



Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 2125
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Ron Deblois, President
Roger Dufresne, Vice President
Lucille Langelier, Treasurer
Jane Fogg, Recording Secretary
Susan Beaulieu, Corresponding Secretary

Board of Directors: Normand Angers
Gabriel Couture
Normand Morin
Marc Arnoldy
Webmaster: Norm Cote

October 5, 2007

**General Membership Meeting will be held on
Saturday, October 20th, at 9:30 a.m.**

Election of Officers will be held.

We hope to see you there.

President's Message

Dear Members,

I would like to begin by thanking all of the members for their support of the library whether it is through their membership, donations, and participations and especially to those members that volunteer their time and services to the growth of the library. I would like to especially thank Normand Angers for his continued dedication to the library. The library is available to members 6 days a week because of his diligence in opening the library. He is there to fill in for those librarians that are unable to complete their monthly time slots. The next time you see Norm thank him for his services.

Presently the obituary index continues to grow we are currently entering book number 152 with more than 68,000 entries. This is only an index. The actual obituaries can be viewed and photocopied by asking the librarian on duty. The dates of these obituaries are varied as members continue to donate their collections. We continue to request that members that have small or large volumes of obituaries to consider providing these for the library to be included in the index. Call me or leave me a message at the library and arrangements can be made to have copies made of your obituaries. I would like to thank Pauline and Roger Dufresne and Gabe Couture for there continued help on this project.

The cemetery project continues to expand through long hours spent at the computer from a long time friend and member of the library Geraldine Belanger. Although Gerry and her husband John moved to Florida several years ago she has continued to input cemetery files. Working with MOCA (Maine Old Cemeteries Association) Gerry has done the following counties – Androscoggin, Cumberland, Oxford, Sagadahoc, York, and is currently working on Hancock county.

The library's collection has doubled this past year through the donation of 25 DVD's by members. The records contain PDF books and programs of counties in Canada that were never available to our members. Unfortunately, the library at this time does not have a DVD reader and I have been converting the files on to CD's. Most of them are now available. Norm also has a reader on his personal computer and will assist any member that would like to view these records. We have also added 51 micro films of Father Loiselle Supplemental file of Quebec marriages. Through the generosity of the Guy B. Dostie Funeral Home in Lewiston all of their records (1936-2007) were copied and scanned for members to access. The copying was done by Arthur Allard, sorting was provided by Monique Gagne and scanning by myself. There are about 5,000 records that were handled two and three times by these members.

As I end my tenure as president I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to have served you and wish the new Officers and Board members the best of luck in their continued growth of the library.

Ronald R. DeBlois
President, MFGS

Sympathy cards were sent to the following Members:

November 2006:

To Susan & Donald Bannister in memory of her father.

January 2007:

To Joyce Campbell in memory of her brother Paul Ouellette.

To Lucille Langelier in memory of her mother-in-law Fernande Langelier

To Monique Gagne in member of her sister-in-law Yvette Williams.

To Robert Guay in memory of his mother.

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Roderick in memory of Mrs. Blais, sister to Mrs. Roderick.

To Normand Morin in memory of his brother Maurice Morin.

February 2007:

To Mr. Maurice Ouellette in memory of his brother Norman.

March 2007:

To the Family of Fred Liberty, member who died February 27.

April 2007:

To Jeanne Vaillancourt in memory of her sister Georgette Courchesne.

Mrs. Arlene Castonguay in memory of her brother Francois Bernard.