



ROBITAILLIERIES

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The Association's representative in the United States, Paul Robitaille from Montana, told us about the marriage of his son Marc with Courtney Arthun. The outdoor ceremony was held on a ranch with the beautiful Crazy Mountains in the background. Our best wishes of happiness to the newlyweds. (See inside the newsletter Paul's account of the «Montana style» event).

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A word from the President

Translated by Johanne Boucher, trad. A., Montréal

Dear members,

The Holiday Season is already upon us and shopkeepers do all they can to attract us. But, this season should be a time for everyone to celebrate with relatives and remember good times spent together without being too nostalgic about it all.

It is when visiting with family members and dear friends that we are reminded of the joy of life. It is also an opportunity to talk about the Robitaille family association and expand your network of relatives throughout America and Europe. Your Association needs to recruit more members and it is often by talking to one another that we can attract new members.

All through this year, we have been communicating with you via the newsletter *Les Robitaileries* and other information letters which were not published as often as we had hoped. We also have to adapt to new means of reaching our membership and this is why we use Facebook to relay information. To receive our



Facebook posts, please join the group called “Association des familles Robitaille” at www.facebook.com/groups/famillesrobitaille/.

We also have started digitizing our old issues of *Les Robitaileries* and posting them on our website. The first 15 issues are already online and more will be added throughout 2018. Visit www.robitaille.org regularly for updates. Preparing the newsletter for the online platform means we need to take the time to correct spelling errors and other basic info and sometimes modify the photographs. We have found a number of original photographs that are now used to replace the ones previously published in order to have better results.

The members of the Board of directors and the Commanders of the Association wish you all a Happy Holidays.

Peace and Good Health for everyone in 2018!

*Your president,
Marc Robitaille*

Décès de William Robitaille

Au CSSS de la MRC de Coaticook, le 17 mai 2017, à l'âge de 93 ans, est décédé M. William Robitaille, époux de Gemma Daigle, demeurant à Compton.

Outre son épouse, M. Robitaille laisse dans le deuil ses enfants : Jean-Noel (Pauline Lapointe), Florent (Louise-Hélène Julien), Monique (Simon Plante), Daniel (Wendy Funk), Benoît (Barbara Dubois), Johanne (Gilles Garant), Dominique (Louise Lapointe), Guylaine (Roger Lanctôt) et Martin (Raymonde Bilodeau); ses 18 petits-enfants et ses 23 arrière-petits-enfants.

Un des fils de William, Florent, est un des commandeurs de l'Association. Ce dernier a été président de nombreuses années et a finalisé avec une équipe les répertoires des mariages et des baptêmes. Ayant un grand attachement familial, il a publié dans *Les Robitaileries* plusieurs articles sur sa famille très connue dans la région des Cantons de l'Est.



*In Memoriam***Robitaille, René 1925 - 2017**

René Robitaille died at Saint Francis of Assisi Hospital in Québec City on October 28, 2017, at the age of 92. He was the husband of Éliane Drolet, son of the late Cécile Beau-liu and the late Gustave Robitaille. He lived in Québec City.

He leaves behind his grieving daughters, Paule (Mathieu Arès) and Lorraine (André Alain); as well as his grandchildren, Caroline, Louis-Philippe, Olivier, and Lauriane.

René had a long and successful career. After graduating with a bachelor of science in civil engineering in 1952, he worked in the fields of bridge and building construction for 37 years, mainly with the government of Québec.

Despite the highly specialized nature of his work, he still found time to work in areas such as the restoration of the Place Royale and the fortifications of Québec, the restoration of the Holy Heart of Mary Church, on the construction of which both his father, Gustave, and his uncle, Ludger, architects, had collaborated, the return of the Du-berger model of Quebec City from Ottawa to Quebec, and the search for the tomb of Champlain. He was Chairman of the Canada Normandy Association, and general counsel to the St. John the Baptist Society of Québec.

His interest in history led him to an interest in the genealogy of his family and that of all the Robitailles. He learned that he was descended from an illustrious family.

His father Gustave (1892-1968) worked for Québec City as an architect; his grandfather Amadée (1852-1930) was a lawyer, an alderman, a liberal member of the legislature in Québec, as well as a minister and secretary of the province from 1901 to 1905. His great-grandfather, Olivier (1811-1896), was a highly esteemed physician and mayor of Québec City in 1856-1857.



Olivier Robitaille's ancestry goes back to Étienne (Stephen) of Québec City, then to Pierre (Peter), Joseph, and finally to Peter who was an original settler in L'Ancienne-Lorette and the ancestor of a large proportion of the Robitailles in North America.

In addition, when a small group contacted René to participate in the foundation of an association of Robitaille families, he became passionately involved.

As one of the eight founders of our association, he was appointed chairman at the first meeting of the board after the official incorporation of the Robitaille Family Association Inc. During the five years of his chairmanship, many of the significant activities that have become hallmarks of our association were begun and continue today.

First, Ovila Robitaille, a member of the association who lived on the ancestral land, mentioned to the association that the City of Sainte-Foy was planning to establish a park on our ancestral land, and suggested that we should pay tribute to those who had settled there in 1670. René, excited by the idea, took charge of this initiative. After many meetings and initial steps from the City of Sainte-

Foy, it was agreed that the park should be called Robitaille Park in honor of the Robitailles who had lived continuously on the ancestral land from the time when it was settled by Pierre Robitaille until the time a housing development displaced the farming that had been its main use.

After this victory, what could be more normal than to erect a monument in honor of our ancestors there, design a coat of arms with the motto Travail et Fierté (Work and Pride), and participate actively in the launching of The Robitalleries newsletter that became the chief means of communications with the members of the association.

Thank you, René.

We offer the family our most sincere condolences.

❑ **Hommage à mon père**

Pour ceux qui connaissent notre père savent qu'en plus de sa grande passion pour la préservation de l'histoire de sa belle Ville de Québec, il avait un grand talent de conteur en plus d'être un bricoleur. Pour lui dans la vie tout se répare avec de la bonne colle. Sa colle pouvait prendre plusieurs formes:

- ❖ Un cœur brisé, pourquoi pas ? Une barre de chocolat.
- ❖ Une difficulté dans la vie ? Viens, on va faire une balade cela va te changer les idées!
- ❖ Un beau vase brisé pourquoi le jeter ? J'ai une bonne colle pour le recoller !

J'ai compris ces derniers jours que sa bonne colle était tout simplement l'amour, c'était sa Foi. Il savait dire les choses simplement.

Pour ceux qui étaient présents lors des funérailles de notre mère à Noël 2014 se souviendront de l'histoire de son petit chapelet que mon père avait raconté. Tout cela pour vous dire qu'il y a une suite à l'histoire.

Au mois de juin dernier, les médecins n'avaient donné que quelques jours à mon père dû à son hémorragie. Je ne sais pas pourquoi, je lui avais porté ce petit chapelet de maman. Tout content, il l'avait mis à son cou et son saignement avait miraculeusement cessé. Puis au fil des mois la Croix s'en était détachée mais il continuait à le porter.

Lors de ma dernière visite durant sa dernière semaine de vie, j'avais remarqué qu'il ne l'avait plus à son cou, je lui avais rien dit pensant que probablement on lui avait enlevé pour lui donner des soins.

Après l'annonce de son décès, je suis retournée à son appartement pour aller chercher les papiers importants, en ouvrant le tiroir de son bureau, je fus surprise de voir dans sa petite enveloppe, le fameux chapelet!

Avant son départ pour l'hôpital pour recevoir sa dernière transfusion, il avait pris la peine de coller La Croix à son Chapelet et de le remettre dans sa petite enveloppe blanche. Signe probable qu'il était prêt pour son grand départ!

Mon père est resté lucide jusqu'à la fin. Durant les dernières journées nous avons beaucoup parlé de sa fin de vie et de la suite des choses, une chose qu'il tenait par-dessus tout; c'est qu'il voulait qu'on mentionne à ses funérailles les paroles du Christ : Aimez-vous les uns, les autres comme je vous ai tous tant aimés et surtout parlez-vous-en famille ! C'était la seule chose qui était importante que l'on mentionne de lui.

Promesse tenue papa ! xxx

*Paule Robitaille
Fille de René Robitaille ing.*

A Hesdin Notebook (Part 4)

The economic and social life of the inhabitants of Hesdin (1000-1500)

by René Robitaille, St-Lambert-de-Lauzon

Translated by David Robitaille, North Vancouver

Editor's Note: The first two parts of this notebook dealt with the history of the region of Hesdin before the year 1000, while the third described relationships among Hesdin, Artois, and Flanders during the next half-millennium. This fourth part answers the question of how the population lived during this period (1000-1500).

■ Sources: A History of Hesdin, by Bruno Béthouard and als.

During this period of five centuries, the region of Hesdin experienced significant growth in economic and societal terms despite the turbulent events that occurred. It is interesting to imagine oneself in the context of the time and to discover the relative importance of the city and the ways of life of different classes of society.



number of families who were obliged to contribute to the reimbursement. By combining these results with other indices such as the taxes paid by families in the county for various purposes, the analysts concluded that the population must have stood at between 8,000 and 10,000 inhabitants, and that gives us some idea of the importance of an average city such as Hesdin.

The Role of Hesdin in Artois

Artois included two large cities, Arras and Saint Omer, five medium-size towns including Hesdin, and several smaller towns of lesser importance. It is difficult to know what the population of Hesdin was during this period, because there was no census. Historians therefore have to extrapolate from the available data in various ways. After the annexation of Calais by the English in 1347 and the capture of King John the Good at the battle of Poitiers, Artois was forced to participate in the payment of a large ransom for his deliverance. To determine how to calculate the total tax payable, the town of Hesdin counted the

There were some wealthy businessmen in Hesdin, and one might wonder what they did with their money. Some bought annuities or bonds issued by the city, butw also by other municipalities. Others were able to lend money to the county or to buy houses with land having the status of fiefs. Some bought lands that provided royalties or timber rights that were sold at auction. Other generous leaders supported the Priory of Saint George and made donations to charitable institutions of the city, such as the leprosarium and the hospital.



An old postcard of Hesdin

There were, however, not only well-to-do people in Hesdin, there were also the poor and the sick. The first hospital mentioned in 1165 was the Saint Lazarus leper hospital located on land belonging to the city but outside of the city walls to keep the dangers of contagion away from the people. The lepers were allowed to clear and cultivate the land, and raise animals for their consumption. With charitable donations the lepers were able to survive. In addition, the Pope exempted them from paying tithes to the Church.

The first hospital of Hesdin (mentioned in 1206) bore the name of Saint John and was supported by the city. A governor managed the administration and the finances of this rudimentary institution. A new hospital was built in 1321 by Countess Mahaut. It included a large hall, 33 m by 11 m, housing a chapel, an altar, a kitchen, rooms for mothers delivering babies, as well as a garden in the countryside. The hall was heated in winter by a large fireplace. Strangely, the hospital was not designed for patients, but for the poor, the homeless, passers-by, and pilgrims who needed food and shelter. However, those who were sick could remain there until they recovered. They welcomed expectant mothers for up to one month, and orphans until they could earn their own bread. So, the hospital was a refuge by night, as well as a maternity hospital and an orphanage. To deal with these people, there were seven poor women who were fed and housed, but not

paid. In general, twenty people were housed in the hospital, but more during cold weather.

The largest portion of the population was, without doubt, the middle class. This included members of the many trades, and they were the main engine of the economic development of the region in the following three main sectors of the local economy: wood, agriculture, and textiles.

Wood

In the beginning there were large forests, but they belonged largely to the count who used them for hunting. However the local population had the right to hunt for fowl in the fields. It was hunting with falcons or hawks, and nets to capture partridges. It is a right that continues to this day, and one may still encounter many hunters in the French countryside today; however, they use guns now.

The count would from time to time issue special permissions. In 1170, the Count of Enquerran, when he founded the Abbey of St. George, permitted the Abbey to cut wood to build houses, provide firewood, and for all the other needs of the monastery. Most likely, there were also vendors who sold wood, firewood, and charcoal at auction to the Hesdinois, with royalties to the count. The bourgeois and the various trades including hoteliers, brewers, innkeepers, and potters could obtain special types of wood: oak,



beech, ash, aspen, birch, and cherry. The forests were similar to those found in Québec.

Agriculture

Farmers grew wheat, barley, oats, and some grapes. There were breweries and several mills in the region including a wheat mill in Auchy. Animal husbandry including sheep, pigs, chickens, and beef provided enough meat to nourish the population adequately.

Textiles

The textile industry, based mainly on lamb's wool, became very important in Hesdin. When weavers wanted to get products that were more sophisticated than unbleached textiles, they would contract with people called «spotters» who dealt first with milling: i.e., pressing the textile and interweaving the threads in order to strengthen them. There were, in fact, specialized mills for this work. They could also treat the thread with fat such as butter, oil, or lard to produce a better product prior to dyeing the thread. The cloth was then hung and stretched and given a final examination.

Merchants offered their goods for sale at various fairs in the region and the neighbouring territories. Hesdin produced high quality wares and sold them as far away as Siena in Tuscany. But the Italians learned to copy foreign products, and that killed this market.

Over the years, it became necessary to establish standards to control increasingly common frauds such as the use of poor quality dyes and false sizes. It was the duty of the mayor, the aldermen, and the representatives of the trades to look into complaints and apply fines and even severe punishments such as the pillory in serious cases.

Other trades

In addition to the trades related to the areas of timber, agriculture and textiles, a large number of other trades people sold products in open markets and covered shops and many different places depending on the clients. In the case of food, there were bakers, chefs, brewers, butchers, fishmongers, fishermen, shepherds, innkeepers, and publicans. In the building trades, there were carpenters, masons, locksmiths, glassworkers, and roofers. Some made tools and household items: tinkers, shoemakers, cabinet makers, rag merchants, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, and tanners. There were also professionals including doctors and apothecaries.

The city collected a kind of business tax depending on the weight of certain materials such as wool, salt, lime, charcoal, animal skins, and grain as well as on the transportation of these materials as they were transported to other places. The most lucrative market for the city was the wine that came from other areas. A document notes that in 1386 - 1387 781 barrels of wine were weighed in the Hesdin market. The love of wine was already widespread among the French. And the wine was transported not by boat but in carts.

To be continued

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Dr Jean Jacques Narcisse Robitaille

Editor's note: We are reproducing this interesting research project by Paul Robitaille that Florent Robitaille has already put on Facebook. As mentioned at the end of the article, the author and the Association are interested in knowing the identity of the person on the photo. We also know that Paul is strongly interested in all that concerns the tannery that Pierre Robitaille held at L'Ancienne-Lorette and sold in 1773 to open another one in Quebec City in 1774.

Paul Robitaille from Montana has completed a three year history project on a line of the Robitaille Family who became members of the Wyandot (close relations of the Wendat people of Québec) Indian nation. Paul and his wife went to the Wyandot Pow-Wow in Oklahoma in September where they met a young man, Brycen Hale, who is a descendant of Rosalee Robitaille. He showed them a picture of an «old Robitaille» that he recently inherited from his grandmother.

The history of Wyandot Robitailles began in L'Ancienne-Lorette with the birth of Jean Jacques Robitaille to Pierre Robitaille, a tanner and furrier, and his wife Geneviève Parent. See the simplified family line below. Marriage dates in brackets.

- Pierre Robitaille – Marie Maufay (1675)
- André Robitaille – Marguerite Hamel (1706)
- Pierre Robitaille – Geneviève Jourdain (1732)
- Pierre Robitaille – Geneviève Parent (1757)
- Jean Jacques Robitaille- Elizabeth Zane (~1802)
- James (Jean Jacques Narcisse) Robitaille – Felonise Archambault (1838)
- Louis Eugène Napoléon Robitaille – Elizabeth Robitaille (1860)
- Rosalee Robitaille – Lafayette Buzzard (1885)

Jean Jacques Robitaille went to northern Ohio in the late 1790s and opened a trading post in the small village of Zanestown which was located near a Wyandot village. A short time after establishing the trading post, Jean Jacques married Elizabeth Zane the daughter of Isaac Zane and his wife Myreerah. Myreerah was the daughter of a Wyandot Indian Chief named Tarhee. The mar-

riage of Jean Jacques Robitaille to Elizabeth Zane established a Wyandot blood line to any children born to the couple and any further descendants they had. The couple had two sons; Robert Grant Robitaille and James Robitaille. Their father Jean Jacques died in 1807, shortly after the birth of his son James.



Robert Grant and his brother James were taken back to Québec (Montréal), by Robitaille family relatives following the death of their father and subsequent remarriage of their mother. Robitaille relatives arranged their care and education. Robert Grant went back to Ohio and became an active member of the Wyandot tribe. His brother, James (he changed his name for Jean Jacques Narcisse after his marriage),

became a doctor and had a private practice in St-Roch-de-l'Achigan, a small village just north east of Montréal. One of Dr. Robitaille's sons, Louis Eugène Napoleon Robitaille, followed his uncle, Robert Grant, and joined him in what was then known as Indian Territory but later became Kansas City, Kansas. Two of Louis Eugene Napoleon's children, James Robert and Rosalee were sent back to Canada (specific location unknown, but likely Montréal) to be educated before returning to the Wyandot tribe.

We would like to see if anyone can identify this photograph. We believe it may well be Dr Jean Jacques Narcisse Robitaille who died in Montréal in 1878. This photograph probably belonged to Rosalee Robitaille, daughter of Louis Eugene Napoleon Robitaille and the third great grandmother of Brycen Hale.

Any information you can offer would be most appreciated.

A Wedding - "Montana Style"

On 10 June 2017, Marc Robitaille, the youngest son of Paul Robitaille, the Robitaille Family Association's U.S. Representative, married Courtney Arthun of Wilsall, Montana, on the Arthun Family Ranch just north of Wilsall.

The Arthun ranch is located in the Shields River Valley which borders on the Crazy Mountain Range, just north east of Livingston, Montana. The wedding service was held outdoors, with guest seating on straw bales and the beautiful mountains in the distance. The wedding reception was held inside the 100 year old barn on the ranch which is still in use, principally for calving of the cattle in the spring.

The photographs that follow illustrate the "down to earth" natural beauty of the region and what a Montana Style wedding looks like!



The steaks and potatoes were done on the grill by Ryan Pestel, a friend of both families, who is a Montana BBQ Contest Winner



The wedding service, the Crazy Mountains in the distance



Marc & Courtney with Samantha and Paul on either side. Wedding gift of a Double Wedding Ring quilt made by Samantha



Below the happy couple share their first dance as Mr & Mrs



Below, inscription detail on quilt above

Chronicle of the Internet

The DNA and ambivalence of the surname Robitaille

By Bernard Robitaille, Saint-Hyacinthe

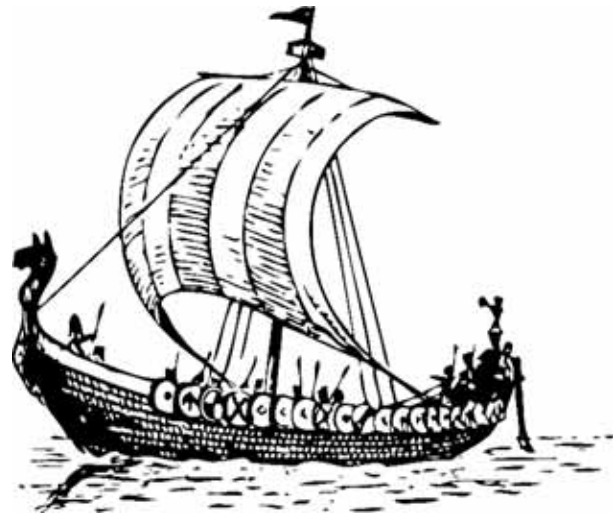
Editor's note: Bernard Robitaille's article on DNA sheds new light on the ambivalence of the origin of our name. After Italian, Basque, Artesian and Norman, the author proposes that the surname Robitaille could come from the Vikings.

On receipt of your last infoletter (Number 6, April), mentioning nine old issues of the Robitaileries, I reread them to deduce that the origin of the name Robitaille was a problem at this time and has never been, since that time, resolved through the genealogy. This pending interrogation spurred me to seek an alternative response, using the DNA route.

Bernard Robitaille, Saint-Hyacinthe, descends from Pierre; on the way of the arrow, there was no adoption in the line from father to son. Due to DYS 392 and 393 of my paternal Y, and their alleles 11 and 13, my original people are reflected in the name Germans, Vikings ... and all Robitaille of the arrow's path are Vikings, even if by mutation, some genes of some (other than Y392 and 393) have alleles different from one, more or less.

The Vikings after their period of vandalism and their success thanks to their tactics and their type of boat converted to Christianity and became world merchants. Many cities have developed around their counters, especially in Russia. In this regard, the literature tells us that the Vikings held counter in Boulogne-sur-Mer, about 40 kilometers from Auchy. Is it possible that some links have developed between a French and a Viking?

According to historians, the proper name of a person (surname) comes either from a property,



from a defect of the person, from one of his qualities, from a tool, from a mania, from an origin, a place, etc. Formerly we attributed a name and we must extrapolate to understand the meaning ... Example: Millet, this name comes from the plant, the farmer, or ??? Other examples: Robitaille, in Norway from the north, the nominative plural of rohpi is written ROBIT and means flat-bottom, the drakkar of the Vikings having a flat floor (seen in museum); AIL, imagined by the Vikings this weapon of war, the caltrop: 2 small pieces of metal sharpened at the 2 ends, bent and welded so that there is always a point on the surface ... distributed on the ground during a retreat, they allowed to slow down horses and infantrymen; LE, in French, to double the last consonant by adding e means a diminutive. Does the word ROBITAILLE in French designate the Viking sedentary ???? ... For ROBITAILLIE, in English, if we add IE at the end of a word we announce that we invent a new word from an old word (self... selfie). The Vikings never conquered England, but administered Ireland to Iceland and Greenland. For ROPITAL, in Norwegian Bokmal, according to the Glosle dictionary, this word designates one of the two languages of Norway.

Project of the Association: Make Lorraine Robitaille's book available to everyone

By René Robitaille, brother of Lorraine

Translated by David Robitaille, North Vancouver

In 1987, my sister, Lorraine, published a book several hundred pages long, after at least 20 years of research. The book is entitled, *The Family of Pierre Robitaille from Father to Son in the Seigneurie of Gaudarville*. Very few copies of the book were printed, and it was intended for our immediate family. It was typed manually before the era of computing on the basis of original genealogical records. The first chapter dealt with the history of the four brothers who emigrated to America: Jean, Pierre, Nicolas, and Philip. The other chapters related to the genealogy and history of the descendants of Pierre of our branch of the family who have always lived on the ancestral land in L'Ancienne Lorette, just outside Quebec City.

Since the publication of his book, Lorraine has received many requests to republish the document for our extended family and Robitailles in general. This was not possible because of the cost of such a project on the basis of the original typed edition. In fact it was necessary to scan the book in order to avoid having to re-type, then check and make corrections as necessary to the data and the text. Fortunately, our representative, Paul Robitaille from Montana, who researches the Robitailles in the United States, sent me a copy of the digitized book that he had requested and obtained from the National Archives of Québec. He also asked if Lorraine and the Association were interested in putting it on our web site for public use. The answer to this last request is positive, because everyone agrees that this important source of information should be made available to all.



The preliminary list of things that need to be done for this is as follows:

- ❖ Lorraine and I will finalize the outline for each chapter
- ❖ Our sister, Henriette, will check spelling
- ❖ Florent will check the genealogical data through the directories of the Association
- ❖ Jean, who does desktop publishing for the Robitalleries, is ready to do the same for the book.

It will be a long-term project. As soon as a chapter is ready, it will be published on our website. We will keep you informed about the progress of the project during the year 2018, and beyond, if necessary.

Annual meeting of the Association

On June 4, 2017, the Association's annual meeting was held at the Québec Aquarium. That encounter is an opportunity to make a statement about the previous year, plan for the future, enjoy a pleasant meal with friends, and lengthen conversations while visiting that beautiful aquatic environment of over 10 000 marine animals. There are also emblematic birds, and one of them was introduced to the guests after lunch.



At first, President Marc presented in his annual report the achievements of 2016, and also those of the first five months of 2017.

* *The **Robitailleries** publication has turned electronic with two versions, French and English, thus reducing printing and mailing costs. However, we had to extend the paper edition for two years until January 2019, so that 30% of our members without Internet could continue receiving information from the Association.*

* *Florent has completed the marriage and baptism directories, and the data is now available to the Association members on a USB key at the cost of 35\$, or on a DVD for 20\$.*



Group of participants at the annual meeting, at the Aquarium

* *The former **Robitailleries** issues have gradually been put on our website for the public. Up to now, the first ten numbers are on Internet.*

* *The President also highlighted the attendance of three Americans at the meeting: Arthur Robitaille from Florida, and Robert Robitaille with his wife Monica from New England.*

Due to the difficulty of obtaining a quorum at Association Board meetings, an amendment to the By-Laws was introduced to decrease the number of directors from 9 to 7, which was approved unanimously.

In the ensuing election, the three vacancies were filled by the re-election of Sonia, Marc, and Pierre.



A member from Florida, Arthur Robitaille, attended their meeting. He was accompanied by a couple from New England: Robert and Monica Robitaille

Requiescat In Pace

■ Alma Robitaille

Le 16 mai 2017 est décédée dame Alma Robitaille, épouse de feu monsieur Roch Beaumont. Elle était la fille de feu monsieur Eugène Robitaille et de feu madame Victoria Doré. Elle demeurait à Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures et était originaire de Roberval. Elle est partie à l'âge de 90 ans, entourée de ses proches et de leur amour. Elle laisse dans le deuil cinq enfants et 6 petits-enfants. Elle était la soeur de Paul Robitaille, grand bienfaiteur de notre Association notamment lors de la construction de nos monuments.



■ Cylie Robitaille, 1924 - 2017



À l'Hôpital Saint-Sacrement de Québec, le 16 septembre 2017, à l'âge de 93 ans et 5 mois est décédé monsieur Cylie Robitaille, fils de feu monsieur Rosaire Robitaille et de feu dame Clara Alain. Il demeurait à Saint-Raymond. Il laisse dans le deuil huit enfants et 15 petits-enfants.

Il a été administrateur du CA de l'Association de 1994 à 1997 et a organisé pour les membres durant cette période plusieurs activités à Saint-Raymond de Portneuf.

■ Ann Ceelen

À Boucherville, le 13 septembre 2017, à l'âge de 84 ans, est décédée Madame Ann Ceelen, épouse de Léo Robitaille. Outre son époux, elle laisse dans le deuil ses enfants Richard et Terry. Léo Robitaille était membre de notre Association et le frère de notre trésorier Paul.

■ Paule Marceau

À sa résidence, entourée de sa famille, le 31 juillet 2017, à l'âge de 88 ans, est décédée dame Paule Marceau épouse de monsieur Paul Robitaille. Elle demeurait à Québec. Tous gardent un bon souvenir d'elle comme étant une femme douce, aimable et dévouée. Avec son mari Paul, un dévoué supporteur de l'Association, elle a participé à de nombreuses activités familiales de cet organisme.

Elle laisse dans le deuil, outre son époux Paul; ses enfants et beaux-enfants: Alain (Céline Desjardins), feu Daniel (Christiane Bouchard), Ann, Georges (Hélène Levesque), Hubert (Bibiane Gravel), Lucie (Denis Dion), Josée (feu Martin Simard), Éline (Gérald Coulombe), feu Isabelle (Gilles Beaulieu), Paul (Sonia Girard), feu Louis, de nombreux petits-enfants et arrière-petits-enfants ainsi que ses neveux, nièces, cousins, cousines et ami(e)s.



Father William Robitaille passed away

Father Robitaille was born on July 4, 1919, in St. Romuald, Quebec. He attended primary and secondary school in St. Romuald. In 1936, he joined the Our Lady of the Prairies Trappist Monastery in St. Norbert, Manitoba, Canada, and was ordained a priest on June 18, 1944 in his hometown of St. Romuald. Fr. Robitaille entered the Diocese of Lafayette on August 20, 1952, and served in several different parishes, including St. Anthony in Eunice for 12 years and St. Marcellus in Rynella for 17 years, until his retirement in 1981. He was a resident of Consolata Nursing Home where he served as Chaplain for several years.

Fr. Robitaille will always be remembered for his care for people. He was always a consummate gentleman and priest.

Survivors include his brothers, Paul and Gilles. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. Gilles is living in Sherbrooke, QC.

He was preceded in death by his father, Gaudiose Robitaille; his mother, Marie Louise Bergeron; his brothers Maurice and Benoît; and his sisters, Berthe (C.N.D.) Jacqueline, Marcelle, and Gisèle.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



■ **L'Association des familles Robitaille inc.**
C.P. 47007, Succ. Sheppard
Québec, QC G1S 4X1

Family Name _____ First Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Province/State _____ Country _____
 Postal Code _____ Phone.: (____) _____
 E-Mail : _____

Regular Member for 2018 and 2019 :

❖ Will receive the electronic Robitailleries

25\$ pour 1 an

45\$ pour 2 ans

❖ Will receive the paper Robitailleries

35\$ pour 1 an

60\$ pour 2 ans

Promotional Items - Order Form

Items	Quantity		Unit price	Total
Ball pen	x	3.00 \$	.....
Lapel Pin	x	5.00 \$	.....
Key Holder (with blue light)	x	3.00 \$	.....
Playing cards Blue deck	x	10.00 \$	.....
Playing cards Red deck	x	10.00 \$	.....
Robitailleries back issues (specify #.....)	x	3.00 \$	.....
Greeting card with the last ancestral house	x	2.50 \$	.....
Hard-back Coat of Arms	x	10.00 \$	.....
Laminated Coat of Arms	x	20.00 \$	.....
Polo Sweater	x	25.00 \$	.....
Cap	x	12.00 \$	.....
Book marker with magnifying lens	x	4.00 \$	.....
Directory of marriages and baptisms on DVD	x	20.00 \$	.....
Directory of marriages and baptisms on USB stick	x	35.00 \$	.....
Sub-total			
Postage & handling (+ 20 %)			
Family Tree on Quality Paper (shipping included)		2017 Promo	75.00 \$	.....
		After 2018-01-01	100.00 \$	.....
TOTAL			

Join a check for the amount of \$ made to **Association des familles Robitaille inc.**

Name

Address

Phone number (.....)

E-Mail

Ticket, please!

By Jean Robitaille, Québec City

Editor's Note: Jean has had an important but invisible role since the very start of our Association. He does the layout for our Robitailleries newsletter. The story he relates here is exactly the type of article that we like to publish. If you have anecdotes like this one, don't hesitate to submit them.

My aunts and uncles used to tell a story over and over when the family got together on New Year's Eve. I was a child and didn't pay much attention to what seemed more of a legend than a true story.

It seems that my grandfather, Louis-Cyprien Robitaille, was quite a character. One day, he decided to pay his brother a visit, in Saint-Boniface, Manitoba.

He boarded his train in Québec City, took his seat and started reading his newspaper. After quite a while, the controller came into the train car and, seat after seat, asked the passengers for their tickets.

« Ticket please! » he said. « Ticket please! »

When he got to my grandfather's seat, he repeated the same « Ticket please ».

« En français s'il vous plaît » said my grandfather.

« Sorry, sir, I don't speak French » answered the controller.

Believing that he should get service in French, my grandfather told the controller, in French, that he wouldn't get his ticket until he asked for it in French.

Dumbfounded, the controller scribbled something in his notebook and kept on his way.

According to the story, the same conversation was repeated after each stop. Montréal, Kingston, Toronto, Sudbury: same tune, same scenario.

Finally, after 2 days, the train arrives in Winnipeg.



Louis-Cyprien Robitaille at the wheel of his first automobile, in 1908.

My grandfather stands, picks up his suitcase, heads toward the exit and stops before stepping out. He turns toward the controller, hands him his ticket and says, in French: « Here's my ticket. I'm not a thief, I'm paying what's owed, but you should learn a lesson here. We are entitled to service in French and you don't measure up ».

Then, calmly, in perfect English, without even an accent, he repeats his message. The controller, shamefaced, muttered a « Thank you, Sir ». My grandfather headed straight for the station, his head held high and his eyes sparkling with pride.

Family legend? I heard it a few times, told by my father or aunt, without much more detail. I was young and never questioned the story. Why didn't they throw him out at the next train stop? Where were any witnesses? Was it possible for the same controller to be on guard duty for such a long trip?

We will never truly be sure, but that story left its mark on the family youngsters. Did it induce some calling as French language defenders amongst my cousins?

I had forgotten that family anecdote which happened forty years before my time. Forgotten, that is, until a few moments ago. I was reviewing my

online family tree and updating the information concerning my grandfather's siblings with the help of the Canadian Census Registries from 1901 and 1911, available on the Library and Archives Canada website.

As I searched for Robitailles in the province of Québec, especially near Québec City, I couldn't find all my great-grandfather's children in the 1911 Census Registry. Then I remembered the train story. What about Manitoba?

Adélar Robitaille was born in Québec City on December 20, 1878. He married Blanche Trudel on October 12, 1900. She died at only 26, in 1908. Adélar was left with 2 children. In January 1910, he married Alexandra Côté from Montréal. They first lived in Québec City where their son Alexandre was born in December of 1910. In 1911, Adélar and his family moved to St. Boniface. Then they moved to California in 1927. Alexandra died on December 15, 1945 in Riverside, CA, USA. The widower returned to Québec City where he died on September 24, 1949.

The 1911 Census show 14 Robitailles in Manitoba. Going through the list, I happen upon an «Adilard» Robitaille, 34 years old, residing in the sub-district of Saint-Boniface! Another click, and I have a photo of the census page. Adélar Robitaille, born in December of 1876, residing at 101 Mas-son Street with his wife Alexandra and three children. He is

self-employed as a chauffeur in a car repair shop.

The story is consistent with the facts I know. My grandfather, three years younger, has a passion for automobiles. It is plausible that he went to visit his older brother who works with cars.

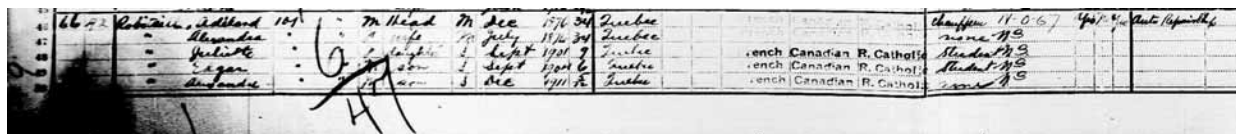


Advertising in the Annuaire Marcotte of Québec City in 1909-1910.



Adélar in his shop on De la Couronne Street, in Québec City

Maybe it only contributes to a family legend, but I can now imagine new twists and turns to the family saga: Adélar, driving towards home on Mas-son Street; his young brother, in the passenger's seat, telling him about his long train ride from Québec City...



1911 Canadian Census, St. Boniface MB - Adélar Robitaille, aged 34, his wife Alexandra, daughter Juliette (9), son Edgar (6) and baby Alexandre, 5 mois old. All were born in the Province of Québec.

Participez à l'enrichissement du patrimoine des Robitaille

Si vous avez des personnes de plus de 90 ans dans votre famille, contactez un membre du Conseil d'administration pour que l'on puisse l'interviewer et que son histoire fasse partie du patrimoine des Robitaille.

Nous sommes également à la recherche d'histoires de vos ascendants. Certains ont vécu des expériences dignes d'être racontées et enregistrées dans les archives de notre patrimoine.

Si vous êtes témoins d'aventures, d'anecdotes ou de réalisations d'un membre de votre famille, transmettez-nous la nouvelle.

■ Où sont les formulaires?

Pour obtenir un formulaire d'adhésion à l'Association ou pour voir la liste de nos articles promotionnels, consultez un numéro précédent des Robitailleries ou visitez notre site Internet.

■ Adhésion

N'oubliez pas de renouveler votre adhésion. Évitez à nos bénévoles de faire des rappels. Les abonnements débutent en janvier.

Voir la grille des coûts sur le formulaire d'adhésion dans ce Bulletin ou sur notre site web.

List of the Association Board of Directors for the year 2017-2018:

❑ Executive Officers

- ❖ à Marc Robitaille, president
- ❖ Sonia Robitaille, vice-president
- ❖ Micheline Dussault, secretary
- ❖ Paul Robitaille, treasurer

❑ Other Board Members

- ❖ Louise Robitaille-Roy
- ❖ Marjolaine Michaud
- ❖ Pierre Robitaille

L'ASSOCIATION DES FAMILLES ROBITAILLE INC.
C.P. 47007, Succ. Sheppard
Québec, QC G1S 4X1

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Yvan Robitaille	(418) 651-2533

United States Representative

Paul Robitaille, USA	(406) 586-3869
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Les Robitailleries #85 Volume 29 Number 2

PRODUCTION TEAM

Jean, René and Henriette

TRANSLATION TEAM

Monique Albert, David, Johanne, Micheline, Florent and René

PHOTOS

Paul, of Montana, Jean and René

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

Legal deposit : 4th quarter of 2017
National Library of Canada
Bibliothèque nationale du Québec

2017-12-20

États financiers 2016

RÉSUMÉ DES ÉTATS FINANCIERS DE 2016 DE L'ASSOCIATION		
RÉSULTATS		
Exercice finissant au 31 décembre 2016	2016	2015
PRODUITS	\$	\$
Cotisations	2 315	2 520
Activités	595	1 997
Autres	371	420
Total	3 281	4 937
CHARGES		
Assurances	16	16
Charges locatives	897	674
Timbres	126	154
Activités	1 449	2 412
Taxes	34	34
Impression - bulletins	457	1 474
Cotisations	298	302
Frais bancaires	35	75
Total	3 312	5 141
Insuffisance des produits par rapport aux charges	-31	-204
Actif net au début	13 198	13 402
Actif net à la fin	13 167	13 198
BILAN AU 31 DÉCEMBRE	2016	2015
ACTIF	\$	\$
Placements	10 002	10 002
Intérêts courus à recevoir	332	292
Encaisse	2 833	2 904
Total	13 167	13 198
ACTIF NET NON AFFECTÉ	13 167	13 198

Ces renseignements financiers ont été vérifiés par Raymond Chabot, Grant Thornton, société en nom collectif, dont vous pourrez obtenir copie auprès du siège social de l'entité. Des remerciements à Yvon Robitaille de cette société pour sa collaboration.

Le rapport est signé par Marc Robitaille, président, et Paul Robitaille, trésorier, de notre Association. Une copie du rapport complet peut aussi être obtenue de notre secrétariat.