

### L les Nouvelles de la Famille Doucet

#### **NEWSLETTER OF LES DOUCET DU MONDE**

**NOVEMBER 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.

#### **WEB SITE**

Dean Doucet, Web Master Lucian Doucet, Co-Web Master http://www.doucetfamily.org

#### **ELECTION RESULTS**

MESSAGE FROM The PRESIDENT

#### By Carol Doucet

Happy Thanksgiving to our US cousins. We hope that our Canadian cousins had a pleasant Thanksgiving Day in October.

We wish all LDDM members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

This newsletter is my last one as president of LDDM, at least for a while.

Since we are just a few days past Thanksgiving, this makes it so much easier to find a few appropriate words. I am thankful that I have had so many dedicated, resourceful, talented, sharing persons to work with on the board. And I thank all of you who have helped our family organization, The Doucets of the World, improve. It is you who are The Doucets of the World. It is because of your membership that our organization prospers.

I plan to continue serving on the board as vice-president.

Eldine and I will continue working on the newsletters. So please, do send articles, family stories, recipes, personal stories, etc.





MESSAGE DUPRESIDENT

#### **Par Carol Doucet**

Nous souhaitons à tous nos cousins aux Ètats-Unis un Joyeux Jour d'Action de Grâce. Espérons que nos cousins au Canada ont passé un très agréable Jour d'Action de Grâce en octobre. À tous et à toutes, Joyeux Noël et une Bonne et Heureuse Année.

Cette letter est la dernière pendant ma présidence de LDDM, pour le moment, au moins.

Puisque nous voilà quelques jour après le Jour d'Action de Grâce, c'est beaucoup plus facile de trouvé quelques mots à propos. Je suis reconnaisssant à tous les responsibles de Les Doucets du Monde qui sont si doués, talentueux, vite à trouver des ressources, et toujours prêts à partager. Je vous remercie, vous qui avez aidé à améliorer notre association familiale, Les Doucet du Monde. Votre adhésion permet à notre association de prospérer.

Je compte continuer à server LDDM, en poste de vice-president.

Eldine et moi, nous continuerons à nous occuper de la lettre de LDDM. Alors, s'il vous plaît, envoyez-nous des articles, vos histoires familiales, recettes, vos histoires personnelles, etc.

Our election process is now complete and, due to the fact that only one nomination was received for each board position, the following Les Doucet du Monde members were elected by acclamation to serve for the 2008-2009 term:

Dean Doucet—President
Carol Doucet–Vice President
Jacqueline Auclair—Treasurer
Pat Hayes–Secretary
Lou Doucet—Board Member
Norman Doucette—Board Member
Gail D. Christensen—Board Member
Pauline D. Parker–Board Member

The election results were certified by the board at their meeting of November 17th.

Congratulations to all!

Merci beaucoup to the board members who served LDDM during the 2006-2007 term. Your service is greatly appreciated. Sam and Jim, we hope that you can rejoin us on the board in the near future.

To our two new board members, Gail Christensen and Pauline Parker, we extend a warm welcome!



#### IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

It is now time to renew your membership for 2008! Enclosed are two Membership Application/Renewal Forms. Use one for yourself and pass the other along to an interested Doucet relative. With Christmas just around the corner, you may also want to donate a membership to someone as a Christmas gift.

Please note also, that you now have the option of paying for two years at a time. We hope you will take advantage of this convenience.

However, <u>BEFORE</u> you send in your renewal, check your membership status on the address label. <u>The last year for which you have paid appears after your name.</u> If your label shows "2008" or "2009", that means you have already paid for those years. To simplify the Treasurer's work and eliminate the need to issue refunds to members who have already paid, any duplicate enrollments/payments will be applied to the following year.

**WEB SITE UPDATES** 

Check out the updates to our LDDM web site at http://www.doucetfamily.org. Thanks to Lou Doucet, our web site continues getting better and easier to use. Read the updates, the new additions and find out a bit more about activities concerned with the LDDM family.

Dean Doucet, our new president for the 2008-2009 term, continually adds genealogy and entries to our web site.

# CHURCH BELL MARKED ACADIANS' EXILE, RETURN By Jim Bradshaw The Daily Advertiser, September 21, 2007

Some people say the story of Our Lady's Bell is folklore; some say it is fact. This is the way I heard it.

In fall 1755, Acadians living at Doucette's Point, just across from old Port Royal in Acadie, were warned that the British were coming to deport them.

The 80-year old priest who was pastor of the Church of Notre Dame there realized little could be done to fend off the impending doom, so he petitioned his parishioners to burn the church to ashes so that it would not be desecrated. He also wanted them also to bury the chalice, monstrance and ciborium, as well as the century-old church bell.

The soldiers arrived soon after, and the people of Doucette's Point were deported to Pennsylvania. Families were kept together as the old priest had hoped. One of those was the family of Matthieu Doucette, who worried about the bell he helped to bury.

Years later, Doucette made his way back to his old home. He had a little money and bought the plot where the bell was buried and dug until he found the bell and the other items.

Doucette knew that several Acadian families had resettled at Baie Sainte-Marie, 100 miles away, and built a church there.

Our Lady's Bell was hung from a tower built for it, where it pealed the Angelus and rang out for another century over Acadians where were back on their ancestral lands.

#### E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Please let Treasurer Jacqueline Auclair know your current e-mail address. Only about half of our members have e-mails on file. Include it on your membership form.

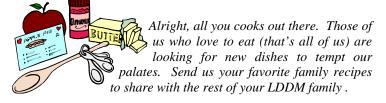
S'îl vous plait, envoyer votre addresse couriel à notre Trésorier Jacqueline Auclair. Ecrivez-la sur le formulaire d'adhésion.

#### THANKS TO ...

Jacqueline Auclair and Pat Hayes for sending E-Mails to members encouraging them to serve on the board. Gail Christensen and Pauline Parker replied offering their services to the board and we now have two new board members! Also, each year they send out reminders to all members asking you to renew your membership in our Doucet family organization.

#### FAVORITE FAMILY RECIPES

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*ბობობობობობობობობობობობობ* 

#### Sensational Salmon Rub By Michele Doucette

2 tablespoons brown sugar 4 teaspoons chili powder 2 teaspoons grated lemon peel 2 teaspoons ground cumin 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon 4 salmon fillets (4 ounces each)

Combine the first 6 ingredients; rub over salmon. Place in an 11-inch x 7 inch x 2 inch baking dish coated with non-stick cooking spray. Bake, uncovered, at 350° for 15 to 20 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork.

#### Crawfish Etouffée By Keith Doucet

Etouffée is a traditional Cajun dish that can be adapted to just about any kind of meat available. The name means "smothered".

2 lbs. cleaned crawfish tails
2 cups sliced green onions
2 1/2 cups chopped white onions
2 1/2 cups chopped green bell peppers
1 1/2 cups chopped celery
1/3 cup chopped parsley
1 head minced garlic
4 tablespoons butter
water
2 teaspoons paprika
salt and cayenne pepper to taste
2 1/4 cups all purpose flour
3/4 cup cooking oil



Make a roux using flour and cooking oil by stirring together in a cast iron skillet over low heat until golden brown. Reserve. In a large pot. sautée vegetables until soft. Add roux, crawfish tails, paprika, salt and cayenne pepper. Cook for about 10 minutes, stirring often to combine everything with the roux. Add water about one tablespoon at a time. The mixture should be very thick. Cover and cook over low heat for one hour. Stir in the butter. Serve over cooked white rice with a loaf of crusty French bread.

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.

Evelyn Theriault in Montreal is seeking info on her great grandmother, Elizabeth Doucet who married Joseph Lagacé on June 26, 1894, Ste. Thérèse Church, Robertville, Gloucester County, NB.

- 1. Alternate Lagace spellings: For this specific Joseph Lagace I have found the following alternate spellings: Lagacaey, Lagacy, Legace, Legassy. Some of his children have used Legacy.
- 2. Marriage Sources:

Provincial Archives New Brunswick - Online Index RS141B7
Index to New Brunswick Marriages, Number 2002 Reference:
B4/1894 Microfilm F15521 Elizabeth Doucette married Joseph
Lagacey, 26 June 1894, Gloucester, N.B.
http://archives.gnb.ca/APPS/GovRecs/VISSE/141B7.aspx?L=EN
&Key=18187

Institute Drouin: A genealogy done by the Institut Drouin for my Lagace family stated that they were married in Ste. Therese, N.B. Victor Luce: Victor has checked this out and found the marriage and told me that Ste. Therese is a church in Robertsville, N.B. He finds that there are no parents listed in the documents he has access to. He continues to look into this for me, but if anyone in our group already has this marriage or any other information related to Robertsville Doucets we'd be happy to get it.

**Note 1:** I'm thinking these are Robertsville Doucets (if they exist) because all my Lagaces live and marry in Bathurst Ouest, so I'm thinking Robertsville was perhaps the bride's parish?

**Note 2:** Incidentally, I already have Lagace-Doucet offspring and the 1881-1901-1911 census information.

-Evelyn Theriault <evelyn Th@videotron.ca>

My grandmother was Beatrice Doucette, daughter of Isaac Martin Doucette and Ruth Whitehouse of Forest Glen, Yarmouth County, N.S. Isaac was the son of Pierre Mande and Matilda Melanson. My grandmother's siblings were: Reginald, Clifford, Anne, Addie, Mame. Just trying to find info on those siblings.

—SusanKinney2@aol.com

# IT'S ALL RELATIVE By: Pat Hayes

One of the best moments of our Nova Scotia trip for CMA 2004 was the opportunity to meet so many cousins at the Doucet Reunion and to have the chance to put a face to many individuals with whom we had corresponded or whom we had heard about. A lot can happen in the five years before the next Acadian reunion in 2009.

We invite you to send in to us by regular mail or E-mail notice of events that are significant in your life. These could include births, marriages, deaths, promotions, retirements, trips or any other items that you would like to share with your Doucet cousins through the LDDM newsletter. News of a trip might best be sent after the event, as we don't want to advertise an unoccupied home.

We welcome your notices at Pat's E-mail address or Les Doucet du Monde, 1 Lougheed Court, Aurora, Ontario, L4G 5K8, Canada

#### GENEALOGY QUERIES



#### ACADIAN/CANADIAN CHAPTER NEWS



#### **NEWS FROM CORA DOUCETTE**

Just a few lines along with these things I'm sending you. I checked the web site of LDDM and was very impressed. I tried to locate my father's name but could not find him.

At the CMA 2004, my nephew and I wrote down the following genealogical info. I'm the daughter of Adolphe à Hilaire à Cyrille (Clark) à Jacques (Jim) à Michel à Joseph à Joseph à Claude à Germain Doucet — so 10 generations. I'm the 11th out of 12 children born to Adolphe and Regina (Doucette) Doucette; my family is as follows — Louise (born 1928), Paul (1929), Dorothy (1931), Henry (1933), Basil (1935), Zoé (1937), Adeline (1939), a boy Albert died in infancy, Jules (1943), Camille (1945), Cora—me (1947), and Lucie (1949). Also including a photo of my sister Lucie and I taken last year. We were brought up in Quinan.

-Cora Doucette

#### CHURCHES BY THE SEA By M. Allen Gibson Submitted by Cora Doucette

Located in the interior of the county of Yarmouth, the village and parish of Quinan perpetuate the name of Rev. John Quinan, a pioneer priest who served in the area from 1860 to 1867. Earlier known as Tusket Forks, Mass was first celebrated there on January 14, 1858, and at that time

it was determined to build a place of worship in the community.

About thirty families then resided at the Forks, some of them descended from Jean Baptiste Muise and the Doucet brothers, Jacques and Joseph, the first Acadians to settle in the district. Until a church was provided locally, it was necessary for the villagers to journey to Ste Anne du Ruisseau in order to receive the sacraments of the Church.

On February 2, 1859, the new chapel was consecrated with Rev. Ferdinand Blanchet, the parish priest at Pubnico, officiating. Father Blanchet, who later served at Meteghan, was a French priest from the Diocese of Nimes in the old province of Languedoc. The little church was given the name of Notre Dame de la Purification. The land on which it stood was a gift of Jacques Doucet.

A second church was completed in Quinan on February 18, 1883. It was constructed on the site of the present building, on land given by Jean Doucet. It was consecrated as the Church of St. Agnes on September 20, 1883, and, on October 14 of the same year Rev. J. M. Manning, resident priest at Ste Anne du Ruisseau, said Mass for the first time within the newly raised walls.

The distinction of being the first priest to reside in Quinan belongs to Rev. E. J. Comeau whose incumbency commenced in 1911. On September 14, 1914, Rev. Michel Doucet took charge of the parish. By that time it was apparent that the church was too small to meet the requirements of the growing congregation and, accordingly, plans were made to enlarge the building.

(continued on page 5)

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.

As of November 27, 2007 there remain

#### 619 days

until the beginning of CMA 2009.

<u>**619 jours**</u> à l'ouverture du CMA 2009.

the Acadian Peninsula

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

Commençant le 27 novembre 2007 il reste

Le 4e Congrès Mondial Acadien

Dans la péninsule acadienne

aura lieu du

vendredi, 7 août au dimanche, 23 août

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 journé de fermeture dans la grande région de Tracadie-Shella et Neguac (continued from page 4)

On May 30, 1918, Archbishop E. J. McCarthy of Halifax, in the presence of a large assembly, officiated at the blessing of the renewed church of St. Agnes. The building had been enlarged and given a new sanctuary and sacristy. Father Doucet, during who pastorate, too, the glebe house was improved, was succeeded in 1923 by Rev. J. C. Reis.

St. Agnes, Quinan, is another of the parishes in Western Nova Scotia, the origins of which may be traced back to the consecrated labors of Father Jean-Mande Sigogne, the apostle of the Acadians. Among those and their descendents who returned from exile to settle at Pubnico and along the shores of St. Mary's Bay, this missionary priest performed a ministry of blessing to his people and, indeed to the whole province.

Father Sigogne was born at Beaulieu in Touraine on April 6, 1763. Ordained a priest in 1787, he arrived at Church Point in 1799. Thereafter, until his death in 1844, his life was given to the Acadians. Perhaps the greatest monument to his work is the chain of active parishes which today extends from Digby to Pubnico and of which Quinan is one.



Lucie and Cora Doucette, August 2006

### FRENCH DESCENDANTS CAN CHECK ANCESTRY ONLINE

By Jonathan Montpetit The Canadian Press (April 2007) Submitted by Cora Doucette

MONTREAL French-Canadians across North America will be able to use the Internet to trace their family roots back to the towns and parishes where their ancestors first settled.

A deal between family history website Ancestry.ca and the Université de Montréal will see a giant archive of

ench-Canadian family histories indexed and made available on the net.

"In the past, family history was for people who liked to go to the library and scan through microfilm," says Mike Ward, of Ancestry.ca, the Canadian branch of Utah-based Ancestry.com.

"Now, at the click of a mouse, you can find those stories about where you came from and what you family was doing a hundred years ago," Ward said.

However, until recently little information about French-Canadian families was available online. Ancestry.ca aims to plug that gap by putting the Drouin Collection on its website.

Created in the 1930s by Quebec entrepreneur Gabriel Drouin, the collection contains nearly 12 million records from 1621 to the 1940s tracing French-Canadians from Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and various New England states.

"I doubt there is anywhere in the world where you have such a coverage of an entire population for such an extended amount of time," said Bertrand Desjardins, a senior researcher at the Université de Montréal.

Demand for genealogical information has increased in recent years as more and more archives get digitized and become available on the Internet.

By providing images of primary documents along with an easy-to-use interface, Ancestry.ca's index of the Drouin Collection is sure to appeal to both professional and amateur genealogists.

But Desjardins said greater accessibility to the collection holds a particular appeal to certain families.

"Genealogy has always been particularly popular in French Canada," he said. "In the Canadian context, where you are always a minority, there is this normal wish to link into one's past."

Vancouver resident Linda Maitland is among those amateur genealogists who welcome the Drouin Collection's new found availability.

Maitland, who runs a group of like-minded genealogists called the Quebec Questers, called the deal a "big event" for the genealogical community.

"Every bit of information...is so helpful to continue genealogical research," said Maitland a Montreal native who moved in 1978.

Maitland subscribed to Ancestry-ca soon after she heard about its plans for the Drouin archive in an attempt to fill in some lingering blanks in her family tree, which she has traced back to Abraham Martin, who once owned the Plains of Abraham in Quebec City.

The French lost control of New France to the British in 1759 at the Plains of Abraham.

The Université de Montréal will get \$40,000 a year over the next five years in exchange for its expertise interpreting the collection's documents.

Desjardins says indexing the collection, a process that should be finished by the end of the year, was too expensive for the university to do alone.

When finished, the online index will provide a

valuable tool to researchers studying early Quebec history.



#### ANTHOLOGY FEATURES MAINE'S DIVERSE FRANCO-AMERICANS

By Juliana L'Heureux, Portland Press Herald, Maine Sunday Telegram, August 30, 2007)

Maine's diverse Franco-Americans are spotlighted in a newly published anthology by Tilbury Press in Gardiner.

Written by Franco-Americans and others, "Voyages: A Maine Franco-American and Acadian Reader" includes articles about the historic Maine-Quebec and Acadian experiences, beginning in colonial days and spanning the generations into the 21st century.

Articles include essays, plays, poetry and stories. Dozens of writers contributed to the anthology. A book launching for the anthology is planned for late October at the University of Southern Maine in Lewiston.

Biddeford Franco-American writer and professor emeritus Norman Beaupre contributed a chapter to the anthology from "La Souillone," his novel, and now a play written and told from the view of a particular Franco-American woman. Beaupre was raised in a traditional Franco-American home where French was the primary spoken language. He received his advanced and doctorate academic degrees in French literature from Brown University, in Rhode Island.

Beaupre wrote "La Souillone" in the familiar Franco-American vernacular French he grew up hearing in his extended family. Beaupre translated one chapter for publication in the anthology. "Qui Chus" or "Who I Am" is the chapter published in both French and English in "Voyages." In the translated chapter, Souillonne explains the origin or her

name, coming from the neighborhood

where she lived for 59 years, with her French-Canadian immigrant family.

Her narrative is loaded with vividly told stories about the social challenges Franco-Americans faced as French-speaking immigrants trying to earn their way in the English-speaking culture of Maine and New England.

Sometimes, things come hard and fast (in life), not like I would want them to, but we can't turn things around," she says. French-speaking actress Marie Cormier performed Beaupre's play "La Souillone" several times. In fact, in July, Cormier performed the one-woman play to a sold-out audience in her home town of Lamèque, New Brunswick, Canada.

Lemèque is located at the northeastern tip of New Brunswick, where French is the primary language, says Beaupre. People of Acadian and French-Canadian descent live in Lamèque. Some of the earliest people who settled this beautiful, off-the-beaten-path, area of New Brunswick during the middle of the 18th century arrived there from Prince Edward Island, Canada.

Fishing is an important industry in Lamèque. "People living in Lamèque are proud of their French heritage and language," says Beaupre.

Cormier's hometown performance was a hit, says Beaupre. On November 2, Cormier will again perform the play at Lewiston's Franco-American Heritage Center. Additionally, Beaupre is working with Biddeford's City Theater and with the Franco-American Center in Manchaester, N.H., to arrange for subsequent performances of "La Souillone.

Moreover, Beaupre is writing a sequel to "La Souillonne." It's one of his most popular books, he says.

Other writers published in the anthology include Michael Michaud, Ross and Judy Paradis, the Rev. Clement Thibodeau, Denis Ledoux, singer Josée Vachon, Greg Chabot and myself, among others.....

"This anthology is a long anticipated tribute to the Franco-Americans' creative storytelling and history in Maine. It's a wonderful contribution to Maine's tradition of recognizing talented writers," says Bowdoin College professor Christian Potholm.



### LOUISIANA CHAPTER NEWS

## NATIONAL DAY OF THE ACADIANS By: Carol Doucet

On Wednesday, August 15, 2007, the National Day of the Acadians was celebrated at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana.

At the first national Acadian convention in Memramcook, New Brunswick in 1881, over 5,000 Acadian delegates met for the first time after the deportation in 1755. They chose August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, as the National Acadian holiday and named it National Day of the Acadians! The Nation of Acadian people is recognized throughout the states, especially in Louisiana and Maine, in the Canadian Acadian provinces and France on this day. Acadians celebrate and remember their ancestors, history, culture and traditions.

Mayor Thomas Nelson and the City of St. Martinville Council Members, the Acadian Memorial, the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center, Duchamp Opera House, Petit Paris Museum, St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church and the Longfellow-Evangeline State Historic Site welcomed visitors.

Highlights of the day at the Acadian Memorial were the 1929 movie "Evangeline," Derek Albert's lecture on "Cajun Architecture," Marcelle Bienvenu's talk about growing up Cajun, Christy Maraist's lecture about the true Evangeline of St. Martinville titled "Emmeline and Evangeline", and the Théâtre Cadien "French Vignettes" about the efforts of Acadians in France to reach Louisiana after being deported to France.

The procession of family name banners from the Acadian Memorial to the St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church preceded the French Mass. The Acadian

Memorial regional French choir was featured.

The Mass was followed by a reception at the Memorial and a comical skit by Melissa Pesson who portrayed seven characters from "Cinderella."

Visit the Acadian Memorial web site http:www.acadianmemorial.org.