



Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society

217 Turner Street
Auburn ME 04210

Phone: 207-786-3327

October 2020

The Father Leo E. Begin Library is located at 217 Turner Street, Auburn on the 2nd floor above the Fortin Group Funeral Home

Library Hours

Limited hours due to COVID-19

Wednesdays - 1:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Saturdays – by appointment

NEW Email: info@mfgen.org

Visit our **NEW** Website at:

<https://mfgen.org>



<https://www.facebook.com/MFGSLibrary?ref=stream>

Officers/Board Members

President: Arthur Allard

Vice President: vacant

Treasurer: Lucille Langelier

Recording Secretary: Connie Hitchcock

Corresponding Secretary: Connie Beliveau

*Board Members: Richard Gamache,
Jeanne Letourneau and Simeon Breault*

Research Director: Arthur Allard

Library Director: Fr. Robert Parent

Facebook: Joline Fortier

Includes:
Slate of Officers/Board
Proposed Amendments to By-Laws

A Message from our President, Arthur Allard

To the members of the Society, I take this time to inform you of the change in the current Presidency of MFGS. Because of the unexpected passing of our President, Michael Poulin, I have taken over the duties of the Presidency of the MFGS Society.

Our fall meeting has been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Virus which is the reason why we could no longer reserve a room at the Auburn Public Library to hold our meeting.

We are currently updating the MFGS New Website which is now <http://www.mfgen.org>. We hope that you will take the time to try it out and give me your concerns if we need to make changes. Our New Email address is: info@mfgen.org.

We are now in the process of digitizing our entire obituary books with the help of Lisa Blue, our technical advisor. We are looking for volunteers for this project. Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering. We also have catalogued our library books/holdings to make it easier for members to locate the books needed for their research.

We are still open on Wednesdays from 1:00 – 8:30 p.m. for your convenience, while following the COVID-19 guidelines.

MFGS Loses President and Friend

It is with great sadness that on 16 July 2020 our Society lost one of our founding members and present president in the sudden death of Michael R. Poulin. Michael passed away at his home in Lewiston after a short illness at the age of 70. He had been active in the Society since the beginning and was instrumental, as a lawyer, representing the Society in the negotiations establishing us as a totally independent society from the American-Canadian Genealogical Society of Manchester, NH. After his retirement from his law practice he became once again more active in the Society and volunteered as one of our librarians. In short order his dedication, experience and knowledge led him to the position of president where he put his organizational and legal experience to good work for the good of MFGS and he had begun to initiate new projects. His sudden death is a loss for MFGS. He will be sorely missed and our sympathies go out to his wife Sharon and sons Charles, Mathieu and James and their wives and children and his entire family. May God grant his soul rest.

Thank-you, Thank-you, Thank-you...

For the generosity of our Members and Friends of the Society who have sent donations dedicated to the MFGS Book Fund to be used to repair books in our collection. We are very appreciative of your kindness and support.

New MFGS Library Acquisition

This year the MFGS Library acquired a new and important addition to our collection. At the suggestion of our president Michael Poulin, who found the collection for sale at an immense discount, and with the agreement of the head librarian and the acquisition board, the Society purchased the 27 volume collection of Acadian Records from the Drouin Institute in Quebec. This collection was mostly paid for with funds donated to the Society in memory of our president Michael Poulin, who passed away this year, and is dedicated to him. Come in and inspect this valuable addition in our collection to Acadian research.

IMPORTANT Information regarding upcoming Election and proposed Bylaws changes

Even though we cannot hold a general meeting this year, we still have to elect our Officers and Directors, as well as vote on the proposed Bylaws changes. So that you can preview them, this newsletter contains the names of nominees for our Officers and Directors and the proposed Bylaws changes.

A separate email will be sent to you with complete voting instructions including the Slate of Nominees for Officers and Directors and the Proposed Bylaws changes. Please read that carefully and cast your ballot within the time frame indicated in that email.

Thank you for your support in our efforts to keep MFGS functioning.

Slate of Nominees

MFGS 2020 ELECTIONS

ELECTED OFFICERS - 2 YEAR TERM

TITLE	NOMINEE	TERM
President		2020-2022
Vice-President		2020-2022
Treasurer	Lucille Langelier	2020-2022
Corresponding Secretary	Connie Beliveau	2020-2022
Recording Secretary	Connie Hitchcock	2020-2022

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2 YEAR TERM

Board Member	Arthur Allard	2020-2022
Board Member	Richard Gamache	2020-2022
Board Member	Marie Murphy	2020-2022

Proposed Revisions to MFGS By-Laws

Adopted by the Board of Directors
March 2, 2020

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

The MFGS Board recommends that the crossed-out wording below in the title of Section 5 be deleted because "Appointment of the Webmaster" is not a committee.

Section 5. Committee on Library and ~~Appointment of the Webmaster~~

1. Shall consist of the Library Director and at least two (2) members.
2. Shall have custody of the holdings, books, other written or printed matter, computers and equipment.
3. Shall have control over members' access to the library holdings.
4. Shall be in charge of scheduling librarians and assigning their duties and, upon approval by the Board of Directors, appoint new librarians.
5. The Library Director shall:
 - a) be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall be accountable to the Board.
 - b) be a voting member of the Board of Directors except on matters pertaining to his or her appointment.

The MFGS Board recommends

1. that the crossed-out wording below, #6 of Section 5, be deleted, because the Webmaster is not listed as a member of the Board in Article IV Section 1: Definition of the Board of Directors; and
2. that the appointment of the Webmaster and oversight of the website be inserted as a function of the Board of Directors in Article IV, Section 4, as lower case letter **k**)

~~6. The Webmaster shall:~~

- ~~a) be appointed by the Board of Directors and shall be accountable to the Board.~~
- ~~b) be a voting member of the Board of Directors except on matters pertaining to his or her appointment.~~

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 4. Functions of the Board of Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall:

[NEW] **k**) oversee postings to the MFGS website and shall appoint a Webmaster who shall be accountable to the Board.

ARTICLE I NAME AND PURPOSES

The MFGS Board recommends that the crossed-out wording below be replaced with “the MFGS library” because the term “The Father Begin Library” was used when MFGS was a chapter under ACGS, but changed when it incorporated as its own entity. This change brings our bylaws into compliance with current terminology. Note: The library now holds more than the original Fr. Begin Collection.

Section 1. Name

The name of this Society shall be the Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society hereinafter referred to as the Society.

The name of the library maintained by the Society shall be ~~The Father Leo E. Begin Library~~, hereinafter referred to as ~~the Father Begin Library~~. **the MFGS Library.**

New Members

We welcome our newest members to the Society: Eric Colleary, Tammy Gary, Robert LeMieux and Eric McCall.

Donate-A-Book - Dedicate-A-Book

Do you have a loved one who you would like to dedicate a book in their memory? MFGS has a list of books that can be purchased. A dedication label will be placed in the inside cover in their memory/honor. Contact the MFGS Library for more information.

The Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society is a non-profit volunteer society dedicated to the collection and preservation of Franco-American genealogical material and helping its members and the general public in their research. Its library, at 217 Turner St. (2nd floor), Auburn, houses one of the largest collections of French-Canadian genealogical material in Maine. The Society is dedicated to assisting individuals in discovering and preserving their family history.

For more information visit the MFGS web page at: WEBSITE: <https://mfgen.org>

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Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society

Membership Application

MFGS Treasurer, 217 Turner Street, Auburn, ME 04210-6092
Tel. (207) 786-3327 Website: <https://mfgen.org/>

Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Postal Code _____ Country _____ Tel. (____) _____

Email address _____

Do you want your name and Email Address to appear in our online Email Directory?

(no other information will be listed) _____(Yes) _____(No)

Types of Memberships:

Individual.....\$20.00 Family Members.....\$10.00

Lifetime.....\$300.00 (15 times yearly fee)

Membership begins in the month in which dues are paid and is renewable on the anniversary of your join date.

Make check payable to: Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society. Dues must be payable in U.S. Funds.