



(Number 100 - Winter 2021)

100 TH EDITION OF L'ENRACINÉ

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

L'Enraciné that you are reading is the 100th edition of our Association's bulletin. The first edition comprised one page and was produced in December 1987. Denis Racine took over their production from Bernard Racine in March 1994. Thank you, Denis, for your devotion in producing such interesting and well-appreciated bulletins.

2020-2021— What years!

Is there anything I can tell you which you do not already know? Not much, unfortunately, because you are all up to date on the impact of the epidemic we have suffered through for the past year. Our daily lives are upset. Normal activities, be they recreational, sports or family-related have been either halted, changed or cancelled altogether. Trips we had planned have had to be cancelled. This has caused us to find, and in some cases to discover, some new pastimes in order to adapt to this new environment, which could last longer than we would wish. Some of us have suffered losses of family and friends. We have all had to suffer the isolation of being unable to visit with our friends, our family and our grandchildren. We have celebrated birthdays and major holidays either virtually or within our "bubbles".

This all leads me to imagine what our ancestors went through during the Spanish Flu of 1919, the two world wars and the Great Depression of the early 1930s. Our families survived these crises and what stories they were able to tell us of those events. Personally, I have very little information on what my family suffered. Is that also your experience? Maybe we could create a collective project whereby our members could submit their family experiences and we could publish them in future newsletters.

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SUMMARY

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For our Association in particular, we were obliged, like all of the other associations, to cancel our in-person events because of restrictions imposed by various governments. We have all missed the pleasure of meeting our friends in this large family of ours. Virtual meetings, even if we can see and hear each other, are in no way adequate. Our virtual Annual General Assembly attracted very few of our members and some interested members could not participate because of frustrating technical problems.

The question now is: what does the Association do in the midst of these restrictions imposed on us during the pandemic?

We have every hope to resume our activities as soon as we can. From my reading of the situation, we have to be patient because the future is uncertain. We shall communicate with you by electronic means as soon as we can. Please do not hesitate to send us your suggestions.

I wish to thank Lorraine Racine for her efforts in offering to organize a reunion in 2020 at Mascouche and Terrebonne. She hopes to restart the project as soon as we get the green light.

Once again, I wish to praise our administrators for their support and the carrying out of their responsibilities. I feel I have great support from them and this gives me confidence in the success of our Association.

On behalf of your administrative council, I thank you the members for your strong support.

Jean-Paul LeBlanc, President
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IN MEMORIAM

- **GISÈLE L. DOUCET**, widow of Roland-A. Racine, of Lisbon Falls (Maine, USA), deceased on 15 April 2020 at age 70;
- **WELLIE LABRANCHE**, widower of Antoinette Racine, deceased at l'Hôpital du Saint-Sacrement, Québec City, on 3 June 2020 at age 95;
- **VICTORIA GROSLEAU**, wife of Daniel Racine, deceased at Huntingdon on 13 June 2020 at age 56; She was the sister-in-law of Pierre Racine and Henriette Lorange, administrators of our Association.
- **MARIETTE VÉZINA**, widow of Jean-Pierre Racine, deceased at CHRDL de Joliette on 21 June 2020 at age 75;
- **YOLANDE GARIEPY**, wife of Camille Racine, deceased at Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu on 24 June 2020 at age 85;
- **ROSE-YVETTE PROVENCHER**, widow of Robert Racine, deceased at CISSS de Macamic on 10 July 2020 at age 90;
- **RICHARD RACINE**, husband of Monique Brisebois, deceased at Montréal on 15 July 2020 at age 69;
- **JEAN-PIERRE RACINE**, husband of Denise Deslauriers, son of the late

- Lucien Racine and of the late Simone Soligny, of Casselman (Ontario), deceased on 15 July 2020 at age 71;
- **COLOMBE RACINE**, widow of Lucien Quesnel, daughter of the late Omer Racine and of the late Marie-Rose Marleau, born in Saint-Albert (Ontario), deceased on 25 July 2020 at age 92;
 - **JEANNETTE RACINE**, nun in the order la communauté des Petites Soeurs de la Sainte-Famille, daughter of the late Joseph Racine and the late Rosa Gauthier, deceased at Sherbrooke on 3 August 2020 at age 101;
 - **FRANCE RACINE**, daughter of Claude Racine and the late Colette Bilodeau, deceased at Centre d'hébergement de Roberval on 3 August 2020 at age 57;
 - **RENÉ RACINE**, son of the late Laurent Racine and of the late Rita Tremblay, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City, on 7 August 2020 at age 65;
 - **ÉVELYNE POTVIN**, wife of Ghislain Racine, deceased at Centre d'hébergement des Pensées, at Lac-Kénogami, on 8 August 2020 at age 74;
 - **ANTONIN RACINE**, husband of Françoise Lafontaine, son of the late Édouard Racine and the late Albertine Bégin, deceased at Pavillon Saint-Alexandre, at Thetford-Mines, on 9 August 2020 at age 86;
 - **LISE MILLAR**, wife of Eugène Racine, deceased at Gatineau on 11 August 2020 at age 72;
 - **CHRISTOPHER RACINE**, son of Joe Racine and Barbara, deceased at Ottawa (Ontario) on 16 August 2020 at age 48;
 - **GERALD RACINE**, husband of Linda Paquette, deceased accidentally at Point Comfort on 31 August 2020 at age 70;
 - **THÉRÈSE PRUNEAU**, widow of Yvan Racine, deceased at l'Hôtel-Dieu de Québec on 4 September 2020 at age 83;
 - **DENIS RACINE**, husband of Madeleine Lacelle, son of the late Eugène Racine and the late Rose-Emma St-Amour, deceased at Gatineau on 7 September 2020 at age 73;
 - **RÉGENT RACINE**, husband of Pauline Chartrand, son of the late Ovila Racine and the late Antoinette Gibault, deceased at Saint-André-Avellin on 12 September 2020 at age 83;
 - **MADELEINE GAGNÉ**, widow of Roland Racine, deceased at centre d'hébergement Champlain-des-Montagnes on 18 September 2020 at age 89;
 - **YVETTE RACINE**, widow of René Larouche, daughter of the late Émile Racine and of the late Marie-Blanche Lapointe, deceased at Centre d'hébergement de Roberval on 19 September 2020 at age 94;
 - **MARIELLE RACINE**, widow of Henri Brouillette, spouse of the late Rosaire Delorme, daughter of the late Wellie Racine and of the late Rose-Alma Martel, deceased at

- CHDL St-Charles-Borromée, at Joliette on 4 October 2020 at age 93;
- **HUGUETTE RACINE**, widow of Roger Boucher, daughter of the late Roméo Racine and the late Rolande Carbonneau, deceased at Laval on 11 October 2020 at age 82;
 - **DENISE RACINE**, daughter of the late Georges Racine and the late Léonne Larocque, deceased at Wakefield on 27 October 2020 at age 60;
 - **MAGELLA RACINE**, widow of André Painchaud, daughter of the late Ernest Racine and the late Anna Bouchard, deceased at Kirkland on 30 October 2020 at age 82;
 - **ROGER RACINE**, widower of Jeanne d'Arc Plante, son of the late Arthur Racine and the late Joséphine Janvier, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City, on 30 October 2020 at age 95;
 - **JEAN-PAUL RACINE**, husband of Claudette Leblond, son of the late Armand Racine and the late Laura Paradis, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City, on 31 October 2020 at age 76;
 - **JEANNINE CLOUTIER**, wife of Armand Racine, deceased at Salaberry-de-Valleyfield on 1 November 2020 at age 89;
 - **MARIE-MAI RACINE**, daughter of the late Léonide Racine and the late Lena Martin, of Rivière Verte, deceased at l'Hôpital régional d'Edmundston (New Brunswick) on 22 November 2020 at age 71;
 - **FRANÇOIS RACINE**, widower of Anita Brassard, son of the late Jean-Baptiste Racine and the late Philomène Boucher, deceased at CISSS-AT de Macamic on 4 December 2020 at age 95;
 - **RACHEL VAILLANCOURT**, widow of Jean-Paul Racine, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City on 12 December 2020 at age 96;
 - **JEANNE RACINE**, daughter of the late Eugène Racine and the late Albertine Martin, deceased at Dollard-des-Ormeaux on 20 December 2020 at age 102;
 - **LUCILLE RACINE**, daughter of the late Edgar Racine and the late Corona Charron, deceased at l'Hôpital Montfort, Ottawa, on 23 December 2020 at age 91;
 - **JOSÉE RACINE**, daughter of the late Roger Gosselin and the late Andrée Duchesne, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City, on 26 December 2020 at age 47;

We extend our sincere regrets to the families of the above.

Note: Our thanks to Pierre Racine for his dedication in the production of this list.

"The bereaved we miss have disappeared, not gone. We no longer see their gentle face; we feel like we are beneath their wing. The dead are invisible but they are not absent"
Victor Hugo

RACINE TOPONYMY

Mount Étienne-Racine (774 meters) is right beside Marguerite-Martin Summit (712 meters); both are close to Mount Sainte-Anne. These mountains were named by the Québec Toponymy Commission in 1993 and 1998 respectively, following a request by the Racine Families' Association.

Mount Racine, elevation 1,439 meters, is in the canton of Neuchâtel in Switzerland, near the cities of Locle and La-Chaux-de-Fonds. There are many Racine families in that area.

The parish of Saint-Théophile de Racine, located in Ély County, was founded in 1906 in the memory of Monsignor Antoine Racine. The municipality of Ély Est was incorporated in 1912 and was renamed Racine in 1961, later to be merged with Brompton-Gore in 1995 under the name Racine Municipality. In 2016, the city had 1,323 citizens.

Val Racine, also named in the memory of Monsignor Antoine Racine, is located in the Municipality of Granit, near Lac-Mégantic. Its population numbers 178 (2016).

In the Saguenay region, the construction of the Chûte-à-Caron electric power complex, which started in 1927, brought on a need for housing for the workers. Thus, in 1928, a municipality named Ville Racine was created. The name was in honour of Monsignor Dominique Racine, the first bishop of Chicoutimi. Up until 1940, Ville Racine had only about ten buildings, but it grew after that time because of war production and the construction of the Shipshaw Power Generation Complex. However, at the end of those projects Ville Racine was merged with Arvida in January 1944, and Arvida was subsequently merged with Jonquière in 1975, which itself was merged into the new city of Saguenay in 2002.

In the USA there is a city named Racine on the shore of Lake Michigan in Wisconsin state. Racine is the capital of the County with the same name. In 2010 there were 78,860 citizens in Racine. The city was named after the Racine River, named as such because of the numerous roots in the river.

As for Racine in Ohio State in Meigs County, its population was 675 in 2010. It was possibly named after a descendant of Étienne Racine, a "coureur de bois" (literally runners of the woods). There were many French "coureurs de bois" trading for furs in Ohio in the 18th century and several of them were Racines.

In West Virginia, the town of Racine, in County Boone, had a population 256 in 2010. It was named after Racine Ohio, the source of many of its founding families.

In France, the village of Racines (Aube) has 167 inhabitants. Its seignior, Ponce de Racines, and his two sons, participated in the Second Crusade (1147-1149), which ended in the disastrous siege of Damascus. Among their descendants are François de Racine, governor of Blois (1562-1598) and Louise de Racine, who married, in 1565, Vincent Tascher de la Pagerie, a forebearer of Empress Joséphine and the kings of Belgium and Sweden.

There are also some related Racine names. Racinière or La Racinière are in the communes of Saint-Ouen-sur-Iton, Chan, Genesley (Orne), Crotelles (Indre-et-Loire) and Chevaigné (Ille-et-Vilaine).

Many cities in France and Québec also have streets named Racine.

Paris has a rue Racine, located in the 6^e Arrondissement, named in 1835 in honour of poet Jean Racine. The street is near the Odéon theater (of the Comédie française) and Saint-Séverin Church, the parish in which Jean Racine married Catherine de Romanet on 1 June 1677. Jean Racine would die of liver cancer on rue des Marais-Saint-Germain, in Saint-Sulpice Parish, on 21 April 1699.

There are also Racine or Jean-Racine streets in La Ferté Milon (his birth village) in the Villeurbaine quarter of Lyon, near the Court of Laws in Bordeaux, in Toulouse, Quillan (Aude), Reims, Caen, Rouen, Le Grand Quevilly, Grenoble, Nantes, Béziers, Livarot, Soissons, Toulon, Lille, Roubaix, Montrouge, Pantin, Rueil-Malmaison, Le Havre, and Tours. There are also schools named Jean Racine in Paris and Montdidier, and colleges named Jean Racine at Maintenon, Viroflay, Alès, Alençon, Château-Thierry, Saint-Brieuc, Saint-Georges-sur-Loire, Saint-Cyr l'École, Grenoble, Lyon, Chateauroux, Ostwald and even in Tunis (Tunisia).

In Geneva Switzerland there is a street named Édouard-Racine in honour of Édouard Racine (1841-1912), a clock case maker who devoted his entire life to the cooperative movement. He was the administrator of the Cooperative beginning in 1871, its Vice-President in 1884 and its President in 1901.

In Québec, certain streets are in honour of our ancestor Étienne Racine:

- In Saint-Hyacinthe, in the Sainte-Rosalie sector, rue Étienne-Racine was named on 27 February 2003 by the Québec Toponymy Commission.
- In Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, streets named Étienne-Racine and Marguerite-Martin were named in 2019.

In Loretteville, which was merged with Québec City in 2002, the main street honours brothers Antoine and Dominique Racine, respectively the first bishops of Sherbrooke and Chicoutimi.

The memory of Monsignor Antoine Racine is also honoured by a city name in Val-Saint-François and by Racine streets in these locations:

- In the Saint-Jean-Baptiste quarter of Québec City, rue Racine was named in 1900 in honour of Antoine Racine, who was the parish priest there from 1853 to 1874, before becoming bishop of Sherbrooke. The street was renamed Philippe-Dorval a few years ago in order to avoid confusion with rue Racine in the ancient city of Loretteville; and
- In Sherbrooke, Magog, Beau-Site (near Asbestos), Saint-Hubert (merged with Longueuil in 2002), Farnham, Bedford, Eastman, Danville, La Patrie, Longueuil, Princeville (where he was parish priest from 1848 to 1851); and
- A park in Sherbrooke.

The memory of Monsignor Dominique Racine is alive in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean:

- The main street of the former city of Chicoutimi (now Saguenay) was named for Monsignor Dominique Racine, the first bishop of the diocese;
- Some streets in Jonquière, Hébertville, Rivière-du-Moulin, Arvida, Dolbeau-Mistassini, Roberval, and Alma.

In Roxton Ponds and Granby, the Racine streets could have been so named to honour either Monsignor Antoine Racine or the Racine families who settled there. Similarly, in Roxton Falls

Racine Street was possibly named in memory of François-Xavier Racine, its mayor from 1917 to 1920.

In the former municipality of L'Ancienne Lorette, merged with the city of Sainte-Foy in 1971, there was also a Racine Street to honour an old family of the region. The street was renamed Henri-Racine after a merger with Québec City in 2002.

Marcel-Racine Street in the Beauport sector of Québec City honours Marcel Racine (1921-2004), a municipal civil servant who retired in 1984 as a clerk of the municipal court of Beauport. Marcel Racine was also a member of many associations and he received the Governor General's humanitarian award in 2004.

In Boischatel, Racine Street is in memory of Joseph Racine (1904-1975), who was mayor from 1939 to 1953 and from 1961 to 1964, as well as being the founder of a bus company.

We could not find the origin of Louis-Racine Street in Saint-Basile-le-Grand.

Hector-Racine Avenue in Kipawa (Témiscamingue) honors Hector Racine (1911-1985), the first restaurateur of the municipality.

Paul-Aimé-Racine Street in Saint-Tite-des-Caps, honors Paul-Aimé Racine (1923-2002), a farmer and owner of the lands where lies the street. There is also another Racine Street in the same municipality, but we do not know its origins.

Lionel-Racine Street in Sherbrooke honors Lionel Racine (1917-1988), an actor and theater personage.

Rodolphe-Racine Street in Sherbrooke honors Rodolphe Racine (1896-1966), a pioneer of Saint-Élie-d'Orford.

Samuel-Racine Street in Joliette honors Samuel Racine (1883-1934), a pharmacist and tobacco grower, at a time when tobacco was an important commerce in that city.

Racine Street in Valcourt honors Léo-Arthur Racine (1900-1982), the municipality's first mayor (1929-1937).

Racine Street in Sainte-Justine honors Laurent Racine (1832-1908), who settled there in approximately 1864, and his descendants.

Racine Street in Saint-Michel-des-Saints possibly honors Jacques Racine (1833-1916), who settled there in 1880, and his descendants.

Racine Street in Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines possibly honors Christophe Racine (1807-1881), who settled there in 1832, and his descendants.

Racine Street in Sainte-Sophie possibly honors Racine (1837-ap. 1870), one of its pioneers who was married there in 1858.

Racine Street in Rimouski, situated near the Pointe-au-Père lighthouse, probably honors Willie Racine (1886-1965), a ship's captain and a member of one of expeditions of Captain Joseph-Elzéar Bernier to the Arctic in 1904-1905.

Racine Street in Baie-Saint-Paul is named after Euchariste Lavoie Racine, who operated a foundry there from 1913 to 1964.

Racine Street in the Montréal-Nord sector of Montréal honors Aldéric Racine, a municipal councillor at Sault-au-Récollet in 1892.

Racine Street in Sainte-Cécile-de-Milton honors Albert Racine (1921-2014), a renowned jeweller of the municipality.

Racine Street in Val-d'Or remembers a family of the Val-Senneville sector. And that also applies to Racine Street in Gore.

Racine Street in Saint-Eustache honors Father André Racine (1926-1993), parish priest of Saint-Eustache for 18 years who also founded the Racine-Lavoie marriage counselling centre in 1972.

We could not determine the origin of the Racine streets in Trois-Rivières, Saint-Calixte, Pincourt and Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu.

Outside of France, the name of poet Jean Racine has not been forgotten in Canada. Many streets were named after him: in Saint-Basile (cté Portneuf), Lévis, Pierrefonds, Châteauguay, Laval, Gatineau, Brossard, Repentigny, and Saint-Constant.

There is a Racine Road in Rexdale Ontario as well as a Racine Street in Chicago (Illinois, USA) which leads north to the city of Racine Wisconsin.

Racine Park in Granby was inaugurated in 1990 during the third reunion of the Racine Families' Association in Granby. The park recognizes the contribution of the Racine families in the evolution of the city.

Racine Bridge spans a small river on a snowmobile trail on the Beupré coast.

Fifteen of Québec's lakes bear the Racine name in these areas: Gouin township, Joliette County, Montmorency County, Dandurand township, Saint-Maurice County, Radisson township, Abitibi County, Trevet Township, Abitibi County, Lac-Pythonga (in the Gatineau valley and created on 24 October 1973), La Tuque, Lac-Édouard, La Pêche, Lac-Supérieur, Wentworth, Sainte-Sabine, Lac-Nilgaut (MRC de Pontiac), Saint-Guillaume-Nord (MRC de la Matawinie), Rivière-Koksoak (Nord-du-Québec) and a pond at Saint-Boniface.

And finally, there are Racine Falls, with a height of 169 meters, situated at Saint-Boniface, southwest of Filion Lake. The Racine Dam controls the water of Lake Racine at Lac-Édouard.

Denis Racine

HOMMAGE TO MARIETTE RACINE



Mariette was born on 20 January 1933, the daughter of Aimé Racine and Laurence Guertin. She was the seventh child out of a family of sixteen. She weighed only five pounds at birth and she was a fragile, delicate child. Unheard of these days, but her mother would put her in a shoebox and keep her warm by putting her on the edge of the woodstove. Mariette went to the local country school until the seventh grade.

After finishing school, she did not like working in the house and she went to work for the nuns at the St- Hyacinthe Hospital for a few months. Mariette soon realized that she did not have a calling for that type of work and because it made her nauseous at times.

For more than forty years, she was a supervisor at a chicken abattoir. She worked at the Coopérative Avicole of Saint-Damase, now called Exceldor, which is some ten kilometers from St-Hyacinthe. Mariette retired early in 1994 to look after her mother Laurence until the latter died in 2004 at the respectable age of 100, one year before her sister Hélène who died at the age of 102.

Mariette was always a pillar of the family, hosting and organizing all of the family activities.

Being the seventh child, she grew up knowing all of her older and younger siblings. She chose to remain celibate (she said that men were too much trouble). She spoiled all of her family. She had 35 nieces and nephews, and she had a lot of contact with them, often serving as a babysitter and chaperone.

She loved to travel. There was always a small place for Mariette when her friends, siblings, nieces and nephews took a trip. She visited France, Italy, Mexico, Cuba, Tunisia, and even Zimbabwe in Africa, where she went to visit her brother Réginald, a religious missionary Brother.

Mariette was deceased on 24 June 2020 at age 87. Her funeral was held on 19 September last at Ste-Rosalie, the parish of her birth. She had lived in Sainte-Rosalie from 1970 to 2019, in a house next to her family's farm, which belonged to her brother Aurèle Racine.

Mariette attended our last reunion held in Cornwall in September 2019. She was a founding member of our Association in 1987, along with ten other members of her family. She went on and was one of the organizers of the Association's trip to France in September 1989. She was on the Association's administrative council from 1990 to 1997, as well as participating in reunions held at St-Hyacinthe in 1992.

Jean-Louis Racine

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L'ENRACINÉ is a publication of the Racine Families' Association (Québec) and of Radice (France). It is published two times per year and is mailed free of charge to each member of both associations.

THE RACINE FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION is a non-profit organization constituted in accordance with "Loi sur les compagnies du Québec (Partie III)" in 1987. Its website is at www.genealogie.org/famille/racine

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Annual membership fees:

Individual: CANADA: \$20 CDN FRANCE 22 euros USA: \$22 US
other countries: \$22 US or 22 Euros

Member and partner: CANADA: \$35 CDN FRANCE 35 euros USA: \$35 US
Other countries: \$35 US or 35 Euros.

Administrative Council:

President: Jean-Paul LeBlanc, Ottawa (Ont). 1st Vice-President: Jean-Louis Racine, Beloeil;
2nd Vice-President: Lorraine Racine, Mascouche
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Translator of L'Enraciné: Jacques H. Racine, Kanata (Ont)
Archivist: Jean-Louis Racine, Beloeil; Genealogist: Denis Racine, Québec City
Genealogist: Denis Racine, Québec City

RACINADES

BIRTH



On 17 September last, at Québec City, Lisa Baril-Gravel, spouse of Pierre-Alexandre Guimond-Racine (son of our genealogist Denis Racine) gave birth to a daughter, named Camille Racine. The child, mother and father are all doing well, as shown in this photo.

AKOR 2021

In mid-March 2021, a plane will transport five young explorers to Eureka, a meteorological base on Ellesmere Island, the most northerly island in Canada some 1600 kms from the Arctic Circle. The five explorers will undertake a journey from there to the national park at Point-Pelée, the southernmost point in Ontario. The trip will take seven months to accomplish, using skis, canoes and bicycles, passing through Winnipeg, and covering some 7600 kms. The team members are: Nicolas Roulx (son of Julie Racine), Guillaume Moreau, Philippe Voghel-Robert, Étienne Desbois and Jacob Racine.



Jacob is an avid participant in cinema and theatre who took a career deviation 16 years ago to become a professional guide in adventure tourism. Having participated in the documentary "Destination Nor'Ouest 2" on TVA in 2008, he was able to combine his passion for adventure and cinema.

Since then, he has had the privilege of working at several levels in the production of films such as "*la Ruée vers l'Or*" (*The Goldrush*) in 2010, *Two Lovers and a Bear* in 2015, *La Grande traversée* (*The Great Crossing*) in 2016 and the television series *Expédition Extrême* (*Extreme Expedition*) from 2016 to the present. His various expeditions have taken him to the shores of James Bay and to Baffin Island. Perhaps his greatest adventure has been his crossing of the province on skis from

Montréal to Kuujuaq in the winter of 2014: this was Project Karibu, a 2300 km ski trek, where he slept in a tent and had only body heat for warmth during 131 days. These days, Jacob goes on stage to recount his craziest adventures in a performance that combines theatrical skills with adventure. He will surely have many stories to tell about his participation in AKOR 2021. He will join the expedition for a ski party in Nunavut. (<http://expeditionakor.com/equipage/>)

Jacob Racine, a native of Normétal, distinguished himself in an expedition to reach the middle of South America by bicycle, on foot and by raft on 16 January 2020 along with two colleagues, a voyage of 2600 kms. (L'Enraciné, no. 99)

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100TH EDITION OF L'ENRACINÉ

You are reading the 100th edition of the Racine Families' Association's bulletin, L'Enraciné. The first bulletin was published on 14 December 1987, six months after the Association's founding on 10 June 1987. That first edition consisted of one page, to be mailed to 4047 Racines in Canada and the USA, at a cost of \$2,819,08, and announcing that there would be a reunion at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré in the summer of 1988 to commemorate the 350th marriage anniversary of our ancestors Étienne Racine and Marguerite Martin. The bulletin also contained some biographical notes on the couple.

The three editions, on 1 March, 6 May and 10 June 1988, were in the same format. Edition 5 was published in October 1988 and consisted of eight pages giving a summary of our first reunion held on 7 August 1988, which was attended by more than 1000 persons. Marcelle Racine of Granby was the first writer and translation was done by one of our members from Chicago (USA). In the following number there was a three-page story on astrophysicist René Racine, director and founder of the Mont Mégantic Observatory. Edition 7 presented our coat of arms, which had been designed by heraldist Lucien Godbout.

Marcelle Racine resigned as writer and was replaced by Bernard Racine, the Secretary of the Association and a journalist with the Canadian Press. The next edition, also eight pages long, was printed on yellow which was thicker than the previous editions. The bulletin was renumbered as Volume 2 Number 1. The last page was in English for our American and English Canadian members. That type of paper was replaced by standard paper in October 1990 with edition number 11 was issued. Bernard Racine remained as the writer until September 1993. In 1990, L'Enraciné was published three times per year and it went to four times per year beginning in 1991. The bulletin was expanded from eight to twelve pages in May 1992, and then returned to eight pages in February 1993, followed by a sixteenth edition in the Spring of 1995. A new chronicle, entitled « *Ils étaient nos ancêtres* » (They were our ancestors) was printed in October 1992 and was unfortunately abandoned after June 1993.

Bernard's resignation was a shock to our Association, and as a result the next bulletin was only four pages long when published on 6 November 1993. The new president, Jean-Marie Racine, announced that Denis Racine would become the writer of L'Enraciné beginning with the Spring 1994 edition (vol. 7, no.1) and Denis is still its writer, twenty-six years later and with seventy-eight regular and two special editions to his credit.

Beginning in the Winter 1999 edition, L'Enraciné was published three times per year. In 2014, two editions per year were settled upon. The Radice Association in France was created in 1996 and it provided us with contact with many Racines in France. Radice published three editions of its bulletin, entitled "Radice infos". The death of its founding president, Claude Racine, in 1998 was a major setback for the Association and its members decide to join the Québec Association from then on.

What distinguishes our bulletin in comparison with that of other families is the number of articles on research and discoveries concerning our ancestors. From its beginning, the Association has invested in research. We discovered information on the three brothers of Étienne Racine, being Pierre, Jean and Marguerin and his sister Marguerite. We also discovered two other sisters, Colette and Jeanne, that his father died in approximately 1625, that his grandfather, great grandfather and a great grand uncle were, respectively, Pierre, Guillaume and Saturnin Racine. In addition, we discovered that Étienne had signed six notarial documents during his return to France in the winter of 1647-1648, as well as two other such documents in 1626 and 1631, adding to the two notarial documents he had signed before first departing for New France. In addition, the research has led to our genealogy collection of more than 36,000 Racines and their families in North America, France and Switzerland.



The towers of La Rochelle: Étienne Racine leaves France from here in May 1648.

Grandfather Urgel: a man of his times

Urgel was the second child of Christophe Junior, married to Philomène Lalongé dite Gascon Ref: # 42 (Dictionary of Racine Families volume V)

My grandfather Urgel was born on 5 July 1864, some 156 years ago. His grandparents, Christophe Senior and Appoline Simard were his godparents; his illiterate grandparents were unable to sign the birth register, but his father had signed it.



Urgel was raised on the family farm along with his sister Dorsina and his brother Charles-Édouard. The other four siblings of the family died before age seven. Thus, Urgel, Dorsina and Charles-Édouard were the only three of the family to reach adulthood.

Dorsina caught tuberculosis and was deceased at age 29 at l'Institut Drapeau in Ste-Thérèse-de-Blainville. Charles-Édouard attended the seminary at Ste-Thérèse and became a priest. The latter would also suffer from ill-health and, on the advice of his doctors, he took the train to California for a better climate. However, he too came down with tuberculosis shortly after arriving in the American West and, like his sister, he died at age 29. Urgel was thus the only surviving child of Christophe Junior.

Urgel was raised on the family farm at Ste-Anne-des-Plaines. He went to school, but I am not sure how far he went. Growing into young adulthood, he worked on his father's farm. On 7 January 1886, at age 22, Urgel married Exilda Limoges. They would have ten children. Urgel bought farmland next to the farm where I was born and he built himself a house and outbuildings.

As a hard and devoted worker, he showed that he was innovative. He invested more than \$5,000, a considerable sum at the time, with the Moody brothers of Terrebonne, who manufactured ploughs. He bought a grain thrasher, a hay baler, a wheat grindstone and a sawmill. He became a model of enterprise for Terrebonne. To all, he appeared to be a man of aplomb.

Like many men of his era, he went to church every Sunday, and later when he lived in the village, he attended mass every day. Generous to his family, he would often supervise his grandchildren in their studies.

New Years Day at Grandfather's

Counting children and grandchildren, there were more than 70 people invited for New Years Day to the house on Second Avenue at Ste-Anne-des-Plaines. Aunt Marie-Anne, a spinster and house minder for grandfather, along with several nieces from different families, would spend the previous week preparing for the feast. It would be a traditional meal of its era. Three tables were used to serve the guests, not counting the children's table.

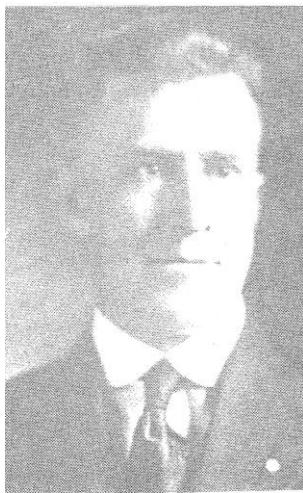
Arriving in mid-morning, we parked the carriages and cars behind the house and the adults and children would walk to church for the New Years Day mass at noon. The church was not far, at the end of Second Avenue. Returning to the house, each family would wrap their coats with a large bedsheet, which would then be stored in one of the bedrooms; this system helped the various families retrieve their coats when they leaving. The men would gather in the small parlor and talk politics, with grandfather listening in. The women met in the large parlor, talking about various subjects, all the while keeping an eye on the food cooking in the kitchen.

Grandfather had educated his eldest son and he was proud of that notary public who lived in the city. Stanislas still went to noon mass in Montréal and he looked after everyone's legal needs. Uncle Stanislas would arrive at his father's at about 1:30pm for the meal and his arrival was anxiously awaited, especially the children. After a feast of turkey, meatball stew, and meat pie (tourtière), Uncle Stanislas would throw all sorts of toys on the living room floor and the children would scramble to collect them. With all those people in the house, there was a lot of activity and interaction and everyone enjoyed the company, because there were few occasions for everybody to get together.

At about 3:00 pm, the children and adults would go to the church to admire the nativity scene and to place penny offerings beneath the small angel statue, which would bow after each donation, to the great delight of the children.

Upon return to the house the sons and sons-in-law who were farmers would have to leave to look after their livestock. Thus, New Year's Day at my grandfather Racine's house came to an end.

Gérard Racine, Laval



Notary Stanislas Racine (1888-1947)

LATE BREAKING NEWS

SUGARBUSH PARTIES

Traditionally, the Racine families have been meeting at sugarbush parties in Saint-Hyacinthe and Casselman.

In 2021, because of the health situation, the Association's Administrative Council at its meeting on 8 January has decided to cancel the events.

But things will get better in 2022.

OUR REUNION

At the time these pages are being written the situation on the epidemic is too uncertain to decide on whether or not to hold our reunion in 2021. In 2020, Lorraine Racine had agreed to organize our next reunion in Mascouche and Terrebonne. But we had to cancel the reunion because of the pandemic. Lorraine is still willing to greet us in 2021.

At its meeting of 8 January last, The Association's Administrative Council decided to defer a final decision on the 2021 reunion to a meeting to be held on 1 April. By then, we will hopefully have a clearer picture of the health restrictions which will prevail.

So, there is more to follow on this subject. We shall inform you on the latest news in the next edition of L'Enraciné.

We thank you for your patience and we send our best wishes to all during these dangerous and exceptionally trying times.

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