, 21, Flight Engineer ;  
Sergeant Robert Potter Wilson, age 25, Air Gunner.

The aircraft never returned to the base, and no news was ever transmitted by the crew or relating to the flight. How can one not establish a parallel between his disappearance and the tragic end of the aviator and writer Antoine de Saint-Exupéry? He was a famous author, of which novels, the admirable *Pilote de Guerre* (Flight to Arras) and the famous *Le Petit Prince*. Saint-Exupéry disappeared during an air mission on July 31, 1944!

Benoît was first: « reported missing on February 18, 1943 after air operation overseas». He was officially reported as being presumed dead on January 19 1944 from the moment of his disappearance. Posthumously and several months later, he was promoted to the rank of warrant officer 2<sup>nd</sup> class retroactively to October 10, 1942.

In the March 23, 1943 edition of the *Ottawa Journal*, the Department of national defence published a list of soldiers who, either died in battle, or died as a result of injuries, or are either missing or wounded. Benoît-Albert Levasseur is listed as missing and officially presumed dead. There is also reference to his wife who lives in Balnageith in Scotland. In this region of Morayshire, a monument has been erected in memory of the thousands of Airmen and Airwomen who had trained there and died in combat.

Posthumously Benoît-Albert has been awarded various military decorations.

For service in the Royal Canadian Air Force, from January 10, 1941 to February 18, 1943, 770 days of which 485 overseas, starting from October 12, 1941, he received 2 medals:

- The Canadian Volunteer Service Medal assigned to any member of any rank who has: " voluntarily served on active service and honourably completed 18 months of total voluntary service from September 3, 1939 to March 1, 1947." On the Ribbon of this Medal was displayed a silver bar, "in recognition of 60 days of service outside the Canada."
- The War Medal 1939-1945, awarded "in recognition of at least 28 days of service between the period, September 3. 1939 and 2 September 1945.

He was also entitled to the Defence Medal 1939-1945, which is delivered "in recognition of participation in the defence of the British territories between September 3, 1939 and September 2, 1945" during a period ranging from 6 months to 3 years, depending on the level of danger characterizing the operations.

He received the 39-45 Star, which is awarded "in recognition of at least 6 months of service in war operations (2 months for flying personnel) between September 2, 1939 and May 8, 1945.

Finally, in August 1946, his parents received the insignia of the Operational Wings, a decoration awarded to a member of the Royal Canadian Air force "who has carried at least 30 missions," as "precious memory of a young life offered on the altar of freedom in defence of his Home and his Country.

1944-44 (44)		H.Q. FILE NO. 1022-1-3943	
NAME LEVASSEUR, Benoit Albert		REG'L No. RE4637	
RANK P.S. Pilot		UNIT <del>XXXXXXXX</del> PRES. DEAD	
CABLE		NATURE OF CASUALTY	
NO.	DATE		
DATE OF DEATH:	18-Feb-43	MOTHER LIVING: YES	WIFE: YES
MEMORIAL CARD:	2-3-43	ROYAL MESSAGE: NA	MEMORIAL CROSS: APR 26 1944
To mother & father		To wife - New Address	
To wife 28-1-44		CROSSING: 10-7-44	
To mother & father			
Mrs. E.A. Levasseur,		Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Levasseur,	
21 <del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del> KINLOSS,		Clair, Madawaska County,	
<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>		New Brunswick.	
New Address Over//		R.C.	

Benoît-Albert Levasseur and his 6 companions of misfortune, with that of thousands of other members of the British Commonwealth Air Force who died in combat and who did not have a burial, have their name engraved, in stone, on a Runnymede Memorial in Englefield Green not far from London.

According to the [Canadian War Museum](#), "more than 42,000 Canadians (49 000 when adding Newfoundlanders) lost their lives during the Second World War. Fifty-four thousand other Canadians were injured and thousands were

mutilated or psychologically bruised.

Furthermore, a section of the [Library and Archives Canada](#), dedicated to this conflict, provides the following figures: "During the Second World war, approximately 709 000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders served in the Canadian Army, 200 000 in the Royal Navy Canadian and 250 000 in the RCAF, totalling more than 1 159 000 men and women. 55 000 were injured. In addition, 44 090 lost their lives; of this number, 24 525 served in the army, 17 397 in aviation and 2 168 in the Navy. »

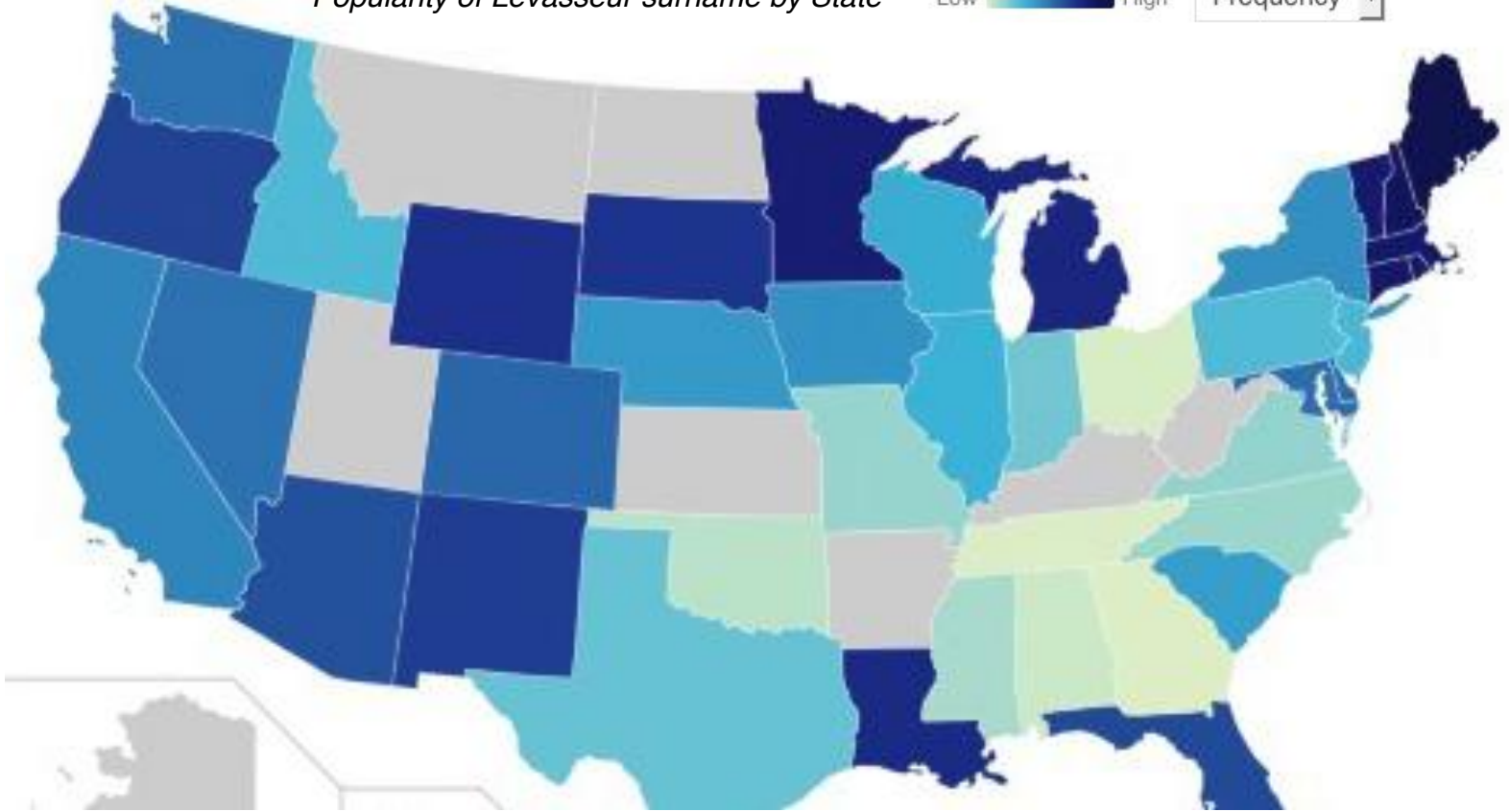
Among these brave man and women of combat there figures Benoît Albert. Other Levasseur who served will be discussed in future issues of the Levasseur Newsletter.

- Main sources:
- Website: <http://militaires.levasseur.org> (site in French) and mainly the section dealing with the Second World War. The reader will find Benoît-Albert Levasseur's complete genealogy and his service record. (42 pages of archives).
  - *Dictionnaire généalogique des descendants de Laurent Levasseur 1666-2008*, Association des Levasseur d'Amérique, 2008
  - [Library and Archives Canada](#)

Popularity of Levasseur surname by State

Low  High

Frequency



# THE POPULARITY OF THE SURNAME LEVASSEUR IN THE UNITED STATES

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

Popularity in the United States		
Rank (1990)	Rank (2000)	Change
#5,485	#7,170	-1,685

Source: <http://names.mooseroots.com/>

## Overview

Levasseur is an uncommon surname in the United States. When the United States Census was taken in 2000, there were about 4,292 individuals with the last name "Levasseur," ranking it number 7,170 for all surnames. Historically, the name has been most prevalent in the Northeast, especially in

Maine. Levasseur is least common in the southeastern states.

## Meaning and Origin

« French: status name from Old French vasseor, a short form of vavasour, a term of the feudal system for a tenant ranking immediately below a baron. Such a tenant would have been a prosperous man, and the surname may have been used for someone in his service more often than for the man himself. The term is probably derived from medieval Latin vassus vassorum 'vassal of vassals', i.e. vassal-in-chief. » Source: [ancestry.ca](http://ancestry.ca)

The following table shows the ten most popular names historically given to babies with a last name of Levasseur.

1. **Joseph**
2. **Mary**
3. **Robert**
4. **Paul**
5. **John**
6. **Richard**
7. **Louis**
8. **Roland**
9. **Ernest**
10. **Léo**



*Raymond St-Arnaud, Huguette Levasseur, Pauline Carmel and André Larochelle worked at the Levasseur booth during the Family exhibit in Lévis.*

## *Exhibition of the Associations of Families*

The Federation of Associations of Québec families held its annual exhibit at the Galeries Chagnon in Lévis, on February 26, 27 and 28, 2016. The exhibit was held on the land, previously known as the seigneurie of Lauzon. Our ancestor Laurent Levasseur, settled on that land. Some forty families, such as the Trudel, Gagnon, Audet dit Lapointe, the Dubé and the Levasseur families had a booth at this event. The societies of genealogy of Québec and Lévis, the National Archives and Library of Quebec, the Historical Society of the Kings daughters also had a booth.

Visitors had access to genealogy and the historical data about their family.

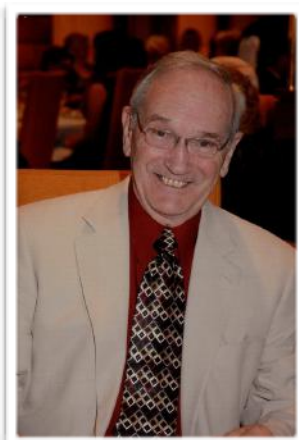
Some of the visitors to our booth were Levasseur, while others were descendants of a Levasseur grandmother or a great-grandmother according to their family history.

During the exhibition, visitors could also attend lectures on genealogy, toponymy. The Historical society of the King's daughters released DVD's, of which, a film on the King's daughters, mothers of the nation and the arrival of the King' daughters to New France.

I thank the volunteer members who worked at the Levasseur booth and responded to the visitor's questions. Specifically I would like to mention: Pauline Carmel and her spouse André Larochelle, Joceline Levasseur, Robert Levasseur and Raymond St-Arnaud.

Huguette Levasseur, organizer of the event

# Joseph (Joe) Levasseur (1934-2016)



My dad, as you know was an extraordinary man. He loved unconditionally. He enjoyed so many different things throughout his life. I can remember as a child we had a summer home on a river. I think dad taught everyone in the neighborhood how to waterski. His patience, and tolerance was amazing. Some would learn quickly, others would take all day. But dad always be encouraging us with a "you can do it!" My dad was also a role model to so many young people, they would gravitate towards him. It would never shock us to find one of our friends sitting in my dad's office asking for words of advice, he was very easy to talk to and not one that was quick to judge.

He loved his community. He was involved in many organizations including, the Boys scouts, Pine Haven, St. Vincent de Paul, Richelieu, Copper Cannon, Catholic War Vets. Mostly he was so proud of being a part of the Levasseur Association. He enjoyed the research of his ancestors, and going to all the reunions. Family was very important to my dad.

As a father, my dad was our mentor, our teacher, our disciplinary, and friend. He taught us to always be kind and loving. Never judge. He had a picture in his office that read, "Don't judge a man till you've walked a mile in his moccasin." He would always tell us to look people in the eye when you are talking to them, in doing so we learned respect. He was like that a lot when trying to teach us. I don't know if you ever saw the movie Karate Kid? But my dad was very much like Mr. Miagee. He would have us do things to learn life's lessons. When I was going through my teenage years, he had me, not only making food baskets for the less fortunate, but had me go and deliver them with him. That night I cried. I was so grateful for having two parents that provided so much for me and loved me unconditionally.

My dad was also a man of deep faith. He put not only his own children through school, but also 8 priests through seminary schools around the world. He loved his church, he was always there to help. From penny sales, to cleaning,(which he did have us help) to being a clown at a church fair.

If my dad was your friend, you know he was a great man! He loved a good joke, he was usually the one behind the jokes. LOL he was the one you could always call and no matter what he was doing if you need help, he dropped everything and would be there. My dad will be missed by many I'm sure of that. But being raised with the strong faith he always instilled in me, I know I will see him again someday. He is with his parents Alphonse & Irene my mom Jeannette and two brothers Marc & Paul.

I hope that I can be half the person my dad was.

Lesla Levasseur

*Editor's Note: this is a letter that we received from Lesla Levasseur, the daughter of our good friend Joseph who died January 31, 2016, in Manchester, New Hampshire, at the age of 81. Joseph, in addition to being a founding member of the Levasseur Association of America, was Vice President for many years. Joseph was the Ambassador of the Association with members living in the United States. The Association is very grateful for his dedication to the Associations success.*

[http://NH.tributes.com/condolences/view\\_memories/103255177?p=40&start\\_index=31](http://NH.tributes.com/condolences/view_memories/103255177?p=40&start_index=31)

# 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 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 2015-2016

**President:** [Roger Levasseur](#) (Ottawa, ON)  
**Vice-President:** [Raymond Levasseur](#) (Rimouski, QC)  
**Secretary:** [Marie-Noëlle Levasseur](#) (Edmunston, NB)  
**Treasurer:** [Pauline Carmel](#) (Bolton-est, QC)

## Collaborators to the Association

**Newsletter editor:** [Roger Levasseur](#) (Ottawa, ON)  
**Webmaster, newsletter setting and layout:** [Jean-Pierre Levasseur](#) (Quebec, QC)  
**Genealogist:** [Joceline Levasseur](#) (Québec, QC)  
**Spell Checker:** [Huguette Levasseur](#) (Québec, QC)  
**Historian:** [Jean-Marie Levasseur](#) (Trois-Rivières, QC)  
**Recorder of obituaries and membership register:** [Gilles Carmel](#) (Saint-Charles-Borromée, QC)

*Join our team of volunteers, [contact us](#) ! !*