



Le Marsan

The Marsan-Lapierre Family Association Genealogic Newsletter

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A Word from the President

Around fifty people attended to the members of the board. All our annual general meeting commended his documents written on September 7th 2002, in with expertise and accuracy. the Marguerite-Bourgeois room at the Magnan Restaurant in Montreal. We would like to thank them for their participation. Several persons took the time to buy the genealogical dictionary of the descendants of our ancestors Pierre Marsan dit Lapierre and Francoise Baiselat that was presented at the end of the meeting. Thank you with all those who regularly renew their membership during the annual meeting. After the meeting almost all of the participants joined the members of the board for lunch at the restaurant. Congratulations to Paul and Steve Marsan for the organization of this successful event. Denise Marsan of Beaupré, QC, won a wonderful door prize offered by Alain Marsan.

We were very happy when Stéphane Marsan agreed to fill the vacuum left by the departure of Michel, and we want to thank him for his generosity towards the Association by carrying on the work of secretary for the next term. Gisele Marsan-Kobelansky and Danielle Marsan-Evans were re-elected for a three years mandate to the board. Danielle accepted to continue to act as treasurer and editor of the newsletter. We are also happy to welcome Lise Marsan-Nagel, from the Haut-Richelieu area, who has accepted to sit on the board of directors. I wish to thank and offer my congratulations all those who were elected or re-elected on the board and also to the secretary and the treasurer and all current members with whom I am happy to start a new year.

After five years of excellent work as secretary, our devoted volunteer Michel Marsan announced his intention to leave this task to someone else. In the name of the Association, I would like to express to Michel our sincere gratitude for remarkable work he carried out. Personally, Michel was for me a very invaluable collaborator since the founding of the Association. Moreover, we could all appreciate the great quality of his reports and the punctuality with which they were sent

Last of all, I would not like to overlook the collaboration of Andrée Ricard who translates all the articles of our bi-annual newsletter for our Anglophone members and that of Steve Marsan who produces the Internet layout, and also maintains our Internet site.

Jean-Guy Marsan

Happy New Year 2003



The Fourth Branch

In the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty three, on January the 15th, after having published the three bans of promise of marriage between Joseph mercan 21 years old, son of the late francois mercan and elizabeth de Roches, his father and mother of the pte-au-tramble parish on the one part and marie anne quevillon twenty five years old daughter of Jean Baptiste quevillon and marie anne moinau her father and mother from this parish on the other part and after having received the certificate of the publication of the bans in the parish of the Pte au Tramble signed by paget the parish priest and having found no impediment or opposition to this marriage I missionary priest of Sault au Recolet has received by word their mutual consent to this marriage and married them according to the rites of our mother the Holy Catholic and Rom church in the presence of francois mercan brother La Pierre uncle of the spouse and on the bride's side adrien paul Joachim michel quevillon brother Pierre Taillefer uncle and other friends and family members of the two spouses

who all declared not knowing how to sign their names after having been asked according to the law.

Chambon missionary priest from the Sault

Since the age of majority was 25 years old, Élisabeth Desroches had to stipulate for her minor son during the passing of the contract with Coron a notary in Île Jésus two days before the celebration of the marriage. Both spouses come from large families. Joseph is 14th of 17 children including 12 still living and Marie-Anne is the 11th of 17 children 11 of them still living.

A year before his marriage, Joseph contracted as a "Voyageur" to acquire funds to establish himself. At the time of his marriage, he had a property of 4 by 20 arpents at the Côte Ste-Marie in the Seigneurie de Terrebonne of which about 20 acres had been ploughed for agriculture. Three of Marie-Anne's brothers were already established in the Seigneurie de Terrebonne one of those being Paul who had

married Radegonde, Joseph's sister a year earlier.

Three of their 10 children died young, the others established themselves in the Basses-Laurentides. Most of their descendants use the name Lapierre, but one of their five surviving sons, Luc, settled in St-Vincent-of-Paul in Laval and among his descendants those who settled in L'Acadie and Les Cèdres kept the Marsan name.

Before his early death in 1780, at 49 years old, Joseph had acquired two other properties, one in 1763 in the Seigneurie de Lachenaie on the banks of the Mascouche River and the other one in 1771, in the Seigneurie de Terrebonne, on the Lacorne River, a tributary of the Mascouche River.

We do not know the date of Marie-Anne's death, but we know that she survived her husband for more than twenty years, because in 1801 she signed a renunciation to her son Joseph with Dufault, a notary. ❁

Echoes from the Board

During the General meeting of September 7, 2002, Paul Marsan generously offered us to host our next Family Reunion at his home situated at 52, Vincent-Masse Street in Rawdon. The council has accepted his offer and the date will be determined during our next board meeting on April 5th, 2003.

Steve Marsan who has built and maintained our Internet Web site since the beginning and also laid out the Internet version of our newsletter notified us that he has to put an end to his volunteer

work with the Association. As of September 2003 he wishes to give more time to his studies to obtain his licence to practice law. We call upon those who would be interested in this work and ready to bring their co-operation to let us know quickly. September 2003 will come very rapidly.

We have renewed our subscription on the same Internet server for now, preferring to wait for our new Webmaster before moving our site and database to another location.

Gamble Street in the Point-aux-Tremble district in Montreal is located near the concession where Pierre Marsan dit Lapierre raised his family. The president proposed to ask the city to change the name to that of our ancestor, in honour to all the Marsan and Marsan dit Lapierre families of North America. ❁

News from the Great Family

Our thanks to **Mr. Antonio Herrera-Valiant**, president of the Genealogical Institute of Venezuela, who sent us the ascending line of his wife Carolina Stone-Tovar whose great grandfather **Gaspar Marsan dit Lapierre**, born in Ste-Melanie in 1849, took the name of Charles G. Stone when he migrated to Vermont around 1880.

Lise and Diane informed us of the death of their mother **Madeleine St-Denis** widow of Rene Marsan which occurred on January 13, 2002 in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu. We offer them, their spouses and children Marc and Julie Nagel and Marie-France and Annie Ulrich, our sincere condolences.

We are happy to announce the generous contribution of 200 \$ US given to the Association by **Janet L. LaPierre** of Arlington, Massachusetts. Her grandfather George Marsan dit Lapierre, born in Montreal in 1880, immigrated to the United States at the beginning of the last century. We hope this generosity will inspire others.

Our best wishes to **Chantal Sauriol and Jacques Marsan dit Lapierre** who married on April 6, 2002 in the church in Ste-Sophie, QC. Chantal is the daughter of Pauline Pageau and Elphège Sauriol. Jacques is the son of Henriette Tétreault and Serge Marsan dit Lapierre.

Doug Snow of Pleasant Meadow in Wisconsin, informs us of the death of his grandmother **Yolande Marsan** which occurred in June 2002. She was 101 years old. Her father Adélarde, came from Ste-Rose de Laval and had emigrated to Massachusetts around 1883. We wish to express our deep sympathy to all his children, grandchildren

and great grandchildren and all their spouses.

After retiring from a teaching career, **Jean-Guy Marsan** has put his interest in the history of Montreal to good use by devoting his leisure time as a tourist guide and lecturer for Montreal visitors. We wish to congratulate him on this activity that contributes to enhance the stay of tourists who visit the city. He is the husband of **Claudette Gélinas** and the father of Jeannine and Gilbert.

On June 24th 2002, at 84 years of age, **Roland Marsan** passed away in Montreal, QC. He leaves in mourning, his companion Thérèse Blondeau, his sisters Laurette (Emile Laviolette), Pauline (Mario Trubiano) and Claire (Norman Martin), his brothers Roger (Pauline Gendreau), Rene (Marianne Bruneau), Jean-Marie (Denise Malo) and Claude (Jeannine Toupin), as well as his nephews and nieces. We offer to all the family our sincere condolences.

The daughter of **Lise Marsan, Julie Nagel and her spouse Patrick Savaria**, bought the house of the sexton in L'Acadie. It is known that this beautiful heritage stone residence sheltered the family of Hector Marsan, who was sexton for the parish for many years.

Michel Marsan informs us that his niece, **Francine**, the daughter of **Maurice and Colette Legault**, gave birth to a third daughter, named **Marie-Eve Marsan-Quenneville**. Our congratulations to the happy parents.

Danielle Marsan-Evans informs us that there is a **Marsan street** in Delson, Quebec. It was named in honour of her brother Denis who

was city councillor in that municipality. Denis, a denturologist, died in 1996.

We offer our deepest sympathy to our former secretary, **Michel Marsan**, and to all his family for the death of his father **Romeo**, which occurred on July 12, 2002 in Brossard. **Romeo Marsan** died at the age of 90 years and 11 months. He is survived by his wife Simone Pilon and his sons Jacques, Gilles (Marie-Paule Mignault), Maurice (Claudette Legault), Remi (Monique Desrosiers), Michel (Murielle Mirondette) and Robert (Claudine McInnis). He also leaves eleven grandchildren and their spouses, ten great-grandchildren, his brother George (Gisèle Ricard) and his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

We wish to offer our more sincere congratulations to **Gisele Marsan-Kobelansky** for being nominated among the four finalists for the Ernst and Young Grand Prix de l'entrepreneur 2002 du Québec. She received her trophy at an official reception on October 24, 2002. The previous week, on October 16, 2002, she had also been selected among the three prizewinners for the Femmes d'affaires du Québec.

Mrs **Lucille Rousseau** of Shawinigan informed us of the hundredth birthday of her mother **Antoinette Marsan** who was born on October 31, 1902 in the St-Jacques-le-Majeur parish in Montreal. She was married in Shawinigan in 1925 to Emile Rousseau with whom she had 9 children. The children and their spouses as well as the majority of her 36 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren celebrated this happy anniversary on the October 27th.☺

Return to the past *second part*

by Roger Marsan

Quick lunch

It was a place to stop and take a coffee or a light meal for a reasonable price. Only men were allowed there. The well-off women took their lunch at Murray's or at Eaton's 9th floor luxurious dining room. Today we would find these people on Laurier Street West.

Prices

Movies during the week cost, 10 cents in the afternoon and there was a 2 cents tax. They specialized in cowboy movies series that were continued the following week. There was a premium each week with a surcharge of 10 cents or 25 cents according to the film.

Newspapers were 2 cents during the week, and 5 cent on Saturday. A stamp was 2 cents and 3 cents for a cancelled stamp. Cigars: small Bunty 5 cents, Pec Top de Grothé 10 cents, good brands 25 - 50 cents. It was about the same for pipe tobacco. Cigarettes: British Consols 5 cigarettes for 5 cents. Cigarette brands in style: Guynae Gold, Turrett, Player's, Sweet Caporal, McDonald, 20 for 25 cents. Shoeshines were 10, 15 or 25 cents. Barber: children's haircut 15 cents, for men it was 15 cents for a trim and 25 cents for a cut. The barbershop was also a men's meeting place, to take snuff, talk, discuss and smoke. The milkmen did their routes from house to house every morning, 10 cents for a quart of milk and some had eggs for 30 cents a dozen. The baker also sold cakes, tarts or doughnuts. He sometimes sold as

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many as 20 or 25 loaves of bread a week to one family.

Fashions

After the death of Rudolf Valentino, a famous actor, both men and women wore black and white chequered clothes in his memory. Another fashion was the wearing of gaiters, fur hats and a walking cane for the more affluent. After the war, it was trendy for young people to wear their hair long and dress in all styles of clothes. We mostly recognized them by their zoot suits

Death

Funeral parlours had not yet become popular, so there were few. Wakes were held at home, generally in the living room decorated with black banners. Women wore black mourning clothes for a year and dark or grey clothes 6 months. Men wore an armband on the coat sleeve and a black tie.

Women and the war

The men were in the army. The government asked women to contribute to the war effort. Jobs were created for them and a great number of women left their homes to work. It was a new life; they felt free, they became emancipated and joined the women's movements, obtained the right to vote, and afterward continued to claim for more rights.

The immigrants' contributions

We lived with the French, English, Irish, Jews, a few Chinese and blacks. The blacks were mostly found near the railway stations. The few Chinese had grouped themselves in a neighbourhood where we occasionally went out to eat but some lived alone in other parts of the city. At that time, the men wore shirts with separate collars. The Chinese people specialized in laundering the shirts and starching the collars. When we went to bring the collars they would hand us a piece of coloured paper and sometimes candies. Today, thousands of immigrants have changed our dietary habits. At that time we rarely ate outside the home. Now we have "Fast foods" and Greek or Vietnamese specialities. The washing machines and the dryers cut the necessity for clotheslines and with the Eaton catalogue came ready-to-wear clothing.

Religious practice

The religious practice was a large part of our lives. We felt respect and the faith. After having been a force and a stronghold, it is stagnant and empty. To what do we owe this current state? If every Christian made a self-analysis we would find the solution there. We should not despair. Christ said: "I am with you till the end of times".

Roger Marsan