



Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society

217 Turner Street
Auburn ME 04210

Phone: 207-786-3327

March 2026

The Maine Franco-American Genealogy Library is located at 217 Turner Street, Auburn on the 2nd floor above the Fortin Group Funeral Home

Library Hours

Limited hours due to fewer Librarians

*Wednesdays - 1:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Saturdays – by appointment*

Email: info@mfgen.org

Visit our Website at:
<https://mfgen.org>



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

Officers/Board Members

President: Fr. Robert Parent

Vice President: Camden Martin

Treasurer: Normand Lamie

Recording Secretary: Connie Hitchcock

Corresponding Secretary: Connie Beliveau

*Board Members: Simeon Breault,
Pauline Dionne, Jeanne Letourneau,
Anne Nadeau and Marie Murphy*

Appointed Positions

Library Director: Fr. Robert Parent

Research Director: Lucille Langelier

Webmaster: Simeon Breault

Facebook: Joline Fortier

Spring General Meeting Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

**Place: Auburn Public Library
Corner of Court and Spring Streets**

Denis Ledoux, Maine Author, presents Here to Stay/Lives in 17th Century Canada



The Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society [MFGS] is pleased to host well-known local author Denis Ledoux as its guest speaker at its spring general membership meeting on April 18th at 10:00 am in the Androscoggin Community Room of the Auburn Public Library, 49 Spring St., Auburn.

Ledoux's presentation will begin at approximately 11:00 am following a brief business meeting and light refreshments.

Admission is free and open to the public.

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Known for writing his family stories, Denis Ledoux has now taken his family writing into the distant past with Here to Stay/Lives in 17th Century Canada. In his latest book, he writes about four early family members from the 1660s, and by placing them in a vivid historical context, he has created a glimpse into the first century of French Canada as Canadian settlers struggled against formidable odds to make a foothold on the continent. Here to Stay is a book filled with heroic effort, profound tragedy and perilous survival.

The exploits of these pioneer Canadians are clearly and compellingly portrayed. Here to Stay/Lives in 17th Century Canada offers a readable account of the lives of founding North American settlers.

Ledoux holds a B.A. in English and a M.A. in Education. His biography also notes that he has taught Franco studies at the university level and that he has been a guest lecturer at numerous colleges and universities on the subjects of cultural diversity and Franco North American culture and history.

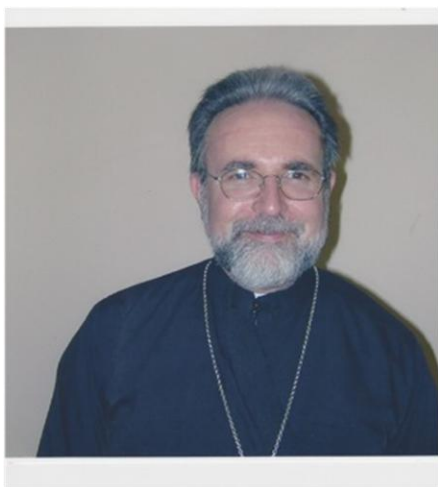
In 1990, Ledoux's short story collection, *Mountain Dance and Other Stories*, won the Maine Arts Commission's Fiction Award. In both 1992 and 1996, he won Individual Writing Fellowships from the Maine Arts Commission. He has been helping people to write memoirs since 1989 via [The Memoir Network](#). In 1996, the Association of Personal Historians named him Personal Historian of the Year.

Previous publications include family memoirs: his mother's, *We Were Not Spoiled/A Franco-American Memoir*; his spouse's, *A Sugary Frosting/Life in a New England Parsonage*; and his own, *French Boy/A 1950s Franco-American Childhood*.

Here to Stay is available through The Memoir Network, 95 Gould Road, Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252, through Amazon.com or Barnes and Noble or any bookstore. The office can be reached by calling 207-353-5454 or by email sent to memoirs@thememoirnetwork.com.

MFSG is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote the study of Franco-American genealogy and genealogical research in the state of Maine. www.mfgen.org

For parking information at the Auburn Public Library, visit www.auburnpubliclibrary.org



A Message to our Members

Dear MFSG Members,

We look forward to seeing many of you at the General Meeting on Saturday 18 April 2026. We are honored to have as our guest speaker our local native Denis Ledoux who will be speaking on his newly published book. This should prove to be a most interesting presentation.

This past season many good things have occurred. Our Garage Sale last August was a huge success, and we hope to repeat it this summer. We will need many volunteers, both to donate material for sale and to work on the sale. This is our largest fund raiser and a big help to the Society.

The new General Index of the 82 volumes of Fr. Labonté's *200 Family Trees* is finished due to the hard work of Sue Rowe and Pauline Dionne and only needs to be bound, which will occur shortly. Copies will be available for purchase very soon. The price will be announced.

I was successful in getting permission to digitally copy the cemetery Cards at SS. Peter & Paul Cemetery in Lewiston along with the obituaries they contain. These date back to the 1940s and will add many older obituaries to our collection. I am presently up to the Bernier's, so I have a long way to go. This will be a long project but will be of great benefit to our patrons and future generations.

I was also able to secure the help of a friend who is a specialist in computer security and IT to help us with the digital organization of our ever-growing obituary collection and our aging computers. He thinks we will be able to transfer our databases, such as PRDH, which presently only runs on a 32-bit computer to a 64-bit computer. Apparently, it is something newer computers can handle. If this is successful, we will be able to investigate upgrading our computers.

Lastly, we need librarians to man the Library on Wednesdays. There are two shifts, 1-4:30 and 4:30-8:30 pm and training will be provided. If interested, please see or contact me.

Thank you for all you are doing for the good of the Society.

Sincerely, Fr. Robert Parent, President MFGS

October Election Notice

MFGS is encouraging all its members to think ahead to the October 2026 elections. Open positions will include all five of the Officers [President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary] and two Elected Directors. All open positions will be for a two-year term.

The Board meets on the first Monday of the month at 5:00 pm in the MFGS Library, and the meetings are usually adjourned in less than 2 hours. Come join us to see what we do and how your input would be most valuable. If you have any questions, please email them to info@mfggen.org and we will respond in a timely manner.

We will also be happy to speak with you at this upcoming April 18th general membership meeting. Hope to see you soon.

Gift Idea - Do You Know Who Your Ancestors Are?

What should you get Mémère and Pèpère for any occasion gifts? Or any other hard-to-buy-for relative? Think Genealogy! What about a direct line back to your immigrant ancestors from France? MFGS researchers are pleased to offer this unique gift. Using MFGS resources, they will attempt to identify one individual line of French ancestors with dates and places of marriage for up to 13 generations back to France in the 1600's for a flat fee. This ancestral line chart will be printed in color on ivory parchment suitable for framing.

Member price: \$20.00

Non-member price: \$40.00

Mother's Day and Father's Day are coming up soon. There is still time but please contact us immediately if you are interested for either of these dates.

Email info@mfggen.org for more information or to place a request.

MFGS Membership Grows

Please give a warm welcome to the newest members of our Society:

Michelle Angers, Diane Greene, Ashley Lallier, Crystal Prentiss, Roland Morin, Celeste Philippon and Roger Philippon.

Donate-A-Book - Dedicate-A-Book

Do you have a loved one to whom you would like to dedicate a book? 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.



Maine Franco-American Genealogical Society

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

Membership Application

Name _____

Maiden Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Country _____ Tel. # (____) _____

Email address _____

Do you want your Name, City, State and email to appear in our online email directory?

No other information will be listed. Yes _____ No _____

Types of Memberships:

Individual \$25.00

Family \$25.00 plus \$10.00 for each additional member of the same household

Lifetime \$300.00 [this amount equals 12 yearly fees / 12 X \$25 = \$300]

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, or MFGS. Dues must be payable in U.S. Funds. Return completed form with your payment to: MFGS Treasurer, 217 Turner St., Auburn, ME 04210