“Sieur de Maisonneuve and all of his soldiers stopped on an island from which there was no escape. Otherwise, not a single one would have stayed. Some even set about swimming to save themselves since they were furious and believed they had been taken to perdition.” ~Les Écrits de Mère Bourgeoys

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LIBRARY
The library is open for research on Mondays from 11 AM to 4 PM, Tuesdays from 1 PM to 9 PM and Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM. The library is closed on designated holidays. There are no Saturday sessions in July. For closing dates, please check our website at www.afgs.org/site.

RESEARCH
The Society conducts research for a fee. Please see our research policy elsewhere in this issue.

ARTICLES
Original manuscripts are welcomed. Please see our author’s guide elsewhere in this issue.

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Please contact AFGS at JMSeditor@afgs.org for information on advertising in Je Me Souviens.

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ABOUT OUR COVER
La Grande Recrue de 1653: They were to depart Saint-Nazaire in Bretagne in the spring but their ship, Saint-Nicolas-de-Nantes, did not leave port until June of 1653. It traveled about 350 leagues but was so leaky that despite the best efforts of crew and passengers it continued to fill with sea water. They were forced to turn back, but Sieur de Maisonneuve had the vessel avoid the French mainland, docking on an island from which his would-be colonists could not entertain any second thoughts about their decision.

Illustration Source: La Grande Recrue de 1653 http://petellemotors.com/pet/pet1705recrue.html. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.
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Things are very different today. We miss our members and volunteers at the library. We are eagerly awaiting the time when our facility can be open to assist others with their family history research. The guidelines in our area of the country are stringent, but necessary for us to follow going forward. It is a challenge we will overcome.

My thanks to our Members Only webmaster, Francis Fortin, for his many hours of work necessary to provide the content we can access at home. There are many resources from which to choose including 22 video lectures, 73 volumes of Jesuit Relations, Le Reveil Acadien journals (1985-2010), 30 volumes of the Thomas Laforest Collection - Our French-Canadian Ancestors, and much more.

Volunteers continue to process online orders, research requests, membership applications, and the popular “Filles à Marier” and “Daughters of the King” [Filles du Roi] Certificate Program applications. Our Building and Grounds Chairperson, Bill Beaudoin, has been busy meeting with contractors to refurbish the parking area. Though our facility is temporarily closed, the behind-the-scenes work of many continues.

In this issue of Je Me Souviens are interesting stories to help keep us busy while we’re staying at home. Are history and biography on your reading list? Robert Bérubé’s article “1653: The Great Recruitment of Montréal” fits the bill.

George Buteau’s article “Migrations of North American Buteau Families - Part II” illustrates how families spread out from the early days of New France. The need to revisit and double-check earlier research is clearly shown in David Kearn’s piece, “Jeanne Baillargeon’s Captivity Revisited.” Our friend Peter Gagné offers “Mission: Motherhood,” a snapshot of his findings about our female ancestors.

In the Periodicals Perspective, using the search feature of the past issues of Je Me Souviens on our Members Only website, Diane Olivier shows how to find family charts. A hint you have been looking for may be in someone else’s chart.

A broad perspective is presented in Mark Paul Richard’s article “Franco-Americans Fight World War I – Abroad and At Home.” Rounding out this issue is a moving tribute by Marcel Dufresne, “A Father’s Wish Takes His Family on a Farewell Journey.”

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Claire Quintal. Her work, “Steeples and Smokestacks. A Collection of Essays on The Franco-American Experience in New England,” brought many immigrant and mill town stories to life. We were honored to induct her into the AFGS Hall of Fame in 2012.

Thank you and be well,
You can read our entire issue in our Members Only Online Library
Samuel de Champlain (1567-1635), probably after a portrait by Moncornet. 19th century.

Source: A Popular History of France from the Earliest Times, Vol. 6, Chapter 53, p. 190
Book Author: Francois Pierre Guillaume Guizot, 1787-1874; Boston: Dana Estes & Charles E. Lauriat (Imp.). Etching signed E. Ronjat
U.S. work public domain in the U.S. for unspecified reason but presumably because it was published in the U.S. before 1925.