



Les Nouvelles de la Famille Doucet

Newsletter of Les Doucet du Monde

April 2015

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Message from the President

By Carol James Doucet

Dear Cousins,

Our Doucet family organization, Les Doucet du Monde (LDDM), has existed since 1997. It was organized to prepare for the Congrès Mondial Acadien/World Acadian Congress of 1999, which was held in Louisiana.

Since that time LDDM has provided services and assistance to all Doucet/Doucette descendants. We have provided an outstanding website, which contains much more than genealogical information.

Les Doucet du Monde has twice donated to assist Congrès Mondial Acadien (CMA). We sponsored Stephen White's presentation at the 2009 Doucet family reunion during the CMA in New Brunswick. In 2014 an LDDM donation funded half of Lucie LeBlanc Consentino's speaker's fees at the Doucet reunion in Grand Isle, Maine. LDDM has made it possible for the Doucet family to be visible and active at the 2004 Doucet reunion in Nova Scotia during the CMA.

LDDM was also responsible for the Doucet family's active participation in the Louisiana Bicentennial Celebration in 2003, at the Grand Réveil Acadien/Great Acadian Awakening in Louisiana in October of 2011, and at the Acadian Memorial's Festival in the spring of 2013. The legacy of Germain Doucet has been recognized in the quaint village of Castine, Maine, where LDDM funded a commemorative plaque placed in Our Lady of Holy Hope Catholic Church.

Over the years, the membership dues have made it possible for LDDM to continue to exist despite declining numbers of members. For this reason, the LDDM board discussed various means of keeping our Doucet family organization active. However, our failure to recruit new members required the board to make this final decision.

We regret to inform our members that during our March 2015 board meeting it was officially decided to dissolve LDDM at the end of 2015.

This is the most unpleasant and the hardest decision we have ever had to reach.

A special thanks to those persons who have undertaken the added responsibilities of newsletter editor, webmaster, and Facebook editor.

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The board also wishes to thank all who have been members of LDDM over the years. Your dues and support have enabled LDDM to serve the Doucet family for the past sixteen years. Merci beaucoup to all the persons who have served on the LDDM board and to all who have held offices.

In the spring of 2013 LDDM lost its leader, Dean Doucet, who was our first president, webmaster, and newsletter editor after the CMA of 1999. Dean served as president and, at times, vice-president. Dean set up our Doucet Family website and worked to build up the genealogical section to its outstanding size. A quick glance at the contents of the website (www.doucetfamily.org) establishes that it contains much more than genealogical information.

LDDM will continue to fund the Doucet Family website with the remaining funds in our treasury. Refunds will be issued to those who have paid their fees for 2016.

The Doucet/Doucette Family has its own Facebook page, where family members can continue to share information, post questions and have discussions, making one another aware of activities relating to the history and culture of the extended Doucet/Doucette family.

Note: a very large part of this article was contributed by the LDDM board and officers.

What LDDM Has Meant To Me

By Lou Doucet

Voting to dissolve LDDM was a very difficult thing for me to do.

Since joining the Association I have met so many great people and met many Doucet(te) cousins, some of whom are closely related and I had never known before.

I am not deeply into the study of genealogy, like many of the members, but more interested in the family aspect of the organization. I have also worked redesigning and maintaining the website and set up and maintained the Facebook page over the years. I will continue to do both as long as funds allow us to keep the website running.

I have attended several CMA Doucet reunions and plan to continue to do so in the future.

I hope that even though we don't have the organization officially, we can all stay together and continue communications through the LDDM Facebook page.

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to serve as a board member of LDDM all of these years.

What LDDM Has Meant To Me

By Pat Doucette Hayes

When I became interested in my paternal genealogy almost twenty-five years ago, I knew nothing about my father's family and, unfortunately, there was no one living in my family who could provide me with information. I had no idea that the Doucet/Doucette name was so illustrious and that it was so tied to the history of North America.

After discovering by chance Clive Doucet's *My Grandfather's Cape Breton*, my curiosity was piqued. Further investigation via the nascent Internet led me to initiate contact with various Doucet cousins, ranging from second cousins to those twelve times removed. Among them was Jackie Auclair, who recruited me to join LDDM and serve as secretary.

I learned about the important role Germain Doucet played in the development of Port Royal. I also discovered the journey that Paul Doucet undertook after le grand dérangement that led him to Prince Edward Island, then to Margaree in Cape Breton Island.

Because of my membership in LDDM, I have twice had the pleasure of meeting LDDM members in Nova Scotia and in Louisiana. I have also been in contact privately with other members with whom I have shared genealogical information. We on the committee have developed a real bond of kinship and friendship over the years that is precious to all of us.

Nothing lasts forever and the demise of LDDM weighs heavily on all of us. But it has left us with enriched lives and the satisfaction of seeing that Germain's legacy has spread throughout North America and beyond.

Join Our Facebook Page



Les Doucet du Monde has an excellent page on Facebook. 252 people have joined the group. Will you?

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LDoucetDM/>. If you click Join the Group,

your request will be sent to the webmaster for approval and thereafter you may post to the page, as many other "cousins" have.

GRAND RÉVEIL ACADIEN 2015/GREAT ACADIAN AWAKENING

The people of South Louisiana welcome family and friends who want to celebrate and help maintain the culture, customs, traditions, and history of the Acadians. This celebration will be held October 3 through 12, 2015 in four Acadian regions. Lake Charles, Lafayette, Houma, and New Orleans will host events and celebrations, closing with a huge renewal of pride on the last day at Festivals Acadiens et Créoles at Girard Park in Lafayette.

After engaging a group of young Louisianians to prepare and participate in promoting Louisiana for the World Acadian Congress 2014, an awakening of their heritage was vividly evident.

Ray Trahan, president of Louisiane-Acadie, Inc., stated that the Acadians of the Acadian Peninsula of New Brunswick helped start a renaissance and an awakening of our younger generation's pride and interest in promoting the French language and culture of their ancestors.

We're asking Acadians and friends to join us in Louisiana to celebrate this unique, living culture.

Vive l'Acadie et vive la Louisiane!

GREAT ACADIAN AWAKENING/GRAND RÉVEIL ACADIEN 2015

Louisiane-Acadie appelle tous les Acadiens et se prépare pour le Grand Réveil Acadien (GRA) qui se déroulera du 3 au 12 octobre 2015 dans quatre régions de l'Acadiana, région comprise de 22 paroisses (contés) du sud de la Louisiane.

Pendant neuf jours les villes du Lac Charles, Lafayette, d'Houma, et de la Nouvelle-Orléans accueilleront des forums, rencontres, et célébrations. Elles se termineront par un considérable réveil de fierté acadienne pendant les Festivals Acadiens et Créoles au Part Girard à Lafayette les 10 et 11 octobre, 2015, et notamment par une grande parade montrant toute la diversité des traditions acadiennes.

Le Grand Réveil Acadien a été organisé pour appeler les descendants des Acadiens et en particulier la jeune génération, pour qu'ils se rendent compte que les Louisianais de souche acadienne vivent sous la menace de la perte de leur langue d'origine, le français, ainsi que leur culture.

Nous invitons les Acadiens et nos amis de se joindre à nous en Louisiane pour célébrer cette culture unique et vivante.

Vive l'Acadie et vive la Louisiane!

La Parole: A Newsletter of the Acadian Museum in Erath, Louisiana By Eleonora "Ellie" Doucette-Turnage

Several years ago, I signed up for the Acadian Museum's free newsletter, called La Parole, because it had articles about the Acadian people in Nova Scotia and Canada, as well as the Acadians who settled in Louisiana. I have found La Parole well-written and containing many interesting articles, with excellent photos and historical information pertaining to the Acadians in all locations. When an article was a news-worthy story of local concern to the people in Louisiana, I forwarded the issue to friends and family. I soon found that I was forwarding issue after issue.

It was interesting to me, and I think that you all would enjoy reading about our people from a new and different source. If you are interested in receiving La Parole, go to acadianmuseum.com or write to darylinb@plddo.com to sign up.

Available on LDDM Website

The biography of Germain Doucet, written by our President Carol Doucet, and the video of the dedication of the Germain Doucet plaque in Castine, Maine are now available on our website.

To order either the "BIOGRAPHY OF GERMAIN DOUCET" (available in either French or English), go to <http://www.doucetfamily.org/GermainBioBook>.

To order the Germain Doucet Plaque Dedication Video, prepared by Lucien (Lou) Doucet, go to <http://www.doucetfamily.org/Dedication>

À la Recherche de la Parenté

Searching for Relatives

Le secteur de généalogie du site web de Les Doucet du Monde (www.doucetfamily.org) comprend plus de cinquante mille données, grâce à notre ancien président, le défunt Dean Doucet, qui s'en occupait depuis 1999. Il va sans dire, il existe des "manques."

Nous prions les "cousins" Doucet/Doucett/Doucette qui ont assisté à la rencontre en août 2009 de nous faire parvenir votre lignée, si vous ne l'avez pas encore fait.

Et si vous n'avez pas eu le plaisir d'assister à la rencontre familiale, à vous aussi, nous disons "partagez votre généalogie."

Que ça soit trois générations ou treize, nous vous prions d'envoyer votre lignée à:

Lucien (Lou) Doucet
5 Acorn Lane, Lewiston, ME 04240, USA
Phone (207) 312-5889
E-Mail loud@doucetfamily.org

The genealogy section of the Les Doucet du Monde website (www.doucetfamily.org) now has over 50,000 entries, thanks to our late president Dean Doucet who handled the genealogy section from 1999 until his death earlier this year. Naturally, there are "gaps."

We are asking Doucet/Doucett/Doucette "cousins" who went to the family reunion in August 2009 to send us your genealogy line if you have not yet done so.

If you did not have the pleasure of attending the reunion, to you, too, we say "Please share your genealogy information."

Whether it's three generations or 13, please send your line to:

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What it Meant to Me to be Part of LDDM

By Jeannine Doucett Caissie

I became acquainted with LDDM (Les Doucet du Monde) when my husband Paul and I attended the Congres Mondial in Louisiana in 1999. I had done some preliminary research in my own personal genealogy, and was interested in learning more about my family name.

I am the daughter of Edgar Angus Doucett, but he died when I was only 6 months old, so whatever information I had of him was told to me by my mother and other relatives. I knew some of his brothers and sisters, but they didn't have much information about the family's background, other than the fact that the family had originated in Tignish, Prince Edward Island. Armed with this information, we travelled to P.E.I. one summer, where I began tracing my family. The information I gained fascinated me, and spurred me on to learn more.

Because I had little personal information, I was fascinated to learn that I actually was part of a very large family, and one which seemed to have been in Acadia for a very long time. When I became part of LDDM, I was able to learn even more of the history of the Doucet family. I was able to start filling in a chart showing my ancestors. Imagine the excitement I felt when I found out that Germain Doucet had even been a Commandant of Fort Pentagoet, in Castine, Maine.

My step-father had deeded me some land that he owned in Sedgwick, Maine, having inherited his mother's sea-farm, and we had been spending our summers there for many years, before I learned about Germain. Castine, Maine, is about 20 miles from our place in Sedgwick. Further information I learned, was Robert Sedgwick had led the group of soldiers who had attacked Fort Pentagoet, while Germain was in charge of it. What a coincidence that was, and how ironic! Unfortunately, Robert Sedgwick was able to capture the Fort and was instrumental in having Germain surrender and give up the Acadian presence in Castine, and had to return to Nova Scotia.

Through my membership in LDDM, and later becoming a member of the board, I became friends with most of the people who also belonged, and were, of course, "cousins" of mine. This gave me a kinship and enabled me to come to know a wonderful group of relatives that I would never have gotten to know otherwise. Since Paul and I have attended all five Congres Mondial through the years, I've been able to meet more and more Doucets, and this has enriched my life tremendously. It's been a real source of pride as well, to learn our family history as having been in Acadia from its very beginning, and especially of the importance of our Doucet ancestors as very important to the founding of the first colonies in the New World.

It saddens me very much that we have "come to the end of the road" as an organization, because I have so enjoyed knowing so many relatives from all over the world. I sincerely hope that we can all keep in touch in the years to come.