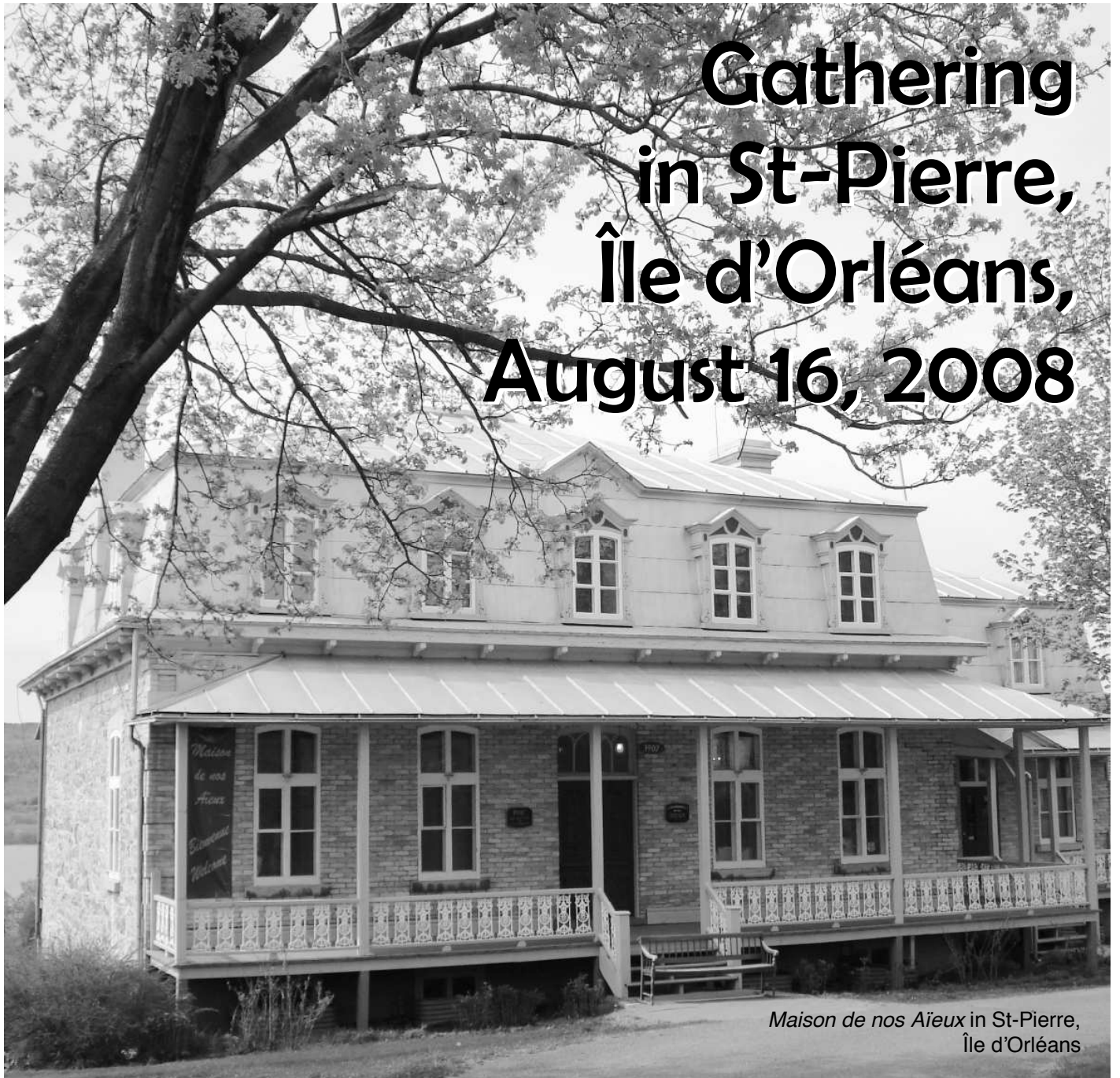




Le Mercien

Voice of the Mercier of North America

**Gathering
in St-Pierre,
Île d'Orléans,
August 16, 2008**



*Maison de nos Aïeux in St-Pierre,
Île d'Orléans*



Armoiries des Mercier d'Amérique du Nord déposées par Mgr Jean-Paul Gélinas en 1986.



Armoiries d'un Mercier d'Angleterre au 15^e siècle répertoriées dans Burke Armorial de Londres.



Armoiries d'Ernest Mercier déposées par l'Institut Généalogique Drouin en 1954.

Association des Mercier de l'Amérique du Nord (AMAN) inc.

Case postale 10090, succ. Sainte-Foy, Québec (QC)
G1V 4C6 CANADA

www.genealogie.org/famille/mercier
Courriel : mercier.aman@hotmail.com

The Association was incorporated by letters patent April 19, 1985 and registered the same day in Volume 1194, folio 160, in accordance with Part III of the Quebec Companies Act (R.S.Q. Chap. C-38, s. 218).

The objects of the association are as follows :

1. To organize Mercier gatherings in North America and especially in the Province of Quebec.
2. To publish regularly in Quebec, in the form of a newsletter, information on Mercier families of North America and Europe.
3. To collect and disseminate information on the accomplishments of those who have brought recognition to the Mercier name throughout the world.
4. To promote the identification, restoration and preservation of buildings and objects of value that belonged to Merciers, who have left their mark in North America and in Europe.
5. To get the Merciers of the world to become concerned about the preservation of their heritage, to become interested in genealogical studies and in stories about those who will not make it into the history books.
6. To create and develop a non-profit foundation whose purpose would be to achieve the objects mentioned above.
7. The objects will not, however, permit donors or their beneficiaries to recover in any way the funds which will have been given to the corporation.

Honour roll - Governors of A.M.A.N.

Name	Occupation	Residence	Admission
Ernest Mercier	Founding President of l' A.M.A.N.		1999
Pierre-Paul Mercier	Administration	Saint-Lambert, QC	2000
Alain Mercier	Communications	Sillery, QC	2000
Charles Mercier	Engineering	Québec City, QC	2000
Christine Mercier	Teaching	Québec City, QC	2000
Louis Mercier	Actuary	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Pierre Mercier	Engineering	Saint-Bruno, QC	2000
Suzanne Mercier	Commerce	Montréal, QC	2000
Lucienne M.-Croteau	Teaching	Bonnyville, AB	2001

Board of Directors for 2007-2008 and services of AMAN

Executive

President:	Vacant		
Vice-Pres:	Vacant		
Secretary:	Suzanne Mercier, (#1126) Saint-Damien,	Tel.: (418) 789-2976	Email : « geobegin@globetrotter.net »
Treasurer:	Jean Mercier (#1), Québec	Tel.: (418) 688-3092	Email : « jean_mercier@sympatico.ca »

Members

Administrateurs

Benoît Mercier (#222), Charlesbourg	Tel.: (418) 623-0833	Email : « benoitmercier@hotmail.com »
Diane Mercier (#1465), Anjou	Tel.: (514) 352-3363	
Dolorès Morin (#1207), St-Étienne	Tel.: (418) 831-2319	Email : « morindodo@hotmail.com »
Isabelle Mercier (#269), Sainte-Foy	Tel.: (418) 651-3839	
Jean-Guy Mercier (#1417), Sainte-Foy	Tel.: (418) 650-3874	Email : « claudette@fortin.com »
Lucie Mercier (#819), Plessisville	Tel.: (819) 362-2856	Email : « lmerferd@hotmail.com »
Pierre-Paul Mercier (#19), Saint-Lambert	Tel.: (450) 671-9051	Email : « ppmercier@videotron.ca »

Services

Records:	André Mercier (#189), Québec	Tel.: (418) 683-3959	Email : « and.mercier@videotron.ca »
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Membership dues

Annually :	\$25
Life membership, 65 years and older :	\$250
Life membership, less than 65 years of age :	\$400
Governor :	\$1,000

Ces montants sont en devises américaines pour les résidents des États-Unis et en euros pour les Européens.

This newsletter is named after the kingdom of Mercia which existed from the 7th to the 10th centuries. It was one of the seven original kingdoms constituting England. The inhabitants of that territory must have been called Mercians (or Mercien in French).

We are proud to perpetuate that name today.

**A.M.A.N. is a member of
the Québec Federation of First Families**

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Editorial

The arrival of spring, together with the traditional outing to the sugar-shanty and preparation of the annual meeting, signals the return to activities where socializing becomes more important, bringing people together.

The unfavourable weather, the late spring have somewhat tempered the enthusiasm for our date at the Réal Barbeau sugar-shanty. Even if we regretted the absence of some members, the event was nevertheless a success.

It's been difficult to find a president. After Jean-Louis resigned, Pierre-Paul agreed to replace him temporarily but now can no longer hold this function, although he will remain on the Board. We wish to thank them both for the competence and devotion given to AMAN and "LE MERCIEN"

As you may notice in the article about the 2007-2008 Board and Services of AMAN, the functions of president and vice-president are open, and, even if this function is not listed in AMAN services, the search is also on for an editor for "Le MERCIEN". Also the Board has lost one of its valuable members in the person of Thérèse Mercier, who died last March 29th. Finally, Claudine resigned from the Board but, fortunately, continues to spend a lot of time and energy compiling important data towards our future dictionary, and helping with the "MERCIEEN".

Needless to say the next annual meeting will offer a chance to everyone to offer their help, be it ever so small, towards the realization of our association's objectives. If you cannot attend the meeting, you may contact us by phone, by mail and the internet.

Annual Fees

For a while now, your Association has worked on standardizing renewal dates for your annual fees. It's now a done thing.

The annual fee each year will be due May 31st, with a few exceptions, for members who pay on an annual basis. For those who are paid up for more than one year, please refer to the date written on your membership card.

To facilitate payment of your fee, you will find enclosed a form together with a return envelope. You may, at the same time, add a small amount, however minimal, for the benefit of the Development Fund.

Standardization of the due date for annual fees is meant to bring down handling costs as much as possible, avoiding the need to mail a renewal notice

by including this notice in the "Le Mercien" bulletin.

As this measure seems to have been well accepted, the Board has gone a step further by including in this issue of our bulletin a permanent member card. Besides your name, it also includes the year you became a member. No receipt will be sent unless requested, and, in this case, you will receive it with the next issue of the "Mercien". This same issue will include the list of all those who have renewed their membership as well as their new due date. A reminder will be added for late members.

We hope you will agree with this new way of doing things, and rest assured that any suggestion on this subject will be appreciated.





General meeting of the members of the Mercier Families of North America Inc.

Members of the Mercier Families' Association of North America Inc. are cordially invited to the 24th annual general meeting to be held at the social club of the Stadacona Employees ("Club social des employés Stadacona"), located at 1807, chemin Royal, St-Pierre, Île d'Orléans, on August 16, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda

- 24,1 Opening of the meeting, word of welcome;
- 24,2 Reading and approval of the agenda;
- 24,3 Reading and approval of the minutes of the last meeting (August 25, 2007);
- 24,4 Chairman's report;
- 24,5 Treasurer's report:
 - 1) Report on fiscal year ending June 30, 2008
 - 2) Presentation of budgetary estimates ending June 30, 2009;
- 24,6 Appointment of an auditor;
- 24,7 Approval of actions taken by Board members;
- 24,8 Changes to By-law No. 1 concerning the number of members on the Board and how many are needed to make up a quorum;
- 24,9 Election of Board members;
- 24,10 Miscellaneous;
- 24,11 Close of the meeting.

Suzanne Mercier, secretary

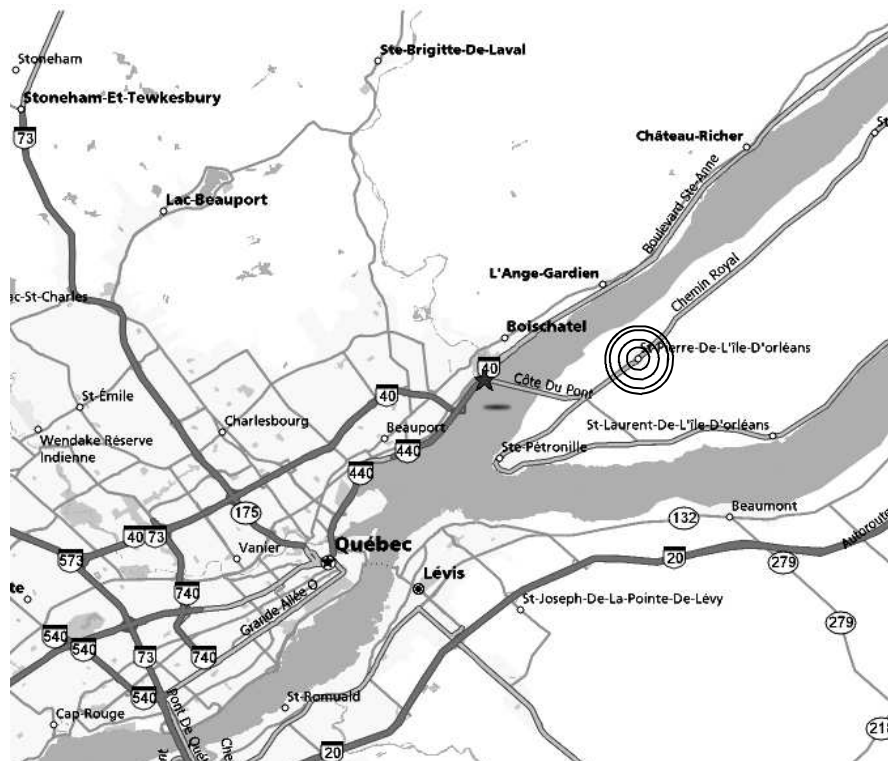


AMAN's General Meeting

Program of the Day

- 9:30** Reception and Registration
General meeting of members
- 11:35** Departure for Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré
- 12:00** Lunch at the restaurant of the inn at the Basilica
(Cafeteria, choice of 3 menus)
- 1:30 p.m.** Guided tour (French and English) of the Basilica Museum
- 2:30 p.m.** Departure for Château-Richer
- 2:45 p.m.** Guided tour (French and English) of the Interpretation Centre of the
"Côte-de-Beaupré" at Château-Richer
- 4:00 p.m.** Departure for Ste-Famille
- 4:30 p.m.** Guided tour(French and English) of the Maison de nos Aïeux(Ancestors'
House) at Ste-Famille (Île d'Orléans)
- 5:45 p.m.** Return to St-Pierre
- 6:15 p.m.** Wine will be served at a reception in honour of the honorary president
- 7:00 p.m.** Dinner, with honorary presentation to the honorary president
Lecture by Father Raymond Létourneau, book author
Subject of the lecture: Settling of the first "habitants" on Île d'Orléans

N.B. : Transportation between the various sites will be by bus





Proposed changes to By-law No. 1 concerning the number of Board Members

Over the last few years, it has become harder and harder to find people willing to sit on our Board of Directors. Quorum required for its meetings has also become a problem. Your Board, at its meeting of May 3rd, 2008, has resolved to present you with the following changes.

Motion to bring changes to general By-law # 1, approved at the General Meeting of August 15, 1987, and modified at a Special General Meeting on August 26, 2000.

Present version of By-laws to be modified:

4,01 COMPOSITION: The Corporation is administered by a Board made up of eleven(11) directors.

4,05 TERM LIMITS: On the election of the Association's first Board of Directors, five(5) members are elected for a one(1)-year term, and six(6) are elected for a two(2)-year term. At the end of the first year, five (5) directors are elected for two(2) years, at the end of the second year, six(6) directors are elected for two (2) years, and so on and so on, at each annual General Meeting of the Association.

Each director remains in place until his or her successor is elected, unless his or her mandate ends before term, and the board members whose term ends may be re-elected.

6,04 QUORUM: The Board may decide by resolution on the quorum required for their meetings but until it has been decided otherwise, the quorum is set at six(6) directors. The quorum decided on by the directors must be observed for the whole duration of the meeting.

CHANGES PROPOSED BY NEW BY-LAWS

4,01 - COMPOSITION: The Corporation is administered by a Board made up of at least five(5) directors but not more than 11(eleven), the number of directors to be elected at the annual meeting to be set by a resolution of the Board before the annual meeting.

4,05 - TERM LIMITS: On the election of the Association's Board of Directors, the General Meeting elects the directors for a two (2)-year term, alternating half every year.

Each board member remains in place until his or her successor is elected, unless his or her mandate ends before term, and the board members whose term ends may be re-elected.

6,04 QUORUM: Directors may, by resolution, decide on the quorum needed for the Board of Directors' meetings but until it is decided otherwise, the quorum is set at half the directors elected. If the number of directors is an odd number, quorum will be set by completing the fraction over half the number of designated directors. (For example, if 5 directors are designated, quorum will then be 3, and so on.) The quorum of directors thus set must be observed during the whole meeting.

Your Board of Directors has also decided at that same meeting to set at seven (7) the number of directors needed for the next year.





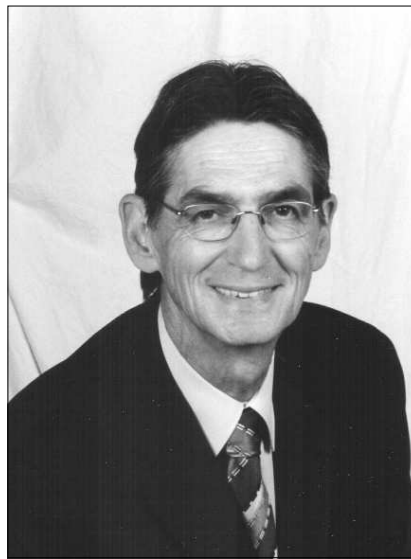
Mr. Gilmond Mercier, President of Honour

Born in Ste-Sabine-de-Bellechasse, a parish located 100 kilometres southeast of Quebec City, near the U.S. border, Gilmond Mercier is the son of Georges Mercier and Béatrice Bisier. He is the youngest of a family of six children. They are descendants of the Mercier dit Lajoie line whose ancestor, Grenadier Charles Mercier, arrived in Nouvelle-France in 1756, during the Conquest War.

As a young child, at the beginning of the 1950s, Gilmond takes an interest in the tales told by old retirees, spending their spare time sitting on the benches of his father's general store. While smoking their pipes, they talk, among other subjects, about his great-grandfather, Captain Louis Mercier, a very big man who was co-founder of the Dorchester and Beauce Regiment. It may have been the start of Gilmond's interest in history. At that time, his dream is to become a horse-dealer like his uncle, Jean-Louis Mercier. But soon, even in rural areas, horses will be replaced by automobiles. His dream will disappear and give way to another as he listens to radio. His ear glued to the speaker, he follows the games of the Montreal "Canadiens" hockey team. Maurice Richard becomes his idol. While still a youngster, he puts on his older sister's skates, and, later on, plays successfully for many years in inter-parish leagues. Even today, he enjoys weaving the puck around on the ice with his old friends.

His parents' residence, attached to the general store, is close to the convent of the Order of the Sisters of "Charité de Saint-Louis" where he starts elementary school, going on to high school also in Ste-Sabine,

and then to Jean-de-Brébeuf College in Limoilou. He later obtained a Teaching Diploma from the Department of Education of Laval University, and a bachelor's degree in Geography at the same university.



A childhood and adolescence spent in a rural area is an excellent occasion to become a nature lover. So many good times spent walking through forests and fields, taking pictures of wild flowers, bird-watching, looking for crawfish and catching fish with a pail in brooks. In 1958, an activity will become his main hobby: forestry. At the age of 14, he takes part in the plantation of 2000 spruce trees on the Mercier family farm which today, fifty years later, have grown into a mature forest. Since then, he has been planting trees, thinning them, cutting branches, every time he

gets a chance. His plantations of more than 200,000 trees are interspersed with roads and trails along which he loves to take walks with his family and his dog, Kafée. This passion for trees is even at the origin of his motto: *one hears a tree fall but when the forest grows, not a sound*(from a Chinese proverb). The motto may also be to pay tribute to those who work away from the limelight.

The coming of television gives Gilmond an opening to the world. Without even leaving home, he travels to every country with his stamp collection. His passion for traveling leads him, during his student days, to hitchhike across the Canadian provinces and the United States where he discovers the immensity of the Prairies, the grandeur of the Western Cordillera, Yellowstone Park and, in later years, in more comfortable conditions, marvellous





Tuscany, astonishing Venice, and spell-binding Paris.

Even if travelling is good for young people, work is no less worthwhile. From working in his father's store to the tobacco harvest in Ontario, through Toronto harbour, strawberry fields outside of Vancouver, alfalfa fields in Manitoba to research at Laval University and teaching Forestry during his retirement.

A career in High School teaching, started in 1969 in Saint-Martin de Beauce, in the first rural polyvalent school in Quebec, will end at Saint Georges polyvalent after 32 years of enjoyment, teaching Geography and History to thousands of youngsters. Teaching for him is a real accomplishment. Introducing learning activities to meet the needs of his students was for this teacher a true passion. His innovations were shared with his colleagues and even transmitted to many high schools in the province.

Gilmond has been married to Céline Chabot for 39 years. She worked in Communications and Public Relations with the Beauce-Etchemin School Board. She was also president of the Beauce Tourist Bureau for ten years. Gilmond and Cécile are the happy parents of a son, Éric, who works in Saint-Georges de Beauce as Financial Comptroller for Comact, a company which manufactures material for sawmills.

In their retirement, the couple left the Beauce area to return to their native village where opportunity for volunteer work is plentiful. Gilmond was co-editor of the history of Sainte-Sabine published for its 100th anniversary in 2006. Also, he spent two years doing the inventory and cataloguing of old photos of the parish, for the exhibition held during the centenary celebrations. More than 2000 photos were filed and coded on the computer, and in a 237-page brochure.

At the beginning of the 1980s, one evening in Beauce, the telephone rings in Gilmond's residence. A stranger to him at the time, Mr. Ernest Mercier, future founder of the Association of the Merciers of America, is looking for someone to help him reach the Merciers in that area. He takes the opportunity to tell him about the Mercier dit Lajoie line and to put him in contact with people who could help him. Jacques Mercier, a colleague of his, composes the theme song for the 1987 Mercier gathering. Together, they will try to get as many Beauce people as possible interested in the AMAN association by holding meetings in some parishes. It was not much of a success. They felt like they were preaching in the desert.

In 2001, Gilmond organized a family reunion attended by 125 descendants of Edmond Mercier and Élise Brochu. Getting to know each other, and a historical rally were the order of the day. See the "Le Mercien" bulletin, Vol. 18, No. 3, Fall of 2002. The year 2007 was the occasion to pay tribute to Louis Mercier and his wife Adèle Audet who are the ancestors of the Mercier dit Lajoie of the "Hauts de Bellechasse". Around 225 descendants took part in the unveiling of a Funerary Monument at the Ste-Justine cemetery, followed by Commemorative Mass and Supper at Sainte-Sabine. See "Le Mercien", Vol. 23, No. 3, Fall of 2007. Those attending the event were able to get to know their ancestors a little better. To this end, Gilmond wrote a booklet about Captain Louis Mercier which, it is hoped, will lead the younger people to take over, in the respect of past generations.



A Few Things To Know About The Various Sites Toured During The Afternoon Of August 16

A few things to know about the various sites toured during the afternoon of August 16.

Ste-Anne Museum

“Treasures” from the collections will be presented. The most important collection of ex-voto in America, including: “The Three Castaways of Lévis”, the “ex-voto of the Marquis de Tracy”, and the “ex-voto of Monsieur Roger”. Many works by Louis Jobin, the history of the 1676 church, from the first basilica to the present one, through drawings, photos, original works, not mentioning the whole history of the devotion to Saint Ann. Will be added in this Jubilee Year the exhibition *François, first bishop of quebec, pilgrim of sainte anne*



(taken from: website La basilique Sainte-Anne de Beaupré)

Interpretation Centre of the Côte-de-Beaupré

Located at Château-Richer in an old convent built in 1907 which served as a school until 1972, the Interpretation Centre offers a series of exhibitions on subjects of historical interest, such as “A look at the Côte de beaux prés in all its aspects”, “The site of old convents”, “The classroom of yesteryears”, “Quebec Pottery and Ceramics 1650-1950”



Also an exhibition on François-de-Laval, and the founding family featured this year: the Lefrançois

(taken from: website Interpretation Centre of the Côte-de-Beaupré)

Ancestors' House

Located at 3907, chemin Royal in Ste-Famille, more than a century-old, the “Ancestors' House” is in fact the former presbytery of the Parish. Among the exhibitions to be seen, let's mention “The Family First” and “Open House on our Presbyteries”. Also on exhibit is a large model of the island which illustrates the evolution of the occupation by the first settlers. The “Ancestors' Park”, located right by the house, offers a magnificent view of the St. Lawrence River and of the Laurentians.



(taken from : website of the François Lamy Foundation)





Thérèse Mercier

On March 29, 2008, the Montmagny area was saddened by the death of Thérèse Mercier, a nurse by profession, a person devoted and strongly committed to humanitarian causes.

Her valour and merit were appreciated, not only by those she helped - people who most often did not have easy access to health services - but equally recognized by regional organizations. Proofs of this are the many tributes she received. Let us mention that of the Order of Nurses (1983), a Special Mention from the Montmagny Hôtel-Dieu Hospital (1988), and the Personality of the Year Award from the Richelieu Club (1989).

Thérèse was a member of AMAN for over 20 years and sat on the Board of directors from 1999 until her death. During her mandate, AMAN held one their most successful general meeting, and she was no stranger to this success.



Many thanks, Thérèse, and Bon Voyage!



Sincere Condolences to the Families

Huguette Beauchesne	Victoriaville	May 25, 2007	member 145
Paul Cauchon Mercier	Québec City	December 29, 2007	member 1365
Thérèse Mercier	Montmagny	January 3, 2008	member 455
Fleurette Mercier Lavertue	Lévis	January 4, 2008	
Paul-Henri Mercier		January 10, 2008	

Welcome to the New Members

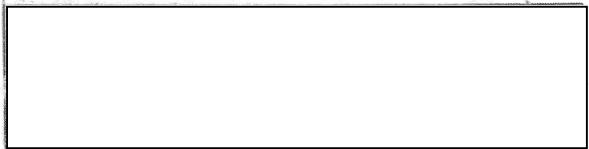
1512	Henriette Beaulieu	Montmagny
1513	Patrick Jacques	Thetford Mines
1514	Nancy Laflamme	Québec
1515	Yolande Mercier	Montmagny
1516	Jean Mercier	Québec City
1517	Francine Mercier	Montréal
1518	Denis Mercier	St-Jérôme
1519	Daniel Mercier	Ste-Eulalie
1520	Laurent Mercier	St-Hubert
1521	Yvette Desrochers	Hearst On.
1522	Doris Ferrara	Warren R.I. É.U.

The quite appreciable increase in new members is in part due to the initiative of Mrs. Cecilia Mercier who, at a special event organized by Mr. Gilmond Mercier last July, took advantage of the occasion to persuade new people to join our Association. A sincere Thank You.



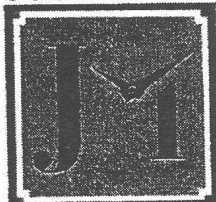
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