



(Number 105 – Summer 2023)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ottawa, May 4, 2023

The sunny days are happily coming back with the return of our in-person events.

Sugar Shacks

This spring, our two activities were popular with the participation of 40 members in the region of Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec. In Casselman, Ontario, we had 61 for the meal, which was followed by entertainment provided by Louis Racine and his group of musicians, "Les Pourquoi Pas" (my literal translation and meaning: The Why-Not 'Steps'), offering us traditional music and square dancing.

AGM and Gathering

This summer, we chose August 20 at 10 a.m. for the virtual Zoom AGM (in French). Our family gathering is scheduled for early fall in the region of the city of Lévis, Quebec. We will consider activities adapted to the average age of our members. Details will follow.

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SUMMARY

President's message	1	Biography	of
Joseph Racine	12		
Racinades	2	Our	next
reunion	18		
In Memoriam	6	Our	General
Assembly	19		

In **2024**, we are proposing a visit to the **Samuel de Champlain History Center**, located in the village of Champlain, New York. <http://www.champlainhistory.org/>

Note: this museum is the creation of one of our board members, Céline Racine-Paquette, who is passionate about the history of her region, the Franco-Americans and Samuel de Champlain, and the literature of Franco-Americans.

It is a little gem worth visiting.

This could be a long-awaited activity for our American and English-speaking members.

Please let us know your interest by email me at familles.racine.1987@rogers.com.

Archive Project

Under the direction of Denis Racine, our archives are still in the process of being sorted and digitized for storage at the Archive Centre in Château-Richer. It is a painstaking task for which we are very grateful.

Tartan Project

The steps taken to meet the requirements of the Scottish Registry of Tartans are in good process. A copy of our Tartan will be sent to them shortly.

Once again, I would like to thank all the members of our administrative council and in particular:

- Denis Racine, for our precious bulletins "l'Enraciné"
- Denis Racine and his daughter, Anne-Sophie Guimond-Racine, who are planning our 2023 Family Gathering
- Denis Racine, Jean-Louis Racine, and Céline Racine-Paquet for our archives
- Gilles Gratton for the electronic distribution of press releases in French
- Denise Gratton-Racine for obituary searches
- Francine Cayouette, Henriette Lorange and Jacques H. Racine for the Tartan project
- Francine Cayouette for her excellent note-taking and minutes
- And Jacques H. Racine for his roles as treasurer, webmaster and especially for the translation of this bulletin into English.

I would like to assure you that we will communicate in a timely manner by electronic messages the activities that we hope to be able to carry out in 2023.

Until then, be careful and be well.

Jean-Paul LeBlanc

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RACINADES

2023, IT IS:

- 10 December 1523: Five hundred years since the torture of an individual named Racine, a printer from Normandy, who was burned at the stake at Place Maubert, Paris, accused of leading a group of looters.
- 12 January 1673: 350th anniversary of the election of poet and playwright Jean Racine (1639-1699), of Paris, author of *Phèdre* and *Britannicus*, born at La Ferté-Milon, to the Académie française.
- 1773: 250th anniversary of the assumption of the command of Fort Vincennes (Indiana, USA) by Jean-Baptiste Racine dit Sainte-Marie.
- October 1973: Fiftieth anniversary of the designation of Paul Racine (1922-1984) of Sillery as *Homme du mois* (man of the month) by the Commerce revue; Paul Racine was president of Les Immeubles Delrano inc. (which owns the Place Laurier shopping centre and the Manoir du Lac-Delâge) and the Nordiques Hockey Club of Québec.

DEATH OF BOBBY HULL, A FRIEND OF THE RACINE FAMILY

The famous hockey player Bobby Hull died on 30 January 2023 at Wheaton, Illinois, USA. He was a remarkably skillful player and was the star player of the Chicago Blackhawks during thirteen seasons. Then, upon the creation of the World Hockey Association in 1972, he signed on to the Winnipeg Jets, crating a huge surprise for the hockey world. In fact, all of the other teams in the new league contributed to Bobby Hull's salary to entice him to make the move.

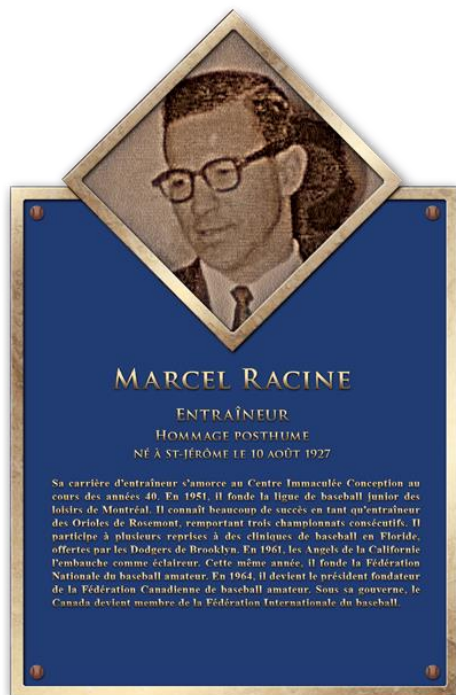
It was in this context that Bobby Hull became friends with businessman Paul Racine (1922-1984), who was President of another new team, the Québec Nordiques. Paul Racine also owned the Place Laurier shopping centre, and was the son of Joseph Racine, who is mentioned later in this bulletin.

The Journal de Québec and the Journal de Montréal, in their 30 January 2023 edition in an article entitled « *Bobby Hull a marqué la famille Racine* » (Bobby Hull has affected the Racine family), wrote about the close links between the two men. Paul Racine's son Richard relates how the two men met frequently and that Bobby Hull would visit the family home and their cottage. In 1974, Paul Racine presided at the famous Traversée du Lac Saint-Jean (Lac St-Jean Crossing) accompanied by Hull, to the great delight of the crowd.

TWO RACINES IN QUÉBEC RDS BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

In 2002 Marcel Racine (1927-2000) was posthumously admitted into the Québec RDS Baseball Hall of Fame. Born in Saint-Jérôme, he started his career as a baseball manager in 1940 at the Centre Immaculée Conception in Montréal. In 1951, he formed the Montréal junior baseball league. He became manager of the Rosemont Orioles and won three consecutive championships. He participated in many baseball clinics in Florida offered by the Brooklyn Dodgers. En 1961, he was hired as a scout by the California Angels. He was named President of the Canadian Baseball Federation in 1964 and led Canada into the International Baseball Federation.

And then in 2019, also posthumously, Hector Racine (1888-1956) was admitted to the Hall of Fame. Hector was the son of Alphonse Racine, a merchant and legislative councillor of Québec City. His mother was Mary Jane Ross. Born in Laprairie, he married Florianne Paquet in Montréal in 1910. In 1933, he became a shareholder and President of the Montréal Royals baseball club of the International Baseball League, remaining as President until his death in 1956. During his tenure the club became affiliated with the Brooklyn Dodgers. In 1946, he brought Jackie Robinson to Montréal and Robinson became the first black to play professional baseball in the United States. At his death in 1956, Hector was Vice-President of the International Baseball League and a member of the administrative council of the Brooklyn Dodgers. On 13 October 2021 he was posthumously appointed to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame. He was also President of the Prévoyance insurance company and a life-governor of many Montréal hospitals. We honour these great builders.



HECTOR RACINE (1888-1956)

2022 RECIPIENT OF MEDAL OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

Mr. Sylvain Racine, having received the homage of the City of Terrebonne on 14 March 2022, was awarded the Medal of the National Assembly of Québec by the member of Parliament from Masson, Mr. Mathieu Lemay, on 21 July 2022. The medal was in recognition of Mr. Racine's 36 years in the regional des Moulins television network (TVRM). TVRM serves the region of Terrebonne-Mascouche. Since his retirement in December 2021, Mr. Racine has stayed on as an administrator of TVRM.



Sylvain Racine signing the Golden Book of the City of Terrebonne along with the Mayor Mathieu Traversy.

AN OCTOBER FIRST 2022 MASCOUCHE AND FUMICHON

When the Racine Families Association held its annual reunion at Mascouche, our Vice-President Denis Racine and his wife Jeanne Guimond were in Fumichon, Normandy, the birthplace of our common ancestor, Étienne Racine. They visited Marcel Harcourt, a former mayor of the commune, to deposit a bouquet of flowers at the grave of Mr. Harcourt's wife Jacqueline, who was deceased on 7 November 2021.

BIRTH

Lisa Gravel-Baril, spouse of Pierre-Alexandre Guimond-Racine (son of Denis, genealogist of our Association) gave birth to a girl named Julia on le 30 April 2023. It is a second girl for the couple. Welcome Julia Racine.

SUCCESS OF THE ASSOCIATION'S SUGARBUSH PARTIES

Fifty people responded to the Association's invitation to a sugarbush party at l'érablière La Cabane Claude Benoît in Saint-Hyacinthe on 1 April last. And some 61 went to the sugarbush party at La Ferme Drouin in Casselman. In Casselman, farmer-folklorist Louis Racine entertained us with his music and traditional dancing lessons.

THE RACINE HOUSE

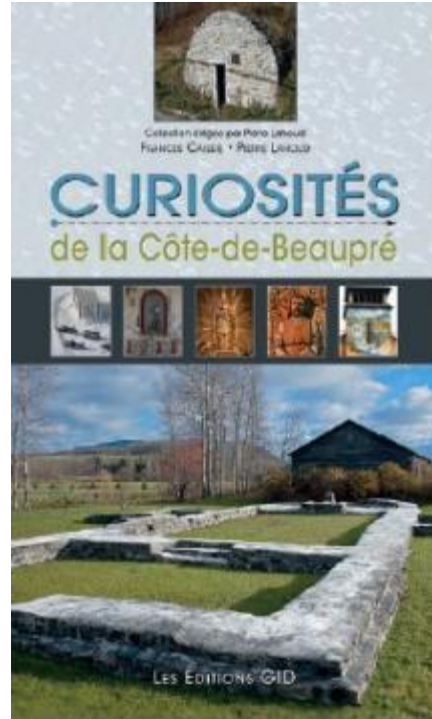
Historians Frances Caissie and Pierre Lahoud recently published in Éditions GID the 15th volume of their collection « *Curiosités* », entitled « *Curiosités de la Côte-de-Beaupré* » (curiosities of the Côte-d—Beaupré). Pages 106 and 107 are devoted to the Racine

House at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré, which was designated a heritage property since 1975.

The authors wrote the following about our ancestor Étienne Racine:

« Étienne Racine was prominent in the history of the Côte-de-Beaupré in many ways. Thus,

in 1988 a plaque in the memory of the “father of the Racines in America” was affixed to the façade of the chapel near the basilica. In 1993 and 1998, the Québec Toponymy Commission named Mount Étienne-Racine and Mount Marguerite-Martin, Étienne’s wife, which are part of the Laurentides mountain bordering Château-Richer and Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. Finally, Étienne-Racine Street at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré honours the role of this pioneer of New France. »



CÉLINE RACINE-PAQUETTE RECEIVES AN AWARD



Last 15 April, Céline Racine-Paquette received the *Bishop Edgar P. Wadhams Award for Distinguished Service*, presented by Monsignor Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg. The award recognizes her long involvement and service to the Sainte-Marie Parish and the catholic community of Champlain and the diocese of Ogdensburg (New York). Monsignor LaValley also mentioned Céline’s role as President of the Legislative Council of Clinton County, her participation in the Fiduciary Affairs Bureau of Collège St-Michael’s de Colchester (Vermont), her role as a commissioner in the *Middle State Commission on Higher Education* and her participation as a member of the *Diocesan Bishop’s Heritage Circle* and, for more than 20 years, as a member of the *Diocesan Investment Advisory Committee*. Congratulations.

IN MEMORIAM

- **ROBERT RACINE**, son of the late Patrick Racine and the late Laura Lachance, deceased at l'Hôpital Laval, Québec City, on 8 October 2022 at age 76.
- **RITA RICHER**, widow of Maurice Racine, deceased at Lachute on 27 November 2022 at age 90.
- **JULES RACINE**, widower of Huguette Crevier, son of the late Réal Racine and the late Juliette Pelletier, deceased at Longueuil on 3 December 2022 at age 96. Jules was, along with Lucien and Denis, one of the three signatories of the request for incorporation of the Association in 1987. He also donated his archives and genealogy notes to the Association.
- **LISE RACINE**, widow of Pierre Lesage, daughter of the late Alcide Racine and the late Jeanne Vézina, deceased at Sainte-Agathe on 8 December 2022 at age 86.
- **RAYMOND RACINE**, son of the late Joseph Racine and the late Marie-Anne Gauthier, deceased at CHSLD Côté Jardins, Québec City, on 9 December 2022 at age 87.
- **DANIÈLE RACINE**, spouse of Sylvain Guilbault, daughter of the late Marcel Racine and Rollande Darsigny, deceased at Montréal on 14 December 2022 at age 59.
- **BERNARD RACINE**, son of the late Raoul Racine and the late Adrienne Crépeault, deceased at l'Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus, Québec City, on 30 December 2022 at age 79.
- **JEAN-MARC RACINE**, widower of Andrée Alarie, son of the late Osias Racine and the late Alphonsine Gaboury, deceased at Joliette on 12 January 2023 at age 88.
- **GISÈLE COTNOIR**, wife of Réjean Racine, deceased at l'Hôtel-Dieu de Saint-Hyacinthe on 20 January 2023 at age 88.
- **LISE RACINE**, daughter of the late Lucien Racine et de the late Jacqueline Désaulniers, deceased at Shawinigan on 30 January 2023 at age 69.
- **CONRAD RACINE**, husband of Madeleine Frigon, son of the late Georges Racine and the late Eva Neveu, of Angliers, deceased on 3 February 2023 at age 81.
- **THÉRÈSE GIGUÈRE**, widow of Raymond Racine, deceased at l'Institut universitaire de santé mentale de Québec on 3 February 2023 at age 89.
- **MARIE-PAULE RACINE**, wife of Léo Bourgeois, deceased at Lachute on 4 February 2023 at age 81.
- **ANNETTE MARCOTTE**, widow of Gérard Racine, deceased at Trois-Rivières on 13 February 2023 at age 90.
- **PAUL BOUCHER**, spouse of Madeleine Racine, deceased at Rimouski on 26 February 2023.

- **DENYSE BLANCHARD**, wife of Raymond Racine, deceased at Tiny ON on 1 March 2023 at age 77. Raymond and Denyse, long-time residents of Elliot Lake ON, had moved to Tiny ON in September 2022. They were members of our Association since 1998 and have participated in numerous reunions. Raymond is the brother of our ex-President and current Treasurer, Jacques H. Racine.
- **LAURENCE BRASSARD**, widow of Rosaire Racine, deceased on 1 March 2023 at age 85.
- **THÉRÈSE CARDINAL**, widow of Rosaire Racine, of Casselman ON, deceased on 11 March 2023 at age 97.
- **RENÉ RACINE**, husband of Marie-Claire Aubé, son of the late Rosario Racine and the late Antoinette Carbonneau, deceased at Saint-Prosper on 13 March 2023 at age 93.
- **PIERRE RACINE**, husband of Francine Couture, son of the late Rosaire Racine and the late Béatrice Brunelle, deceased at Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke, Fleurimont site, on 15 March 2023 at age 60.
- **MARIETTE RACINE**, widow of Henri-Luc Lavoie, daughter of the late Louis Racine and the late Alice Lachance, deceased at l'Unité de soins palliatifs de l'Institut universitaire de santé mentale de Québec on 19 March 2023 at age 82.
- **LUC RACINE**, son of the late René Racine and Marie-Claire Aubé, deceased at Granby on 28 March 2023 at age 55.
- **ROGER RACINE**, husband of Thérèse Berthelot, son of the late Welly Racine and Marie-Anne Sanfaçon, deceased at Centre d'hébergement Yvonne Sylvain, Québec City, on 7 April 2023 at age 93.
- **CLAUDETTE RACINE**, daughter of the late Jean Racine and the late Alexandrine Laflamme, deceased at l'Hôtel-Dieu de Lévis on 10 April 2023 at age 80.
- **MARIE-NOËLLE TREMBLAY**, widow of Lucien Racine, deceased at Alma on 12 April 2023 at age 98.
- **THOMAS RACINE**, husband of Gisèle Bordeleau, son of the late Louis-Georges and the late Flore Robertson, of Saint-Constant, deceased on 20 April 2023 at age 85.
- **BRIGITTE RACINE**, widow of Maurice Gauthier, daughter of the late Émile Racine and the late Marie-Blanche Lapointe, deceased at l'Hôpital de Chicoutimi on 24 April 2023 at age 90.
- **HÉLÈNE LAJEUNESSE**, widow of Léopold Racine, deceased at l'Hôpital Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré on 25 April 2023 at age 91.
- **CARMEN CHAMPAGNE**, widow of Jules Racine, of Saint-Jean-de-Matha, deceased on 26 April 2023 at age 94.

- **MARCEL RACINE**, husband of Dolorès Lacroix, son of the late Claude Racine and the late Gabrielle Huot, deceased on 6 May 2023 at age 84.
- **SIMONE RACINE**, widow in a first marriage of Lorenzo Lacasse and in a second marriage of Albert Rhéaume, daughter of the late Joseph Racine and the late Marie-Anna Picard, deceased at CHSLD de Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré on 30 May 2023 at age 96.
- **LAURENT RACINE**, husband of Danielle Bélanger, son of the late Albert Racine and the late Claire Mercier, deceased at La Vallée des Roseaux, Baie Comeau, on 31 May 2023 at age 70.
- **GUY RACINE**, husband of Carole Gagnon, son of Donald Racine and the late Thérèse Roy, deceased at Montréal on 4 June 2023 at age 68.
- **RENÉ RACINE**, widower of Gisèle Morency, son of the late Armand Racine and the late Laurencia Langlois, deceased at LaPrairie on 12 June 2023 at age 86.

We send our most sincere condolences to the families of the bereaved.

Note: Our thanks to Denise Racine-Gratton for her devoted work in the gathering of information for this list of the deceased.

AREAS OF ORIGIN OF THE RACINE FAMILY IN EUROPE (continued)

1) IN NORMANDY (CONTINUED)

A) L'ORNE

ATHIS-DE-L'ORNE AND SAINTE-HONORINE-LA-CHARDONNE

To be interested in the commune of Athis-de-l'Orne and its neighbors, Sainte-Honorine-de-la-Chardonne and Condé-sur-Noireau, the latter located in Calvados, it is essential to discuss the spread of the Reformation in France and Normandy.

In 1517, the German theologian Martin Luther (1483-1546), scandalized by the trade in indulgences practiced by the Catholic Church, in particular to finance the construction of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, published his 95 Theses in Wittenberg. Summoned to retract, he was excommunicated in 1521. Subsequently, he encouraged the use of the vernacular in worship, instead of Latin, and translated the Bible into German in 1534.

His dissent quickly spreads. He made many disciples, including Zwingli, in Zurich (Switzerland) with whom he broke in 1529. Sweden officially became Lutheran in 1529, while other theologians became known by founding other so-called Protestant religions (Calvin in Geneva (Switzerland), John Knox in Scotland, Jan Hus in Prague (Czech Republic)). The Vatican reacted with the Council of Trent (1545-1563), whose decisions gave rise to what was called the Counter-Reformation.

In France, Protestant ideas spread rapidly, notably under the influence of Calvin, in Paris, Angers, Valence, Provence, Languedoc and the Garonne Valley. From 1555, the nobility adhered to the new religion, particularly in the southern provinces, Normandy, Brie and Champagne.

This movement is problematic, because the king was Catholic, and at that time, in France or elsewhere, the religion of the king is the religion of the kingdom and its subjects. It is therefore a challenge against royal authority, which can only lead to significant conflict. Thus, the Wars of Religion, real civil wars, which coincided with the weakening of royal power after the death of Henry II in 1559, began with the massacre of Wassy in 1562 and lasted until 1598, year of the proclamation of the Edict of Nantes by King Henry IV, himself a Protestant who became Catholic after reconquering his kingdom. This Edict, which brought peace to France, granted rights and strongholds to the Protestants, who were called Huguenots in France.

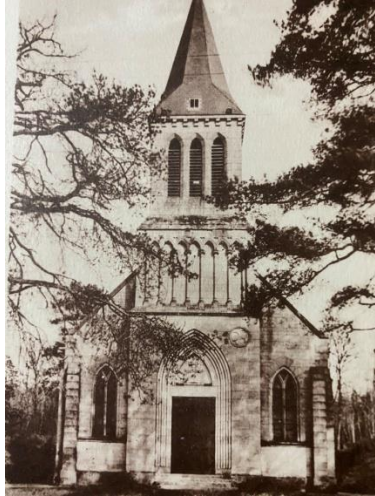
But this peace would be contested by Cardinal Richelieu, prime minister of Louis XIII. He besieged the city of La Rochelle, the main stronghold of the Huguenots, in 1627. This struggle ended in 1685 when King Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes, forcing members of the "*Religion supposedly reformed*" (RPR) either to emigrate to Germany, Switzerland, Holland or the Scandinavian countries and causing a real economic disaster for France, or to hide to practice their worship. It was not until 1793 that Protestants could enjoy freedom of religion.

Thus, in Athis-de-l'Orne, Sainte-Honorine-la-Chardonne and Condé-sur-Noireau, the population is predominantly Huguenot. These faithful must hide to practice their religion. However, they can register the birth of their children in Catholic parishes, the only places authorized to keep civil registers.

In Athis, in January 1610, Adrien Racine married Isabeau Longuet, while Nicolas Racine married Jeanne Bellanger in July 1619 and Guillaume Racine married Madeleine Haze on 6 November 1629. In Sainte-Honorine, Jacques Racine married Florine Marchand around 1618 and René Racine united his destiny with Marie Payand around 1625.

We count 49 marriages in Athis from 1610 to 1899 and 59 in Sainte-Honorine from 1618 to 1894, the vast majority of which concern Racines who are Huguenot.

Thus, Jacques Racine (1700-1766), husband of Suzanne Lebailly, was one of the ten delegates of Sainte-Honorine to participate on 2 February 1743 in a conference organized by Pastor Morin.



The Protestant Temple of Athis-de-l'Orne



The village of Sainte-Honorine-la-Chardonne

ENGLISH CHANNEL

LE VRÉTÔT

Le Vrétôt is a former commune that is now part of the commune of Bricquebec-en-Contentin since 2016. In 1793, it had 730 inhabitants and in 2019, 637. The Church of Notre-Dame-des-Anges dates back to the fifteenth century while the bridge of Malassis, crossing the Scye, is from Roman times. Michel Racine (1721-1786) married Catherine Onfroty there around 1750 and left descendants in the department until this day.

RAVENOVILLE

Ravenoville is a small town whose existence dates back to 1164. It had 501 inhabitants in 1793 and 254 in 2019. Since 1 January 2019, it has been merged with Sainte-Mère-L'Église. It was nearby, at Utah Beach, that the Americans landed on the morning of 6 June 1944. One of their paratroopers was hung up on the bell tower of the Church of Sainte-Mère.

On 13 November 1685, Guillaume Racine married Guilmette Chipie, followed by Pierre Racine in 1690 with Marie Lebreton (whose descendants are there to the present day) and Jean Racine and Barbe Giot on July 26, 1696.

OMONVILLE-LA-ROGUE

Omonville-la-Rogue is also a former commune which was merged in 2017 with the commune of La Hague. Its existence dates back to at least 1210. It had 629 inhabitants in 1793 and 444 in 2019. The Gothic church of Saint-Jean-Baptiste, built in the second half of the thirteenth century and restored in the eighteenth century, was classified as a

historical monument in 1971. It is the cradle of some privateer families, including Joachim Clément (1698-before 1773).

On 19 October 1665, Jean Racine married Catherine Leparmentier in Omonville-La-Rogue. His son Jacques bore the surname of Racine and left descendants in Omonville until at least 1871.

In the department of Manche, as in that of Pas-de-Calais, especially in Noyelles-Godault, the surname Racine merges with that of Racine.



Above: the church of Ravenoville
Opposite (top): the church of
Omonville-la-Rogue
Opposite (bottom): The Port Racine



PORT RACINE

We cannot talk about the department of La Manche without introducing you to Port Racine. Located in Saint-Germain-des-Vaux, this place, dedicated to fishing, is one of the smallest ports in France. It is 800 square meters with two piers of granite dry stones forming a quadrilateral. It was in the early nineteenth century that the privateer François-Médard Racine (1774-1817) built a pier to anchor his ships. It was replaced in 1870 and completed by a second in 1886.

François-Médard Racine becomes a ship's-boy at 15 years old and sets sail for Martinique and St-Domingue, before settling in Camaret.

Often taken prisoner by the English, he tasted their jails. He became commander of the ship *Anarcharsis* in May 1812, then of the *Ambush* in February 1813. He anchors in the small port that will bear his name while he lives in a house above the port.

He then bought the *Aimable Annette*, then the *Bonne Annette* and successively commanded the *Hirondelle* (1816), the *Voyageur*, the *Actif* and the *Trois Amis*. He died in June 1817 aboard *La Petite Catherine* en route to Guernsey.

For more details on François-Médard Racine, see *L'Enraciné*, vol. 10, no. 3, pp. 7-11 on the Association's website.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF JOSEPH RACINE (1873-1937) OR WHEN FAMILY MEMORY CAN BE MISLEADING

In 1992, I was proud to publish an article in *L'Enraciné* (vol. 5 no. 4 – December 1992) which was a biography of my grandfather. Entitled¹ *Joseph Racine (1873-1937) – Quebec City businessman*. This grandfather has since my childhood caught my attention. Although he died 16 years before I was born and when my father was only 11 years old, family tradition had held that he had a life of adventure until his first marriage to Joséphine Simard on 6 May 1907 in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré and thereafter, was a well-known businessman in Quebec City.

It was therefore to Jean Racine (1915-1998), notably during an interview on 25 October 1992, and Irène Racine (1921-2004), my father's brother and sister, that I turned to solicit their memories of their father and who gave me the basic material necessary for the writing of this biography.

Sometime after publication, a cousin of my father, Gabrielle Racine (1909-2011), daughter of Albert Racine, phoned me to tell me that my article was only "*a pack of lies*". Surprised, I asked for a meeting with her to try to clarify the situation, but she always refused. What to do?

Jean and Irene could not tell me more, except to indicate that there was some rivalry between Joseph and his brother Albert, which could explain the comment. But this inquiry has always occupied my ulterior motives. And then, time passed, Jean, Irene and Gabrielle are deceased and I made the mistake of not undertaking checks sooner.

So, I chose much later to dig deeper into two elements of the biography. First, I explain that Joseph left Montreal, attracted by Klondike gold fever, to go to Western Canada and settle in Pontex, Manitoba. Very quickly, I realized that Pontex is not located in Manitoba, but that it was Ponteix, in southwestern Saskatchewan, near Gravelbourg.

I also added that after his return from the west, where he had accumulated some capital, he would have invested in his brother Albert's tannery business at Quebec.

My research has shown me that sometimes family memory can be misleading.

The stay in Western Canada

One thing that particularly intrigued me about this stay was that he was present at the funeral of his father, Éphrem Racine (1845-1902), in Saint-Joachim on 18 January 1902. It

¹ You can consult this issue of the Racine Association's website.

was still a long journey in 1902 to return from Saskatchewan to Saint-Joachim, on the Côte de Beaupré. I wondered whether it would not be after 1902, instead of about 1896, that he left Québec for the West.

After a few visits to the Canada Archives Canada in Ottawa, I discovered the answer to this question and more.

It was not until 28 May 1900 that Joseph applied for a land grant in the west, followed on 29 June by his brothers, Arthur and Alphonse.²

Joseph and Alphonse arrived in Saskatchewan in the summer of 1900, more precisely in Bellegarde, a French-speaking region located in the south-east of the province, near the border with Manitoba, and not in Ponteix. They would have joined their brother Arthur (1878-1950). The confusion in Jean and Irène's minds probably stemmed from the fact that Father Joseph-Napoléon Poirier (1871-1946), who came to visit my grandfather at his home in Quebec City in the 1930s, had first been curate at Bellegarde from 1903, before becoming parish priest of Ponteix from 1922 to 1941.

Joseph settled on land described as the South West portion of Section 12, Township 7, Range 31 of the 1st Meridian with an area of 160 acres (1 acre equals 4,046.86 square metres). He cleared 40 acres in the first year, then 20 in the second and 60 in the third. He owned four horses in 1903 and erected a two-storey 17 (sic) square foot house valued at \$350, a 50 square-foot barn and a small 16 square-foot grain warehouse. All this appears in a document dated 20 January 1903 in which Joseph asks the federal government to grant him title to his land, which he obtained on 16 December 1903.

In this document, we also learn that Joseph was absent for two months during the winter of 1901-1902 to return to Québec to visit his parents, which explains his presence at his father's funeral on 18 January 1902.

Meanwhile, his brother Alphonse settled on land not far from Joseph's (SW part of Section 20, Township 6, Range 30 of the 1st Meridian) in the summer of 1900. He built a 12-by-14-foot house in August 1900 worth \$60 and a 16-by-24 foot barn worth \$40. It seems that he did not accompany Joseph on his trip to Québec in 1901-1902, because his presence is not recorded in his father's burial certificate. He applied for the grant of a title deed on 18 March 1905 and received it on 21 June. Alphonse remained in Bellegarde until 1913 before returning to Montreal where he established himself as a barber. He married Zénaïde Hébert in Bellegarde on 24 November 1910 and died in Marieville, Quebec, on 2 September 1941.

As for Arthur, he states in a document dated 19 May 1900 that he arrived on 28 June 1899 on land adjacent to those of his brothers (SW part, Section 34, Township 6, Range 32), but that he was mistaken with land that he had not asked for and on which he could not find water and which was very stony. He therefore abandoned his application for a land grant, which was confirmed on 30 May 1900. This land was later granted to Alexander Johnson.

He made another application for a grant on 29 June 1900, but it was not acted upon.

² On Alphonse Racine – see « *In Search of Alphonse Racine* » in *l'Enraciné* no. 77 (Fall 2010), pp. 6-9.



Joseph Racine circa 1896



Joseph Racine at his wedding to Joséphine Simard on May 6, 1907



Arthur Racine circa 1950

Arthur is said to have been the first to arrive in Saskatchewan in June 1899. Family legend indicates that he stayed in Bellegarde after his

application for a land grant was abandoned, to help his brothers. We know for sure that he was not present at Saint-Joachim at the wedding of his sister Marie-Louise on 22 October 1901. On the other hand, he signed the burial certificates of his father on 18 January 1902, of his sister, Eugénie, on 13 August 1902, of his elder sister, Anna, on 3 October 1902, of his grandfather, Louis Thomassin, on 22 July 1903. He married Marie-Ange Ferland in Saint-Tite-des-Caps, on 23 November 1903. He probably returned from the West with his brother Joseph in the winter of 1901-1902 and settled permanently in Saint-Joachim.

Arthur became secretary-treasurer of Saint-Joachim (1913-1917), then mayor (1921-1925) and died there on 15 May 1950.

As for Joseph's other activities during his stay in the West concerning the trade in wild horses and the operation and maintenance of steam combines, we have found no evidence of this.

He is said to have returned to Quebec around 1906 and was married on 6 May 1907.

The business partnership with his brother Albert

Having accumulated some capital from his years in the West, family tradition indicated that he had invested in his brother Albert's tannery and that this partnership lasted until March 1920, when Joseph purchased Wilbrod Blais' tannery on Rue Sainte-Hélène, Québec City.

I suspected that Cousin Gabrielle's remarks probably had to do with this mention.

I therefore noted the notarial acts relating to Albert Racine's tannery, located at 631 Saint-Valier Street and 18-22 Demers Street in Quebec City.



Albert Racine (1877-1952)

There is no indication of any association between Albert and Joseph. In addition, I questioned retired judge Jacques Philippon, born in 1932, grandson of Albert, who told me that he had never been aware of such an association.

But what did Joseph do after he returned to Quebec around 1906?

In his marriage contract with Joséphine Simard on 1 May 1907 (not. Jacques-Édouard Plamondon), he is described as a merchant tanner at Quebec, while no trade or profession is mentioned in his marriage certificate of 6 May 1907.

In the 1911 census, he was listed as a tanner living at 392 Rue du Roi, in the Saint-Roch district of Quebec City.

On 14 January 1914 (not. Louis-Cyrius Jacques), when he bought his house on Richardson Street in Quebec City, he was a merchant.

At the time of his marriage contract with Thérèse Dion on 10 August 1914 (not. Ferdinand Audet), he claimed to be a tanner and merchant, while nothing was mentioned in the marriage certificate on 17 August.

On 3 April 1919 (not. Louis-Cyrius Jacques), in a promise of sale of Wilbrod Blais' tannery, it is mentioned that he is a leather manufacturer.

Finally, on 2 August 1919 (not. J.-B. Beauregard), in the Declaration of Heredity as Executor of his mother Rosalie Thomassin's will, he is a leather merchant.

In the baptismal records of the children, no trade is mentioned for Jean and Lucille, on 5 August 1915 and 19 February 1917, in the parish of Notre-Dame-de-Jacques-Cartier in Québec City, while in that of Gertrude, on 14 November 1919 in the same parish, he is a manufacturer.

In the Marcotte Yearbooks from 1907 to 1920, he is listed as a tanner, residing at 153 Charest Street (1907-1909), then at 546 Saint-Valier Street (1909-1911), 392 Saint-François Street (1911-1914) and 343 Richardson Street (1914-1920), but we do not know where he worked, unless he did it from home.

However, one thing is obvious. It is certain that he was a leather merchant from 1907 before becoming, in 1919, by the purchase of the tannery of Wilbrod Blais, a leather manufacturer. Although he might have been able to do business with his brother Albert between 1907 and 1919, it is certain that he was not associated with him in his tannery on Rue Saint-Valier and Rue Demers.

Thus, cousin Gabrielle was right that my text contained at least some inaccuracies.

All this to remind us that it is very difficult to tell the story of an ancestor whose activities go back more than a century and that it is risky to rely solely on family memory.

DENIS RACINE, AIG

MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

During his visit to Ottawa on 25 March 2023, the President of the United States, Joe Biden, met the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, François-Philippe Champagne, great grandchild of Joseph Racine (see above).



OUR NEXT REUNION

Plans for our next reunion are not yet fixed. We will advise you of the next reunion by e-mail or mail in the next few weeks.

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

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.racine.genealogie.org

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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.

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ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

HELD BY VIDEOCONFERENCE

RULES OF OPERATION

Despite the difficulties imposed by the health rules, the Association must respect its duties imposed by the Act and in particular the holding of an annual general assembly within four months following the end of its fiscal year. Obviously, social distancing rules prevent us from holding this meeting physically.

Also, at its meeting on 30 April 2023, the Board of Directors chose to hold this meeting by videoconference, using the ZOOM system.

To connect to the videoconference, **you must register by communicating** your interest to our President at his email address no later than 21 July 2023: familles.racine.1987@rogers.com

Despite this date, we would like to obtain confirmation as soon as possible of your interest in participating in the meeting so that connection arrangements can be made in advance.

A nomination form is also attached. Four positions on the Board of Directors are up for election. If you wish to run or nominate a candidate, you must complete the ballot, sign it and send it to Jean-Paul LeBlanc who will act as returning officer by mail or email before 10 July 2023 at 5:00 p.m., so that we can, if necessary, organize a secret ballot if there are more candidates than positions to be filled.

FRANCINE CAYOUETE, secretary.

THE ZOOM SYSTEM

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Please indicate your interest in participating in the Association's Annual General Assembly to be held by ZOOM by emailing your registration to our President at the following address: familles.racine.1987@rogers.com

Then, you will receive by email an invitation to participate in the meeting a few days before the scheduled date. By clicking on the link that will be indicated in this email, you will be able to download the program and participate in the meeting by videoconference with the other members.

ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE RACINE FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF MEETING

The members of the Association des familles Racine are hereby invited to the Annual General Meeting by videoconference, ZOOM system, to be held on Sunday, 20 August 2023 at 10:00 am (see text above for instructions on how to participate)

The agenda to be proposed will be as follows:

- 1- Opening of the meeting;
- 2- Welcome from the President;
- 3- Reading and adoption of the agenda;
- 4- Reading and adoption of the minutes of the last meeting;
- 5- President's Report;
- 6- Treasurer's Report;
- 7- Adoption of financial statements;
- 8- Appointment of the auditor;
- 9- Report of the last reunion;
- 10- Discharge of directors leaving office;
- 11- Elections
- 12- Suspension of the meeting;
- 13- Resumption of the meeting;
- 14- Introduction of new officers;
- 15- Greetings and resolutions of the assembly;
- 16- Adjournment of the meeting.

The terms of office of Jean-Louis Racine, Denis Racine and Henriette Lorange and Lorraine Racine are coming to an end. There are therefore four (4) positions to be filled this year. Departing directors are eligible for re-election.

We hope that many of you will join us for this meeting and thank you in advance for your participation.

Francine Cayouette, Secretary

Canada Post Corporation
Number 40069967, Post publications
Return address:
Association des familles Racine
c/o Jacques H. Racine
1136, Maritime Way, app. 206, Ottawa (ON) Canada K2K 0M1

**PRINTED
PAPER SURFACE**