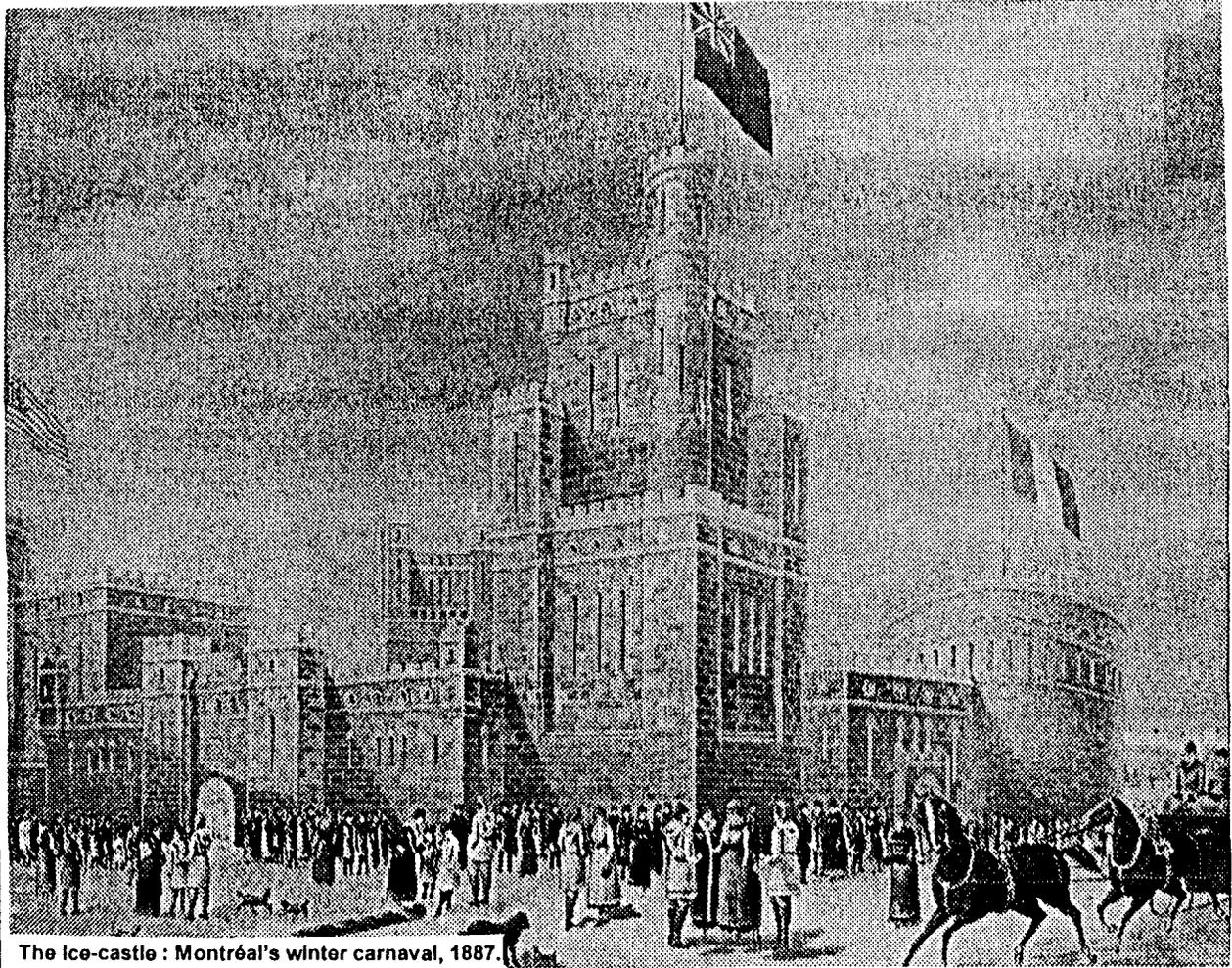




Bulletin no 55  
December 2000  
310, rue Montarville  
Longueuil, Québec  
J4H 2L7  
Daniel@Archambault.net



*The President and the committee of the Archambault d'Amérique wish all its' members and their loved ones a very Merry Christmas, and may each day of the second year of the millenium be filled with joy, good health, prosperity and peace!*



The ice-castle : Montréal's winter carnival, 1887.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Thomas Archambeau	Madison, Alabama, U.S.A.
Eugene Archambault	Newtown SQ, Pensylvania, U.S.A.
Ramond E. Archambault	Huntington Beach, California, U.S.A.
Edith Archambault	Laval
Mathieu Archambault	Montréal

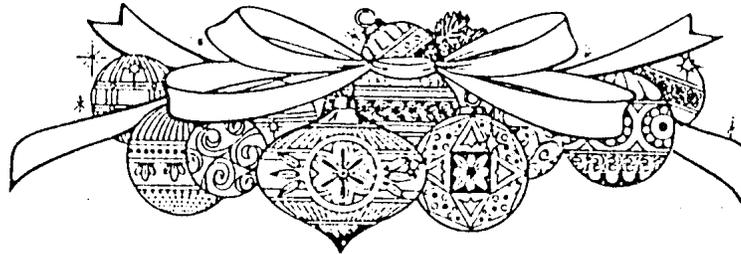
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## HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE WE?

This question was asked in September when we were in Saint-Hyacinthe, and today we can give you the accurate answer.

The most recent tally shows exactly 301 members living in Québec, however, there are many from other provinces, the United States, and France as well. Incidentally, we notice that 13 of the 15 members do come from across the border and abroad.

As in many other Associations, perhaps there is a thought to contemplate on the word of a very wise and clever recruiting officer who once said: « if each member had to recruit a new one, the number of our members would double instantly. »



You will find enclosed in our present bulletin the interesting story of "Genealogical Rewards", written by Thomas Archambeau of Alabama, U.S.A. Thomas was able to trace his family, and he was also able to find a cousin, Christopher Archambault from the sixth generation on through the Internet.

Both Thomas and Christopher have become the latest members of our Association.



## LE MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Cousins, cousines, chers amis.

Chaque année, les membres du conseil se répartissent les fonctions pour l'année à venir ; vous trouverez dans ce bulletin la liste des membres du conseil et les dossiers dont chacun a bien voulu s'occuper. Les membres du conseil d'administration ont décidé de me confier la direction de notre association. C'est avec plaisir que j'accepte ce rôle où j'entends continuer à servir les membres tout en cherchant de nouveaux moyens de donner plus de visibilité à l'Association des Archambault d'Amérique.

Mener à bien les tâches qu'exige notre regroupement ne peut se faire sans la collaboration de toute une équipe. Je veux saluer en particulier ceux et celles qui y travaillent depuis la fondation de l'association. Il est très encourageant de constater que de nouveaux membres se sont joints d'années en années à cette équipe de fondateurs. Les tâches sont nombreuses et demandent un investissement bénévole important en temps et en énergies. Les dossiers à traiter vont des finances pour la tenue des livres et le contrôle des dépenses, au journal pour la composition, l'édition, la révision et l'adressage, à l'enregistrement pour la sollicitation et le renouvellement du membership, aux activités annuelles à planifier et à organiser, au secrétariat pour les convocations, la rédaction des procès verbaux et le classement des dossiers, à la publicité pour les relations avec la presse écrite et la mise à jour du site Internet, aux recherches généalogiques pour la rédaction et la publication des nombreux volumes du dictionnaire généalogique.

Il est difficile d'imaginer ce que suppose le maintien des services d'une association comme la nôtre. C'est grâce au travail constant de tous ceux et celles qui siègent au conseil si des liens ont pu se tisser entre les membres des Archambault d'Amérique. Nous leur sommes redevables de tout le travail accompli, mais il nous incombe de poursuivre dans un esprit de renouveau, de façon à rejoindre et à engager davantage de membres.

La meilleure façon de montrer notre appréciation au conseil serait sans doute que chacun réussisse à convaincre une personne de ses connaissances à se joindre à l'association pendant l'année qui vient. Nous voudrions tous que la participation à la prochaine rencontre, prévue à Québec l'automne prochain, sera votre réponse à ce vœu.

En terminant, les membres du conseil se joignent à moi pour vous offrir à l'occasion des fêtes de fin d'année, nos meilleurs vœux de santé et de bonheur.

Cousins, cousines, chers amis, mes salutations chaleureuses.



Richard Archambault

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## DES NOUVELLES DU C.A.

Suite à l'assemblée générale annuelle de septembre dernier, les directeurs élus au conseil d'administration se sont réunis le 16 octobre et se sont ainsi réparti les tâches :

Président	Richard	Pointe-Claire
1 <sup>er</sup> vice-président	Michel P.	Laval
2 <sup>e</sup> vice-président	Daniel	Anjou
Secrétaire	Jean-Jacques	Montréal
Trésorier	France	Anjou
Archiviste	Pierre	Granby
Conservateur	Richard	Pointe-Claire
Publicitaire	André	Montréal
Conseiller juridique	Robert	Saint-Laurent
Directeurs	André G.	Longueuil
	Raynald	Québec
	Catherine	Longueuil
	Jacques	Montréal
	Denis	Saint-Hyacinthe
	Richard M.	Montréal
	Christine	Montréal
	Charles	Montréal
	Bernard	Montréal-Nord
	Daniel J.	Laval

De plus, le nouveau conseil a voulu désigner les membres des différents comités dès cette réunion. Ainsi à la publicité, Christine secondera André. Au comité du bulletin, Pierre, Jacques, Daniel et André G. acceptent de continuer leurs travaux. Richard M. a accepté la responsabilité des affaires sociales et Raynald celle de la réunion annuelle de 2001. Ce comité *ad hoc* réunit aussi Denise et Louis, tous de Québec.

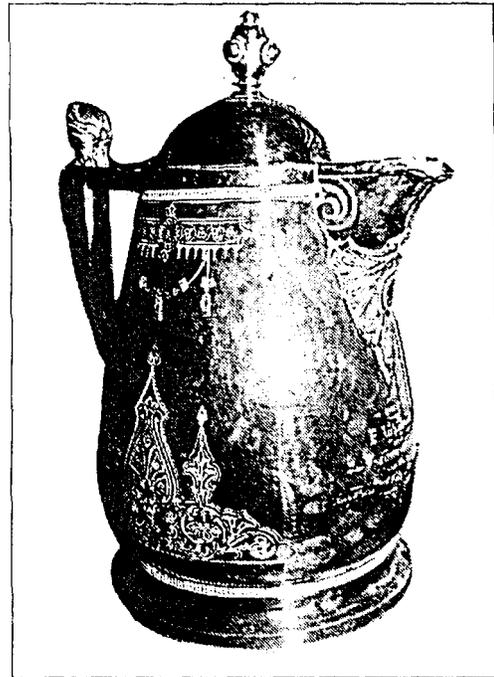
Le conseil se réjouit aussi de pouvoir compter sur la collaboration de Sophie, fille de notre regretté Yvon, pour la mise à jour de la liste des membres et pour la confection des étiquettes d'adressage.

## THE ICE SKATE

**As a mean of communication:** - The Saint-Lawrence River, which was the way of communication, has always served the development and the exploitation of natural resources of Québec. It was the traditional route that worked; however, there was a time when the river was too frozen with ice in the winter that the route could not be used...

« ... There was an advantage though, when the firmness of the ice permitted it, the river was used by skates of steel blades which, at the time was the most rapid, the most discreet, and the most economic of ways of transport. The governor employed the skaters to carry his orders to the officers of Trois-Rivières, and Montréal. The experienced messengers could cross two hundred kilometers on clear ice, and under mild wind without almost non-stop. Sometimes there were one or two that would pass the limits of endurance when they were sent on an urgent mission from Montréal to Québec to deliver an official dispatch. He would cross the distance of one hundred and eighty miles (280 km) in eighteen hours, and died from mere exhaustion on his arrival, related some. Others pretended that the death was caused by having consumed too much of a hearty meal en route... »<sup>1</sup>

**As a sport:** - Mr. Elzéar Archambault, who was the great grandfather of the reverend Pierre Archambault of Longueuil, could easily have worked as a messenger on skates... He who was married to Sara-Louise MacArthur, and not McArthy<sup>2</sup> in the States had taken the first prize in a skating contest that was held in Cleveland (Ohio) in 1870. The reverend Pierre has in his home this magnificent trophy on which is engraved with the following inscription: « Won by E. Archambault in a skating contest at the Forest City Rink, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1870, Cleveland. »



<sup>1</sup> Raymond Douville and Jacques -Donat Casanova.  
Extracted from "La vie quotidienne en Nouvelle-France",  
Librairie Hachette, Paris, 1964, p. 220.

<sup>2</sup> Extracted from Pierre Archambault, *Dictionnaire  
généalogique des Archambault d'Amérique*, vol. 4, p. 18.

## WHERE DOES THE WORD 'NOËL' COME FROM

Noël derived from the Latin « natalis » (natal), most precisely « natalis dies » meaning (date of birth) to celebrate the birthdate of Jesus-Christ. It was also said that Noel came from Gaul « noio » (new), and of « hel » (sun), and it corresponded with the new sun that appeared at the moment of the winter's solstice.

In the regional dialects of France, there existed many variants: « Nadai » in Provence, « Nau » in Charentes, « Noue » up North, « Nedeleg » in Britain, « Nouel » in Normandy, « Nadal » in Normandy, « Nadal » or « Nodai » in Aveyron, « Naoue » in Lorraine, « Nouve » in Franche-Comté, etc...

In the Middle ages, « Noël ! Noël ! » was the cry of joy that pushed the people towards all happy occasions like the birth of an heir of the throne, the arrival of a sovereign, and of the marriage of a prince.

The word Noël also signifies:

- the song, the hymn, « a Noël », sing « some noëls »
- the era where one celebrated this holiday: « leave at Noël (Christmas) », the Noël's (Christmas') holidays.

Besides that, Noël also existed in geography. On the map of the World we found 2 « Christmas » and 2 « Natal », named by the navigators who discovered them on the 24<sup>th</sup> of December.



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## YOUR CALENDAR : FALL 2001

Take good note that the Archambault d'Amérique will meet next Fall in Québec City, precisely where Jacques, our ancestor, first settled in Nouvelle-France. More information in our next bulletin.

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## GENEALOGICAL REWARDS

By Thomas P. Archambeau  
Son of Paul-Alphonse and Gladys Susan Shuman  
September 13, 2000

After my parents died, dad in 1984, mom in 1986, I had lost contact with my dads' family in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. My personal life was in shambles as I was undergoing a divorce, had health problems, and was raising a nine-year-old daughter by myself, plus trying to get and keep a job. This kept me pretty much occupied.

About three years ago I re-married, left Pennsylvania, and moved to Alabama where I used a computer for the very first time. In the beginning I hardly knew anything about how a computer worked, but I wanted to see if I could find the addresses of members of my dads' family. Learning to use the "white pages" on the Internet to locate people was pretty easy. Remembering the names of the towns and cities they lived in, in Michigan, I typed in their names in the appropriate boxes and managed to find quite a few of them. I bought an address book and listed them all inside. Phone calls were made and soon contact with many of them had been reestablished. This was a rewarding experience and soon my address book was full and my goal was accomplished.

My wife was working ten-hour days and my stepson was in school, I didn't know anybody here in Alabama, nor know the area, plus I was physically handicapped. Having been born and raised in a country environment, I now found myself in a fairly large city and didn't know what to do to pass the long hours alone. Playing chess, solitaire and other games on the computer soon grew boring. My wonderful wife recognized that I was having difficulty adjusting to this change, and she helped me learn more about using the computer.

While browsing about on it one day in the winter of 1998 I came upon a person whose last name was very similar to my own in a neighboring State, and they had an email address. Archambeau was a very rare surname back in Pennsylvania, though I had seen it was a popular name in Canada, while on fishing trips, and in Michigan while visiting relatives when I was much younger. To find a person with that name this far south of the Mason Dixon Line surprised me so I decided to write him an email. My wife had an email address and taught me how to use email; therefore, I sent him my very first email.

His name was Kirby and after making contact with him we corresponded for a while and after exchanging some family information, I learned that he had two brothers one of them being his twin. He had his mother whose nickname was Beau contact me by email because she knew more about the family than he did. After a short time, we began to wonder if her husband and I were related as our last names were so similarly spelled. Later Beau told me that her husband had a cousin named Marg who was working on the family tree and introduced us via email.

Marg and I compared what we knew about our individual families. At that time I didn't know too much about mine back beyond my grandparents. Marg told me that she was stuck and was unable to find anything back beyond her great grandparents. Their graves had been moved because a new highway had been built and his tombstone was destroyed in the process. But she had not given

up and was still searching. That sounded like something I'd like to do - find my ancestors, and it would be constructive plus help me get through the lonely parts of the days. I decided to give it a try and started searching the Internet for genealogy sites. I came upon a site called "Genforum", and the "Archambault family forum", where you could post inquiries about your ancestors. I placed a message there giving my grandparents' full names including my grandmothers' maiden name and where they had lived. I had in my possession my grandparents' immigration papers from Canada to the United States in 1905; it included the spelling change of our name from Archambault to Archambeau. A few days later I got a reply to my message and in a very short time had my direct Archambeau line back to Antoine Archambault and Renée Ouvrard who were married about 1600 in France.

My wife gave me a GED file program for my birthday and helped me install it into our computer. I was on my way, putting all the information about my ancestors into the GED file. I still was conversing by email with Marg who was stuck. I couldn't help but feel bad for her, for I had found my ancestors so soon, and she had been searching for such a long time and not found hers. I sent her the address for "Genforum" and encouraged her to place a message in "The Archambault family Forum" as I had done. Marg placed her message in the forum early in March 1999. We continued our correspondence, and I kept looking for any information concerning her ancestors as I searched for the wives' families of each generation in my direct line. There were two names that were unusual in the information I received from Marg -Napolean and Eugene Joseph- that I remembered and looked for. Soon I was quite busy conversing via email with many fellow searchers, still I kept looking for any information that I thought may help Marg, and I sent her what I found but I didn't find much.

Then one day I received an email from a person named Chris, whom I didn't know. He was looking for a John Archambeault. His message was accompanied with just a small amount of other information. I didn't recognize any names mentioned but replied, "that it would help if he could give more information, like spouses, dates etc." I did not know anything about those mentioned in his message and promptly forgot about it--that was over a year ago. I continued searching for information on Eugene Joseph and Napolean and kept looking in "Genforum" to see if anyone replied to Marg's message. To date no replies were made to her quest. I thought, "surely someone should have replied to her quest by now".

Just last week I received an email from someone whom I didn't at first recognize. They were looking for a John Archambeault from Massachusetts, also called Baptist and that he was born in Québec Province, Canada. I thought to myself; "in French Canada his name would be Jean Baptiste Archambault"-- "That's the name he should be looking for". In his email there was the maiden name for the spouse of this Jean Baptiste Archambeault and location of birth in Québec (a town or possibly parishes) for both using English spellings of locations, not French spellings. He said "he had written to me about a year ago". Then I remembered, this was the Chris, who had written me, requesting information on John Archambeault, and I remembered that I hadn't been able to help him at that time. In my reply, I gave him the French spelling for John Baptist and the locations of birth, as they would be spelled in Québec for I had learned some French through researching my family in French Canada. Chris soon wrote back saying that he would like to talk to me as he had many questions that he would like to ask. I responded by sending him my phone number by email.

A short time later I received another email from him giving me the childrens' names of this Jean Baptiste Archambault. Wow! The first one that I noticed was a Napolean. Yes! That was a name I recognized. I hurriedly typed a single email sending it to both Chris and Marg who were searching for Eugene Joseph and Napolean Archambeault.

Very soon after that, I received a phone call from him. During our conversation he asked me "How I knew Marg, who was searching for the parents of John Archambeault, the father of Eugene Joseph and Napolean". I explained how I had gotten her email address from her cousins' wife, Beau, whose son, Kirby, I had contacted so long ago in my very first email during the winter of 1998. He then explained to me that Kirby was one of his younger twin brothers. What a shock to me! I'd heard people say, "it's a small world" before, but I don't believe I had ever experienced anything quite like this. I knew his brother Kirby, his mother, Beau, and his dads' cousin, Marg.

I suggested to Chris that he post a message using the French spellings in "Genforum" in The Archambault Family Forum" and include all the other information that he had relayed to me concerning the Jean Baptiste Archambault family that he was searching for-which he promptly did.

Yesterday, August 30<sup>th</sup> 2000, I received an email from him, part of which I am including here:

Tom,

-----I thought I had mentioned this to you-----Etc.-----  
Etc. He had all the information I needed to make the connection. This cuts my work out for me though, because now I have to find the references myself. His wife's' Great Grandfather was my Great Grandfathers' brother. -----Etc.-----Etc. Any way thanks, for your help. You put me on to information that my family had been searching for, for many, many, years. I really appre-



Thomas and wife Juanita Mae Stouffer  
Grand son of Albert and Délla Rivest  
*Dictionnaire des Archambault d'Amérique,*  
Vol. 4 p. 210.

ciate it, I hope we can find out soon exactly how you and I are connected.

Chris

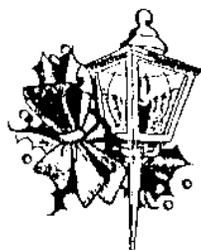
During the last few weeks we've learned that we are 6<sup>th</sup> cousins 1<sup>st</sup> removed. Ironically one of the contacts that helped with Chris' line was the same person who first gave me my direct line back to Antoine Archambault and Renée Ouvrard.

It may seem funny to some that just one tiny clue like John Archambeault, "also called Baptist", could make such a great difference between success and failure, but it did. Little things are very important when looking for ancestors.

Playing a small part in this story has been both a privilege and an honor. It shows how much, perseverance, determination, and the willingness to share our lessons, can reap great rewards for all involved. Over the past year or so many people rendered to me their help in researching my ancestors. I'm deeply appreciative to all of them. I've made some very good friends along the way, and yet, I owe more than I can repay. Hopefully this will help bring my accounts to a closer balance.

I've told Chris that there is much he could learn about the history of our ancestors by joining the "Les Archambault d'Amérique" and am sending him the web site address so that he may become a member.

The research of my Archambault family line was done by: Suzanne Hamei, Lynn Pa'o, Loyola Beaudette, Juliette Richard, Norman Rivest and a very special thanks to Mrs. Lucienne Tong of Sault-Ste-Marie, member of the Archambault d'Amérique, for all the help and encouragement given during the last few years.



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## THE MULTIPLE BIRTHS

Urbain Tessier dit Lavigne and his wife, Marie Archambault, one of the four daughters of our ancestor Jacques, had the first set of Montréal twins that they had had baptized in July 1649. One had died at birth while the other had followed five days later. The second set of twins who were born on December 3, of the same year had belonged to Mathurin Meunier. These <little ones> had lived 24 and 28 days. Closer to us in Repentigny, Joseph Archambault who had married Rosalie Reeves in 1816 had been the father of 17 children, which he had had 4 sets of twins, one in 1827, 1828, 1832 and 1833. The majority of them had not survived more than a few days.

In regards to twins, certain researchers have noticed that the Descary family had had seven sets of twins out of 1, 616 births between 1650 to 1909. The Massicotte had given birth to 25 sets of twins, and in one case triplets out of 2, 330 births from 1694 to 1904. Here too, it had seemed that the first triplets, one boy, and two girls, had been born on April 6, 1685 in Montréal, which they all died on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Before, the parents had a desire to replace the child that had died at a tender age, as it often had been, with another one carrying the same given name in hope that this last one

would live, and with him the prename. That was exactly what had happened out of the 15 children of François-Xavier Archambault and Adelaïde Richard who had married in 1835 in Saint-Jacques, (Montcalm). Four of their daughters who have been prenamed Julie, had died: one in 1836(6 years old), 1843 (2 years old), 1848 (1 month old), and in 1853 (6 months old)...



*Mother and children by Jacques Gallot. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the women of the French farmer's families had had at least five or six children each of which half of them had died before they had reached the age of 20. Free expression for Christ and the King.*

Another comparison of the number of deaths at home in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century had affected another François-Xavier Archambault. He had married Marie Bousquet in 1842 in Saint-Denis-sur-Richelieu, and they had had 18 children from 1844 to 1863, and 12 of them had died between the ages of 1 day old and 7 years.

Another example of replacement of a child with the same prename had been extracted from the parish registry of Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan. Joseph Archambault's wife Thérèse Proulx had given birth to a François on June 12, 1806, and the child had died on the 15<sup>th</sup> at the age of 3 days. Then we found out that on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1807, a François had been buried at the age of 16 months, who had been the child of Joseph Archambault and Thérèse

Proulx. The registry had shown that the second child who had been born in 1806 had been born on the same date of birth and death of the first François. Nature abhors a vacuum, dare we not say...

Source: extracted from the *Bulletin des recherches historiques*, Archives nationales du Québec, 1934



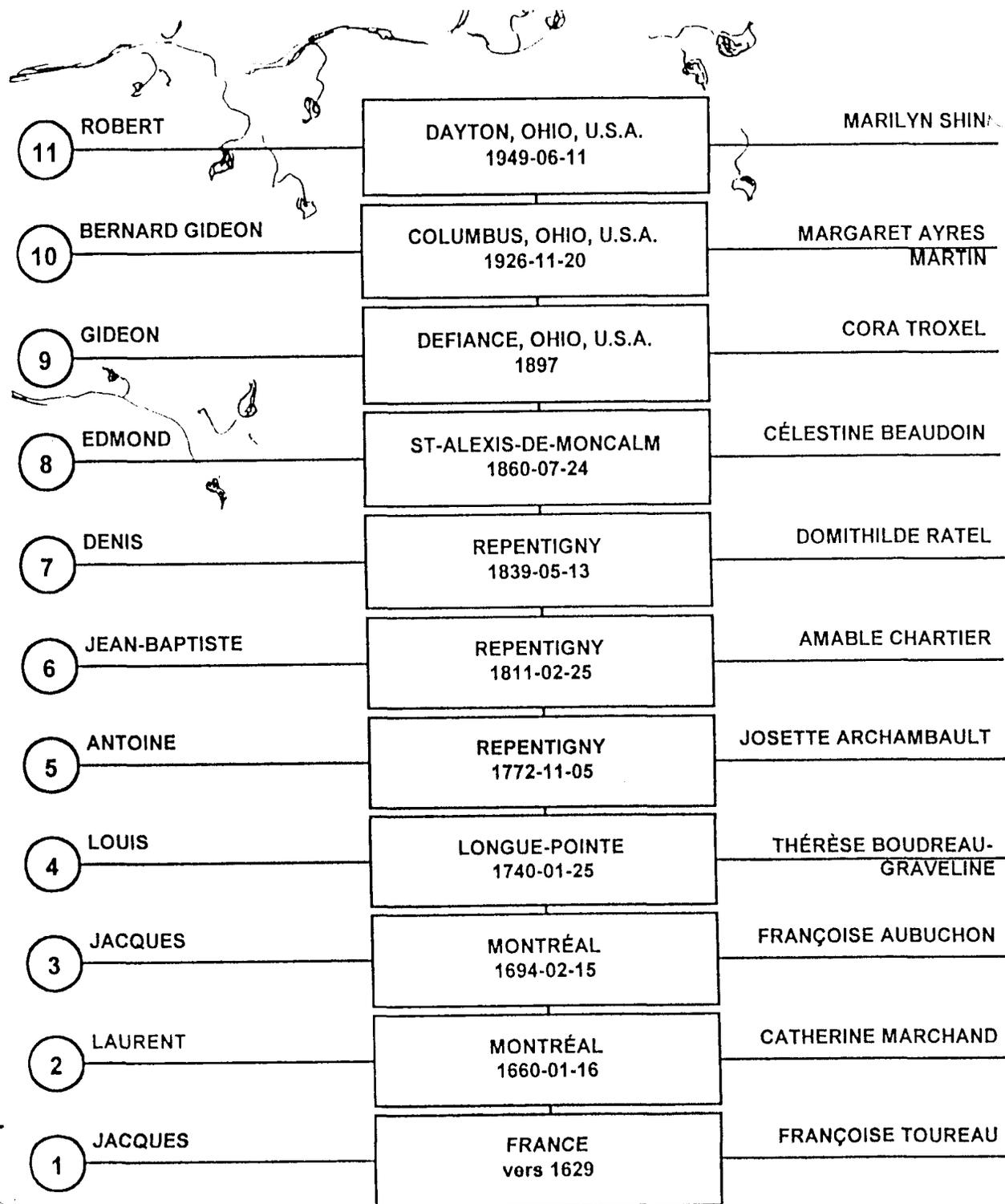
FAMILY  
TREE  
OF  
ROBERT

### Robert Archambault

Son of Bernard and Margaret Martin, Robert Archambault was born 25 March, 1927 at Columbus, Ohio, USA. He and his spouse of 51 years, Marilyn Shinn have 3 children : James in Washington State, Jeanne in Kansas, and Charles in South Carolina.

Robert served in the US Navy in World War II and holds an engineering degree from the Ohio State University. He worked 27 years for Phillips Petroleum Co. at various locations in southwest US; Calgary, Alberta; London, UK; and Oslo and Stavanger in Norway. Robert is a registered professional engineer in Ohio and Colorado. He served as engineering manager for the Ekofisk oil production project offshore Norway and served as president/CEO of Norse Gas AS, owner of the gas pipeline from offshore Norway to Germany. It must be that wells are in the genes, although Robert's were oil wells !!

Robert and Marilyn quit "the 9 to 5" in 1979 and enjoy farm life in northwest Missouri. They are in the process of liquidating the farm and moving to Denver, Colorado. They hope one day to visit La Rochelle and Bourbon-l'Archambault.



Life of an Archambault



J. Olivier Archambault

## J. OLIVIER ARCHAMBAULT

Olivier Archambault who was born on July 18, 1902 in Hull was the son of Dr. J. Urgel Archambault, the ex-mayor of Hull, and the grandson of Dr. Damase-Eusèbe Archambault, the ex-mayor of Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets.

He had completed his primary studies in Hull, and his classical courses at the University of Ottawa. After having received his degree of Bachelors of Arts (B.A) in 1924, he had then directed himself towards the Agriculture Institute of Oka where he had specialized in Apiculture.

He had gone to settle in Saint-Pierre-les-Besquets in 1927 where he had worked in Apiculture for more than 35 years. Furthermore, he had also become the inspector of Apiary for the Minister of Agriculture of Québec from 1937 to 1957.

In 1928, he had been named Treasurer-Secretary of the Municipality of Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets, and it had been a post that he had occupied for 31 years. Then in 1933, he had obtained a permit from the Municipal Administration of Québec to act as the auditor for the near-by Municipalities, and the School Boards. Self-taught, he had taken courses of accounting and of Civil Services, and he had succeeded in all the exams that were given to him by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

In 1947, he had presented himself at the Accountant Institute of Québec to write their exams, and he had obtained the Licence in accounting and the title of « Chartered Accountant ». From then on, accounting had become

his main profession, which he had practiced until passed the age of 75.

Besides his professional occupations, Olivier Archambault had been Postmaster from 1930 to 1937, Treasurer-Secretary of the Agriculture Cooperation from 1935 to 1939. He had been one of the founders of the People's Funds of Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets in 1934, and its' President from 1955 to 1968. At the end of his career, he had been one of the founders of the Golden Age Club of Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets, and he had also become its' Director and Treasurer-Secretary from 1973 to 1980.

Olivier Archambault had married his neighbor, Blanche Lemelin on October 23, 1930 in Saint-Pierre-les-Bécquets. She had been a Postmistress and an organist. There were six children from this marriage: Jacques (a chemist), Bernard (a dentist), Louise (a nurse), Hélène (a schoolteacher), Claire (a nurse), and Marie (a nurse) whom have now all retired.

After the death of his first wife in 1970, Olivier Archambault remarried a year later a nurse, Hermine Jolicoeur. The couple had occupied their time by doing genealogy on the old families of Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets, and had been very active with the preparations of the tri-centennial celebrations of the seigniorial Lévrard-Becquets in 1972.

Olivier Archambault passed on in 1986 at the age of 84, and his wife followed him a month later. He has been buried in Saint-Pierre-les-Becquets.

## Un Américain nous écrit.....

« In response to your question about the new anglophone face for the bulletin, I am of several minds. On the one hand it is much easier for us anglophones with poor translating ability. It should please most of us and eventually increase membership in les Archambault d'Amérique. On the other hand it removes a reason to continue to study French. « I hope to enroll in course taught by the Alliance française. Lastly, I hate to see any reduction in French language and culture in North America.

Having said the above, I think those of you who devote so much time and energy to les Archambault d'Amérique and the bulletin must be profoundly thanked by the non-working members, and especially by us anglophones, for all you do, especially the new face of the bulletin THANK YOU.

« I also hope one day to meet you in person. I thank you again for your work for les Archambault d'Amérique. My best regards to you and vive le nom Archambault. »

Robert M. Archambault Altamont (Mo) U.S.A.



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CLAUDE GHANIMÉ

