



During the weekend of June the 8th and 9th, a series of activities were added to the annual general meeting as a way to celebrate the Association's 30th anniversary. A group of members gathered on the steps of St-Charles-Garnier church in Québec City, between some conferences and a guided tour of the surroundings. Inside, you can see photos of some of these activities.

(Photo by Louise)

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A few words about 2019

Greetings dear members

The year 2019 brought changes to your Association's board of directors which went from seven to five members to facilitate its effective functioning. We also welcome Michel as recruit member to the board.

The end of 2019 also marks the end of our Association's 30th anniversary. It is thanks to people like Lorraine, originator and founding member of our Association, and many other volunteers through the years that we have survived to this day. You also deserve thanks for maintaining your interest in our newsletter *Les Robitalleries* and having urged members of your family to join our family Association. Like regional newspapers, we struggle with financing and original content while competing with information distributed over the Internet. We would encourage you to subscribe to our electronic bulletin, it helps to cut down our costs.

Since we print out only two paper copies of the *Robitalleries* every year, we will keep on publishing electronic articles regularly with



new contents on various subjects. You can also follow us on Facebook and share pieces of information with your cousins :

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/famillesrobitaille/>

and

<https://www.facebook.com/FamilleRobitaille/>

As to myself, I am proud to be a part of our family Association. I commit myself to the continuation of the work already begun and, with the other board members, to the identification of solutions so that our Association meets in the best possible way the needs of its actual and future members. I hope that you will take this opportunity to renew your membership because it is the way to support your Association in its efforts to provide information on our roots and our family values.

To all of you, a happy and healthy New Year!

Marc Robitaille, president

Pictures of the activities of the Association on June 8 and 9, 2019



On the steps of St-Charles-Garnier church, a group who attended Saturday's conferences for the 30th anniversary.

(Photo by Louise)



The first part of the Robitaille meeting on Saturday, June 8, featured two technical conferences.

Jean Robitaille first spoke to the audience about an event that happened at the very end of the 19th century in Sillery. It was the great task of the priest Maguire that motivated a large number of parishioners to build a direct link, Maguire Street, between the Saint-Michel church and the cemetery located several miles north of the parish. From an archive photo and other documents, Jean made the story and genealogy of the seven Robitaille who participated in this chore.

The second lecture, presented by Linda Evan, concerned the history of Cap-Rouge, which was the site of the first colonization attempt by Jacques Cartier and Roberval in 1541. Several families of Robitaille settled there over the centuries as Cap-Rouge was the logical continuation of colonization by being adjacent to the existing villages of Sainte-Foy and L'Ancienne-Lorette.

René pointing out to Paul and Samantha, the inscriptions on the back of the monument sitting on the ancestral land.

(Photo by Jean)



Attendance of the Board and the Commanders at the meeting.

From left to right: Marjolaine Michaud, dir. ; Claire Robitaille Gingras, Commander; Micheline Dussault, secretary; Florent R., commander; Marc Robitaille, President; Paul Robitaille, treasurer; Nicole Robitaille, commander; René Robitaille, commander; Sonia Robitaille, dir. ; Louise Robitaille Roy, dir.
(Photo by Louise)



Three pioneers who collaborated in founding the Association and still active.

From left to right: Jean, Lorraine and René.
(Photo by Louise)



The afternoon was spent visiting historic corners of the old cities of Sillery, Cap-Rouge and Sainte-Foy, now Québec City. The photo shows the participants on the belvedere and promontory of the Saint-Michel church.
(Photo by René)



During a visit to the Maison des Jésuites on the St. Lawrence River, Sophie R., educator, tour guide and daughter of Jean and Monique, explains the architecture and history of this heritage building. Inside is an exhibition of artifacts and ancient objects.

(Photo by René)



The afternoon of June 9 included three activities: the annual general assembly of the Association, a conference of Paul Robitaille of Montana (USA) and the visit of Parc Robitaille. Paul's presentation included the story of Jean-Jacques (alias Robert) Robitaille who married an Indian princess Wyandot in Ohio. His family integrated and followed the tribulations of this nation to Oklahoma. Paul also detailed the genealogy of the descendants of this family branch of Robitaille.

The story of this saga can be found on our website robitaille.org.

The picture shows Paul R. and his wife Samantha with our President Marc R.

(Photo by Louise)

Paul-Eugène from Québec City explained how the monument was erected in 1993 on the ancestral land of Robitaille in Robitaille Park. While he was the proprietor of the Granicor company, he had been a major contributor by supplying four granite blocks of varying color and origin. This activity took place during the visit of the Park and reunion on June 9, 2019.

(Photo by René)



Vintage issues of the Robitalleries on the Web

By René Robitaille, Saint-Lambert-de-Lauzon

The policy of the Association to put our old *Robitalleries* on the website www.robitaille.org continues. In addition to the first 25 issues already online, now Nos 26 to 40 become available to all Robitaille and friends.

No. 26 (Summer 1997) answers a question that many people ask themselves. Did the ancestor Pierre Robitaille know how to write? Probably yes because the cover page reproduces the official transcription of his signature on the marriage contract with Marie Maufay May 5, 1675 established before the notary Gilles Duquet. There is also an article that depicts the habits and customs of the time in Artois before the Robitaille brothers emigrated to America. Finally, a portrait of the actor Jack Robitaille is brushed. This native of Portneuf County is still very active in 2019 on the theatrical scene of the Québec City region. For English speakers, there is a translation of a first article on the life of Jean Robitaille and his wife, a "Fille du Roy" (King's Daughter), Marguerite Buletez.

No. 27 (Fall 1997) gives an account of the Robitaille reunion in Alma (Lac-Saint-Jean). The cover page is a photo of the last survivors of Eugène, son of Hilaire, a pioneer of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. A visit was also organized at a local business, Café Marc Robitaille inc. On the other hand, there is the story of Charles-François Robitaille, the only son of the ancestor Jean, who settled in Neuville and practiced the trades of locksmith and maker of edge-tools.

No. 28 (Winter 1998) illustrated on the front page the 50th wedding anniversary of William Robitaille and Gemma Daigle of Compton surrounded by their nine children including Florent, a Commander of the Association. There is also the portrait of Cyrille Robitaille Senior who, with his two sons Cyrille and Josaphat, has developed a major commercial business in the field of music. The last moments of Pierre Robitaille in 1715 are reported, which allows to know the inventory of his property. The issue includes a second English article telling the story of ancestor Jean. We also learn that two venerable pioneers of Manitoba passed away, Analda at the age of 94 and Rebecca at 92.

No. 29 (summer 1998) gives the program of the last big gathering before the year 2000 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of foundation of the Association. It consisted of several tourist, historical and genealogical activities, including a 2½-hour guided tour of Old Québec. In the appendix of No. 29, there is the **Souvenir Album** of the tenth anniversary which includes all the important achievements of the Association during its ten years of existence (upto that date).

No. 30 (autumn 1998) recounts the tenth anniversary in pictures, the discovery of a tannery operated by a Robitaille, the use of « tourtes », extinct birds, in the menu of our ancestors and the first article in English on ancestor Philippe Robitaille and Madeleine Warren.



No. 36 shows how our ancestors had to overcome difficult years. For example, Priest Joseph Laberge noted in L'Ancienne-Lorette parish register the difficulties encountered during the year 1836:

- ▶ Severe drought during July
- ▶ Freeze in August
- ▶ Miserable crops of vegetables, fruits and cereals in the fall.

There was a lot of misery around Québec City in the year 1836.

In 2001, la Maison de la Découverte was inaugurated as a tourist information office in Québec City. This building, adjacent to the Armory and classified as a historic monument, was built in 1938 and 1939 according to the plans and specifications of the architect Ludger Robitaille, uncle of our first president, René Robitaille.

An article describes the old trades and the work of itinerant craftsmen who recycled everything, by necessity. They were spoon smelters, earthenware repairers, stove crampers, potters, tinsmiths and chairmakers.

We also remember a tragedy that occurred 50 years before, the crash on Mount Obiou of a plane filled with pilgrims from Québec returning from Rome. Among the victims was Paul-Henri Robitaille of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

You can also read the second episode of *Discovering Our Cousins*, an account of the meeting of Robitaille, Badiou and Deleurme families in Manitoba.

No. 37 includes the English version of the story of Nicolas Robitaille, one of the three brothers who arrived in 1670. He remained single and returned to France after a few years but left no trail.

The third episode of *Discovering Our Cousins* introduces the story of Pierre Robitaille and Marie-Louise Plamondon, pioneering couple from Saint-Raymond de Portneuf established in Saint-Front, Saskatchewan, in 1917. The article describes the difficulties of transport and colonization. Many of their descendants are members of the Association.

There is also a photo of Madeleine Robitaille McGuigan from British Columbia traveling to Auchy, and a short history of this village of our ancestors.

No. 38 presents the fourth and final episode of *Discovering Our Cousins* in Michigan. In a history museum honoring the French Canadians who colonized the region, we discover how two Robitailles

changed their name and created a new line of descendants with the surnames Rabitoy and Roberts.

There is an article by Florent on the introduction to genealogy with the list of pertinent websites on the subject and a news item about a concert given at the church of L'Ancienne-Lorette by a choir from Artois with a participant named Christine Robitaillé, well known to several members of the Association.

A tribute was paid to highlight the services of René Robitaille as secretary for eight years from 1991 to 1999. This René had a passion for rail and even built two scale models of locomotives of yesteryear which are today in museums. At one time, there were three René Robitaille active in the Association, René the secretary from L'Ancienne-Lorette, René the first president from Québec and René from Cap-Rouge then Saint-Lambert editor-in-chief for the *Robitalleries*.

Now on the Web!

No. 39 echoes a major celebration of 120 people in Sudbury to mark the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Fulgence Belcourt and Viola Mallette. This Fulgence had written to us to describe the kinship that he and his wife had with the numerous Robitailles in Midland, Lafontaine, Penetanguishene and Perkinsfield in northwestern Ontario.

A biography, rich in unusual adventures, of Jean-Jacques Robitaille, who was a bush and helicopter pilot, then a hovercraft pilot. He was the pilot of this last type of craft between Montréal and Expo 67.

We can read three short biographies of our directors, Claire as president, René (St-L) as vice-president and Gilles as treasurer.

No. 40 follows on stories published in No. 37, about the pioneer Pierre Robitaille in Saskatchewan. Pierre had one son, Rosaire, with descendants. The couple Rosaire and Irène Lefebvre had seven daughters all of whose name ends with an "A". The cover photo of #40 shows mother Irène with her six daughters, the seventh being dead. One of the daughters, Gemma Robitaille Murray, also shares an archival photo of her grandfather Pierre with his family from Saint-Raymond.

This issue also tells the story of Emmett Robitaille's family from Texas and originally from Montréal. Emmett often attended our gatherings, sometimes accompanied by his brothers Daniel and Frank from California.

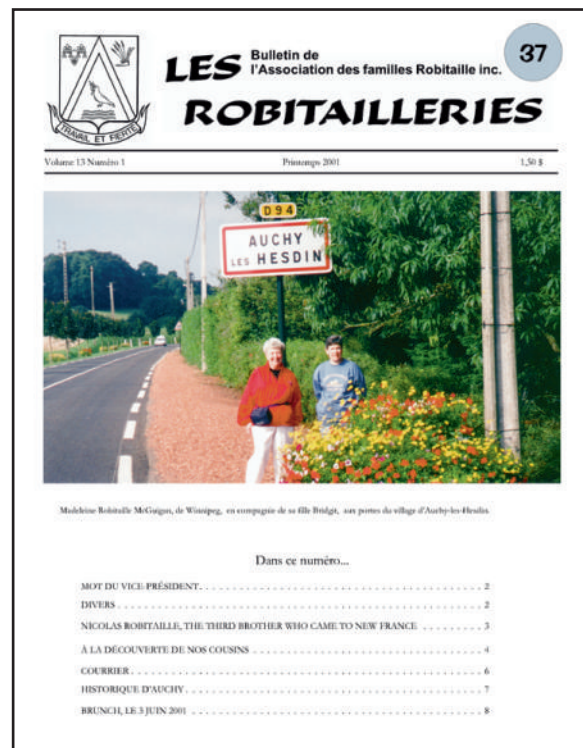
Finally, there is a portrait of two members of the Board of Directors, Florent Robitaille and Jeannine Robitaille Guay. We can also read a short story by Jean-François Ropital (a derivative of the name Robitaille) who discovered a place called "Canada" in the town of Béalencourt, without knowing where the name comes from. The town is the birthplace of Philippe Robitaille,

the fourth brother to emigrate to America in 1693.

P.S.: For more details, go to our website robitaille.org and click on the tabs

- ▶ The Association
- ▶ Communications
- ▶ The Robitailleries
- ▶ Full text of old issues

Good reading!



In Memoriam - Gilles

At St-Augustin Gardens, St-Augustin, on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, Gilles Robitaille passed away at the age of 85 years and 10 months. He was the husband of Bernadette Morris and son of the late David Robitaille and the late Gilberte Robitaille.



Gilles is survived by his wife Bernadette Morris, his children Anne, Roger, Pierre and Brigitte, as well as five grandchildren. He also leaves to mourn his three sisters: Colette, Raymonde and Micheline Robitaille; his brother-in-law, Bernard Morris, his sisters-in-law: Johanne Boucher, Thérèse Roy, Colette Rochon and Claudette Arsenault.

Gilles participated in the development of the Association from its beginnings as a member, then director in 1992 and treasurer in 1994 for nine years. In 1991, he and his wife traveled with a members group to the country of our ancestors in Artois in the north of France. He has always been considered a very active, conscientious and dedicated partner.

In Memoriam - Arthur

We learn of the death at age 67 in June 2019 of Arthur Robitaille, a member who lived in St-Cloud near Orlando, Florida. He came to our activities a few times, the last time at the Annual General Meeting on June 4, 2017 at the Aquarium of Québec.

Arthur Philibert Robitaille was born on November 6, 1951 at the Holycross Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. He married Charlotte Katryn Jones on May 11, 1974.

Here is his ancestral direct line:

- ▶ Arthur Philibert Robitaille
- ▶ Donat Edmond R - Paula Godefroid
- ▶ Philibert Louis R - Louise Lauda Fournier
- ▶ Avila R - Anna Sorel
- ▶ Joseph R - Georgina Coutu



Photo of Arthur Robitaille at the Robitaille meeting on June 4, 2017 at the Québec Aquarium

- ▶ Pierre R - Louise Harnois
- ▶ Jean-Baptiste R - Marie Anne Durand
- ▶ Joseph R - Marie-Anne Dubeau
- ▶ Jean R - Marguerite Drolet
- ▶ André R - Marguerite Hamel
- ▶ Pierre R - Marie Maufay

Arthur had a hectic life filled with incredible experiences. He has lived in several French and English-speaking

countries. Even though he had a career in English, he insisted that we exchange in French. Everyone who knew him will remember his simplicity and cordiality.

Our sincere condolences to the two bereaved families.

Fiftieth wedding anniversary of Rénald Robitaille and Gaétane Bourget

This year, June 30, 2019, Rénald Robitaille and Gaétane Bourget celebrated 50 years of marriage with their family at Manoir Montmorency. Here are some pictures of this important event and a summary of the life and career of Rénald, a member of the Association for many years.

Rénald was born in Lauzon in 1944. He did post-secondary studies at the Lauzon Institute of Technology and graduated in June 1966. Subsequently, he studied in Specialized Teaching Technical Option, a Brevet A in mathematics teaching at the secondary level, a certificate in Knowledge of the man and the environment of the Université du Québec, then a bachelor's degree in preschool, primary and orthopedagogy from Laval University. He worked as a teacher, in high school, in different schools of Lévis-Lauzon, teaching Initiation to Technology. He ended his career at the École polyvalente de Lévis. He retired in June 1999.

In 1969, he married Gaétane Bourget at St. Joseph Church in Lauzon (Lévis). They had two children, Carl and Valérie. Two grandchildren joined the family in 2008 and 2010.

Retired for 20 years, his main activity is photography. Recruited in 2003 by Jeannine Robitaille Guay, he became a member of the Association des familles Robitaille. He served on the Board of Directors of the Association in 2006-2007. To date, he has traveled extensively across Canada, the United States and Europe. Throughout his travels, he takes photographs and gives access to fellow travellers but also, through their website, to members of the Association of retired teachers.



DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT OR ANYTHING RELATED TO YOUR FAMILY THAT
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

WRITE US AT INFO@ROBITAILLE.ORG



Rénald and Gaétane with their two children Carl and Valérie



Rénald and Gaétane with their two grandsons Julien and Charles



Rénald and Gaétane in 2019 at Manoir Montmorency

The mysterious Darbey

By Jean Robitaille, Québec

Editor's note: In the *Robitailleries* number 87 and 88, Jean Robitaille recalled an event from the end of the 19th century: a corvée organized by the curé Maguire to build a road between the Saint-Colomb-of-Sillery's church and the parish cemetery. Seven Robitailles participated in this grand task. Six of them have already been presented to you, all being from the same family of the pioneer Ignace Robitaille.

In the previous articles of this series, we talked about six of the seven Robitailles who worked at the corvée organized by curé Maguire and who were present when the photo of volunteers was taken in 1898. The only one remaining is Darbey Robitaille. On the picture, he is at far left, next to Jacques Junior.

His case is very mysterious. Darbey is not registered in the 1901 Canadian Census. Neither can he be found in the notes from parish visits of 1897 and 1898. There is no Darbey Robitaille in the Marcotte directories for the Québec City region from 1890 to 1910.

A broad search of the 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911 and 1921 Canadian Censuses shows no Darbey Robitaille anywhere in Canada.

A worldwide search in all the Ancestry's site sources did not identify any Darbey Robitaille anywhere in the world! Who is that darn Darbey? We come to the conclusion that Darbey is either an error in the transcription of another given name, or a nickname.



Since the photo shows volunteers from the Saint-Colomb of Sillery parish, it seemed likely that the protagonist is from that parish. Having skimmed every Robitaille family that stayed in Sillery from 1850 to 1900, there is one candidate who could be our Darbey.

From the pioneer couple of Ignace Robitaille and Rosalie Drolet, we have clearly identified and followed the trail of all the children, except a certain **Marcel** Robitaille, born August 30, 1840. Marcel is present in his parent's household in the 1851 and 1861 Censuses, but he is then wiped off the map. There is no burial to his name in the region between 1861 and the next census.

Did Marcel board one of numerous ships docked in Québec City? Did he come back for short stays with his family with a more international given name? Could he have been on one of these visits and decided to join in the corvée for the Maguire street? He would be 58 on the picture and would sit next to his nephew Jacques Jr. He's wearing a quirky hat: an overseas memento?

Continuation of Maguire's Story

Léon's Family

By Jean Robitaille, Québec

The first Robitaille couple in Sillery had 10 children. In our recent chronicles, we found out what became of the children who appeared on the photo taken in 1898: Michel, Joseph and Jacques. We then got to know the eldest son, Ignace, his wife Agnès Gignac and their children (two of which can also be seen on the photo: Louis and Théophile). We then tried to solve the mystery around Darbey Robitaille.

But what happened to the other children of the pioneers?

The second child of the pioneers was called Léon. Born in 1832, married to Sophie Giroux in 1856, we know of seven children born between 1856 and 1869, three of which died before adulthood.

For the family of Léon and Sophie, 1896 was a year of woes. Their daughter Léocadie died in Montréal on January 19, being only 31 and leaving two young ones to her husband Édouard Jolin. That same year, on November 23, Sophie Giroux passed away at 60 years old.

In the 1901 Census, we find Léon Robitaille, widowed, living with his 34 years old daughter Délima Robitaille and his 9 years old grand-daughter, Blanche Jolin. So, grand-father Léon took in the daughter of his deceased daughter Léocadie. We can guess that Délima remained at the family home to care for her aging father and her bereaved niece.

26	57	Robitaille Léon	m.	"	Head	w.	12 May	1830	70
27		" Délima	f.	"	daughter	s.	28 Feb	1866	34
28		Jolin Blanche	"	"	niece	"	25 March	1892	9

Figure 1- From the 1901 Census

The other Jolin child, Édouard Jolin, isn't very far. In the same 1901 Census, he is living a few houses away with his uncle, Ferdinand Jolin.

Time passes by and a few years later, on August 8, 1910, Délima Robitaille, then aged 42, marries Jean Baptiste Théophile Aubin in Sillery's church.

In the 1911 Census, we discover that old Léon, 79, now lives in the household of his daughter Délima and son-in-law Théophile Aubin. In the same home, we find Édouard and Blanche Jolin, the two children of the late Léocadie, now aged 20 and 19.

In 1915, a young Blanche Jolin weds Joseph Ulric Cimon, still in Sillery.

Léon Robitaille died a few years later, on February 21, 1918, at the venerable age of 85. Théophile Aubin, Joseph Cimon and Édouard Jolin signed the burial register as witnesses.

Many years later, in 1955, when Théophile Aubin died at 82 years old, we learn that he was living with Blanche Jolin and Joseph Cimon. Blanche, who had been cared for by her grand-father Léon and aunt Délima when she was young, then harbored her aunt's husband in his old days.

And this is how we can measure the sense of family, transmitted from generation to generation.

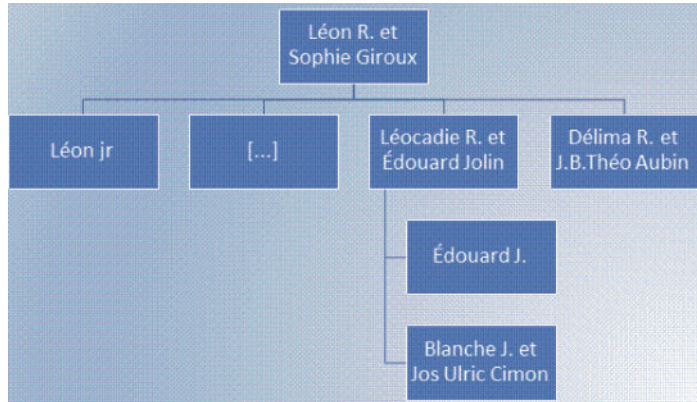


Figure 2- A few family ties

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Amongst the offspring of Léon R. and Sophie Giroux, it is surprising to see that their eldest son, Léon Junior born in November 1856, after a childhood in Sillery, appears at 24 in the Canadian Census of 1881 still in his parents home but then shows up in 1884 in Cadillac, Wexford County, Michigan. Léon Junior remains single and dies in Cadillac, Michigan on the 16 of March 1911, of a brain hemorrhage. His death certificate states that he was a retired merchant in a saloon-type commerce, that his father was named Leon Robitaille and his mother was Miss Jerue! Phonetically, it is pretty close to Giroux.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PART - USUARY		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
1. SEX: Male	2. COLOR OR RACE: white	3. MARRIAGE: UNMARRIED	4. DATE OF DEATH: March 16, 1911
5. DATE OF BIRTH: November 14, 1856	6. AGE: 54 yrs 4 mos 2 d	7. OCCUPATION: Retired merchant - Saloon	8. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Mar 15, 1911, to Mar 16, 1911, that I last saw him alive on Mar 15, 1911, and that death occurred on the date stated above, at 7 P.M.
9. BIRTHPLACE: Canada	10. NAME OF FATHER: Léon Robitaille	11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER: Canada	12. CAUSE OF DEATH: Cerebral Hemorrhage
13. MARRIAGE: Miss Jerue	14. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER: Canada	15. SIGNATURE OF DECEASED: Léon Robitaille	16. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN: Geo. Miller
17. THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant: Thos. Gagnier, Cadillac)	18. PLACE OF BIRTH OF DECEASED: Canada	19. SIGNATURE OF WITNESS: D. Palatin	20. PLACE OF BIRTH OF WITNESS: Canada

Figure 3-Léon Junior's death certificate

Groupe Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/famillesrobitaille/?ref=bookmarks>

Page Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/FamilleRobitaille/>

News from the Association

Editor's note: In recent years the Association has significantly changed the way it communicates with its members. With the many changes made, it becomes difficult to follow the progress of operations: establishment of a communications governance plan, two-thirds of the members transition to electronic reception of six to ten shipments or newsletters per year, decrease of three to two by year of the *Robitailleries*, revision and diffusion of the former issues of the *Robitailleries* via our website, agreement with the BAnQ. René Robitaille with the collaboration of Jean Robitaille has prepared a summary of the situation for a better understanding of all.

Procedure for the production and distribution of shipments (newsletters) and Robitailleries

Production

1 – Each year, 6 to 10 shipments (newsletters) are produced and sent to the electronic members.

2 – Shipments produced from January to May are grouped together to form a paper issue of the *Robitailleries* and sent to members who do not have an e-mail address.

3 – Same for shipments produced from June to December

So each calendar year, there will be two official issues of our paper *Robitailleries* and 6 to 10 shipments (newsletters).

Transmission

4 – Our *Robitailleries* paper is sent twice a year to members who do not have an e-mail address.

5 – Shipments (newsletters) are transmitted as they are produced only to electronic members, but not to Historical or Genealogical Associations and Societies.

6 – Since the electronic version of the *Robitailleries* can be slightly different from the sum of the shipments, it is also transmitted to the electronic members to simplify their archiving. The same electronic issues are sent to Historical and Genealogical Societies and Associations.

7 – Our *Robitailleries* paper is sent to the National Library of Canada and to Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ), as prescribed by law and where they can be consulted on site.

8 – At the request of BAnQ, the Association will send them the electronic version of future

issues of the *Robitailleries* (starting with No. 89), provided that they comply with a restricted access for a period of five years. To date, the BAnQ has recovered the first 30 of our *Robitailleries* from our website and has included those in its online digital collection. As for issues 31 to 88, the Association will transmit the electronic version with the five-year access restriction, the latter being lifted as the Association publishes these.

9 – If an author wishes to use the name of the Association for publication, he must obtain authorization from persons duly appointed by the Board. The author remains fully responsible for the content and opinions expressed.

New Publications from the Association



Presentation of two books that the Association has put on its website robitaille.org available to all the population. Jean, on the left, shows the book entitled **The History of the Robitaille of the Wyandotte Nation**, written by Paul Robitaille of the United States and translated by Jean and his wife Monique. René, on the right, presents the document **Les Robitaille de Sillery** written by Jean, which contains not only the history and genealogy of the Robitaille of this municipality around 1900, but also the chore of the priest Maguire to open the street that bears his name.

This fall, the Association des familles Robitaille has posted on its website and at the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) two important research papers written by two of its members.

The history of the Wyandotte Robitailles / L'histoire des Robitaille de la nation Wyandotte

First, a new revised and updated edition of the paper on the Wyandotte Robitailles, by Paul Robitaille, our representative in the United States, has been deposited in its original English version.

<http://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4008044>

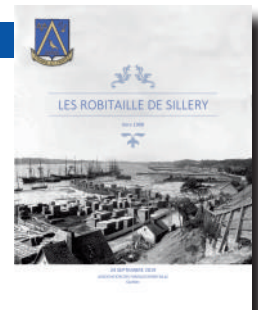
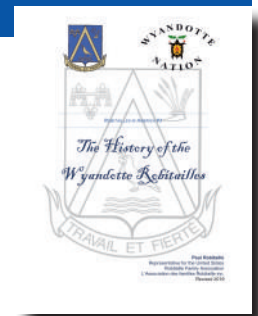
This 150+-pages paper has been translated in French over the summer and the result has been officially deposited as well at BAnQ.

<http://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4008050>

Les Robitaille de Sillery, vers 1900

A monograph (in French) that relates the story of the Robitaille families in and around the Sillery coves in the 19th century and their participation in the parish *convée* to open a new street, Maguire Avenue.

<http://collections.banq.qc.ca/ark:/52327/4008027>



Mobile chicken house in Manitoba

Byr René Robitaille, Saint-Lambert-de-Lauzon

Sources: *La Presse* newspaper, *Journal des affaires* magazine and the Web.

Historical facts

Daniel Badiou grew up on the family dairy farm in the small French-speaking town of Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes with 700 inhabitants, located 120 km west of Winnipeg.

He did his primary and secondary studies in French. He says that during his youth he worked on a non-automated farm and found that something had to be changed to improve work methods and the way of life without holidays. That's one of the reasons he started studying engineering.

During his studies in mechanical engineering at the Polytechnique de Montréal, he met Montrealer Katrina Jean-Laflamme, who was studying at the same faculty. Love doing things well, they moved to the home province of Daniel at the end of their studies. The couple lived on the family farm for some time while building a tiny house in the meadow. Then they started working on an idea of Daniel: that of simplifying the raising of chickens in pasture.

Genealogy

Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, Manitoba saw the convergence of three families who marked the history of this small, almost entirely Franco-phone community: the Robitaille, the Badiou and the Deleurme.

Joseph Robitaille and his wife Parmelia Cailler

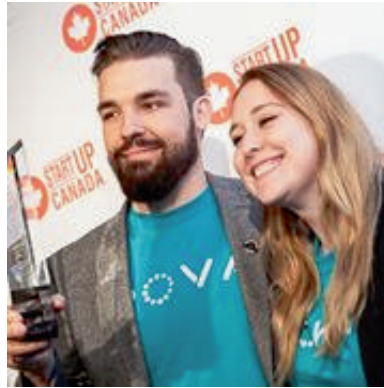
settled in the region in 1902 and raised their ten children there: Victor, Parmélia, Analda, Rébecca, Ulric, Joséphine, Arméline, Maria, Joseph and Auréa. Joseph Robitaille was the son of Michel Robitaille and Marie Vallières of L'Ancienne-Lorette.

The daughter Maria Robitaille married Joseph Deleurme in 1934. One of their children is Albert Deleurme, married to Édith de Rocquigny. This couple participated in the Association's trip to France in 1991 and the inauguration of our monument in 1993 in Québec City. There are also two daughters Deleurme, Yvonne and Élise, who married two Robitaille, Ulric Robitaille and Joseph Robitaille. Raymond Deleurme and Joseph Deleurme, the latter being Albert's father, are sons of Ambroise Deleurme and Julie Thorimbert who had 15 children: Lucie, Ambroise jr, Mary, Charles, Sidonie, Eugène, François, Alice, Pierre, Angéline, Joseph, Yvonne, Raymond, Édouard and Élise. Raymond Deleurme, the son of Ambroise Deleurme, married Arméline Robitaille who had a daughter, Annette Deleurme, who married Robert Badiou.

The ancestor Simon Badiou, who came from France with his family of nine children, settled in Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes in 1912. Daniel is the son of André Badiou and Henriette Comte, the grandson of Robert Badiou and Annette Deleurme, the great grandson of Auguste Badiou and Blanche Lesage as well as Raymond Deleurme and Arméline Robitaille and the great-great-grandson of Simon Badiou.

The sustainable development project of Daniel and Katrina

Rearing chickens on a farm involves a lot of manual labor. To improve this situation, there had to be a better way than to build a breeding plant by piling up small animals in cages. But how to reduce routine work, respect sustainable development trends and produce happy hens/broilers in the wild efficiently? Simply by inventing a fully automated mobile chicken house, maintained by solar energy.



The two co-founders of this sustainable development in the field of agriculture, Daniel Badiou and Katrina Jean-Laflamme

Daniel describes his project as follows: "It is a connected, self-contained and modular barn that allows indoor animals to access fresh pastures at all times. It is equipped with a dozen environmental sensors to allow the best adjustment of the temperature using flap walls that open and close on the sides. The largest model covers an area of 18 x 30 feet and is equipped with omni-directional wheels to facilitate lateral movements. It is actually a mobile enclosure, without floor and covered with a roof that can accommodate 200 to 300 chickens.

The machine moves every four hours to give the animals a new patch of grass and insects. It is equipped

with indoor cameras and a reserve of one week in water and grains. The machine being connected to a mobile application, the farmer is notified when the levels of the water and grain tanks are low. He has access, in real time, to the indoor cameras. He can also adjust the frequency of daily movements and plan the trajectory for the chicken house."

"A beep is emitted five seconds before the machine starts moving," says Katrina. "The chickens, over time, know that, when they hear the beep, they must go to the wall where it moves to have fresh grass."



A full size prototype of the mobile chicken house

In May 2019, Daniel Badiou and Katrina Jean-Laflamme won the Innovation Award at the Prairie Regional Finals of the Startup Canada Awards. They had built seven prototypes in the winter and tested them in the summer. They founded a company called Ukkö Robotics, Ukkö being the god of agriculture, in Finnish mythology.

The product, named ROVA, can be sold disassembled in one box and therefore is easily exportable. By the end of 2020 it will be available throughout North America. At the end of 2021, the European market is targeted. And in 2022, it's New Zealand and Australia.

When the company Ukkö Robotics was founded, the mandate was to make a modular machine to facilitate delivery, assembly and

transport on the road. It took a lot of effort to make sure that as few as two people would be needed to assemble the machine in less than three hours.

Co-founder Daniel Badiou sums it up as follows: "The traditional barn for raising chickens on pasture is inefficient and outdated. We believe that a fully automated mobile chicken house can solve several problems encountered in a traditional hen house such as the lack of flexibility and the high cost of labor. Our design and mobile app now make it easy for farmers and non-farmers to raise the animals they want with ease."

Thanks to Édith Rocquigny Deleurme, André and Daniel Badiou for their help writing this article.

A chicken house on wheels!
Invention of a Manitoba couple, here is a mobile chicken house operating in a western meadow.



Antoine Robitaille, keynote speaker at the Association's luncheon

By René Robitaille, Saint-Lambert-de-Lauzon

Editor's Note: The luncheon was held at Restaurant Sirocco in Québec City on November 17, 2019. As our president Marc Robitaille rightfully said at the end of the Antoine Robitaille's presentation : "I thank our guest for his participation to our activity. It was an opportunity to get to know a prominent journalist who shares our surname. We would like to offer you as a souvenir, a plaque representing the Coat of Arms of the Robitaille families."

Antoine Robitaille is one of the most versatile journalists in Québec. After graduating with a BA in Political Philosophy, he taught College Political Science, History and Communications. A journalist since 1992, he became a Parliamentary correspondent in Québec City for *Le Devoir*, a columnist for *Télé-Québec*, 98.5 FM Montréal and Radio-Canada's *Première Chaîne*, and a contributor to the *Bazzo.tv* program, pointing out humorously certain uses of language in the media or in the community in general. He covers the activities of the National Assembly in Québec City and heads an Investigation Office for TVA and the *Journal de Montréal*.

Founding member of the magazine *Argument*, he published with Alain Finkielkraut an essay, *Ingratitude*, which is a conversation about our time. Writer, he has written thought-provoking articles for various magazines and has published a book on posthumanism (*Le nouvel homme nouveau*, Boréal). It is an essay that attempts to answer the question: Would homo sapiens be quietly giving way to a superior species, the posthuman? The document examines the



consequences of cloning, the development of ever more "intelligent" prostheses, the progress in genetic manipulations, nanotechnologies, the control of moods thanks to a pharmacopoeia in constant refinement.

Son of Claude Robitaille, a well known notary in Québec City, Antoine is the father of three children, Émile, Anne-Sophie and Guillaume. In his speech, he described his first paid job when he had a route to deliver newspapers. Being a natural early bird, he never had trouble getting up in the early hours and it even helped him get into the habit of going for walks in the morning.

So when his children were old enough to have a newspaper route in their turn, he joined them, accompanying and even replacing them occasionally.

It's a way of conveying a sense of responsibility and having a good time between father and children in the early hours of the morning.

After his presentation on the various aspects of his career, Antoine answered questions from the audience, including:

- ▶ the financial difficulties faced by the media caused by declining advertising revenues which shifted to multinationals who do not even pay taxes and royalties;
- ▶ the cooperation and fellowship between Parliamentary correspondent even if they are competitors;
- ▶ deadlines, especially during the leaders' debates, to write reports while the debates are not finished.



Some of the male participants. In the center is President Marc wearing the yellow polo of the Association and showing our coat of arms, accompanied by Antoine on the left and Antoine's father on the right.

Antoine Robitaille's family tree

Here is the ascending lineage of Antoine Robitaille:

- ▶ Antoine Robitaille
- ▶ Claude R - Michelle Rochette
1964-05-30, Charlesbourg
- ▶ Eudore R - Marcelle Marier
1924-06-30, Québec
- ▶ Joseph-Napoléon R - Zélia Bazin
1885-07-13, Québec
- ▶ François-Xavier R - Reine Trudel
1854-08-28, Neuville
- ▶ Augustin R - Cécile Quézelle
1824-02-03, St-Augustin-de-Desmaures
- ▶ Augustin R - Geneviève Bertrand
1791-02-14, Neuville
- ▶ Charles R - Madeleine Roberge
1751-02-22, Neuville
- ▶ Charles R - Marie-Louise Delisle
1705-10-26, Neuville
- ▶ Jean R - Marguerite Buletez



Some female participants. We see that good mood already reigns.

Genealogical Dilemma

By Jean Robitaille, Québec

Spring of 1842, the parish register from Notre-Dame-de-Foy, in Sainte-Foy, states:

*« On May the third, eighteen hundred forty-two, we undersigned priest have baptised **Ignace**, born on this same day from the legitimate marriage of **François Robitaille**, farmer, and **Brigitte Lainé from this parish**. Godfather **Ignace Fabas**, godmother **Rosalie Goulet** who, like the father, were unable to sign. »*

A few days later, the parish register from Notre-Dame-de-L'Annonciation in L'Ancienne-Lorette, states:

*« May the seventh, eighteen hundred forty-two, we undersigned priest buried in this parish's cemetery, the body of **François**, three days old, having died two days before, legitimate son of **Ignace Robitaille** and **Brigitte Lainé from this parish**. Attending the burial, **Michel Fiset**, verger, and **Charles Cloutier** who both declared being unable to sign when asked. »*

☐ Three questions haunt me :

- ▶ When was the child's first name changed?
- ▶ When did the father change his first name?
- ▶ When did the family move from one parish to the other?



Marc and Antoine proudly hold the Family Coat of Arms with its motto *Travail et Fièr-té* (Work and Pride), at our recent Breakfast Meeting.

Louis Robitaille, orfèvre

Another discovery of his silverwork

By Paul Robitaille, Montana

Recall the research paper I wrote about Louis Robitaille, who was born to Pierre Robitaille and Marie Geneviève Parent in L'Ancienne-Lorette on 5 May 1768. Louis became a silversmith and, during his early adulthood, we know that he produced silverware in Québec City; Detroit, Michigan; St. Louis and Ste. Geneviève, Missouri. My research paper, titled **Louis Robitaille, Orfèvre**, was presented in a series of segments in issues 75 to 79 of *Les Robitalleries*, and, since then, been has also been added, in French and English versions, to the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ) collection. I am very pleased to bring yet another piece of Louis Robitaille's works of art to your attention.

Three years ago, Monsieur Pierre-David Rioux, who collects antique silver, purchased a silver ladle 14 inches long, in an antique store in Drummondville, Québec. Wanting to learn more about the silversmith and the ladle he purchased, he contacted the Robitaille Family Association and spoke to Jean Robitaille. Jean passed Pierre's name and contact information onto me. I contacted Pierre who sent me photos of the ladle he purchased and agreed to permit me to share his discovery with members of the Robitaille Family Association.

As I discussed in my paper, Louis Robitaille is known to have made at least two ladles. Both still exist. One is in the Missouri History Museum in Saint Louis, Missouri, the second is owned by a private collector who lives in Missouri. The ladle purchased by Monsieur Pierre-David Rioux, shown in Figure 1, has some similarities



Figure 1. Silver ladle believed to have been made by Louis Robitaille, orfèvre

Photo courtesy of Pierre-David Rioux

to the two known ladles, these being the size, graceful lines, and engraving, but it differs in two ways. The first of these being the fluted bowl; the two known ladles both have smooth bowls. The second, and most interesting feature, is the amount attractive engraving. The two known

ladles have the initials of the original owners in ornate letters and simple dashed lines along the handle. Monsieur Rioux's ladle has additional features.

Figure 2 shows the upper end of the handle of Monsieur Rioux's ladle. We see the highly detailed scrollwork and an image of what appears to be a rooster or perhaps some other bird. In Figure 3, which is a close-up of the back surface of the handle, you can see the attachment point of the handle to the bowl. It is quite decorative and very well done. If not cast in one piece, the neck and handle are typically silver soldered to the bowl. The photo shows a very clear view of a more majestic looking bird, which almost looks like a juvenile eagle. Note that above the bird on the handle you can see the cartouche of the maker.

Finally, in Figure 4, we see the cartouche of the maker; the letters L R with a small dot between the two letters. The upper photo shows the cartouche on the back of the handle of the ladle purchased in Drummondville. It is shown vertically to make cartouche upright for comparison with the second ladle. The photo below is of a ladle made by Louis Robitaille while he was in



Figure 3. Close up of engraving on the neck of the handle

Photo courtesy of Pierre-David Rioux



Figure 2. Close up of engraving at upper end of handle

Photo courtesy of Pierre-David Rioux

the Illinois country. Louis added a separate cartouche, "Illinois", for his works done while he lived in Illinois country. Finally, a close look at the Drummondville ladle cartouche shows that it may have been double struck. Look closely at the two impressions of the stamp's lower edge in the photo in Figure 4.

It seems reasonable to assume that Monsieur Rioux has indeed found another example of Louis Robitaille's work: one which displays a much finer skill than was noted in his known ladles made in Illinois Country. Given the absence of the "Illinois" cartouche, it was probably made in Québec.

The paper on **Louis Robitaille, orfèvre** was published by l'Association des familles Robitaille inc. and can be downloaded from our web site at the following address:

<http://www.robitaille.org/joomla30/index.php/en/genealogy/family-stories/180-louis-robitaille-orfevre-eng>

Figure 4. Cartouche comparison of ladles –
Top – Drummondville (shown vertically), and
Bottom, the Missouri History Museum in St.
Louis Illinois (shown horizontally).

*Photo Credit (upper) Pierre-David Rioux
Photo Credit (below) "Missouri's Silver Age" by
Norman Mack, page 130*



Best wishes for the Holidays from your Association!

***We hope that 2020 will be filled with happiness and good health
allowing your dreams to come through***

The year 2019 was the pivotal year we had dreamed of with the publishing of two issues of the *Robitailleries* compiled from six shipments of articles sent during the year to those who have an email address. This last step allowed us to periodically keep in touch with two-thirds of our members while continuing to produce two paper numbers for the other third of our members.

The year 2020 will be one of consolidation and

especially of participation. The new communication pattern being well defined, we now need your collaboration to obtain your stories and family anecdotes. It will be easy for your descendants to find out more about their family with these stories being archived in the Robitaille family patrimony. Our future development depends on you.

Write to us at info@robitaille.org or at our postal address.

News from Paul Robitaille, Montana

NDLR : We received an interesting message from our US representative. The website he suggests appears to be most appealing . Here is what he had to say. We hope that will be of interest to some of our readers.

René et Jean

Hi Rene & Jean,

I use several genealogical sources when researching Robitailles. In Canada: **PRDH & Généalogie Québec**. In the States and in France: **Family Search**, and **Ancestry**.

Just recently Family Search has been doing a lot of indexing of records they have worldwide. I was browsing quickly and found quite a few records in France and thought both of you and perhaps Lorraine too, might find them interesting.

I don't know any of the French members the Association may have, but if either of you do, please forward this info to them as well. One of these years, hopefully we may find out more about our ancient ancestors in the old country!

See:

https://www.familysearch.org/search/record/results?surname=Robitaille&collection_id=1500690

I am focusing on my family line for the next couple of months. When I was in Québec, I found quite a bit of new information on them. It's something I have been working on for years. As I turn 70 in January, it's time to focus on documenting what I have found and share it with my descendants and my cousins. The 90-year-old sky diver was the last of his generation. I am sure he would like to read the whole story also.

Hope you both are doing well.

Paul

2019-11-18

Association Membership Renewal

Except for life members, all subscriptions will expire on December 31, 2019. Costs have gone up slightly. Even though all the administrative work and the preparation of the newsletters are done by volunteers, we have to pay for the bank charges, postage and printing, renting a warehouse, maintaining the name of our website, subscriptions to access genealogical data, etc.

The Association would appreciate receiving membership forms by January 1, 2020 to avoid recall fees. Why not take advantage of it to offer a holiday gift to a relative of your family?

He or she will receive issue # 89 (December 2019) for free.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Surname _____

Adress _____

City _____

Province _____

Country _____

Postal Code _____

Phone (Home) _____

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Tarification : 12 months 30,00 \$ 24 months 50,00\$ for the electronic format
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Included is the amount of _____ \$ at th order of: L'Association des Familles Robitaille Inc.

Signature : _____ Date : _____

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Financial Statements 2018

SUMMARY OF THE 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

RESULTS

Fiscal year ending 31 December 2018	2018	2017
	\$	\$

PRODUCTS

Contributions	2720	1280
Activities	575	1385
Other	581	748

Total	<u>3876</u>	<u>3413</u>
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EXPENSES

Rental charges	685	789
Stamps	348	214
Activities	929	1596
Taxes	34	34
Printing – Newsletters	289	301
Bank charges	35	35

Total	<u>2320</u>	<u>2969</u>
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Excess of income over expenses

	1556	444
Net assets at the beginning	13611	13167
Net assets at the end	15167	13611

Balance sheet at December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
ASSETS	\$	\$
Investments	10002	10002
Accrued interest receivable	404	386
Cash	4761	3223

Total	15167	13611
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Net assets not affected	15167	13611
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This financial information has been audited by Raymond Chabot, Grant Thornton, a company collective name, a copy of which can be obtained from the head office of the entity. Thanks to Yvon Robitaille for this collaboration.

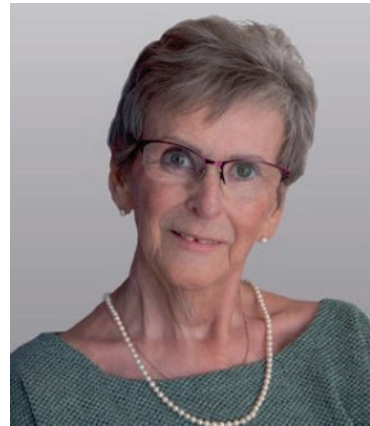
The report is signed by Marc Robitaille, President, and Paul Robitaille, Treasurer, of our Association. A copy of the full report can also be obtained from our secretariat.

In Memoriam – Nicole

□ Nicole Hardy (born Robitaille)

At the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec (CHUQ), on December 3, 2019, at the age of 70, passed away Mrs. Nicole Hardy (born Robitaille), daughter of the late Marguerite Cantin and the late René Robitaille, wife of Mr. Alain Hardy. She was the sister of Paul and Léo Robitaille, members of our Association. Paul has been the Treasurer of the Association for over fifteen years.

Our sincere condolences to the bereaved family.



Some documents have been translated automatically and may contain grammatical errors or inaccuracies. Our goal is to make this content useful to you.

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Les Robitalleries #89 Volume 31 Number 2

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TRANSLATION TEAM :

Monique Albert, Jean and René

PHOTOS :

Jean, Louise, Paul, Rénaud and René

In these pages, the masculine gender is used without discrimination, but only for the purpose of lightening the text.

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