



A F G S

*American-French Genealogical Society
Woonsocket, RI*



NEWS FROM 78 EARLE STREET **Norm Deragon Chair, Building Fund Committee**

There has been a bevy of activity in our building over the past few weeks. After weeks of negotiations and and guests who will start to come back to research and visit us after Labor Day will see some noticeable improvements.

The first change is the repainting of the lower level hallway. It is much brighter and new flooring will soon be installed. We also constructed a permanent wall separating the storage room from the new library annex in the former lower level church dining room. For those who can't quite picture this, it is the empty room across the hallway from the library. We also moved the piano in that room to the former church sanctuary on the first floor.

Old lighting, plastic molding and unused electrical boxes that ran along the walls in the first floor hallway have been removed. The electricians were also here installing new emergency and exit lights in the hallway. The painters will soon be patching and painting. We expect the work to be completed in time for our French Canadian Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on October 15th.

The first thing visitors may notice as they approach the building is the old rusted cross on the roof has finally been removed. The roofing contractor took it down. Replacement of the roof over the Snow Street side of the building has begun. This section is at least 30 years old and we believe is responsible for leaks we've experienced in the auditorium, former sanctuary and elsewhere.

The engineering firm finished its study of our heating system. The firm will recommend options and associated costs for making the system more efficient, and the best option for installing air conditioning in the library and possibly elsewhere in the building. The report will include how the changes could be phased-in. The report is due in a few weeks.

The committee has been working on the next phase of our fundraising campaign. A new booklet is being developed that will summarize what we have accomplished, what we need, and how you can help. We expect you will receive it in the mail in October.

(Pictures of these projects are available in our on line newsletter. Please check it out at afgs.org)

DUES ARE DUE

By now you have probably received your renewal notice. We thank everyone who sent in their dues already. For those who have not yet paid, a second notice will be coming in October. Thank you for your promptness, your kind remarks and your generous donations.

HALL OF FAME

On October 15th, AFGS will be holding its annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. It will be held at our Heritage Center and we will be honoring four people who have made a difference and accomplished great things in their lifetime. This recognition evening is always a wonderful opportunity to meet and celebrate the accomplishments of our fellow Franco-Americans. Learn more about this evening at afgs.org.

WHO WERE THE HUGUENOTS?

On October 16, 2010, at 9:00 A.M., Pauline Courchesne will give a very interesting presentation regarding the Huguenots, French Protestants, entitled **French Huguenots of Whom Some Became Our Ancestors**. You might be very surprised at the Protestant connection in your French Canadian line. Please join us.

A TIP FROM YOUR “BOOKIE” BY JANICE BURKHART

“Care” of Photographs by Curt Witcher
Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library, No. 77, July 31, 2010

In addition to caring for the physical photographs, there are ways of employing technology to assure the images are well preserved and available for future generations of family members.

Digitizing and sharing photographic images is an important 21st century way of preserving photographs. Many are familiar with the acronym LOCKSS, which stands for “lots of copies keeps stuff safe.” Today it is relatively easy and virtually free to digitize photographs and make them available in a number of formats and places. First, if several family members are working on the genealogies of related lines, suggest that all researchers make a digital copy of all their photographs and share those on DVDs or flash/jump drives with all other interested family members. Doing that helps protect against a disaster wiping-out a valuable collection.

Next, look for opportunities to contribute photographic images to virtual web sites. If you have pictures of tombstones, contemplate contributing them to the “Find-A-Grave” website. Consider creating a family page for yourself on WeRelate.org--it won’t cost you a cent. Create a family photograph album for yourself on Flickr, and then invite family members to view and contribute. Investigate contributing photographic images to a virtual community album that the local library or historical society might be hosting in the area where your family lived.

There are many ways we can employ ever-advancing technology in the care of our photographs.

WHAT’S COOKING BY JANICE BURKHART

Bouchees au Sirop d’Erable or Maple Walnut Squares

Crust

1/2 cup butter (or margarine)

1 Cup flour

1/4 cup brown sugar

Stir together flour and brown sugar. Cut in butter with two knives. Press this preparation into a 9” square (buttered) pan. Bake at 350 degrees F. for 5 minutes.

Topping

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2/3 cup brown sugar
2 tablespoons flour
1 cup maple syrup
2 eggs (beaten slightly)
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup chopped walnuts
1/4 cup soft butter

Mix brown sugar and maple syrup in a saucepan. Heat on the stove until it boils. Simmer for about 5 minutes. Remove from heat and let cool slightly. To this cooled mixture, pour in slightly beaten eggs and stir well. Add vanilla, salt, flour and butter and stir well. Arrange nuts evenly over base. Pour mixture over nuts. Bake for about 10 minutes at 450 degree F. Reduce heat to 350 degrees F. and bake for 20 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.

Tarte au Sirop d'Erable (Maple Syrup Tart)

1 1/2 cups maple syrup
1 cup whipping cream
1/4 cup cornstarch
1/4 cup cold water

1 baked, single, 9 inch pie crust. In a saucepan, combine maple syrup and cream. Blend cornstarch and water together until smooth and stir into cream mixture. Bring filling to a boil over medium heat and cook for 2 minutes, stirring constantly until thickened. Pour into baked pie shell and let cool until set.

NEWS FROM OUR WEB-GUY BY BILL POMMENVILLE

AFGnewS NOW ON LINE BY BILL POMMENVILLE

What's new on the Web as well as the AFGS website? I have added a new webpage for beginning genealogy which includes a blank five generation chart that can be printed. Instructions for filling in the information are included. I also updated our research policy and added a way to request research on line.

Did you know that you can follow us on Facebook? **Note:** you do not have to join Facebook to read the information visible.

Here is an interesting website by Marjorie Lizotte Chapman an AFGS member. "A point in history... and a few acres of snow". It is about Leaving France, Early Adventures, Trois-Rivières and much more.

"Between 1840 and 1930 roughly 900,000 French Canadians left Canada to immigrate to the United States. However, roughly half of them would return to their homeland after one or several stays. "The Lure of the Mills" is under construction. It will follow the immigration of members of my family from Canada to the United States. Their experience is essentially a microcosm of what went on between the years 1840 and 1930 when the flow of immigrants filled New England towns and turned them into cities."

<http://www.apointinhistory.net/>.

AFGS ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY DRAWING

Soon you will be receiving tickets for our annual Holiday Drawing, Again the prizes will be \$1000 for first prize, \$500 for second prize and two \$250 prizes for third and fourth. The drawing will be held in November so you will have your prize in time for your holiday shopping or travel. Proceeds from the drawing will go to the Building Fund. Thank you in advance for your support.

ARE YOU A SEGUIN ?

The Association des Séguin d'Amérique seeks "Séguin and spouses of Séguin" that are in their eightieth (80th) year or older or born before 1930 and who are still alive. Family names adopted by Séguins are: FAGNAN, SAWYER, LADÉROUTE, LADEROOT, LADROW, SAYAH, SAYAN, SAYEN, SEGHUIN, SEGUIN, SEGUINE, SAILLANT, SÉGUIN and SIGOUIN.

These people can be you, your wife, your husband, your father and mother, your father-in-law and mother-in-law, your uncles and aunts, your brothers and sisters, your brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, your cousins, even your friends. They must be Séguin or spouses of Séguin" but these persons do not have to be active members of the Association.

We wish to hold a record of these elders. Please forward the following information: name and address, membership number, name of their parents, place and date of birth, when applicable and your family, membership number, name of their parents, place and date of birth, when applicable and your family Please forward any information to Raymond J. Séguin RJSeguin@live.com and share this email with your family. Thank you!

Raymond-J. Séguin #003, Relationniste
Association des Séguin d'Amérique
15, rue Jacqueline, Rigaud, Québec, Canada J0P 1P0

WEB SITES YOU MIGHT ENJOY

www.rootstelevision.com - This site contains more than 700 videos on various subjects concerning genealogy. It is best to start with "Roots Television Help" found in the sampling of videos to the right of the small video screen. Scroll down the list until you come to this topic. It

will provide you with the basic information about using this site.

www.searchforancestors.com - Click on "Tools for Genealogy" and you will find a number of genealogy calculators which will be very helpful such as a birth date calculator and an age calculator.

<http://www.civil.war.net> - This site is a very comprehensive collection of Civil War related information available on the internet. It includes Battle Reports from the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies written by the Commanding Generals. It also has links to other research sites.

www.genqueries.com - This site, offered by Dick Eastman, is a free service that provides an online database for genealogy queries and for advertisements for societies, professional and amateur genealogy researchers, authors, publishers, genealogy websites, adoptee searches and more. If you are seeking services, information, publications, or you want to offer a book for sale, membership in a society, professional services or more, check this out.

<http://automatedgenealogy.com> has the 1901 and 1911 Canadian census indexes online FREE to search.

www.genealogysearch.org/canada/new.html - This site will keep you informed of new Canadian genealogy records online. The main page has a chronological listing of the more recent links that have been added. At the top of the page, you can click on a particular province for information on that province and the various districts/countries with links to these resources.

All the above sites were found in the Northville Genealogical Society Newsletter Volume 23, Number 1.

Rob Gumlaw sends us this information: The 1901 and the 1911 census of **Ireland** are now available on-line. <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>

www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjWufx3fenc - Embrace life is a beautiful seat belt commercial. This makes a point in a beautiful way. Watch the video.

FREE GENEALOGY CLASSES CONTINUE

We will continue our free genealogy classes starting in September. All Saturday classes will begin promptly at 9:00. Classes will also be offered on Tuesday evenings. Please keep the schedule, included with this mailing, handy so you will know what is being offered. We hope you will be able to join us.

Dennis Boudreau got an early start by presenting a wonderful workshop for beginners on Saturday, August 28th. About 25 people attended this 3 hour workshop. Volunteers were on hand to offer assistance when the class was completed. Check the online newsletter for pictures.



A large group attended Dennis Boudreau's excellent class designed for beginners.

AFGS JOINS OTHER SOCIETIES IN THE CELEBRATION OF ST-JEAN-BAPTISTE DAY IN NEW BEDFORD

AFGS was represented at a day-long celebration of St-Jean-Baptiste. The many activities ended with a banquet and awards. This event was attended by many local Franco American organizations and was a lot of fun. Check the online newsletter for pictures.



President's : Janice Burkhart, President of AFGS - Woonsocket, RI, Roger Bonin, President of Le Foyer - Pawtucket, RI, Nelson Ostiguy, Special Assistant to Mayor Lang - New Bedford, Mrs. Ostiguy and Raymond Patnaude - President of La Ligue de Franco Americain - ,New Bedford

HOW TO SAVE A DIGITAL COPY OF ANY PRINTABLE DOCUMENT

Roger M. Verboncoeur

Have you ever wanted to save a digital copy of that 1733 baptismal record you found on-line in the Drouin Collection? It is possible to "print" that document to a PDF file that you can maintain on your computer. The first step in this process is to obtain a copy of the CutePDF

Writer software which is available at <http://cutepdf.com/> at NO cost. Executing the software will install a new printer on your computer which can be identified as “CutePDF.”

When you locate a record that you wish to save, you can “print” it to the CutePDF printer. A dialog box will open for you to enter the folder name to contain the PDF file and a name you wish to give the file. Clicking “save” will write the PDF file to the selected folder.

To save only a portion of a page to the PDF file, you have two options:

1. Resize your web browser window so that only the information you wish to save is showing in the window and click the “selection only” box in the print dialog box, or
2. Print the entire page to a temporary file (I use “temp.pdf” on the desktop) and open the file

with your Adobe Reader. Resize and reposition the document so that the portion you wish to permanently save is visible on the screen. Use the “snapshot tool” (click on the camera), which will change the pointer to a cross-hair, to select the top left corner of the

information to be saved. Hold the left mouse button and drag the cross-hair to the lower right corner of the data. Releasing the mouse button will highlight the

information. Press Ctrl-P and select the CutePDF printer. Change the “Page Scaling” to “Fit to Printable Area” and click “OK.” The save dialog box will open, select the folder for storage and enter a file name, then click “save.”

A word about file names. Saving hundreds of PDF files requires that a methodology be employed to enable you to quickly retrieve a specific file. I use the Brother's Keeper software for my genealogy database and it assigns a unique number to each person entered in the database which I use to identify the PDF files in the following format: nnnnnn yyyy-mm-dd description where “nnnnnn” is the Brother's Keeper assigned number for the individual, “yyyy-mm-dd” is the date of the event, and “description” is the title of the event.

Eg: 004819 1918-08-12 World War I Draft Registration. This avoids the confusion of identifying data for multiple John Smiths, etc. after you have saved hundreds of these PDF files. The files are automatically saved in Person Number and Chronological sequence. Saving information to your computer, instead of an online site, keeps it under your control so that it will not disappear if the on-line site does. You can share the PDF files with others no matter if they use Windows or MAC-OS. Remember to backup your hard drive periodically, just in case!!!

CARING FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

by Becky Schipper

Reprinted from Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library

No. 76, June 30, 2010

Photographs capture not only happy memories but our family histories as well. Often they are the first thing that we think of saving during a disaster such as fire or flood. But it does not necessarily take an act of nature to damage photographs. Many times our own negligence causes

the damage. Incorrect storage and display of the items can lead to fading and deterioration over time. The greatest threat is exposure to direct sunlight. To reduce the threat of overexposure, always frame your photographs with glass or Plexiglas that has a layer of UV protection. Select walls or tabletops that are not in direct sunlight to display your photos.

Photos in albums that date from the late 1960s through the 1980s may suffer damage because the paper and adhesives used were highly acidic. Albums that were used a century ago are more archivally sound. They usually contained cotton rag paper and used photo corners for attachment. There are numerous companies that provide archival albums, storage boxes, paper, and framing materials. Appropriate supplies may be purchased from the following companies.

1. Light Impressions -- lightimpressionsdirect.com
2. Archival Products -- archival.com
3. Hollinger Metal Edge -- hollingermetaledge.com

WHAT IS GENOTYPING?

Your genome is your own unique set of genetic instructions, which are stored in each cell of your body on a set of 23 pairs of chromosomes. There are about three billion individual building blocks that make up your chromosomes. On each chromosome are collections of these building blocks, or base pairs, that are called genes. There are about 23,000 genes across your chromosomes. Not only do your genes contain the information that gives you brown eyes or curly hair, your genes also influence your health, your susceptibility to disease, and even how you might respond to some environmental exposures or medications. Researchers use genotyping to look for very small differences in a person's genes, differences that may be associated with health or disease, such as increasing or decreasing the chances of getting a particular disease or how a person responds to a particular medication. By genotyping DNA samples from a large number of people from diverse populations with a variety of health conditions, and comparing what they find, scientists can learn which genetic factors may contribute to health and disease, and use this information in additional research to improve the health and health care of future generations. To learn more about genetics, visit the new Talking Glossary of Genetic Terms on the website of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), part of the National Institutes of Health. You can find the new Talking Glossary at www.genome.gov/glossary

INK CARTRIDGES

Rob Gumlaw would like to remind local members that AFGS recycles used printer cartridges. If you have used cartridges, bring them to the library and we will take it from there.

SOME LITTLE USED FRENCH CANADIAN RESOURCES

by Dorothy Chandler

(The following information was sent to us but I am unaware of the source. Jan)

CANADIAN PASSPORTS 1681-1752 by Massicotte To travel into Indian Country and trade with the Indians, one needed a “Conge de Traite”, a trade passport. Voyageurs (also called Engages or Canotiers) should not be confused with Coureurs-des-Bois. The latter were illegally engaged in trade and had no license or passport.) Twenty-five passports were granted per year. This book will tell you the date each trade expedition was leaving, how many canoes, the names of the men and where each was from.

KASKASKIA UNDER THE FRENCH REGIME

by Belting This is the story of the French in the Illinois Country of the 18th century. It is a fascinating account of some of our ancestors. It also contains extracts of records from the parish registers. Kaskaskia was a thriving village in the early 1700's. There was a large church with three chapels. In 1721, at Kaskaskia, there were 80 houses and 4 mills. Today nothing remains.

IN SEARCH OF YOUR CANADIAN ROOTS by Angus Baxter In this book you will find research help all over Canada. It advises you where to find archives, libraries, parish registers, cemeteries, genealogy societies, Loyalists, newspapers, land records, etc., and also includes many of the addresses you will need. It is a wealth of information.

Roland Auger's FRENCH CANADIAN and ACADIAN GENEALOGICAL REVIEW This was a wonderful series! Each issue is so packed with information. The issues contain ancestral biographies, answer queries, history, photos and art work. The series ended after eleven or twelve issues because of the death of Roland Auger.

Arthur Leboeuf's dictionary COMPLEMENT au DICTIONNAIRE GENEALOGIQUE TANGUAY This volume contains corrections and additions to the seven volume set of Tanquay. Approximately 626 pages of marriages. A great resource and a must have if you are going to use Tanguay's dictionary!

All of the above books are available at the AFGS library.

SOME HINTS FROM DENNIS BOUDREAU

Here is some information that Dennis shared at his class on Saturday. It might be helpful to those who are stuck in the USA and not sure where the ancestors lived in Canada:

- If you (or your family) live(d) in Providence or Warren, look for your ancestors in the Lanaudière region of Quebec (Berthier, Joliette and Maskinongé Counties)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Fall River (check the lower Gaspé, near Kamouraska and Rimouski Counties)

- If you (or your family) live(d) in Holyoke, Springfield, Central Falls, Pawtucket, Taunton and New Bedford (check the lower Richelieu Valley and Southeastern New Brunswick), as the train from Montreal picked up passengers to bring to these important textile and fishing industry centers.
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Woonsocket, West Warwick, Putnam, Southbridge and Worcester [Blackstone corridor] (most of your ancestors are from the Berthier, Joliette, Sorel and Yamaska regions)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Manchester, NH and Lowell (most migrated there from the Nicolet and Bois-Franc region [Megantic, Arthabaska, Wolfe, Compton, Richmond and Drummond Counties] above Sherbrooke)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Maine (check the St. John (NB) River Valley and the Beauce Valley)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner (the Acadian Triangle) (most Acadians came from Westmoreland County, New Brunswick)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Boston & North Shore (Salem, Lynn, Gloucester) your ancestors came from Ile Madame (Arichat, NS; PEI, Yarmouth County, NS) to work in the fisheries.
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Boston and South Shore (most came from Tracadie and Antigonish County, NS)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Waltham (most Acadians came from the Cheticamp, NS and Moncton, NB area to work in the thriving shoe and watch factories)
- If you (or your family) live(d) in Hartford, Waterbury, Bristol (most migrated from upstate Maine and St. John Valley. Others came from Trois-Rivières)

Keep this information handy.

INEXPENSIVE ALARM

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. Tell this to everyone you run across. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with

the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar won't stick around. After a few seconds, all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.

HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS FROM STEPHEN DOYON

I was wondering if anyone knew of a website or AFGS resource which includes maps of the seigneuries. I am trying to identify the location of the farm of my wife's ancestor, Jean Baptiste LeFebvre dit St. Jean. I have his 11/22/1675 land contract (Basset) that indicates his property abutted the concession of Etienne Campot on one side and the "Fief of Seur de Hautmesnyl" on the other. I am hoping to find a map showing the LeFebvre property, but at the very least the Hautmesnyl estate.

On a slightly different note, does anyone know how or where you would find someone's indenture contract? This same Jean Baptiste was a habitant of the Seigneurie of Vercheres. I am assuming he had a contract. Would those normally be a Canadian record or would it be in some archive in France? (Jean Baptiste was from Amiens.) Is there a central place to search or order those? Any guidance would be most appreciated. Good questions. If you have answers, reply to misskoko@aol.com and I will print the information in an upcoming issue.

HUMMINGBIRDS

I'm writing this little tidbit of information to share with folks about Hummingbirds and for those that may be having problems with bees on their bird feeders. I did some research and found some good information by Alicia Bodine, on eHow.com as well as sharing some personal experiences. Lisa Atherholt

HUMMINGBIRDS CHASING AWAY OTHER

HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are very territorial and may chase other hummingbirds away from your bird feeder. If you are having this problem, you will want to put up another hummingbird feeder with nectar in another area in your yard that is not so close to the other one.

HOW CAN I GET RID OF BEES ON MY BIRD FEEDERS?

Bees will scare off the hummingbirds by attacking them. When doing research, it said that the hummingbirds will stop coming around the feeder if there are bees present so we knew we had to work quickly. We read that you can rub Petroleum Jelly, Vegetable or Olive Oil around the openings and the landing area to your bird feeder or nectar dispenser. I sprayed mine with Pam as it was cleaner, easier and I didn't have to get close to the bees that way. The birds won't

mind the oil, but the bees hate it. Or, you could place a bee guard over the feeder.

WINDOWS

A young couple moves into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast the young woman sees her neighbor hanging the wash outside. "That laundry is not very clean", she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap." Her husband looked on, but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments. About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband: "Look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this." The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

Moral: What we see when watching others depends on the purity of the window through which we look.

MORE PROGRESS ON OUR BUILDING

Thanks to our roofers, The old and rusted cross that topped our building has been removed. This is a big improvement as we had safety concerns .

BEFORE





COUPON SALE - AFGS COOKBOOK
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