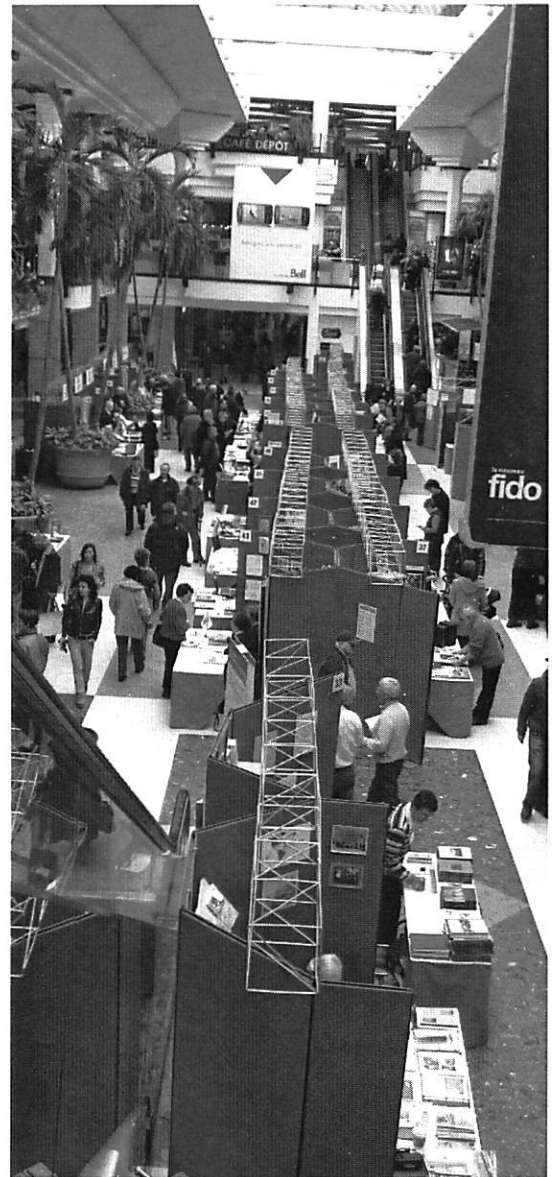




# *Le Mercien*

*Voice of the Mercier of North America*

**The Exposition of Founding families... The Merciers were there!**



*Among the volunteers for the Merciers, Mr. Jean-Louis Mercier, former president of the Association and Mrs. Cécilia Mercier who wrote us a Poem on page 8, Harvesting the time.*



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



Armoiries d'un Mercier d'Angleterre au 15<sup>e</sup> siècle répertoriées dans Burke Armorial de Londres.



Armoiries d'Ernest Mercier

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

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

PO Box 10090, succ. Sainte-Foy, Québec (QC)  
G1V 4C6 CANADA

[www.genealogie.org/famille/mercier](http://www.genealogie.org/famille/mercier)  
E-mail : [mercier.aman@hotmail.com](mailto: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	Québec City, 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

<b>President:</b>	Benoît Mercier (#222), Québec City	Tel.: (418) 623-0833	Email : « benoitbmercier@hotmail.com »
<b>Vice-Pres:</b>	Germain Napert (#1480), Boisbriand	Tel.: (450) 437-1220	Email : « nappert@videotron.ca »
<b>Secretary:</b>	Suzanne Mercier, (#1126) Saint-Damien,	Tel.: (418) 789-2976	Email : « geobegin@globetrotter.net »
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jean Mercier (#1), Québec City	Tel.: (418) 688-3092	Email : « jean_mercier@sympatico.ca »

### Members

#### Administrators

Dolorès Morin (#1207), St-Étienne	Tel.: (418) 831-2319	Email : « morindodo@hotmail.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

<b>Archives:</b>	André Mercier (#189), Québec City	Tel.: (418) 683-3959	Email : « and.mercier@videotron.ca »
<b>Accounting:</b>	Benoît Mercier (#222), Québec City	Tel.: (418) 623-0833	Email : « benoitbmercier@hotmail.com »
<b>Necrology:</b>	Isabelle Mercier (#269), Québec City		

## Membership dues

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

*Those amounts are in U.S. currency for U.S. residents and in euros for European residents.*

This newsletter is named after the kingdom of Mercia which existed from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> 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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# President's Message

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**A**t the last meeting, the members of your Board of Directors distributed among themselves tasks or duties in order to assure the continuity of the Association.

Thus, a project to update or modernize our Internet site is underway. The goal of this modernization is to make available a consolidated index of the first 24 years of publication of our newsletter, *Le Mercien*. This will be a project requiring outside expertise for which the cost will be contained as much as possible within the current budget. A decision on same will be made at the next meeting (See page 13). Other topics or elements might also eventually be incorporated in the site such as genealogy, a discussion forum, etc. without having to redo the whole plan. Few family associations currently use their site for the purpose of directly displaying genealogical data on Internet.

The Board has also decided to hold our next **annual assembly** in Drummondville or the surrounding area, on August 19, 2009. The search for someone to organize this event is underway.

The traditional **sugar shack get-together** will take place next April 18. You will find the details of this activity elsewhere in this newsletter. Don't miss it.

For those followers of popular events, the **Salon de généalogie**, organized by the Fédération des familles

souches du Québec, was held at Place Laurier on March 6,7 and 8, 2009. Your association was in attendance. We met there many visitors interested in getting information and meeting other people who share the same interests. This year's theme was – *A name, A family, A history*

Our association is registered in the **Internet Portal** of the Centre de la Francophonie des Amériques. The main purpose of this Centre is to reach out and bring into contact the Francophones and Francophiles throughout the Americas, especially the young people. Its goals are in line with ours, as a family association.

As for the **genealogical index**, work is progressing and we are compiling the genealogical data; it is an on-going and non-ending process. All new information or corrections will be most appreciated.

At the end of last year, some people chose not to renew their term on the Board of Directors. On behalf of your Board, I would like to thank **Diane, Isabelle and Jean-Guy** who have served voluntarily for many years and who, through their ideas and efforts, have greatly contributed to the continuity of our association. That is a most important item that I forgot to mention in the last issue.

**Benoit**

---

**IMPORTANT - MAPLE SUGAR SHACK - IMPORTANT - MAPLE SUGAR SHACK**



Contrary to what was written in the last newsletter,  
The maple sugar party is **Saturday April 18 2009.**

**IMPORTANT - MAPLE SUGAR SHACK - IMPORTANT - MAPLE SUGAR SHACK**

# Presentation

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The present newsletter is lightly superior in number of page than the precedent. It has 16 pages. If *The Mercien* is prepared by the Board of Directors, it is no less the one of all the members... And it seem they do not have much to say.

However some are very original and have sent unusual material or poetry on the part of Cecilia (1342) and cross word puzzle from Gilmond (28). It must be recognized that the publication of these texts have been considered previously, but reluctantly discarded because they are very difficult to translate to the English-language edition. We recognize of course that this argument is major, but deprive the readers of the French edition of these texts seems simply wrong. We are trying a compromise by translating the introductory text but were afraid to do so for the poems. We hope that some of you will be able to enjoy them. The cross words were regrettably ignored. The obituary chronicle is somewhat getting bigger, but, not to make it more alive, but it include those who had the misfortune of dying far from Quebec City and died incognito from our readers. That's about the whole

province that is now scanned and some items are added to facilitate identification of family ties useful to genealogists.

In conclusion it may seem sometimes a lack of continuity in the edition of our newsletter, but we must understand that there is no permanence in an organization of our kind and that the printing of *The Mercien* is 29 for the English version and 240 for the French version.

Good reading.

*Jean (1)*

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## Renewal of the Annual Contribution

The renewal of the annual contribution becomes due every May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

We take the occasion of the shipping of this newsletter to invite those who did not already renewed to do so.

You will find, to facilitate your payment, a enclosed form and a return envelope to. You can, by the way,

send us a amount, small or big to the development fund.

The name of those who paid their annual contribution will be in the next issue.



*Happy Easter to all!*





# Merciery of all kinds

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*In this issue of our newsletter, we offer a biography of a Mercier who experienced celebrity status in the world of opera, François-Xavier Mercier. The story is taken from the October 2007 issue of the InfOpéra review under the pen-name of Robert Thérien. It was forwarded to us by Pierre-Paul (#19).*

## François-Xavier Mercier

**One of the first lyric artists from Québec to experience an international career**

**B**orn in Champlain on August 13, 1871, François-Xavier Mercier grew up in the Jacques-Cartier parish. With the help of Brother Stephens, principal of Académie commerciale (business school), he obtained a position as a teacher of bookkeeping at the Mont Saint-Louis college in Montreal in 1891. But the young man was already attracted by lyric art, a dangerous idea in those days. The following year, he left for Toronto where he was lodged by John M. Cameron who gave him courses in self expression, and by the pharmacist Eugène Lemaître whose daughter Adèle, the organist at St. Michael of Toronto church, gave him courses in musical theory. The young tenor began to perform in churches and participated in concerts in various towns in Ontario. He then sang in the role of Duke in *Rigoletto* at Castle Garden in Boston, and returned to Toronto to open a lyrical singing teaching school and give concerts. But, the tenor was already 27 years old and his career was stagnating.

In September of 1898, Xavier Mercier arrived in Paris to study singing with baritone Jacques Bouhy as well as musical theory and staging production with Mr. Valdéjo. After only two months in Paris, he debuted at Opéra-Comique in March 1899 in *Joseph* (Mehul) and then played in *Carmen*, *Mireille* and *Manon*. At Covent Gardens in London, he performed in 1901 under the direction of Henry Wood in *Faust*, *Les Huguenots*, *Carmen*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Le Roi d'Ys*, with such notables as Emma Calvé, Nellie Melba, Marcel Journet, and Plançon. At the Opéra de Bordeaux, he excelled in Rosini's *William Tell*, then sang in *Faust*, *L'Africaine* and many other works in France and Belgium. Returning to Canada in December 1906 following the death of his mother, he sang in Toronto on March 13, 1907, and then in Quebec City at the Auditorium on April 25, at the Manège militaire in October, and at the Garde Champlain in November before returning to Paris.

At Constantine (Algeria) where he performed during the 1908-1909 season, he starred in *Les Huguenots* (where he met soprano Isabelle Jeyneyald whom he would marry in 1909), and in *Werther*, *Carmen*, *La Navarraise*, *Paillasse*, *Marie-Magdeleine* and *Hérodiade*. In Algiers and Oran, he sang in *William Tell*, and *The Jewess* (*La Juive*), then participated in 22 concerts at Queen's Hall in London with a 175 piece orchestra under the direction of Henry Wood. After another tour in Algeria and France, Xavier Mercier moved back to

Québec in September 1913 with his wife. The following year, he founded the Institut d'art vocal, where he taught until his death. In May of 1915, he recorded 15 melodies in New York for Columbia, among which notable extracts from operas and patriotic Quebec songs, including *La Huronne* and a rare version of *Ô Canada, mon pays, mes amours* (O Canada, my country, my love), in which he put to music a poem of Louis Fréchette (his mentor at Mont Saint-Louis college). Xavier Mercier also wrote many songs including *France* (1914), *Le Saint-Laurent* (1914), *France et Canada* (1929) and *Vive la Canadienne* (1930). His presence on stage was rare after returning to Canada; he performed only in June of 1920 at Saint-Roch de Québec church, his first recital in 5 years. In 1928, he published *Souvenirs de ma carrière artistique*. In 1931, he was named Honorary President of the Association des Chanteurs de Québec. Xavier Mercier died on December 22, 1932. Many of his works are kept in the National Archives du Québec in Quebec City. You can hear them (Real Audio) on the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec site (digital collections).



*Gilmond (#28) sends us of a very interesting article on his family, written by Martine Rioux and which appeared in Le monde forestier (Forestry World) review. After reading this article, we will all be convinced that family spirit is always alive and that we all benefit greatly from it. It is entitled: Passion de la forêt : un héritage (A passion for the forest: a family heritage).*

## A Passion for the Forest : A Family Heritage

The Mercier family from Sainte-Sabine, a Bellechasse County parish near the American border, was honoured last June by the Groupement forestier de Bellechasse-Lévis (GFBL). «Everything this family has accomplished over the years has been quite exceptional », says **Raynald Pouliot** of the GFBL. The love story of the Mercier family with the forest began in 1953 when **Georges Mercier**, the owner of a general store in Sainte-Sabine, purchased a tract of land in the Sainte-Marie range where in 1958 the family started to plant trees. Mr. Mercier, now deceased, and his wife **Béatrice Bisier**, who is now 96 years of age, have since transmitted to their six children : **Lauréat, Marielle, Justin, Lorraine, Louissette and Gilmond** as well as to their grandchildren, their profound attachment to the forest, and more specifically to the wildlife and fauna and all the wonders of nature. Although most of the Mercier children earned their living away from Sainte-Sabine, they all returned to the village on their retirement . They inherited the lots that their father owned at the time of his death and they also purchased their own pieces of land, or built cottages in the vicinity.

«The family now owns the equivalent of 18 lots, totalling 1,800 acres. More than 500,000 trees, mainly spruce and pine, were planted », Gilmond Mercier states. These lots are located in the municipalities of Sainte-Sabine, Saint-Magloire and Saint-Camille in the Bellechasse County. «At the beginning, we were not foresters but, for all of us, the forest became a source of relaxation, a place to re-energize ourselves. We go into the woods to fish, to pick wild berries, or simply to admire the surroundings. Each year, some silviculture works are done under the guidance of the Groupement forestier », says Mr. Mercier.

### A logbook

This passion for nature takes on a concrete turn in the Mercier family. Since 1960, a logbook was faithfully maintained by family members. It now adds up to more than 200 pages. All the activities which took place on the family estate are noted therein. In 1960, l'étang des Mélézes (larch pond) was dug out and landscaped. In 1964, Georges's lake was created. There is a name for each place. In browsing through the book, one learns as well that a first beaver was spotted in 1975 in the estate, that trees were damaged by the spruce budworm that same year, that the trout stocked lake was emptied of its fish by a hungry otter, etc.



*From left to right : Lorraine, Gilmond, Justin, Lauréat and Marielle Mercier.*

« The contents of this diary are quite impressive. It abounds in various statistics on forest life, on the evolution of nature », affirms Mr. Pouliot. For instance, the book gives data on the first snowfall, the depth of snow on the ground, the thickness of ice on the lakes, the appearance of the first buds, the blossoming of plants, the annual growth of trees, the abundance of wild berries, etc. It comes as no surprise to note that the

year 2008 holds the record (since 1960) for total snowfall, that being 1.5 meters. In the logbook, we can read, for example, « Pollution has become an everyday word: water, air, broadcasting, countryside pollution.... However, here in Sainte-Sabine, we, — the Merciers family —, have this place where, at least up to now, we can feel sheltered, protected from all these evils. And more importantly, this place allows us to escape from the problems and concerns that “pollute “ the serenity of the soul and the spirit ». This comment was written in 1970, and nothing appears to have changed since.

From left to right: Lorraine, Gilmond, Lauréat, Justin, and Marielle Mercier.

# Cueillir le temps (Harvesting the time)

*The family and friends of Cécilia have had the chance, thanks to her, to « harvest the time». An active member and former director of the AMAN, Cécilia, during her spare time, writes and recites « words of enlightenment». Winner of an award of excellence at the Festival de poésie de Trois-Rivières (Poetry Festival of Three-Rivers), she generously agreed, at our request, to share some poems with the readers of Le Mercien. Here they follow.*

## Mélancofie

«je marche seule par un jour  
de pluie intérieure»\*  
ma vie tachée d'automne  
écrasée par la mélancolie  
le vent souffle sur ce triste matin

j'écoute parler le silence  
je sens le ciel au fond de moi  
en quête de soleil

entre mes songes  
des mots de lumière  
remplis d'écho  
attendent la réponse des augures

j'invente ma délivrance  
mon âme s'illusionne  
l'espoir d'être entendue  
colore mes attentes

d'un élan impondérable  
la vie affleure  
comme un soleil  
ton nom résonne en moi  
\*Citation de Pierre Chatillon

## Rêveries

dans les plis de mes souvenirs  
la mémoire remue  
abreuée aux sources de l'enfance

je m'enfonce dans la douceur  
les mots sèment le rêve

par la fenêtre  
le bonheur est là  
les souvenirs se renversent

sous la toile des jours  
chimères apprivoisées  
un soleil luit

l'enfance à l'abri du temps

## Sérénité

vivre au gré de mes rêves  
l'enfance en allée  
au couchant des années

souvenirs secrets soudain retrouvés  
où l'heure sonne au cœur

rythmes berceurs de musique astrale  
des lieds joyeux  
comme un ange du dimanche  
ah! La sérénité des jours

au chaud relent des brises  
qui anime chaque feuille  
j'évoque des parfums suaves

là-bas au temps de l'enfance  
ma pensée est couleur lumière

## La berçante

il arrive que le ciel me console  
au cœur de l'enfance  
j'ouvre la mémoire

des images que je vois  
vénérable aïeule  
blottie dans ta berçante

petits enfants émoussés  
sur les genoux  
murmures de chapelets égrenés

assoupie dans un balancement feutré  
cette chaise au bois usé de souvenirs

ton âme y est incrustée  
poussière vivante

## Évasion

au cœur d'une forêt sereine  
où niche un havre occulté  
j'ai soif d'un lieu  
et d'espace devant moi

je marche avec ravissement  
irradiant la beauté de la terre  
dans sa musique automnale  
saison de corne d'abondance

étranges plaintes des feuilles  
sous la caresse du vent  
des parfums éclatent des sous-bois  
sans limite est le temps

perdue dans le silence  
une douceur m'envahit  
au bord de l'infini  
le rêve et l'horizon

## Émotions

au loin une cloche  
égrene un son rythmique  
de vieilles chansons  
brament à mes lèvres

dans la paix de l'automne  
grisée du parfum des sous-bois  
rêveuse au gré des sentiers

j'émerge sur un fatras de pierres  
qui mûrissent dans l'oubli  
ma main rampe sur cette surface  
tantôt lisse tantôt rugueuse

sous un ciel ensoleillé  
regard limpide vers l'horizon  
je me récite des mots de lumière

le mot lumière chante  
comme une lampe

«Le soleil monte pas à pas  
vers mon enfance»\*

au cœur de l'enfance  
fragments d'univers  
j'invente des images  
amalgame de souvenirs  
émotions enracinées dans le temps

fragrance de jardins fleuris  
fruits sauvages  
foin engrangé  
avoine moissonnée  
sous-bois d'automne

\*Le titre est de Gatien Lapointe dans Ode  
au Saint-Laurent.



# A Tribute to Marcelle Normand

---

We would like to apologize to our readers for having inadvertently published a preliminary (not edited) version of a Tribute to Marcelle Normand Mercier, wife of our founding president, in the last issue of *Le Mercien*. Here follows the text in its final form.

**Mrs. Marcel Normand**  
Born Nov. 12, 1917 Deceased July 8, 2008

*Dear Parents and family friends:*

I welcome you on behalf of my brothers and sisters, also of Ernest, surely busy doing something useful up above, and of course of Marcelle who would want this day to be a happy occasion.

There are those people who radiate grace, elegance and dignity. We see them in the theatre, imagine them in our dreams and mythology wallows in them. Marcelle was one of those people without the celebrity status.

Ernest was quickly enamoured with this elegant brunette who visited the college where he studied agriculture. She was amazed that he noticed her. I was not there, but I expect she watched him from a distance, always flashing her irresistible smile. A marriage and 6 children later, there she was immersed in the realities of daily life where each chore was done with grace and elegance.

Many of you will remember a special dish that Marcelle planned for hours and then prepared methodically with great care and... just in time. There was a specific knife for each function. The carrots were cut at angle, or cross-cut or lengthwise, onions were finely sliced or chopped, and the broccoli was always served in a cluster. The recipe and proportions are essential to a princely welcome. When she served up an exceptional dish such as her pear meringue, she usually saved a serving for someone missing. She had the gift to make everyone feel comfortable and realize that whatever they may have to say was important to her. She easily found in others what attracted her to them. Her presence, charm, reserve and kindness touched their hearths. Even that of the King of Morocco who tried to charm her an evening long.

Even during the painful hours of her last days, Marcelle exuded her grace and dignity to those who tended to her. We have seen the hospital staff, where she was confined to bed, stop by and greet our mother even though she was not part of their daily care.- She was, in a way, their princess, as they liked to say.

We have a fond memory of those last hours with our mother.- Right to the end she kept the same smile, same pleasant welcome and same grace, all qualities that we found in grand-mother Normand and which were prominent among their descendants.

So goes life.

On behalf of the family, thank you for being here for this last memorial to Marcelle.



# New members

---

1526	Ghislaine Mercier
1527	Bruno Mercier
1528	Marie Mercier
1529	Claude Jacques

# Thanks to those who have renewed their contribution

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The following list contain the numbers and the names of members who, during the month of December 2008, January and February 2009. They have send us their annual contribution. Those who have life membership or have paid for many years in advance are not showed on that list.

1271	Carmelle Mercier
1331	Germaine L. Lamothe
1334	Sr Marie-Paule Mercier
1484	Edouard Mercier

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## Obituaries



**Sœur Georgette Mercier** (Marguerite-de-Savoie) des Sœurs de la Charité d'Ottawa, décédée le 9 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 96 ans, native de St-Michel de Bellechasse, fille de Napoléon Mercier et Nazarine Marceau.

**Marcel Busque** de St-George de Beauce, époux de *Réjeane Mercier*, décédé le 6 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 67 ans, fils de Johny Busque et Lina Gagnon.

**Noël Mercier** de St-Roch-de-l'Achigan, époux en 1<sup>re</sup> et 2<sup>e</sup> noces Pauline Marien et Suzanne Corbin, décédé le 5 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 91 ans.

**Géraldine Simoneau** de Sherbrooke, épouse de *Alphonse Mercier*, décédée le 1<sup>er</sup> janvier 2009 à l'âge de 96 ans, fille de Saül Simoneau et Marie Bilodeau.

**Maurice Mercier** de Plessisville, époux de Françoise Couture, décédé le 6 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 92 ans.

**Antonio Bombardier** de Sherbrooke, époux de *Anne-Marie Mercier*, décédé le 10 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 86 ans.

**Jean-Paul Mercier** de Lévis, époux de Madeleine Fortin, décédé le 14 janvier 2009.

**Père Jacques Mercier** dominicain de Montréal, décédé le 8 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 85 ans, fils de Louis-Philippe Mercier et Adèle Rousseau.

**Rita Vézina Mercier** de Farnham, épouse de Serge Mercier, décédée le 12 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 61 ans, fille de Eugène Vézina.

**Gilberte Houde-Mercier** de Contrecoeur, épouse de *Robert Mercier*, décédée le 4 février 2009 à l'âge de 78 ans.

**Rita Coté** de Macamic, épouse de *Euclide Mercier*, décédée le 23 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 92 ans.

**Céline Parent-Mercier** de Beauceville, épouse de *Robert Mercier*, décédée le 29 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 62 ans, fille de Wilfrid Parent et Yvonne Thibodeau.

**Marcelle Mercier-Lachance** de Montréal, épouse de Fernand Lachance, décédée le 2 février 2009 à l'âge de 80 ans.

**André Mercier** de Victoriaville, époux de Jeanne d'Arc Dion, décédé le 3 février à l'âge de 75 ans.

**Jean-Louis Mercier** de Québec, époux de Georgette Bouthillette, décédé le 29 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 80 ans.

**Gaston Mercier** de Québec, époux de Suzanne Savard, décédé le 28 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 72 ans.

**Thérèse Latulippe-Mercier** de Windsor, épouse de *Alphonse Mercier*, décédée le 19 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 76 ans.

**Murielle Fortier-Mercier** de Sherbrooke, épouse de *Yves Mercier*, décédée le 19 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 60 ans, fille de Jean Fortier et Dolorèse Mailloux.

**Bruno Mercier** de North Hattley, époux de Danielle Bergeron, décédé le 15 janvier 2009 à l'âge de 52 ans, fils de Guy Mercier et Winnie Leech.

**Yvonne Mercier** de Outremont, épouse de Henri Bergeron, décédée le 6 février 2009 à l'âge de 85 ans.

**Maurice Mercier** de Dolbeau-Mistassini, époux de Marie-Claire Tremblay, décédé le 11 février 2009 à l'âge de 82 ans, fils de Mizaël Mercier et Edmondine Boulianne.

**Florence Mercier** de Montréal, décédée le 25 février 2009 à l'âge de 65 ans.

**Dorien Mercier** d'Asbestos, conjoint de Jeanne-d'Arc Plourde Charland, décédé le 22 février 2009 à l'âge de 75 ans.

**Alberte Rochette Mercier** d'Amos, autrefois de La Sarre, épouse de *Jean-Gérard Mercier*, décédée le 22 février 2009 à l'âge de 86 ans.

**Jocelyn Lemay** de Victoriaville, époux de *Rollande Mercier*, décédé le 22 février 2009 à l'âge de 55 ans, fils de Gérard Lemay et Mariette Lemay.

**Liliane Corriveau Mercier** de Lévis, autrefois de St-Vallier, épouse de *Charles-Henri Mercier*, décédée le 20 février 2009 à l'âge de 89 ans.

**Florence Mercier Duquette** de Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, épouse de Oscar Duquette, décédée le 3 mars 2009 à l'âge de 89 ans.

**Lucien Mercier** de Rouyn-Noranda, décédé le 2 mars 2009 à l'âge de 76 ans.

Sincere condolences to the families





## FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES SOCIÉTÉS DE GÉNÉALOGIE

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COMMUNIQUÉ  
For immediate release

### Mr. Francois Mercier joins the FQSG team

**Québec, February 16, 2009** - La Fédération québécoise des sociétés de généalogie (FQSG) is pleased to announce the hiring of Mr. Francois Mercier who, as of today, joins the FQSG team as a research officer.

Francois Mercier's interest for history goes back to 1998 when he finished his high school studies with "History of the 20th Century" as his option course. Then, he followed up with "History and Civilization" at the college level at CEGEP de Sainte-Foy. While doing his study program, he participated in many activities with a bearing on historical memory.

He obtained a Bachelor of History degree at Laval University. Following that, he was to complete a Masters degree in December 2008 under the direction of Mr. Didier Mehu.

In addition to his formal studies centered on research, he gained experience as a research assistant at Laval University from 2004 to 2006. He worked on a project called *Voyages pontificaux et consécration dans les sources narratives françaises des XI<sup>e</sup> et XII<sup>e</sup> siècles* (Pontifical voyages and consecrations in French written sources of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries) under the direction of Mr. Didier Mehu. He then undertook a thorough research in written sources dating from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries. Also, in 2006, he carried out a historiographic account on Saint-Honorat de Lérins Abbey, and took part in a practicum within that abbey situated on Côte d'Azur related to the completion of a historical and archeological project on a sacred island in the Middle Age called : the "monuments" of island Saint-Honorat de Lérins. Needless

- 30 -

SOURCE : Sylvain Croteau, directeur général  
418 653-3940  
[federationgenealogie@bellnet.ca](mailto:federationgenealogie@bellnet.ca)  
[www.federationgenealogie.qc.ca](http://www.federationgenealogie.qc.ca)





One of the decisions taken at recent meetings of the Board of Directors of AMAN, was to go ahead and invest in improving and developing our website located with many other Partners at *Centre de généalogie francophone d'Amérique* "[www.genealogie.org](http://www.genealogie.org)".

It was developed over the years with modest financial means and dedication and it greatly improve in recent months to allow visitors access to extensive information. A contract will be awarded to a firm that specializes in this area to improve our site and provide for its development gradually accommodate items such as:

- the index of our newsletter *Le Mercien*
- Genealogy
- forum
- the digital edition of *Le Mercien*

We believe that this well timed initiative and its costs will be paid by the Development Fund. We invite you now to familiarize with this information center already interesting and give us your comments and suggestions.

- E-mail: [mercier.aman@hotmail.com](mailto:mercier.aman@hotmail.com)
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- by phone: an administrator to your choice (see page 3)

Thank you for your cooperation

# DNA and Genalogy

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*The following article appeared in the newspaper **La Presse** under the signature of **Amanda-Marie Quintino**. The service offered therein is still available. It should be understood that the information received does not permit you to create a genealogical tree, but provides some parameters on your family origins.* *Good reading.*

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TORONTO : Genealogy adepts might be attracted to the possibility offered them to uncover their family tree with the help of a simple DNA test and an Internet connection.

Since many businesses in the United States and at least one in Canada offer this service, an expert suggests that customers should first try to understand the real nature of DNA.

A laboratory in Vancouver joined with The Hudson Bay Company to create the first retail DNA bank in the country. That should, inter alia, enable customers to determine their ethnic and ancestral origins.

The DNA Ancestry Project «allows people to trace their origins and to establish links with lost members of their family », says Dr. June Wong , president of Genetrack Biolabs, an accredited firm which already performs tests for the federal government.

The procedure is described by Mrs. Wong as being as easy as «brushing your teeth ». The kit includes, among other things, a cotton swab to collect sample cells from the inside of the cheek. The swab is then forwarded to the Genetrack lab in Vancouver for analysis.

Between 4 and 6 weeks later, clients can access the company web site and, with the aid of a CD-ROM which is also part of the kit, discover their genetic history.

Gene Tree DNA Testing Center, based in Salt Lake City, Utah, foresees a growing demand for this type of service amongst genealogy fans. If these businesses become commercially successful, other like enterprises may very well appear, but a geneticist alerts people as to just what it is that they are about to do.

« These samples contain very specific and precise data », affirms Dr. Peter Ray who is the head of the Department of molecular genetics at Toronto Children's Hospital. « Giving a DNA sample is like donating blood, or a specimen of skin. » The objective of such tests is to determine one's ancestors, but he reminds us that DNA tests also allow us to know if the subject might theoretically be susceptible to various diseases.

However Mrs. Wong assures us that her company only studies people genealogy and does not transmit any information related to diseases. The clients have the option to trace their ancestors whether on the maternal or paternal side. Basic research for a parent costs \$ 139, and for the parental origin of both father and mother, \$ 278. With the CD-ROM, you can also establish DNA links with the 500,000 registered network members, at Website: [www.dnaancestryproject.com](http://www.dnaancestryproject.com)

The kit is currently sold in various Bay stores.

DNA at genealogy service  
By Amanda-Marie Quintino  
Canadian Press

# A INVITATION TO THE SUGAR SHACK

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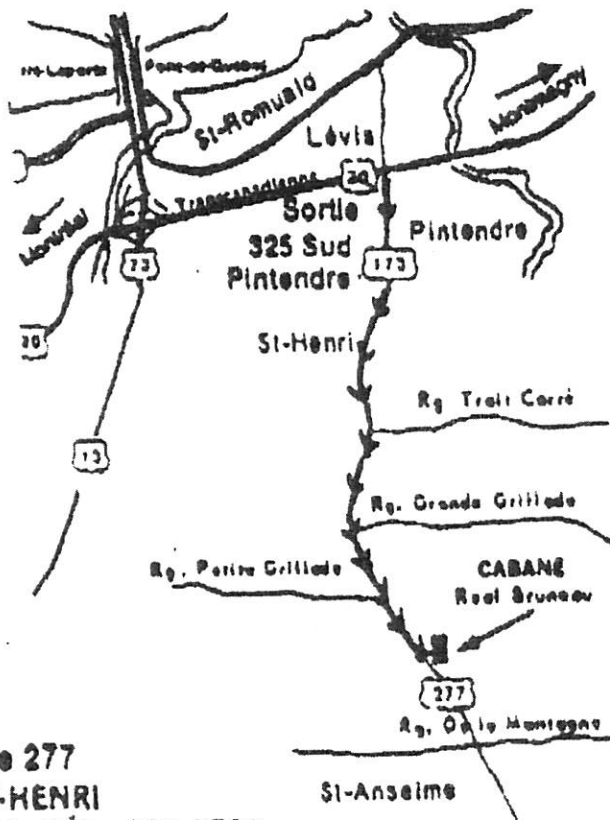
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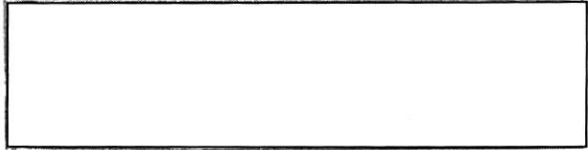




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