

Les Nouvelles de la famille Doucet

(November 1999)

Bonjour to all Doucet/Doucette cousins:

We have completed a most enjoyable and successful First International Doucet Family Reunion. Now, we set our sights toward the future and the Second International Doucet Family Reunion in 2004 in the Acadian homeland of Nova Scotia.

A meeting of Les Doucet du Monde (LDDM) was held in Louisiana on November 14, 1999 under the direction of Richard Doucet, current President of LDDM. Some organizational changes were approved to move LDDM into the next century.

This newsletter is to inform you of the changes, provide notification for the election of new officers, and to update you on what is happening in the organization.

Chapters

A decision has been made to create chapters of Les Doucet du Monde. The benefit of having chapters is to increase awareness of LDDM, increase membership in LDDM, and to facilitate the collection of genealogical data. The chapters will also be for the purpose of creating some social interaction between chapter members. Initially, there will be three chapters, based on location and language.

One chapter will be established in Louisiana and would include all of those who trace their ancestry through Louisiana.

Another chapter will include the English-speaking members who do not trace their roots through Louisiana. This would primarily include those in Canada and the United States.

The third chapter will include the French speaking (non-Louisiana) part of the family. This would mainly include those who live in Quebec, France and the Maritime Provinces. (Initially this group may associate with the English-speaking chapter until a larger French chapter membership is established.)

Any individual or family may affiliate with any of the three chapters that would feel comfortable to them. When you renew your membership you will be asked to designate the chapter you would like to be join.

Membership

Membership in Les Doucet du Monde expires on 31 December 1999. Due to the shortness of time until then, the expiration date has been extended until 28 February 2000.

At the November meeting, a decision was made that membership will be \$15.00 per year per household/address. If necessary, this may be increased as we approach the 2004 reunion.

The monies collected will be budgeted as follows:

A percentage or set amount will be set aside each year for use on Reunion 2004.

A percentage or set amount will be set aside each year for "office supplies" such as paper and postage to mail the newsletter, etc.

A set amount will be set aside for the maintenance of the LDDM web site.

The remainder will be returned to each chapter, based on membership, to use for chapter activities.

The percentage and amounts have not been determined at this time, but will be after the elections are held and the new leadership formalizes this action.

Leadership Reorganization

With the organization of the chapters, the leadership positions of Les Doucet du Monde need to be revamped. The officers would be divided into International Officers and Chapter Officers.

The International Officers will consist of the following: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Chapter Officers will consist of the following: President (who serves on the Board of Directors at the international level), Vice President (if needed) and Secretary and Treasurer (The Secretary and Treasurer may be combined, if needed).

The Board of Directors will consist of the following: The International Officers, the Chapter Presidents and four additional members.

In addition, there will be three permanent Standing Committees: Membership, Genealogy and Communications. Each chapter will have members on each of these committees, and the committee chairpersons of each chapter will make up the international committees.

Election of International and Chapter Officers

With the reorganization of the LDDM leadership, it is necessary to elect new officers. We are requesting nominations of those who would like to serve in the various offices. You may nominate yourself or someone else. If you nominate someone other than yourself, please check with that person to ensure that they are willing to serve.

There is a Nomination Form at the end of this newsletter. [The Nomination Form is not included with this copy of the newsletter.]

International Officers and Board of Directors: Nominations should be sent to Dean Doucet, as delegated by Richard Doucet. We would like to have the nominations in by December 1, 1999, so that we can prepare a ballot, mail it, count the votes and announce the results by January 1, 2000. We realize this is short notice, however, we need to get reorganized quickly.

Dean's address is:

E-mail: cajunhouse@mindspring.com
Postal: 2063 W. Windsong
Apache Junction, Arizona 85220
(480) 982-3185

The one requirement that is felt to be an absolute necessity to be an international officer is to have access to e-mail. This is not to discriminate against those who do not have computers, but it is essential that you be able to communicate with the international membership and leaders of LDDM.

Several individuals have already expressed an interest in serving on the Board of Directors. They are: Lucius Doucet, Daniel Doucet, Edward Doucet, Willard Doucet, Donna Manual, Myrtle DeRanger, Mim Bordelon and Mary Lou Doucet. Any others who would like to be on the ballot need to submit a nomination.

Chapter Officers: We need nominees to serve as Chapter Officers, specifically for the two chapters outside Louisiana. Nominees need to be submitted by December 15, 1999, to Dean Doucet, as delegated by Richard Doucet.

The Louisiana Chapter already has some nominees' names submitted. They will be holding a meeting to elect chapter officers on January 9, 2000. If anyone else wants to be a nominee, wants information on the time and place of the meeting, or wants to cast a vote by proxy, contact Richard Doucet. The nominees are:

Chapter President: Carol Doucet and Samuel Doucet

Vice President: Richard Doucet

Secretary/Treasurer: Barbara Doucet and Mary Lou Doucet

Richard may be reached at:

E-Mail: richarddoucet@worldnet.att.net
Postal: 3925 Pitreville Highway
Church Point, Louisiana 70525
(318) 684-6400

Standing Committees: We need volunteers for the chairpersons and members of the three standing committees.

Please get your nominations in quickly so the ballot can be prepared, mailed and the results announced.

Update

The Web Site: The LDDM web site is coming along fine. The remaining items to be added are the last few generations of Germain's descendants. It should be up by 1 January, and hopefully sooner. Remember, it is a beginning, with the desire to get it up and accessible. Once up, we will continue to add genealogical data, and any other items as they are received.

Genealogy Collection: We are still trying to get all the data in various individuals possessions into one location, and loaded into one database. Please be patient as we put together what we have gathered. If you have not submitted anything, and have

genealogical information, please get it ready to submit. We will provide an address after the first of the year.

GenForum Query Sites: There are two sites on the Internet that we are aware of for individuals to submit queries. An e-mail will be sent to all who have submitted queries informing them of LDDM and asking them to join. It is our goal to assist as many of these individuals as possible to find their place within our family tree. This is why it is important to submit what genealogy we have. We may hold the one needed key for others to find their roots.

LDDM By-laws: We will be reviewing the LDDM By-laws to rewrite them where necessary. If anyone has suggestions, please submit them.

Individuals without Computers: As we grow in size, one of the major concerns is effective communication with all LDDM members. Along with this is also the desire to minimize the cost of mailing materials. If you have an e-mail address, or reasonable access to e-mail, please provide the address to us. Be assured that we will not forget those who do not have e-mail access.