



Le Mercien

La voix des Mercier d'Amérique

www.famillesmercier.org



Welcome to the new administrators

Lise and Aurèle are presented by Jean



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

Name	Occupation	Residence	Admission
Ernest Mercier *	Founding President of the 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
Ralph Mercier		Québec City (Charbesbourg), QC	2012

(*) décédé

Board of Directors for 2013-2014 and services of A.M.A.N.

Executive

President:	Jean Mercier (1524), St-Jérôme, tel.: (450) 432-3223	Email: « jean.mercier6@videotron.ca »
Vice-Pres:	Germain Nappert (1480), Boisbriand, tel.: (450) 437-1220	Email: « nappert@videotron.ca »
Secretary:	Aurèle Mercier (1573), Ste-Marie, tél.: (418) 387-5079	Email: « mercieraurele@outlook.ca »
Treasurer:	Lise St-André (1572), Ste-Madeleine, tél.: (450) 795-3853	Email: « stal12@yahoo.ca »

Administrators

Archivist:	Gilmond Mercier (28), Sainte-Sabine, tel.: (418) 383-3441	Email: « gilmondm@sogetel.net »
	Jacques Mercier (341), St-Georges, tel.: (418) 228-5426	Email: « studiocimai@gmail.com »
	Laurent Mercier (1520), St-Hubert, tel.: (450) 678 5054	Email: « laurentmercier@ymail.com »

Services

Archives, Web site and Facebook :	Gilmond Mercier (28)
Webmaster :	Pascal Mercier (1568) Email: « pmercier@ubeo.ca »
Le Mercien :	Jean Mercier (1)
Genealogy :	Benoît Mercier (222) Email: « benoitbmercier@hotmail.com »
Translation :	Louis Bibeau, Jane Buskirk
Accounting verification :	Dyane Mercier (1611)

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 7th to the 10th centuries. It was one of the seven original kingdoms constituting England. The inhabitants of that territory must have been called Merciens (or Mercien in French). We are proud to perpetuate that name today.

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A.M.A.N. is a member of the Fédération des associations de familles du Québec



The Word of the President

By Jean Mercier (1524), president

Greetings to all!

The last general assembly was a success. As foreseen, we discussed the totality of the different dossiers concerning our association, but more precisely, the diminishing number of our members which automatically affects the finances of the association. As presented in the last newsletter 'Le Mercien', we had a good discussion on the amount of the annual fees for our members, an amount which has not been increased for a number of years. The general assembly has approved an increase of \$10.00 per year for the next subscription of June 2015.

Another important dossier

Since the founding of AMAN in 1987, we have accumulated more than 78 000 pieces of information with the purpose of producing a repertory of the **MERCIER**. Well, my friends, we have decided to publish this repertory for the 30th anniversary of **AMAN**, a repertory comprising baptisms, marriages and deaths using the basic data presently at the disposition of AMAN. In addition, we will give the history of the six first **MERCIER** who arrived in North America at the beginning of the French settlement. This document, which will be published in 2 volumes will be of a very high quality, and will be presented at our next general assembly to be held in St-Roch de l'Achigan on September 12 2015. We will be in a position to offer you a preview of the volumes on the occasion of our next 'sugar parties' in St-Esprit and in the region of Quebec in the spring of 2015, and also at the next Exposition of the Founding Families of Quebec at the Laurier Shopping Centre in Quebec City in February 2015.



Before ending, I would like to thank Jean Mercier 1 for the magnificent work accomplished as secretary since many years, and thank also Mrs. Suzanne Mercier who acted as treasurer. Mrs. Lise St-André and Mr. Aurèle Mercier of Ste-Marie-de-Beauce will join our administrative council for the year 2014-2015. Welcome to both.

It would be important that you make known to us your interest concerning the new repertory.

We will be in a position to make known to you the cost of purchase in our next Newsletter 'Le Mercien'.

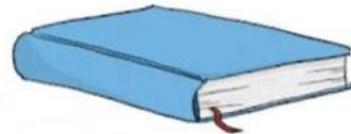
Jean Mercier 1524



To be soon published



Volunteers from the Merciers' Association are working on a genealogical repertory in two books on the Merciens of North America. This repertory will have about 80 000 names which will help you retrace your ascendance up to your first ancestor who arrived in North America. You will also find, information about the places, births, marriages and deceases dates



The genealogical repertory will be available in the Summer of 2015.

You can consult our web site :

<http://www.famillesmercier.org/fr/>

TO RESERVE YOUR COPY,
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Welcome To Our New Treasurer :

Lise St-André

A graduate in Education from the University of Montreal, she has taught for more than 30 years at the primary level in the Montérégie. Her last years of teaching were consecrated to the care of children with special needs such as difficulties in learning and behavioral problems.

She was equally the Union delegate for almost 12 years and responsible for the computer program of her school.

Born in St-Roch-de-l'Achigan (QC), Lise is the daughter of Aurore Mercier and Marcel St-André.

Today enjoying her retirement, Lise and her companion Claude-Marie Duval are passionate for genealogy and history. They have six adorable cats.

Ms. St-André lives in the town of Sainte-Madeleine, but the interest she shows for certain files concerning her birthplace leads us to believe that a part of herself has never really left St-Roch-de-l'Achigan.



Lise St-André and her companion Claude-Marie Duval during a celebration in honour of retiring teachers in November 2012 in Mont-Saint-Hilaire.

Here is Aurèle, Our New Secretary

The professional life of Aurèle is distinguished by his work in Forestry. The successive steps of his career are very characteristic.

It starts in 1967, in Quebec City, when he joins the **Ministry of Lands and Forests** as a technician in forestry.

Nine years later, in 1976, he joins the Sawing Division of the **Chassé Inc.** Company in Sainte-Marie-de-Beauce as Assistant Director and Responsible for the Forestry Operations.

When the wood is cut, why not put it in value? This is what Aurèle consecrates himself to by becoming Director of Manufacturing and Production for a builder of prefabricated homes: **Construction CLR Marcoux Inc.** (later becoming **Maison Marcoux Inc.**) in 1989.

Still one must care for and manage these homes once they are built and inhabited. **In 2008**, in his pre-retirement days, Aurèle will spend three days a week in the care and renovation of homes for **Les Immeubles Richard Lacroix**.

His social implication is manifested particularly

- A) At the Club Chasse et Pêche Sainte-Marie Inc. and at the Centre Plein-air 4 Saisons where he exercises his talents in the field of publicity from 1974-1976 and as President from 1976 to 1980
- B) In the town of Sainte-Marie where he becomes a city councillor from 1978-1998
- C) In the Red Cross where he becomes Regional President from 1998 to 2006

And his family life? Married to Andrée Gagné, they are **parents** of two children and **grandparents** of five grandchildren.



A Return on our Annual Assembly

In his article, the President mentions the main decisions that were announced at the annual assembly and that were taken with the purpose of tempting to address the financial situation of our association and to generate some renewed interest for a project that has been in the works since a few years now, that of creating a Genealogical Repertory for the Mercier families. This project would make available to all the Mercier an information tool of great interest, but which will evidently have to be kept up to date.

The assembly was followed by a very interesting conference given by Mr CLAUDE GENEST, historian, strongly involved in the history of Lévis and the Mouvement Desjardins.

Even if today Lévis is considered as a relatively prosperous city and where it is good to live, it has always been a city trying to grow in the shadow of Quebec City. This presentation reminded us of a certain number of citizens and events which contributed to the actual personality of the City of Lévis and to its development.

The speaker mentioned the CHEVALIER DE LÉVIS, GUILLAUME COUTURE, Mgr. DÉZIEL and education, ALPHONSE and DORIMÈNE DESJARDINS and the movement they created and its development.

Of course we could not forget LA CORRIVEAU. The proximity of Lévis to Quebec City has brought

about activities such as the Railroad Yards, the Maritime Shipyards as well as the erection of a system of fortresses for the protection of Quebec: THE LÉVIS FORTS.

Contemporary life has also brought about some inevitable changes. Thus the policy of the fusion of municipalities gave rise to the creation of a GREATER LÉVIS accentuating by the very fact the identity of a RURAL LÉVIS.

Finally, as the occasion for this conference was the gathering of the MERCIER families, Mr Genest reminded us that a MERCIER was once the owner of a newspaper «QUOTIDIEN DE LÉVIS» and another owned a business called «LES SCIÈS MERCIER». We were definitively in good company.

The afternoon was consecrated to the visit of two institutions that are part of the Lévis heritage and that were mentioned in our previous newsletter: *The Alphonse-Desjardins House* and the *Armory of Lévis*. Two activities of great interest.

Upon our return to the Hotel, a Friendship Toast ended this memorable day with the sharing of an excellent sparkling and the draw of prizes for those who were present. The nature of the gifts and the winners are mentioned in another article to be found in the present newsletter.

At the next occasion...

The Board of Directors for 2013-2014



In front, from left to right: Jean, Germain Nappert, Jean and Suzanne.
Behind, from left to right: Jacques, Gilmond and Laurent.

The Board of Directors for 2014-2015

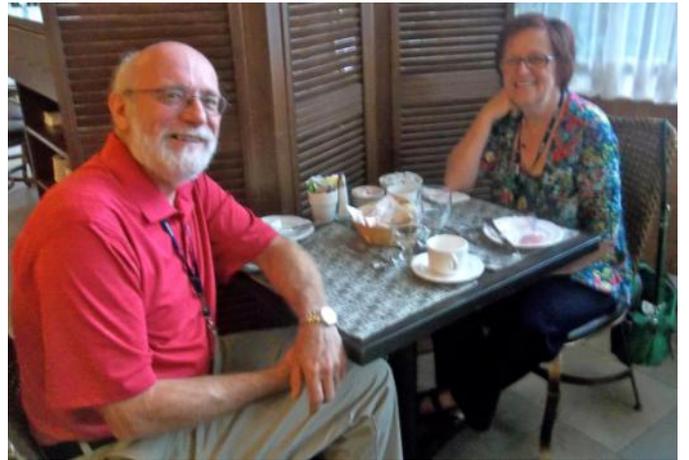


In front, from left to right: Aurèle, Germain Nappert, Jean and Lise St-André.
Behind, from left to right: Jacques, Gilmond and Laurent.

A Few Pictures of the Gathering



Laurette Bégin and Germain Dumont



Émile Côté and Jeannine Mercier



**Fernand St-Onge,
Claudine and Lucie**



**François and
Henriette Gauthier**



Our excellent speaker, Claude Genest



A captive audience



**Two faithful spouses :
Cécile Chabot
and Carole Morin.**



Material of interest



The Armoury



Alyre Bouchard and Amandine



A cute quatuor



A beautiful table



Joseph Mercier at the Origin of a Famous Riot

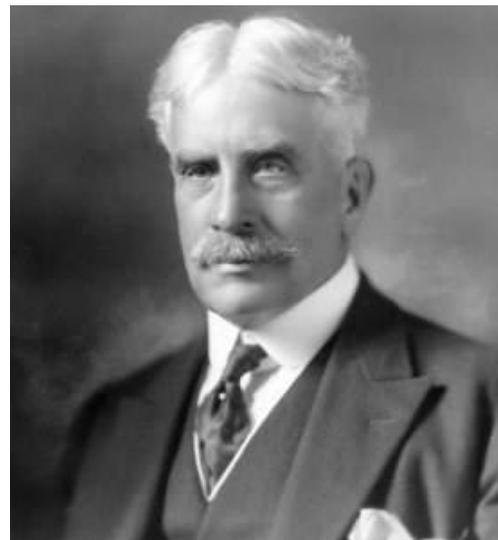
By Gilmond Mercier #28
gilmondm@sogetel.net

The First World War started one hundred years ago, in August 1914. It will last more than four years and will cause the death of approximately nine million soldiers. During that same period, the war and other conflicts will kill some twenty million civilians.

Canada, as a member of the British Empire, will go to war with the Allies: France, Russia and Great Britain, against the Central European Empires: Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire or Turkey.

Canadian volunteers, more than 30 000 young men, most of them born in the British Isles, answer the call to arms with enthusiasm since they are promised a rapid victory. But once on the front line, they will quickly disenchant and will learn the horror of trench war, of modern arms more deadly one than the other, of asphyxiating gazes... Rapidly the conflict turns to worse and the needed hands start lacking. After three years of war, volunteers no longer suffice. In 1917, the Prime Minister of Canada, Robert Borden, opens an election campaign on the theme of conscription. The electors of the province of Quebec vote massively for the liberals of Wilfrid Laurier who opposes conscription. The rest of the country grants a vote of confidence to the unionist government formed of conservatives and dissident liberals.

French Canadians do not feel concerned by this war. Many nationalists are outraged by the abolition of the use of French in the schools of Ontario.



Robert Borden Prime Minister of Canada 1911-1920. He figures on the Canadian \$100 bill.



«Why should we go defend the rights of others on the other side of the Atlantic while ours are trampled upon in our own country»? Besides, in the Canadian Army, the English language is largely predominant, the possibilities of promotions for Francophones are weak and the rare regiments for French Canadians are combat units exposed to heavy losses. There is much resistance to compulsory military service which obliges Canadian males, single or without children, between the ages of 20 to 35 years to present themselves at the Recruitment services.

Thousands of Quebec Francophones will not answer the call. This will force the government authorities to start a program of chasing after the fugitives. On Holy Thursday, March 28 1918, a young man, **Joseph Mercier** *, from the Saint-Roch neighborhood in Quebec City, exempted from the obligatory military service, is found without the papers justifying his status. The army “spotters” don’t want to hear anything. He is arrested even if **Joseph** proposes that his father Oliva Mercier bring the necessary papers.

The “spotters” arrogance provokes a gathering of youngsters who become more and more hostile. The atmosphere is electrified and soon, more than 5000 people surround the police station. Objects start flying and the windows



break to pieces. **Joseph**'s father presents his son's exemption papers. He is released. But nevertheless, the crowd does not disperse. Serious rioting will follow.

In the following days, the situation degenerates. The protesters vandalize the symbols of conscription. The newspapers favorable to conscription are attacked and the objective is to aim at the Army's Registry. Fires are lit. Soldiers are provoked and dared to fire. «*To die here or on the frontline, what's the difference?* » The pride of one's *race* is manifested by singing 'La Marseillaise' or 'Ô Canada' which was the French Canadian anthem at the time.

On Holy Saturday, March 30th, the federal government apprehends an insurrection. The War Measures Act takes effect and it is decided that the Canadian Army will assure order in the provincial capital. Many protesters are injured by the military while the police swing at the passersby. The latter react by throwing rocks and icicles. Some people ransack a hardware in order to get guns.

On Easter Sunday, it is an opportunity for the clergy to preach respect of laws, of order and of authorities. The message doesn't seem to sink in since at supper time, new clashes erupt. The soldiers injure three people amongst the imposing crowd. In the evening, some 1200 soldiers from Ontario arrive in the Old Capital. They have received the order to shoot to kill.

The following day, the Lower-Town is besieged. Everything is paralysed: businesses are closed, bridges are blocked, staircases and lanes leading towards the Upper-Town are barricaded. Posted at Place Jacques-Cartier, the army is ready to reply. The Riot Act is read in English only. Around 22 hours, a heavy fog covers the city. The crowd takes this opportunity to tease the soldiers. They open fire; many times some shots can be heard coming from a machine gun. The crowd panics and disperses in total disorder. Four civilians are killed and at least 70 people are injured of which five soldiers. The riot had lasted five days.

Canada will have sent 620 000 Canadians to the frontline during this war of 1914-1918. It is a colossal endeavor for a country of some 7,2 million inhabitants. The losses will reach a total of some 67 000 deaths and over 173 000 wounded.

The Canadian soldiers will have achieved some glorious victories: Ypres, the battle of La Somme, Vimy, Passchendale and others. The armistice is signed on November 11 1918. The extraordinary contribution of Canada to the victory of the Allies will have earned the country a greater political autonomy.

***Joseph Mercier** was born in the Saint-Roch neighborhood of Quebec City in 1894. He is the son of Oliva Mercier and Marie Poulin. His father was a coach maker and Liberal organiser for Wilfrid Laurier and Ernest Lapointe. Joseph exercised his trade of butcher with his brother Henri in a small holding called «Mercier et Frères» situated on Rue Saint-Vallier in Quebec City. In 1922, he marries Germaine Cadoret and they will have one daughter: Rolande. His grand-daughter Carole Bédard has posted on the Internet site «*Le Québec une histoire de famille*» the picture which accompanies the present text. Joseph died in 1976. He belongs to the 8th generation from the line of Julien.



Sources:

- Mercier depuis des siècles, Ernest Mercier, page 342
- Le Soleil, Jean-Simon Gagné, 5 juillet 2014
- Internet sites
- fondationlionelgroulx.org
- lequebecunehistoiredefamille.com
- muséedelaguerre.ca

Some Happy Winners

Everybody can't be a winner, but on the occasion of our Annual Assembly, six prizes for being present were drawn and here are the names of the lucky winners:

*Aurèle from Ste-Marie is the winner of the painting from Monique Mercier representing the home of Marie Poulin (Julien Mercier) in Saint-Anne-de-Beaupré. (Gift from Laurent)

*Benoit will have the pleasure of playing cards as a solitary or with company using the AMAN deck of cards that was drawn for him.

*The video «**l'Arrivée des Mercier en Amérique**» produced by Pierre-Paul, an Ex-President of AMAN, was won by Louise Mercier.

*The record of the theme song of our association, created (words and music) by Jacques, will fill some charming moments of leisure for Raymond Mercier.

*Émile Gagné for his part, left with the golf umbrella that was gifted by the Ville de Lévis.

*Finally Louise and Laurent will be able to drink to our health and to theirs, for both were able to make a return trip with an extra luggage: a bottle of sparkling...

Congratulations to all!

Some Corrections Concerning Réal

In our tribute to Réal Mercier who recently died (LE MERCIEN 30-2) one can read in the text next to his picture the following:

His nephews and nieces: Claude 302, Dorys 87, Gaétan 679, Nicole 605

It should have been written:

His children: Claude 302, Dorys 87, Gaétan 679, Nicole 605

In the following paragraph, the name of Réal should not figure in the list of the deceased.

Our excuses



Renewal of Subscription and donation

Member no	Name	City	Amount	Yeart
1580	Éric Mercier & Rachel Cavanagh	Mirabel	30	2014
1524	Jean Mercier	St-Jérôme	25+donation 15\$	2015
1577	Annick Mercier & Benoît Raymond	St-Jérôme	30	2014
1578	Karine Mercier & Laurier Boucher	Brownsburg-Chatham	30	2014
341	Jacques Mercier	Saint-Georges	25	2015
180	Guy Dubé	Saint-Pacôme	25	2015
1402	Estelle Mercier	Gatineau	donation 25	
587	Lorraine Mercier	Ste-Sabine	25	2015
713	Chantal Mercier	Chicoutimi	25	2015
1506	Marielle Mercier	Ste-Sabine	25	2015
120	Noella L. Mercier	Québec	25	2015
284	Louissette Mercier & Jacques Dumas	Québec	30	2015
530	Jacinthe Mercier	Québec	25	2014
23	Yvon Mercier	Montmagny	25 donation 25 \$	2016
1151	Ralph Mercier	Québec	donation 50 \$	Life
1490	Renée Laurent Mercier	Montréal	25 donation 50 \$	2016
894	Jean-Louis & Monique Lessard	Lévis	30	2015
1596	Julien Mercier	St-Jacques-de-Leeds	50	2016
1540	Napoléon Mercier	Louiseville, KY USA	25	2015

Welcome to New Members

- 1614 **Claude & Annette Dupuis**
15 Beauséjour, Pabos Mills (Chandler) QC G0C 2J0 (418) 889-6137 2015
- 1615 **Robert La Valle**
508 Evergreen Circle, Norman OK, USA. (450) 360-9324 2015

Change of number...

To harmonize the list of our members, we changed some numbers that have been allocated for unknown reasons. Holders have been notified and their new membership and a new card will be sent We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause them.

New number								Old number	
1616	Roger Mercier	7867 Trait-Carré Ouest	Québec	G1H 4P3	QC CANADA	418	914-1046	2016	
1617	Denis Mercier	52, de la Friche	St-Ferréol-les-Neiges	G0R 3R0	QC CANADA	418	658-4992	2024	
1618	Laurette Bégin & Germain Dumont	25-40, rue St-Etienne	Lévis	G6V 5R8	QC CANADA	418	837-3465	2043	
1619	Réal Mercier	2, rue Duval	St-Roch-de-l'Achigan,	J0K 3H0	QC CANADA	450	588-3713	2050	

Thank you for you collaboration



Saint-Roch-de-l'Achigan, October 3, 2014

Official Statement from the Committee for the Defense of the Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier The Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier Remains

Last Monday, during the extraordinary session of the municipal council, we learned that the name of the «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**» would remain unchanged. The determination and the perseverance of our committee have finally allowed us to demonstrate to our elected officials the merits of our position. Thanks to the efforts of everyone, the family name «**Mercier**» will remain associated to an important element of our heritage.

It was by duty of memory towards our pioneer families that we wished to bequeath this heritage to the future generations. We are very happy that this decision was reached for it reflects the wishes of more than 3000 signatories of a petition for the defense of the «**Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier**».

We wish to thank all the citizens who have encouraged and supported us throughout this adventure. Thanks to all those who resolutely defended our position.

The Committee for the Defense of the Chemin-de-la-Ligne-Mercier: Agnès Mercier, Michel Mercier, Lise Gauthier and Lise St-André.

Lise St-André
STAL12@yahoo.ca
450-795-3853

Le Mercien by Internet

Today, October 28, the members of the Board of directors have held their first reunion of the year 2014-2015 of our Association. I was there, even if I am leaving my position of secretary that will be held from now on by Aurèle Mercier, this way, it will be easier for the transition of some subjects.

The reunion went well and we have two new directors : Aurèle and Lise St-André who succeed to Suzanne has treasurer. She is more than qualified with her professional experiences and over our expectation for the job.

This will be a good thing, since we notice a degradation of our financial state mostly due to the fees related to our newsletter *Le Mercien* (edition and postage) which is the major link with the members. There is also a diminution of the membership mostly because of the decease.

Already, the price of the annual subscription will be raise for next year during the annual assembly. A second initiative has already started for a couple of months, sending the newsletter by email.

We easily understand that when we received *Le Mercien* for years in the traditional form of paper, changing to a virtual copy bother a little, not to say very much. How-

ever, a number of us, it is more of a habit rather than an actual need.

Positive elements for the digital version for your association are a significant reduction in costs of editing, printing, raw material (paper, envelopes) and postage. For you it is a very positive move Ecological in addition to receiving a much more attractive review; just think of the cover page, the picture of the president and those taken on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting, all in color.

To facilitate your choice and your decision, the digital version will be sent to all members, we have the email address for this issue 30-3 (Fall 2014), and 30-4 for the next, (Winter 2014). Those which we do not have the email address and who are interested can simply send it to us and then the documents will be sent. And that's it.

Finally, do not forget that *Le Mercien* is a newsletter for all members and your opinions and articles are always welcome.

Jean I



Let's encourage our sponsors!



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