



Word of the president

In July of 1989, the AMAN direction made a public-opinion poll among readers of the liaison bulletin, *Le Mercien*. The first question was about the members' perception regarding their young family association. The second question concerned *Le Mercien*: its orientation and its content (family history, special events, various activities and news of members, to mention only the main headings).

From suggestions made by AMAN members and the examination of publications issued by other Quebec family associations, the Mercien Committee (CM) succeeded in publishing four times a year and at a reasonable price — in the two official languages of Canada — a liaison bulletin acceptable by most of the members of our young family association. However, there is room for improvement.

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the beginning of our young family association, the AMAN managers believe it is time to have a second public-opinion poll among its members. They need your suggestions to improve as much as possible *Le Mercien* content.

So will you take a few minutes to fill in the questionnaire included in this liaison bulletin expedition and return it to the secretariate in the already addressed envelope or bring it to the Mercier annual gathering, on September 9, at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield (Québec).

Thank you, in advance, for your participation to this public-opinion pool on *Le Mercien* and l'AMAN.

Jean Mercier, president

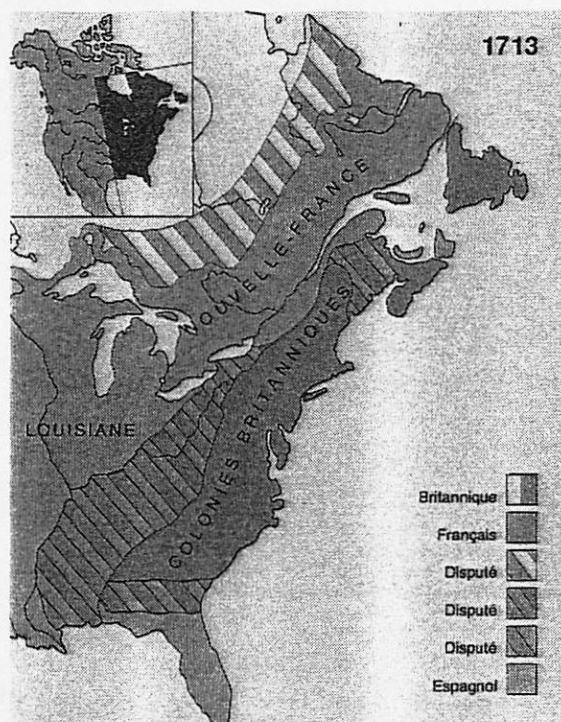


Diagram of New France and Louisiana in 1713

Waterways taken by french explorers, settlers and illustrious Mercier persons from Québec toward the West and Louisiana.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ← 1. Québec | 8. Sault Sainte-Marie |
| ← 2. Ville-Marie (Montréal) | 9. Lac Supérieur |
| ← 3. Rivière des Outaouais | 10. Lac des Bois |
| ← 4. Baie Georgienne | 11. Rivière Winnipeg |
| ← 5. Ile Manitoulin | 12. Lac Winnipeg |
| ← 6. Lac Huron | 13. Fort de Chartres |
| ← 7. Lac Michigan | |

Atlas du Canada (1981 page 92)
Sélection du Reader's Digest, Montréal

See pages 3 and 12

**Administrateurs et membres de comités /
Administrators and committee members**

Exercice 1994-1995 Term

Conseil d'administration / Board of directors
Nom et No de téléphone / Fin du mandat /
Name and communication number End of term

André Mercier 1995
 (418) 651-0471

Benoît Mercier, S.T. * 1996
 (418) 623-0833 Rés./ Home
 (418) 652-9711 Bur./ Office
 (418) 652-3627 Téléc./ Fax

Benoît Mercier 1995
 (418) 888-3710

David H. Mercier * 1996
 (418) 652-8316
 Adresse électronique / -E - mail :
 H212@MUSIC.ULAAVAL.CA

Ernest Mercier 1996
 (418) 688-9820 Rés. / Home
 (418) 681-0119 Téléc./ Fax

Françoise M. Bélanger 1995
 (418) 628-2995

Jean Mercier, P. * 1996
 (418) 667-1973 Rés./ Home
 (418) 681-9700 Bur. / Office
 (418) 681-1535 Téléc. / Fax

Lionel Mercier 1995
 (819) 752-7867 Rés./ Home
 (819) 382-2164 Bur./ Office A.M.
 (819) 344-2595 Bur./ Office P.M.

Lucie Mercier V.P. * 1995
 (819) 362-2856 Rés./ Home
 (819) 362-3284 Bur./ Office

Marie Mercier 1996
 (819) 569-2331

Paul H. Mercier V.P. * 1995
 (418) 651-2199

Comité de direction* / Executive Committee *

Comité du bulletin / Le MERCIEN / Committee
 Ernest, responsable (418) 688-9820
 André (archiviste), David H. et/and
 Isabelle M. Dufour (418) 651-3839

Vous déménagez? Veuillez informer le secrétariat six semaines à l'avance.
You are moving? Please inform the Secretariat six weeks ahead of the time.

Cotisation / Membership
Annuelle / Yearly : 15 \$
À vie / Life : 65 ans et plus / 65 years and over : 125 \$
Moins de 65 ans / Less than 65 years : 250 \$

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Correspondance à l'AMAN et au MERCIEN / Correspondence to AMAN and Le MERCIEN :
C.P. 6700, Sillery (Québec), Canada G1T 2W2

Chemins flottants – Water ways

Direction : West of Ville-Marie, en Nouvelle-France

Starting from Québec, the voyagers went up the St. Lawrence River to the mouth of the Mille-Îles River to cross the Deux-Montagnes Lake and then take the Outaouais River. At Mattawa (Northbay-Québec), they had to make a portage to get up to Lake Nippising and go down, via the Rivière des Français, to the Georgian Bay and lake Huron.

At Manitoulin Island, situated north of lake Huron, in Ontario, the voyagers could head for one or the other of the two following Great Lakes : Lake Superior to the west, by crossing Sault-Sainte-Marie or Lake Michigan to the south.

1. Going West (Rocky Mountains)

From Lake Superior, going west, the explorers would make a long portage to take the Lake of the Woods and the Winnipeg River up to the lake of the same name. And then, from there, by Lake Winnipegosis and Lake Manitoba, or by the rivers Rouge, Assiniboine and qu'Appelle, they would reach the River Saskatchewan which would lead them to the Rocky Mountains.

2. Going South (Louisiana)

From the pass between lake Huron and lake Michigan, the voyagers would go straight south heading for the head of the lake (Chicago nowadays). A portage permitted them to reach the Rivière-des-Illinois which joins the Mississippi (Meschacebe) — at the north of St. Louis (Missouri), a river discovered by La Salle (Robert Cavalier de) and Father Marquette (a Jesuit), in 1672.

3. First coureur des bois

Here are a few stages about the life of Étienne Brûlé, first coureur des bois, in Nouvelle-France.

1608 This peasant of french origin arrives, with Champlain, at Québec, in 1608;

1610 This adventurer asks permission to go and live with the Amerindians. Champlain entrusts him, for a year, to the Algoquin Chief **Iroquet**.

1611 First white man to go down the Sault-Saint-Louis (Lachine rapids, Montréal), Étienne meets again with Champlain, exactly where it had been planned. During that year, Étienne had gone up the Outaouais River, deep into the Huronnie, explored lakes Ontario, Erie and Superior, had maybe discovered Lake Michigan and visited the sites of present day Ottawa and Toronto.

16??? Prisoner of the Iroquois and seen as a mysterious being, his kidnappers released him. He lived with the Amerindians until he was 41 years old.

1629 Brûlé goes to work for the enemy and helps the englishmen to capture Québec. (Invasion of the Kirke brothers)

1633 On his return to Nouvelle-France, Champlain learns that the Hurons, after having tortured Étienne Brûlé, had killed and eaten him. Was it because Étienne had betrayed their friend Champlain? History doesn't affirm it.

Nouveaux membres — New members
Exercice 1994-1995 — Fiscal year 1994-1995

Nom Surname	Prténom First Name	Domicile Residence	Profession Occupation
Mercier	Jean-Claude	Chicoutimi, QC	
M-Gagné	Lucille	Chicoutimi, QC	
Mercier	Yvon	Ste-Clotilde, QC	Épiser / Grocer
M-Boutin	Louissette	St-Magloire, QC	
M-Bissonnette	Aline	Lévis, QC	
Rocheleau	Éva	Charlemagne, QC	
Rocheleau	Lucille	Sudbury, ON	
Mercier	David H.	Ste-Foy, QC	Étudiant / Student Un. Laval
Mercier	Antoine	Trois-Rivières, QC	Retraité / Retired
Mercier-O	Émeline	Trois-Rivières, QC	Retraité / Retired
Mercier	Lionel	St-Georges, QC	Retraité / Retired
Mercier	Jules	Ste-Agathe, QC	Journalier / Labourer
Mercier	Alexandre	Ste-Clotilde, QC	Acériculteur / Maple sugar producer
Mercier	Jeannette	Magog, QC	Retraitee / Retired
Leboeuf	Bernard	Aylmer, QC	
Mercier-M.	Jane E.	Searsport, ME	Retraitee /Retired
Mercier	Barbara A.	Redmond, WA	
Mercier	Gregory K.	Bellevue, WA	
Mercier	Mike	Ontario, CA	
Mercier, Sr	William J.	Rapid River, MI	Retraité / Retired
Mercier	Normand R.	Orléans, On	
Mercier	Anie	Ste-Clothilde, QC	Employée de banque / Bank employee
Mercier	Guy	Plessisville, QC	Opérateur d'usine de filtration / Operator filtrat.
Mercier	Pierre	Longueuil, QC	
Desjardins	Pierrette	Amos, QC	
Rouleau	Lise	Brossard, QC	Enseignante / Teacher
Mercier	Anne	Mississauga, ON	

Membres à vie — Life Members

Nom - Name	Endroit - Place	Numéro de membre - Member number
Mercier, Alain	Sillery, QC	77
Mercier-Nadeau, Cécile	Plessisville, QC	385
Mercier, Charles	Cap-Rouge, QC	76
Mercier, Christine	Cap-Rouge, QC	75
Royer, Cécile	Ste-Foy, QC	47
Mercier, François	Nicolet, QC	63
Mercier, Georges	Sept-Iles, QC	219
Mercier, Gérard	Laval, QC	787
Mercier, Jean	Freligsburg, QC	951
Mercier-Bédard, Jeanne	Ottawa, ON	204
Mercier, Laurent	St-Esprit-de-Montcalm, QC	580
Mercier, Louis	Bussy, France	52
Mercier, Luc	Longueuil, QC	152
Mercier, Marie-Gélinas	Lévis, QC	169
Mercier, Maurice	Boucherville, QC	306
Mercier, Paul-H.	Ste-Foy, QC	31
Mercier, Pierre	St-Bruno, QC	73

(Following on page 9)

Improvement of the AMAN Liaison Bulletin **Public-Opinion Poll, Number two (1995)**

1. Introduction

Why a second public-opinion pool on *Le Mercien*? For two reasons. In first place, because few members participated in the first poll in 1989. In second place, because to most of the questions on this poll, the answers were rather full of praise about the AMAN liaison bulletin.

2. Retrospective 1985-1994

During the first five years of existence of our young family association (1985-1989), the responsables of the publication *Le Mercien* made their début. During the second five-year period (1990-1994), the AMAN liaison bulletin stabilized itself and produced a lot of articles on very various subjects.

3. Rubrics touched

To this day, the subjects treated in *Le Mercien* have been on the following rubrics :

- the AMAN administration
- the AMAN (goals, constitution, members, objectives, rules, secretariate, structures, etc.)
- the Mercier forebears in the world
- the Mercier anniversaries of all kinds
- the Mercier Coats of Arms in the world and in North America
- the Mercier lineal ancestry in the Nouvelle-France
- the AMAN regional committees
- the congresses of the Quebec Stock Families Federation Inc.
- the AMAN Board of Directors
- the Mercier ancestral couples of the Nouvelle-France
- the deaths of Mercier and relatives
- the regional delegates (responsible persons or coordinators)
- the ex-Emeric Quebecor in the U.S.
- the Mercier explorers in North America
- the Stock Family Federation Inc.
- the genes and heredity in human beings
- the hereditary traits in the mammals
- the Mercier Families History
- the Mercier descendants born from ancestral couples in the Nouvelle-France
- the Mercier weddings in North America
- the Mercier houses renovated in France and in North America
- the Mercier Households in the world
- the Merciers in Great Britain
- *Le Mercien* (the AMAN liaison bulletin)
- the Mercier monuments in Québec
- the Mercier museums and expositions in Québec
- the Mercier births in America
- the Mercier relatives in the world
- the Mercier patrimony in Europe and in America
- the Mercier family names and derivatives
- the Mercier professionals in the Nouvelle-France
- the Mercier gatherings in North America
- the family genealogy registers
- the Mercier royalty in Great Britain
- the Mercier sites in North America
- some testimonies from Mercier persons and relatives

- the Mercier lands in America
- the Mercier trips to Europe
- some Merciers lived in Yukon around 1900.

4. Expectation

The fact that AMAN is a non-profit association which relies greatly on its benevolent members for its survival, it is timely that the management and the bulletin committee solicit anew the opinions of Mercier readers.

Timely suggestions

More and more contributors have recently made suggestions which have been put into practice. Some suggestions will be put in practice in a near future. Before doing other changes, the AMAN managers want to know the readers' opinions.

5. What is your opinion?

Two suggestions received from readers are to reduce the genealogy documentation (family and lineage by stock couple) and to increase the biographical notices on Mercier persons whose performance is remarkable. Evidently, some amateur genealogists are opposed to this suggestion. They are more interested to discover their roots and to learn the history of their relatives rather than read a biographical notice, sometimes swelled a little by the author. The Bulletin Committee could, maybe, shorten the length of its articles in *Le Mercien* and offer freely, or sell at a reasonable price, the information on genealogy to the interested people. What do you think of this?

6. Invitation

Do you want to take a few minutes to fill in the questionnaire-poll inserted in the present issue

(pages A, B, C & D) and return it in the included envelope?

The administrators and members of the Liaison Bulletin Committee (*Le Mercien*) thank you in advance for your participation which is greatly appreciated.

Ernest Mercier, coordinator

Note regarding the AMAN coordinators

The coordinators of regional committees will soon participate in a public-opinion poll on the AMAN administration. The executives want to specify the sharing of the tasks between the central secretariate and the ones from regional committees. If you want, as member, to express your views on this sharing of responsibilities and administrative tasks, please fill in the portion of the enclosed loose leaf questionnaire and return it with the one on *Le Mercien* in the preaddressed envelope.

E.M.

Genealogical mutual assistance

Name of father and mother of two spouses : Pierre Mercier and Marie Elisabeth Blanchet who married at Châteauguay (Qc), on 1804-01-30 (January 30, 1804).

Thanks for your help



Your opinion on *Le Mercien*

My comments on the making (look) and the content of *Le Mercien* can be enunciated by four adjectives (**complete, moderate, fair** and **little**) used jointly with the word agreement. I put a mark on only one square (box) when commenting the affirmative sentences used in this pool survey on *Le Mercien* and the AMAN management.

I am more or less in agreement with all positive statements on :

A. THE MAKING OF *LE MERCIEN*

A1. Using colour paper for covers according to seasons

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A2. Placing the president's message and a photo on page one

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A3. Giving administrative information on page two

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A4. Sharing the available place between texts and illustrations

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A5. Publishing administrative reports in *Le Mercien* following the annual meeting of AMAN

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A6. Inserting mobile sheets in *Le Mercien* to deal with particular topics

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A7. Using the last cover (page 12) of the bulletin for AMAN and regional committee's programs

Complete Moderate Fair Little

A8. Publishing shorter and more diversified articles in larger number

Complete Moderate Fair Little

My suggestions on the making of *Le Mercien* are :

Over please



B. ON THE CONTENT OF *LE MERCIEN*

- B1. Allocating rational space to the heading **ancestry**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B2. Allocating rational space to **mutual genealogy help**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B3. Allocating proper space to **family history**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B4. Allocating proper space to **Various news (Varia)**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B5. Allocating appropriate space to **testimonies**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B6. Allocating appropriate space to **promotions**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B7. Giving proper space to **honorary distinctions**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B8. Giving proper space to **various anniversaries**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B9. Allocating rational space to regional committees
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B10. Allocating sufficient space to the heading **births, marriages and deaths**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- B11. Giving proper space to the heading **Patrimoine, sites and monuments**
 Complete Moderate Fair Little

B12. My suggestions regarding the content of *Le Mercien* are :

B13. I read regularly articles in *Le Mercien*, **my membership number is** _____

- 100 % 75 % 50 % 25 % 10 %

I return to the AMAN secretariat, in the preaddressed envelope, the survey on the making and content of *Le Mercien*

Signature : _____ **Address :** _____

No de telephone : () _____ **Code postal** _____



Your opinion on AMAN management

The Sharing of administrative responsibilities

C. INCREASING THE RESPONSABILITIES OF REGIONAL COMMITTEES

C1. The regional committee (RC) collects the membership fee; gives the official receipt and delivers the member's card

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C2. The RC returns to the AMAN's treasurer part of the member's fee

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C3. The RC assume financial responsibilities regarding all its activities

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C4. The RC keeps all the profits and assumes all the losses derived from all its activities

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C5. The RC does not count on AMAN to make some publicity regarding its annual activities

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C6. The RC must assume its financial and administrative responsibilities jointly with the AMAN

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C7. The assembly of AMAN members is the supreme authority

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C8. The AMAN administrators must have all their decisions taken during the term approved by the members at the annual meeting

Complete Moderate Fair Little

C9. The only functions of the executive committee are to make suggestions to the board of directors and to implement the decisions taken by that body.

Complete Moderate Fair Little

D. CONSOLIDATING THE POWERS OF THE AMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN

D1. Fixing the limits of the regional committees (RC)

Complete Moderate Fair Little

D2. Keeping the membership list up to date

Complete Moderate Fair Little

D3. Consolidating the GENAMAN Data Bank

Complete Moderate Fair Little

D4. Preparing the ancestry titles of members

Complete Moderate Fair Little



- D5. Approving the places of gatherings (annual meetings)
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D6. Publishing *Le Mercien*
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D7. Filing the AMAN's official documents
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D8. Preparing the lists of Merciers' dwellers and AMAN members in North America
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D9. Approving and coordinating the RC programs
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D10. Approving the RC budgets and publicity
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D11. Sharing equally profits or losses derived from activities between RC and AMAN
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D12. Having a board member attending each RC meeting
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- D13. Dividing the functions of secretary and treasurer in the AMAN secretariat
 Complete Moderate Fair Little

My comments on the management of AMAN are :

I return to the secretariate, in the preaddressed envelope, the pool survey on the management of AMAN.

Signature _____

Address _____

Tel. number (_____) _____

Postal (Tip) code _____



AMAN, C.P. 6700, Sillery, (Québec), Canada, G1T 2W2

Your opinion on *Le Mercien*

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- A3. Giving administrative information on page two
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- A4. Sharing the available place between texts and illustrations
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- A5. Publishing administrative reports in *Le Mercien* following the annual meeting of AMAN
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- A6. Inserting mobile sheets in *Le Mercien* to deal with particular topics
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- A7. Using the last cover (page 12) of the bulletin for AMAN and regional committee's programs
 Complete Moderate Fair Little
- A8. Publishing shorter and more diversified articles in larger number
 Complete Moderate Fair Little

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Over please



B. ON THE CONTENT OF *LE MERCIEN*

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 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
- B2. Allocating rational space to **mutual genealogy help**
 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
- B3. Allocating proper space to **family history**
 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
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 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
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 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
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 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
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 Complete **Moderate** **Fair** **Little**
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Les Mercier et l'actualité - The Merciers and the actuality

Depuis la première chronique publiée dans l'édition du printemps 1995 du *Mercien*, d'autres Mercier ont attiré l'attention des médias et fait l'objet d'articles ou de publicité dans des journaux du Québec.

Dans *La Presse* du samedi 18 mars 1995, un message publicitaire annonce que **Claudine Mercier** inaugurera le Théâtre du Forum 11 avec son spectacle d'humour, les 27 et 28 avril. Dans le *Journal de Québec* du lundi 24 avril 1995, son spectacle est annoncé pour les 5 et 6 mai au Théâtre Capitole à Québec.

Le jeudi 13 avril 1995, le *Journal de Québec* consacre un reportage au comédien **Denis Mercier** qui jouera avec Shoopi Goldberg et Gérard Depardieu dans une importante production cinématographique américaine intitulée «Bogus».

Le samedi 15 avril 1995, Jean Gravel, dans sa chronique du *Journal de Québec*, nous informe que **Jean-Luc Mercier**, vice-président au service à la clientèle à l'Assurance-vie Desjardins Laurentienne, a accepté la présidence de la campagne de financement 1995 de la Société canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, section de Québec, qui s'est tenue en avril 1995.

Le samedi 20 mai 1995, une nouvelle du *Journal de Québec* informe ses lecteurs que trente-deux bénévoles, dont quatre de la région de Québec incluant **David Mercier**, s'envoleront, mardi, à destination du Nicaragua, où, pendant un mois, ils aideront à agrandir une école de métiers à Rivas, petite ville de 35 000 habitants située à deux heures d'autobus de Managua, la capitale. Ces bénévoles sont affiliés au Centre Amitié de Solidarité internationale de la région de l'Amiante (CASIRA).

Le mardi 13 juin 1995, on note dans *Le Soleil* que **Jean-Claude Mercier**, président de la Coalition pour la stratégie nationale sur les forêts du Canada, participera au Symposium international sur la sécurité alimentaire à l'occasion du 50^e anniversaire de la F.A.O. (Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'agriculture et l'alimentation) fondée à Québec en 1945.

Le lundi 3 juillet dernier, Jean Gravel du *Journal de Québec* fait part dans sa chronique que **Jacques Mercier** de Rimouski, le président de l'équipe de hockey l'Océanic de l'endroit, fut dans le passé un excellent joueur de hockey. Il mentionne également que Jacques est directeur d'agences pour la compagnie Industrielle-Alliance et très actif dans le domaine immobilier.

André Mercier

1995-07-21

(Suite de la page 4)

Nom - Name	Endroit - Place	Numéro de membre - Member number
Mercier, Raymond T.	Canterbury, CT	961
Mercier, Rhéo	Disraéli, QC	4
Mercier, Robert	St-Henri, QC	250
Mercier, Roland	La Pocatière, QC	61
Mercier, Suzanne	Montréal, QC	74
Mercier, Vincent	Mont-Joli, QC	500

Membres honoraires à vie — Honorary life members

Mercier, Ernest	Québec, Qc	32
Mercier, Jean	Sherbrooke, Qc	1008
Mercier, Monique	St-Grégoire-le-Grand, Qc	49

Benoit Mercier, sec.-trés. 1995-07-15

Genealogical mutual assistance

Vincent Mercier, of Mont-Joli, is one of the first AMAN members to benefit from the genealogical mutual help service of the **Banque GÉNAMAN**.

To produce a Mercier extended ancestry title, you need the close cooperation between the two partners : the interested part, on one hand, and, on the other hand, the administrators of the AMAN Genealogical Data Bank. Only the interested party can provide precise informations on the last related generations : only the AMAN-holders of public data on the births, marital status and deaths of thousands of Mercier couples of older generations in North America can certify the exactness of a lineal ancestry title of a Mercier person or relative. These two partners wish, needless to say, to specify the exactness of public data on relatives if they want to leave a worthwhile familial document to their posterity.

Vincent Mercier and the managers of the Banque GÉNAMAN (Ernest and Benoît) request precisions on familial events mentioned below, under the heading Family History.

Histoire de famille – Family History

Children of Joseph Mercier (1836-1910) and Marie Odile Fortier married at Lambton (Qc) on 1869-07-05

The parish records of Disraeli (Qc) burned down. It is a useless to search on that side. For the sons of the aforementioned couple, I believe I can name them in chronological order. But, as for the daughters, I am not sure.

1. **Joseph Arthur** : He lived in Disraeli, Matane and Welland (Ontario). He was the grandfather of René-P. Mercier.
2. **Edmond** : He started to raise his family in Disraeli. Then, he moved to La Sarre (Abitibi). He had a fairly large family. His wife was a Couture, the sister of Hubert, husband of Eva (see hereunder). He was an influent citizen in Abitibi.
3. **Charles Fortunat** : My father born on the 1884-03-09 was the youngest of the sons and the last child of the family. He was three years old when his mother died, trying to give birth to an eight child.
4. **Céline** : The first of the five daughters was born around 1872.
5. **Maria** : The second daughter, born around 1875 was wedded to Cyrille Fontaine from Disraéli.

6. **Emma** : Born around 1876, she emigrated to Laconia, NH (U.S.), married a Paquet. Two sons, Freddy and Maurice, were born at a few years of interval.
7. **Éva** : She married **Hubert Couture** (1934) farmer and forest jobber for the Champoux of Québec who had a big sawmill at Disraeli. Hubert Couture and Gustave Rheault, son of the foreman went into partmership. They moved to Mont-Joli and built, at Price, a sawmill which ran until the crash of 1929.
8. There was another daughter whose name I forget. She was married to a Carrier. She died at a young age, leaving an orphan daughter, Alexandrina, who married a Pelletier.

Vincent Mercier

Note from the editorial office : Who, among the descendants of Joseph Mercier and Marie Odile Fortier, can add details to the progeny of this valourous couple of the 8th generation?

In the footsteps of illustrious Mercier persons

1. Introduction

The Merciers and relatives from Eastern Canada and USA who will walk along the St. Lawrence River by going up to Valleyfield, for the Mercier's annual gathering, on Saturday the 9th of September 1995, will follow in the footsteps of illustrious Mercier persons.

1.1 François-Joseph Mercier (1604-1671)

This Jesuit¹ worked during 36 years (1635-1671) as a missionary in Nouvelle-France. Contemporary of Isaac Jogues, of Jean de Breboeuf, of Gabriel Lalement, and Paul Ragueneau, François Mercier was the handyman for the *Compagnie de Jésus* in North America. As an orderly, a procurer, a negotiator, an agricultural agent and missions fonder, François took up, from Québec, small animals to the mission of Sainte-Marie-des-Hurons (Ontario). He is the one who was in charge of the moving of the mission from Sainte-Marie to the Ile Saint-Joseph (Ile des Chrétiens) in 1642 and who burned down, with the help of Paul Ragueneau, the mission Sainte-Marie so that it would not fall in the hands of the Iroquois. He brought back to Québec the decimated Hurons in 1650. He has to his credit the protection of the colony in Trois-Rivières, a participation in the establishment of several missions — such as Laprairie — and the sessions of peace negotiations in the land of the Iroquois, at Onontagué (N.Y.) in 1656. This experienced negotiator died at La Martinique, in 1690, at the age of 86.

1.2 Jeanne Mercier

Jeanne², daughter of Loup Mercier and Jeanne Gaillard married the carpenter Claude Poulin in Québec, on August 9, 1639. Her name can be seen on the monument where the list of the first Nouvelle-France settlers is found in front of the archbishopric of Québec. Did Jeanne arrive at Québec aboard the same boat than Claude, her future husband, on June 11, 1636?

The couple had a daughter baptized — born in Québec or in Three-Rivers — whose birth was mentioned in the registers of the parish of Notre-Dame-de-Québec, destroyed by fire around 1640. Jeanne, Claude and Marie returned to France in 1641 but came back to Québec in 1648 to cultivate a pioneer farm lot sold to them, for fifty pounds, by the Seminary of Québec, on the first of September 1651. It's in their house that Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain passed their wedding contract, in front of the witnesses Charles Boivin and Guillaume Pépin.

1.3 Catherine Mercier

Catherine³ Mercier married Jean Boudart at Larochele, France, in 1642. The couple had a daughter baptized at Ville-Marie on the 29th of August 1649. That daughter died and was buried there on the 1st of September 1649. Two years later, on May 6, 1651, Marie saw her husband, Grand-Jean, beheaded by the Iroquois and she was kidnapped and brought into captivity. Around two months after her kidnapping, after the 5th of July 1651, Catherine

died in the «ordinary tortures» which included mutilation and the burning of the body of the victim. The Jesuit Paul Ragueneau described her martyrdom in the Relation of October 28 of 1661. Why do we not venerate her like the Jésuits missionaries?

1.4 Grandchildren of Jullien and Marie

Six grandchildren of Jullien Mercier and Marie Poulain left the Nouvelle-France for Louisiana before 1760. The departing ones were decendants of the third generation born from :

- the three weddings of **Louis Mercier**⁴ in Québec;
- the wedding of **Jean Mercier**⁵ in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré.

1.4.1 Children of Louis

Four sons : two from the second bed, Louis and Anne Jacquereau, namely Jean-Pierre (priest and missionary) and Jean-François (farmer and dealer-traveller), two from the third bed (Louis and Marie Louise Simon dit Lapointe), namely Joseph-François, locksmith and Joseph-Marie, also locksmith, left Québec for La Louisiane at the beginning of the 18th century.

1.4.2 Children of Jean

A daughter and a son of Jean and Barbe Monmagnier : Dorothee who married three times — once in Québec and twice in Kaskaskia, near Utica, Illinois — and Jean (Baptiste) who married Marie Barret in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, on May 16, 1718, also departed from Québec after the aboved mentioned date to go and settle in Louisiana.

This departure of cousins for the South followed the decision of the Church of Québec to develop missions (parishes) in the country of the Illinois, in Louisiana. These couples and Mercier families left by canoe for the West, via the Outaouais River, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, the Illinois and the Mississippi rivers. The Lachine, Beauharnois and Welland canals were dug under the English governments only some 150 years ago.

Ernest Mercier 1995-07-31

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1. MERCIER, Ernest (1987) Mercier depuis des siècles, François-Joseph, pp. 30-33
2. IBID., Jeanne Mercier, page 73.
3. IBID., Catherine Mercier, pp. 40-42.
4. IBID., Louis Mercier, pp. 104-106.
5. IBID., Marc Antoine, pp. 35-37.

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The **Rivière des Outaouais** is the **Grande Fourche** of the Water Ways used by pioneers who left, by birch bark canoes, for the West of the Nouvelle-France and Louisiana.

Questions

1. Who was the first frenchman to explore the Great Lakes of North America?
2. Who was the first Mercier to go, by canoe, from Québec to the Huronnerie?
3. When did the young priest, Jean-Pierre Mercier, leave Quebec to go to evangelize the Tamarois, in the Seminary of Québec mission, at Cahokia (Fort de Chartres), in Illinois, USA, and which route did he follow?
4. Who were the first Mercier pioneers who established themselves in the Salaberry-de-Valleyfield region?

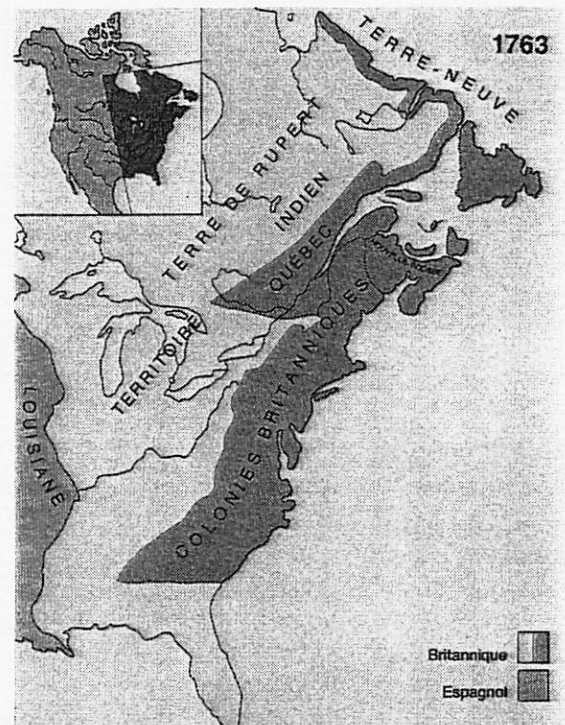
Ernest Mercier, the AMAN founder and first president, and Pierre Paul Clermont have accepted to answer these questions — at lunch time — on Saturday September 9, at the occasion of the annual AMAN gathering (1995), at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, Qc.

Let's go in great numbers and walk in the footsteps of illustrious Mercier pioneers of the Nouvelle-France.

The management

Note : Partial answer to these questions can be found on page 3, under the heading **Water Ways**.

Diagram of North America in 1763



Québec is wedged between the dominant british colonies at the southeast; surrounded by Indian territory, at the northeast and northwest; completely cut from Louisiana — which is situated west of the Mississipi River — and amputated of Hudson Bay territory by Rupert Land which stretches from the Gulf of Mexico to the Hudson Strait and up to the Labrador sea.

Atlas du Canada (1981) page 32
Sélection du Reader's Digest, Montréal