

Les Nouvelles de la Famille Doucet

NEWSLETTER OF LES DOUCET DU MONDE

FEBRUARY 2007

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Deadlines for submitting articles are: January 31 for the February issue, May 31 for the June issue and September 30 for the October issue.

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MESSAGE FROM The PRESIDENT

By Carol Doucet

May you have a very happy and prosperous year in 2007!

Les Doucet du Monde has remained active and our web site is as good as any I've seen, thanks to the board members.

Thanks for Your Dedication Several board members have given of their time and talents to LDDM since its inception: Jackie Auclair, Dean Doucet, Norman Doucette, Sam Doucet and Jim Gaboury have been on the board since 2000. Pat Hayes and Lou Doucet joined us on the board in 2004. We are grateful to all of them for their service.

After the 1999 Doucet/Doucette reunion, Dean Doucet was the first president and web master. Dean has entered over 37,000 names into our genealogy section. This information is free to anyone who chooses to use it.

Lou Doucet wrote in 2004 offering his services with the web site. Since then, he has done a tremendous job of making our web site user friendly. This has taken many hours of work. One can go from one generation to another as you search through your family line. That is if you or someone else has submitted your family line. If you don't find your line - you, your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents - please send your genealogy information to Dean Doucet.

Jackie Auclair has been treasurer of LDDM since the year 2000. She, too, has done a great job.

Just before the 2004 reunion, Pay Hayes accepted to be secretary. She and Jackie are faithful in reminding us to renew our membership.

The other board members - Norman, Sam and Jim - have contributed their opinions and suggestions to improve LDDM.

Eldine Doucet has been co-editor of the newsletter since 2002. She types the articles and does the layout. Her work is so neat.

A great big thanks to all of the dedicated persons mentioned above, who have brought many changes and improvements to LDDM. They're the ones who keep LDDM active. Thanks to them, our Doucet family web site has a tremendous amount of information - especially genealogy information, our web site (<http://www.doucetfamily.org>) has become more and more user-friendly, and our newsletter is so neat. They have come up with innovative ideas over the years.

And to all who have contributed material for our newsletter, merci beaucoup.

Share Those of you who have not yet contributed to the newsletter can keep an eye open for articles in your newspaper or on the internet about Doucets or events celebrating Acadian culture and history. Check our newsletter on our web site.

If you don't have access to the internet, perhaps your children or grandchildren can find our web site for you.

We're all blessed with some talents. And some of you are talented in so many areas - music, painting, writing (poetry, for example). Write and tell us about your achievements. Send us some of your poetry, your recipes, your family stories.

Let us know what topics you would like to see articles about. What would you like to see added to our web site? It's your Doucet family organization, your web site, your newsletter. Help us by sending in articles and/or suggestions. Send suggestions to any board member; send articles for the newsletter to me, Carol Doucet.

Par Carol Doucet

Nous vous souhaitons, à tous et à toutes, une bonne et heureuse année!

Grâce aux conseil d'administratif de Les Doucet du Monde, notre association familiale est resté active, et notre site web est certainement parmi les meilleurs.

Plusieurs personnes du conseil ont partagé leurs temps et leurs talents en servant LDDM depuis l'an 2000: Jackie Auclair, Dean Doucet, Norman Doucette, Samuel Doucet et James Gaboury.

En 2004 Pat Hayes et Lou Doucet sont devenus membres du conseil.

Aux personnes nommées ci-dessus, nous sommes reconnaissants.

Après la réunion des Doucet/Doucette de 1999, Dean Doucet est devenu le premier président et web-maître. Il y a actuellement 37,000 noms dans la section de généalogie. Toute l'information de notre site web est accessible et gratuite.

En 2004, Lou Doucet a offert son aide pour améliorer notre site web. Depuis, il a fait un travail formidable. C'est grâce à lui que notre site web est si grand et si facile et agréable à utiliser. Cela a fallu beaucoup d'heures de travail. Vous pouvez passer d'une génération à une autre en cherchant votre lignée. Si vous ne trouvez pas votre lignée - vous, vos parents, vos grands-parents, vos arrière grands-parents - veuillez envoyer votre information généalogique à Dean Doucet.

Jackie Auclair est trésorière de LDDM depuis 2000. Elle aussi a fait un travail superbe.

En 2004, Pat Hayes a accepté d'être secrétaire. Elle et Jackie sont très fideles à leur tâche de nous demander de renouveler notre cotisation à LDDM.

Les autres membres du conseil - Norman Doucette, Samuel Doucet et James Gaboury - on contribue leurs avis et leurs suggestions pour améliorer LDDM. Ils ont envoyé des articles qui ont été publiés dans notre bulletin, Les Nouvelles de la Famille Doucet.

À tous ces membres, nous sommes reconnaissants.

Et envoyez-nous d'autres articles.

Eldine Doucet est co-éditeur de notre bulletin de nouvelles depuis 2002. C'est elle qui tape les articles, qui les place en si bel ordre. Son travail est si net.

Un très grand merci à toutes les personnes si dédiées mentionnées ci-dessus qui ont beaucoup changé et amélioré LDDM. Grâce à eux, notre site web de la Famille Doucet (<http://www.doucetfamily.org>) a une très grande quantité d'information, surtout d'information généalogique; notre site web est devenu de plus en plus facile à naviguer: et notre bulletin de nouvelles est si net. Ils ont beaucoup innové LDDM.

Partagez Ceux parmi vous qui n'avez pas encore contribué des articles, regardez vos journaux et cherchez dans l'internet pour des articles sur les Doucet, sur les Acadiens en général, et sur les événements qui célèbrent la culture et l'histoire des Acadiens. Regardez les "lettres" (bulletins) dans notre site web pour des exemples des articles qui pourraient intéresser les cousins Doucet. Si vous n'avez pas l'internet probablement vos enfants ou vos petits-enfants peuvent vous trouver notre site web.

Nous sommes tous doués. Et certains ont tant de talents - la musique, les arts, l'écrit (la poésie, par exemple). Écrivez-nous, racontez-nous vos accomplissements, envoyez-nous de votre poésie, vos recettes, vos contes familiales.

Laissez-nous savoir quelles sujets vous aimeriez voir discuté dans notre bulletin. Qu'est-ce qu'on devrait ajouter

dans notre site web? C'est votre association familiale; c'est votre site web; c'est votre "lettre." Aidez-nous en envoyant des articles ou des suggestions. Envoyez vos articles, recettes, contes, poésie à moi, Carol Doucet.

GENETICS PROFESSOR TO SPEAK ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Doctor says genealogy can help research
William Johnson

(Opelousas) Daily World - February 5, 2007)

OPELOUSAS, LA - Dr. John P. Doucet, associate professor of genetics and director of the University Honors Program at Nicholls State University...who works with the Center for Acadiana Genetics and Hereditary Health Care, [addressed the local genealogical society about] a study of possible links between Alzheimer's disease and genetics [he is about to begin].

Alzheimer's Disease is a progressive brain disorder that gradually destroys a person's memory and their ability to learn, reason, communicate or even carry out daily activities. Why some people get this crippling disease while other do not is a mystery.

While the more common form of Alzheimer's does not seem to be genetic in nature, Doucet is interested in studying Familial Alzheimer's Disease.

"It has been shown to run in families. It is the exception to the general rule," Doucet said. "But anything we can learn about one type will help with studies of all types."

FAD, which accounts for about 5 to 10 percent of total Alzheimer's cases, tends to come on earlier in life, usually between the ages 30 and 65.

Doucet said he hopes to begin his study in the coming year. While he will be seeking volunteers to take part in that study at a later date, for now he is simply hoping to raise public awareness....

Doucet, himself of Acadian ancestry, said Louisiana's Acadian people are a blessing to genetic researchers such as himself.

Acadians are unique in that they can all be traced to a group of 300 people who arrived in Nova Scotia in 1607. Until about World War II, they lived in relative isolation, rarely marrying outside their own group.

The Acadians have one other important attribute. As good Catholics, they have a detailed 400-year history of church records listing every marriage and birth.

Doucet said, as a group, Acadians are no more prone to disease than anyone else. What makes them special is their documented genealogy.

"For a variety of reasons their genealogy is easy to trace. Genealogy is crucially important in our work. This allows us to learn more about diseases and their cures by following them in specific families," Doucet said.

Using this information, his group already has found the cause of Usher syndrome, Friedreich ataxia and several other inherited diseases.

In the case of Usher syndrome, which causes profound deafness from birth and blindness by the time the person is in their 20s, he said his group was able to find the error in a single gene that causes the disease in only five years. Without the strong genealogy of Acadians, it might have taken decades.

He believes the day is not far away when science will be able, through gene therapy, to begin finding cures for everything from cancer to heart disease.

the information, bringing together all that is written about an individual, a family or a location. This will be uploaded to the web site sometime after the additional names are added and the name index updated.

- In addition to the Gen Forum matrix, there will be a chart of all the web sites and books mentioned in the Gen Forum entries. This will provide additional places for individuals to go for extra information.
- We are also going through the Roots Web sites for Doucet and Doucette to add to the above mentioned matrix.

We realize that there are other spellings of the family name. Please don't think that you are being overlooked. We will try to add what we can to the other names in the projects mentioned above.

Statistics of Interest from Dean

The last actual count that I had was as follows:

Individuals	22,840
Spouses	11,183
Parents of Spouses	2,658
Total Names	36,681
Family Groups	4,401

I have added another 200-300 names that aren't included in the above. I think it is safe to say that we have approximately 37,000 names in the genealogy section.

I am just about finished updating Generation 13. The remaining three will be very quick.

ANOTHER REASON TO PRESERVE YOUR FAMILY MEMORIES

by Ted Klein, Lake Travis, Texas

Submitted by Jaqueline Auclair

Around ten years ago I attended a Mexican funeral at the famous old San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, Texas. The Priest offered the following story: "We have a tradition in Mexico that each person dies three times. First, there is the moment in which the body stops functioning. Second, there is the time that the remains are consigned to the grave. Third, there is that moment, sometime in the future, in which the person's name is spoken for the last time. Then the person is "really gone". Several years later, I got into genealogy and realized that persons who preserve the memories of persons from their own familial past are preventing that third death

GENEALOGY QUERIES

We would like to have as a regular feature in each newsletter a section for members to submit genealogy queries. If you have reached a "brick wall" in your research and would like to seek help from other members, submit your query, including as much information as possible. Include your name, address, E-mail address (and phone number, if you wish). We will publish it and ask members to reply to you. Please advise our web master Dean Doucet (see contact info on page 1) of any information you receive so it can be added to the Miscellaneous Section of the Genealogy Section on our web site.

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## ACADIAN/CANADIAN CHAPTER NEWS



### COUNT DOWN TO CMA 2009

The 4th World Acadian Congress will be held in the Acadian Peninsula, the northeastern part of New Brunswick, from Friday, August 7, 2009 to Saturday, August 23, 2009.

On November 10, 2006, the organizing committee of CMA began the 1,000 day countdown.

As of February 7, 2007 there remain

**912 days**

until the beginning of CMA 2009.

CMA 2009 will present four major activities throughout the Acadian Peninsula:

- Opening day activities in the Lamèque-Shippegan-Miscou region
- The main event for the feast of August 15 in the region of Caraquet
- Closing day in the region of Tracadie-Shella and Neguac
- Festive activities in the Pokemouche area, the geographical center of the Acadian Peninsula

### LE GRAND DÉCOMPTE DU CMA 2009

À 1000 jours du Congrès Mondial Acadien, prévu en 2009 au nord-est du Nouveau-Brunswick, le comité organisateur a amorcé leur grand décompte.

Le CMA aura lieu du vendredi, 7 août au dimanche, 23 août Dans la péninsule acadienne

Commençant le 7 février 2007 il reste

**912 jours**

à l'ouverture du CMA 2009.

Le CMA 2009 présentera en partenariat quatre grand rassemblements dans la Péninsule acadienne:

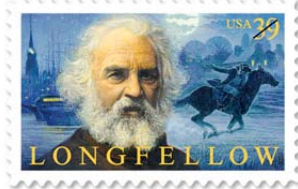
- La journée d'ouverture dans la region Lamèque-Shippegan-Miscou
- L'événement principal autour de la fête du 15 août dans la région de Caraquet
- La journée de fermeture dans la grande région de Tracadie-Shella et Neguac
- Un "carrefour d'activités festives" installé à Pokemouche au centre géographique de la Péninsule acadienne



**COMMEMORATION TO HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW: INFLUENCE ON THE CITY OF ST. MARTINVILLE AND PRESERVATION OF ACADIAN HISTORY**

A poet who made a difference in the history of the Acadian/Cajuns history and the community of St. Martinville now reaches his bicentennial. Born in 1807, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, a muticulturalist who championed the mystic stories of history involving the Acadians, Africans and native American Indians will be honored and remembered, during the month of his birth on February 27th, 2007, and throughout the year in historic St. Martinville.

*Postage Stamp dedicated to Longfellow's 200th Birthday*



Longfellow published, *Evangeline* in 1847. We all know there were many incidences of Acadian men and woman separated during the expulsion. Longfellow chose to write the poem about a maiden Acadian character's experiences during the deportation of the French-speaking Acadians from Acadie (Nova Scotia) by the British in 1755.

According to *Smithsonian Magazine* 2007, Longfellow's *Evangeline* was "inspired by the wanderings of Homer's *Odyssey* and Virgil's *Aeneas*, which gave an epic structure to a local theme". He also wrote poems about his pilgrim ancestors, *Miles Standish*, the Native American Indians, *Hiawatha* and African slaves, *A Slaves Dream*. When he wrote these poems, he was able to show the courage and suffering of the many European settlers and tell about America to Americans".

What has Longfellow left to St.Martinville? A legacy which has brought international attention to the Acadiana region be-

because of the influence of the "Evangeline" tale. The story of the Acadian's history can be told through this most loved and romanticized poem and St. Martinville is able to convey that presence through the community. To this day tourists love to visit St. Martinville because of the *Evangeline Oak* tree along the Bayou Teche, the movie, "Evangeline" filmed in St.Martin parish in 1929, the *Evangeline* statue by Delores Del Rio, and Judge Felix Voorhies's book, "Acadian Reminiscences: A True Story of *Evangeline*" which tells the local legend of a real *Evangeline*.

On February 27th at 11:00 a.m., join the city, local Rotary Club, and Trinity Catholic Upper campus students under the famous and well known *Evangeline Oak* tree to place plaques on Longfellow's bust. Let us not forget to honor Longfellow, Americas most beloved poet, who championed and helped preserve the history of the Acadians!

(Source: <http://www.acadianmemorial.org>)

**CELEBRATION BEGINS ~ MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE ~ COMMEMORATING 250 YEARS**

A year long celebration to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de La Fayette, General of the American Revolutionary Forces, and particularly his strong friendship with George Washington, which significantly contributed to the victory of the American patriots and the independence of this country, and his relentless pursuit of democracy both here and in France.

From festivals to art exhibits, concerts, educational conferences and much much more - our French heritage will be brought to life across Louisiana and beyond. Residents and visitors of all ages are invited to take part in these celebrations. For more information and schedule visit [www.marquisdelafayette2007.com](http://www.marquisdelafayette2007.com).

(Source: <http://www.downtownlafayette.org>)

**QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR ELDERS  
PART II**

Submitted by **Jacqueline Auclair**

[The following is reproduced with permission of the author, Richard W. Eastman, Copyright May 2005.]

[*Editor's Note: Part I of this article/list was published in the November 2006 issue of "Les Nouvelles de la Famille Doucet."*]

Childhood

1. What were your favorite toys and what were they like?
2. What were your favorite childhood games?
3. What type of house did you live in as a child?

4. Were there other buildings on the same property?
5. Did you move during your childhood? If so, do you remember each house and the family circumstances and the reason for the move?
6. Where did the family eat their meals? Kitchen? Dining room?
7. Do you ever remember not having enough food to eat because times were hard for your family?
8. How was your home heated?
9. Did you have a fireplace?
10. What kind of kitchen stove did your parents cook on?
11. What fuel was used?
12. Did you have to buy the fuel or was this a chore, such as cutting wood, with which you had to help?

50. Did you always have electricity? If not, when did you get it?
51. Did you ever use candles or kerosene lamps?
52. Did your family have a cellar? Where did you store food?
53. Where did your family get water? Was it plentiful? What methods were used to conserve water?
54. Do you remember having a favorite nursery rhyme or bedtime story? What was it?
55. Do you remember your family discussing world events and politics?
56. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
57. How is the world now different from what it was like when you were a child?

#### Family relations, responsibilities, conditions

58. What was your position in the family? Oldest? Youngest?
59. What were your duties as a small child?
60. Was there a chore you really hated doing as a child?
61. Who cooked the meals? Who did the ironing?
62. Did you buy or make your own clothing?
63. When did you learn to cook and who taught you?
65. Did you ever learn to sew? Crochet? Knit? Embroider? And who taught you?
66. Did you ever learn auto mechanics? Who taught you?
67. Did your family keep in touch with distant family?
68. Did you visit relatives often?
69. How did you get your mail?
70. What do you remember about family pets?
71. Were you especially close to anyone in the family? How did the family spend its evenings?

#### Family income and livelihood

72. What did your father do for a living?
73. Did your mother ever work outside of the home?
74. Did you contribute to the family income?
75. When did you get your first job outside of the family?
76. Did your family have a garden?
77. Who did the work on the garden?
78. What kinds of vegetables did you grow?
79. Did your family have fruit trees?
80. Who did the canning?
81. Did you raise chickens or other animals?
82. What kind of meat did you eat?
83. Did you keep a cow for milk?
84. Did you make your own butter and cheese?

85. Did anyone in the family sell eggs or butter?
86. If you lived on a farm, what crops were planted?
87. Who did the work? Family? Hired hands?

#### Transportation and surroundings

88. Describe the size of the town where you lived or shopped.
89. Where did your parents shop?
90. How large or small were the stores?
91. If you lived in a small town or on the farm, did you ever go into the city to shop?
92. What was the largest town you remember visiting when you were young?
93. Did you ever travel on a train while you were young?
94. Did you or your family own a horse and buggy?
95. When did your family acquire its first car? What make? How much did it cost?
96. When did you learn to drive a car?
97. Where did your family go on vacation?

#### Days, seasons, and special occasions

98. What did Saturday mean to you?
99. What did Sunday mean to you?
100. Did you attend church on Sunday?
101. Where did you attend church?
102. How did you spend Christmas?
103. What kinds of gifts did you receive at Christmas?
104. How was your birthday celebrated?
105. What kinds of gifts did you receive on your birthday?
106. Did your family entertain often? When?
107. Did your family attend picnics? Family reunions? What do you remember about them?
108. How did you keep cool in the summer?
109. What did you wear in the winter to keep warm?
110. Do you remember any blizzards or tornadoes or floods?

#### Friends and Games

111. What did you do for recreation?
112. Did you or your brothers or sisters have any hobbies?
113. Who was your best friend?
114. What did you and your friends do when you got together?
115. Did you and your playmates play any organized games?
116. Did you participate in youth organizations?
117. Do you remember your first date? Describe the circumstances.



118. Name a good friend that you have known for the longest period of time. How many years have you been friends?

136. What kinds of jobs have you had?  
137. How did you decide on your career?  
138. Would you choose the same career if you had it to do over?

School

119. Where did you go to school?  
120. Did you get good grades?  
121. Did you ever attend a one-room schoolhouse?  
122. How did you get to school? If you walked, how far?  
123. What do you remember about these walks? Did you walk alone or with friends?  
124. Were these walks difficult in winter?  
125. What kinds of books did you like to read?  
126. What was your favorite subject in school and why?  
127. What was your least favorite subject in school and why?  
128. Who was your favorite teacher and why were they special?  
129. What school activities and sports did you participate in?  
130. Did you and your friends have a special hang-out where you liked to spend time? Where was it and what did you do there?  
131. What did you usually wear to school? Describe it.  
132. Were there any fads during your youth that you remember vividly?

Outlook

139. Whom did you admire most when you were young?  
140. When you were small, what did you hope to do when you grew up?

Your Life

141. What wars have been fought during your lifetime? How did you feel about them?  
142. If you served in the military, when and where did you serve and what were your duties?  
143. If you served in the military, were you ever injured in the line of duty?  
144. What do you consider to be your most important achievements?  
145. What were the hardest choices that you ever had to make? Do you feel like you made the right choices?  
146. Is there anything you have always wanted to do, but have not?  
147. What would you consider to be the most important inventions that have been made during your lifetime?

Higher Education and Career

133. What education did you get past high school? Did you study in your adult years?  
134. Did your family support, oppose, or encourage you?  
135. What was your first job?

I suspect that you can think of still more questions. Hopefully, the above will give you "food for thought": to help preserve your family's history. And by the way, have you documented your own answers to these questions? Someone else in future years will be glad that you answered these questions about yourself.

**LES DOUCET DU MONDE YEAR-TO-DATE TREASURER'S REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2006**

|                                                                          |                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Cash balance as of last yearly statement, November 15, 2005 .....</b> | <b>\$2,076.35</b> |
| Income for 2006:                                                         |                   |
| Membership Due .....                                                     | 1,062.64          |
| Miscellaneous Income .....                                               | .40               |
| <b>Total Income .....</b>                                                | <b>\$3,139.39</b> |
| Expenses for 2006:                                                       |                   |
| Returned Check Charges .....                                             | \$ 12.00          |
| Web Site Fees .....                                                      | 588.10            |
| Corporate Filing Fees .....                                              | 30.00             |
| Mailings (newsletter, stamps) .....                                      | 339.77            |
| <b>Total Expenses .....</b>                                              | <b>969.87</b>     |
| <b>Balance on hand as of January 1, 2007 .....</b>                       | <b>\$2,169.52</b> |