



THE FRIGONS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIGON FAMILIES

VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 4

FALL 1998

A “captive” among my Frigon ancestors

Elaine Claire Bessette Smith (68)

■ A genealogy enthusiast, Elaine Bessette Smith is especially interested in her family's history. She has been a member of our association since the beginning. When she applied for membership, she claimed to be doubly qualified since her maternal grandmother, Rosina Frigon, was the daughter of Noé Frigon, and Léocadée Ayotte and her paternal grandmother, Julie Vanasse, was the daughter of David and Marie Octavie Frigon! A photo of Rosina, her grandmother, with Ida Bessette, her mother, appeared in the Summer 1998 issue. Here is what she tells about a captive taken during a border raid being among her ancestors on her Frigon line. ■

The French and Indian Wars¹ brought many captives into our family lines. I have several in particular through my Frigon line. I describe here this ancestry and cite the references used.

(1)² Charles Adams was one of the early settlers of Oyster River, Durham, New Hampshire. Some time between 1645 and 1648 he built a garrison house and later resided there with his wife, Rebecca Smith and their children. On July 29, 1694, Charles, Rebecca, their son Samuel and his wife and children were killed and their house burned. Their daughter, Mercy, was captured and taken to Quebec. Mercy was born March 13, 1674 making her 20 years old at the time.

(2)³ Charles Antoine Planiol was the Commandant of the Fort at St-François-du-Lac, Yamaska County, Quebec. He and his wife, Charlotte Giguère, adopted Mercy and on April 6, 1697 she was baptised Catholic with the name Marie Ursule, given her by her Godmother Marguerite Seigneuret, wife of the middle-class merchant, Jean Boudor. Her Godfather was Pierre Lamoureux de St-Germain, a middle-class merchant of Montreal.

(3)⁴ Charles Dubois dit Brisebois was born and baptised December 5, 1680 at Quebec. On July 16, 1702 he was *engagé Ouest*. On July 30, 1704, with Notary Pothier, he and Ursule signed a marriage contract at St-François-du-Lac. They had 9 children. Ursule was buried September 15, 1728 at Yamaska.

CONTENTS

A captive among my Frigon ancestors	1
Comment on the chronology of Marie-Claude's case	3
Arrival of Marie-Claude in La Rochelle	4
François.marie-claude@marie-claude.françois	6
Unclaimed Frigon bank balances, on Internet	
6 <i>Parchemin</i> databank, on Internet	6
Rights and duties of <i>censitaire</i> François Frigon - IV	7
A word from the President	8
Board of Directors	8
Members	8

(4)⁵ Children of Charles Dubois and Ursule Planiol (Mercy Adams).

- I - Marie-Catherine: - born---; married. January 7, 1724, St-François-du-Lac, to François Launière.
 II - Marie-Ursule: baptized. September 30, 1708, St-François-du-Lac, married March 4, 1734 , St-François-du-Lac
 to Louis-Alexis Lefebvre.
 III - Marguerite-Josephe,:baptized about 1710; died September 19, 1727 at Montreal.
 IV - Marie-Appoline: baptized. July 25, 1713 at St-François-du-Lac; died April 15, 1728 at Montreal
 V - Marie-Françoise: born. July 21, baptized August 15, 1716 at St-François-du-Lac.
 VI - Catherine: born June 9, baptized June 24, 1718 at St-François-du-Lac.
 VII - François-Régis: born Apr 8, Yamaska, baptized Apr 10, 1721 St-François-du-Lac; died Sept 9, 1720
 Yamaska. VIII - François-Régis: born November 21, baptized December 5, 1723 at St-François-du-Lac.
 IX - Joseph-Marie:born July 7, Yamaska, baptized July 8, 1726 at St-François-du-Lac; married. January 18, 1750
 to Catherine Thérèse Renou at St-François-du-Lac.

1) "From about 1689 to 1763 the colonies of New France and New England were engaged in a series of border wars, many destroying frontier towns and taking of prisoners. Over 1600 New Englanders were taken prisoner by both French and Indian raiding parties and brought to New France by their captors. Some of these captives married Frenchmen, some stayed with the Indians and some took vows as nuns." *History of Deerfield*, Richard L. Melvom and George Sheldon. Also see *De la Nouvelle-Angleterre à la Nouvelle-France, l'histoire des captifs anglo-américains au Canada entre 1675 et 1760*, Marcel Fournier, Société généalogique canadienne-française, Montréal.

2) *History of Durham, New Hampshire*, volume 2, page 1, E.S. Stackpole and W.S. Meserve, 1913.

3) *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec, des origines à 1730*, René Jetté, Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1983, pages 367, 369, and 926.

4) *idem*, page 369

5) *Drouin*, Tome 1, page 431, tome 2, pages 773 and 804. *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes*, Cyprien Tanguay, Montréal, 1890, volume 5, page 275, *Our French Canadian Ancestors*, Lafosse, book XIII, page 107.

Ancestry of Élaine Bessette Smith

Charles Adams and Rebecca Smith
 married about 1660, Oyster River, New Hampshire

René Dubois and Julienne Dumont
 married November 25, 1665, Quebec

(1) Charles Dubois - son of René and Julienne Dumont - and Ursule Planiol (Mercy Adams) - daughter of Charles Adams and Rebecca Smith - married August 3, 1794 at Saint-François-du-Lac, Yamaska County, Quebec.

(2) Alexis Lefebvre - son of Gabriel and Louise Duclos - and Ursule Dubois - daughter of Charles and Ursule Planiol (Mercy Adams) - married March 4, 1734 at Montreal.

(3) Paul Frigon, son of Jean-François and Gertrude Perreault, and Ursule Lefebvre - daughter of Alexis and Ursule Dubois - married January 31, 1755 at Batiscan, Champlain County, Quebec.

(4) Louis Frigon - son of Paul and Ursule Lefebvre - and Marguerite Masson - daughter of Barnabé and Anne Landry - married July 21, 1799 at Maskinongé, Maskinongé County, Quebec

(5) Louis Frigon - son of Louis and Marguerite Masson - and Marie-Antoinette Landry - daughter of Pierre and Euphosine Marchand - married July 27, 1826 at Maskinongé, Maskinongé County, Quebec.

(6) Jean-Baptiste Vanasse - son of Jean-Baptiste and Marie-Josephe Denys - and Marie-Octavie Frigpn - daughter of Louis and Marie- Étiennette Landry - married January 12, 1847, at Maskinongé, Maskinongé County, Quebec.

(7) Pierre Bessette - son of Pierre and Rosalie Jasmin - and Marie-Jessie Vanasse - daughter of Jean-Baptiste and Marie Octavie Frigon - married August 15, 1892 at North Agawam, Massachusetts.

(8) Joseph Pierre Léon Bessette - son of Pierre and Marie-Jessie Vanasse - and Marie Ida Gouger - daughter of Charles Ernest and Rosina Frigon - married October 11, 1915 at Chicopee, Massachusetts.

(9) Paul Henry Smith - son of Benjamin and Mary Albrecht - and Élaine Claire Bessette - daughter of Joseph Pierre Léon and Marie Ida Gouger - married October 8, 1945 at Springfield, Massachusetts. □

**Commentary on the chronology of the case of
Marie-Claude-Chamois against her mother, Jacqueline Girard
1680 - 1693***

Pierre Frigon (4)

The favourable outcome of the case of Marie-Claude Chamois against her mother, Jacqueline Girard, is known thanks to the *plaideroy* (plea) delivered in 1693 by François-Henry d'Aguesseau, as public prosecutor, before the *Parlement de Paris*, France's supreme court at the time. The *plaideroy* is available as a publication of the Association. This document, however, does not allow tracing the judiciary process during seven years of trials. In 1996, thanks to Odette Frigon (52), we were able to obtain copies of the judgments of June 21 1688 and May 12, 1689. These copies were transcribed by Sébastien Gaudelus, of Bry-sur-Marne, at the request of Odette. In 1998, another important document was located: a transcription of the résumé of the testimonies following the judgement of June 21, 1688, which Sébastien Gaudelus had not transcribed. This text is available in the Annex¹ to this article, thanks to a transcription made available by Gaétan Frigon (107) who had obtained it from historian Hélène-Andrée Bizier. Without these documents, we would not have been able to trace the stages of the trial. We must gratefully thank Odette, Gaétan and Hélène-Andrée for their assistance.

The trial took place in four stages: April 27, 1686, June 22, 1688, May 12, 1689 and April 21, 1693. According to Mr. Gaudelus, the judgment of April 27, 1686 cannot be found. This judgment, however, is not crucial since we know its contents from the resumés accompanying the other judgments of June 21, 1688, May 12, 1689 and April 21, 1693. We have in our possession copies of the latter 3 judgments.

The clerks who drafted these texts adopted shortcuts which makes for some confusion. Since our sources are few, this commentary on the chronology can contain misinterpretations. We decided to go ahead anyway with this version which may serve to lead the way to eventual publication of a definitive version.

The transcription of 17th century texts presents several problems. Writing was done with goose quills, which often lead to loosely-formed letters. Also, quite often the scribes linked words together and did not lift the quill until the ink gave out so as to avoid deletions at the beginning of words, due to the ink running out. These linked words are often difficult to read. On the other hand, because handwritings are different, examples of a writer's handwriting are sometimes needed to establish its characteristics. Which is not the case here. As well, not all texts could be read. Particularly difficult are proper names that occur only once in the text.

Specialists in paleography did the transcriptions, but checks have not been made to confirm the validity of the interpretations. However, since we are simply trying to establish the chronology of events, the degree of precision seems sufficient for our purposes. The problem of proper names needs to be resolved if a study of the life of Marie-Claude Chamois is to be completed one day.

Now, in four instalments, we shall comment on the unfolding of a famous trial whose verdict on April 21, 1693, led to what was proclaimed by d'Aguesseau, the young *avocat général* (assistant public prosecutor), then in his twenties, as clearing Marie-Claude Chamois of all allegations of false identity and misleading information brought against her by Jacqueline Girard, her mother, and confirmed her right to the heritage of Honoré Chamois, her father.

* Editor's note: This article has been partly translated from the original French, this introductory page in its entirety, with abstracts of each of the four parts. We will be glad to provide translation assistance to our English-speaking readers who bravely venture into deciphering the French text!

(1) The annexes and numbered footnotes will follow the last instalment. Readers wanting to consult the annexes and footnotes may obtain copies upon request to the Association, 403-15 Murray Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 9M5, Phone 613 241 5433 Fax: 241 9014, E-mail: rayfrigon@aol.com

I

Arrival of Marie-Claude Chamois in La Rochelle Meeting with her mother, in Paris and beginning of legal proceedings

Abstract: Having left Quebec in the fall of 1685 to claim her heritage, Marie-Claude arrives in La Rochelle December 20, 1685. Her mother remains unavailable, but Marie-Claude, undaunted, submits a petition before the court of the *Châtelet de Paris*, a tribunal dispensing regular royal justice. Her mother claims the status of tutor thus having control, but since Marie-Claude is no longer a minor, this will eventually backfire on her during the trial in 1693. The case is later moved to the *Requêtes du Palais* where only parties enjoying the privilege of *committimus* (right to be heard by special judges) could be heard, a privilege granted to high nobility and high level officials. As *Secrétaire du roi*, Honoré Chamois enjoyed the privilege of *committimus*, as did his wife, Jacqueline Girard.

AUTOMNE 1685 - MARS 1686

Partie de Québec à l'automne 1685 pour toucher son héritage, Marie-Claude Chamois arrive à La Rochelle le 20 décembre.

Note: " la partie de Talvatz" est Marie-Claude Chamois représentée par Talvatz et "la partie Bayen" est Jacqueline Girard, représentée par Bayen.

"...et arrivèrent heureusement à la Rochelle le 20 décembre ensuivant, ensuite vint à Paris où elle arriva au commencement de janvier 1686 et fit tout son possible pour voir sa mère qui c'est toujours cachée d'elle, qu'elle a été reconnue par Mareuil, son beau-frère, par le sr Millet son confesseur, par Bouthillier, son pere nourrisson et par plusieurs autres personnes mesme par Ménard son oncle et par la Ménard sa tante, qui l'avait veus, mais que le sr Girard, procureur après avoir seu que l'intention de la party de Talvatz estait de parler d'affaire avec sa mère et luy demander son bien l'aurait invitée à retourner en Canada de sorte qu'elle ne pourrait voir sa mère qu'il disaient estre l'un en Bourgogne et l'autre en Poictou avec d'autres desseins qui ne se sont trouvez vérifiables, lesquels n'ayant voulu écrire ils ne l'ont voulu voir depuis qu'enfin elle a veu sa mère chez la dame Comtesse d'Armagnac en présence de _____ notaire au Châtelet de Chastillon _____ de la cour et de plusieurs autres personnes et ayans eu ensemble plusieurs contestations la partie de Talvatz luy ayant demandé s'il estait pas vray qu'elle luy avait escript en Canada et aux srs de (?) et Talon, elle luy respondit que j'ay escript ou n'ay pas escript se ne sont pas tes affaires, et ayant fait reproche au notaire qu'il n'aurait dubs délivrer à la partie de Talvatz le transport qu'il avait recu, il luy respondit qu'elle l'avait fait en qualité de tutrice de sa fille qu'elle luy avait assuré qu'elle l'estait, et que sy le n'estait elle, qu'elle en fit voir un autre iceluy dit que sa fille estait en Poictou et avant cette entrevue, la partie de Bayen avait esté trouver le sr _____,intendant de la maison d'Armagnac, et luy parlant de sa fille dans la créance qu'elle avait que Frigon son mary estait revenu en France avec elle, elle luy dit _____ voilà cette fille et son mary réunis, il faut tascher de luy trouver quelque employ dans le pais et sur les navires pour les (Amériques?) affin de n'avoir point d'affaire couteuse céans, ..."²

Devant cette humiliante fin de non recevoir, la fière Marie-Claude Chamois ne reste pas les bras croisés. Elle contacte un avocat et dépose une requête à la cour du Châtelet de Paris.

15 MARS 1686

Début des procédures au Châtelet de Paris

Le tribunal " le châtelet de Paris, est la justice royale ordinaire de la capitale du royaume. On lui a donné le titre du châtelet, parce que l'auditoire de cette juridiction est établie dans l'endroit où subsiste encore partie d'une ancienne forteresse appelée le grand châtelet, que Jules César fit construire lorsqu'il eut fait la conquête des Gaules."³

"Elle (Marie-Claude Chamois) la (Jacqueline Girard) fait assigner au Châtelet pour être condamnée à lui rendre un compte de communauté & tutelle."⁴

François Frigon et Marie-Claude Chamois sont donc "demandeurs aux fins de l'exploit fait à leur req(uê)te au Ch(aste)let de Paris le 15 mars 1686 par Marin Noury sergent à verge aud(it) Ch(aste)let contrôlé le 16 dud(it) mois par Rousseau,..."⁵. Jacqueline Girard, quant à elle, se défend autant "accuse de la communauté qu'elle a eue avec ledit Honoré Chamois son Mary que comme tutrice desd(its) Marie, Henry, Philippe-Michel et Marie-Claude Chamois ses enfans a dudit defunct Chamois son mary deffenderesse..."⁶. Le fait qu'elle se présentait comme tutrice montre qu'elle voulait garder main mise sur l'héritage de Marie-Claude Chamois. Cette prétention sera l'une des pièces maîtresses utilisée par d'Aguesseau, en 1693, pour discréditer son témoignage: "Premièrement, la mere prend dans cet acte une qualité fausse; elle se dit Tutrice d'une majeure. Une mere peut-elle ignorer l'âge de sa fille? a-t-elle pu oublier qu'elle étoit née en 1656, & qu'en 1685 il y avoit quatre ans qu'elle étoit majeure?"⁷ Elle n'a donc aucun droit sur l'héritage de Marie-Claude Chamois. Elle n'a droit qu'aux biens de la communauté qu'elle partageait avec Honoré Chamois. Le testament de ce dernier nous permettrait d'avoir une idée plus claire sur ces biens. Un jour peut-être...

16 AVRIL 1686

Rousseau contrôle la requête de François Frigon et de Marie-Claude Chamois.

19 AVRIL 1686

Transfert aux Requêtes du Palais

Coup de théâtre, la cause ne sera pas jugée au Châtelet, mais aux Requêtes du Palais !

"...l'exploit fait au Châtelet de Paris le 15 mars 1686 corrigé en la cour par un autre exploit du 19 avril ensuivant ... "⁸ Et D'Aguesseau confirme : "...renvoyés aux Requêtes du Palais par un autre Exploit du dix-neuf Avril ensuivant..."⁹

Ce renvoi aux Requêtes du Palais n'est pas anodin. Pour qu'une cause y soit entendue, il fallait que les partis jouissent du privilège de *committimus*. C'est à dire qu'ils appartiennent soit à la noblesse de haut rang, soit à la classe des très hauts fonctionnaires. Privilège de *committimus* : "On désignait sous ce nom un privilège accordé par le roi à certaines personnes, et qui leur conférait le droit de ne porter leurs procès que devant des juges spéciaux. Cette dénomination vient de ce que les lettres royaux qu'il fallait obtenir pour l'exercer, commençaient par l'expression *committimus*. On distinguait le *committimus* au grand sceau et le *committimus* au petit sceau. Le premier

permettait à celui qui l'obtenait d'attirer à Paris, devant les maîtres des requêtes de l'hôtel ou les maîtres des requêtes du Palais, toutes leurs causes personnelles, à l'exclusion des matières réelles possessoires ou mixtes. Le committimus au petit sceau avait une portée plus restreinte : il autorisait seulement ceux qui en étaient pourvus à porter leurs causes devant la chambre des requêtes du parlement auquel ils ressortissaient sans passer par les juges inférieurs. L'ordonnance de 1669 (tit. IV) contient l'énumération de tous les personnages auxquels appartenait le privilège dont nous parlons.^{"10} On peut lire, à l'article XIII de cette ordonnance, la liste de ces personnalités : "Voulons qu'à l'avenir il n'y ait que ceux-ci après déclarés, qui puissent jouir du droit de Committimus, au Grand Sceau ; scavoir les Princes du Sang, les Princes reconnus en France, Ducs & Pairs, & autres officiers de notre couronne (...) nos Conseillers & Secrétaire & autres Officiers de Chancellerie de France (...)"^{"11}

Les secrétaires du roi étaient nombreux et, la plupart du temps achetaient la fonction sans l'exercer. Permettons-nous une digression sur les priviléges de cette fonction sous l'Ancien Régime. "Officiers établis pour signer les lettres qui s'expédiaient dans les grandes et petites chancelleries ; mais en réalité, et surtout au XVIIe siècle, titre sans fonctions, mais abondamment pourvu de priviléges et pour cela très recherché. Les secrétaires du roi avaient droit de committimus, exemption de plusieurs droits d'aides, de gabelle, de logement des gens de guerre, de guet et de garde, de péages, du droit de marc d'or, octrois des villes, ainsi que leurs fermiers, métayers et jardiniers, étaient commensaux du roi, ne pouvaient être jugés au criminel que par le chancelier ou par le Parlement, avaient séance aux états Généraux. Il avaient surtout la noblesse transmissible, et étaient parmi ceux auxquels cette importante prérogative pouvait le moins être contestée ; c'était un plaisir classique, sous l'ancien régime de dire que si notre premier père Adam avait eu pour deux sous d'esprit il aurait acheté une charge de secrétaire du roi, et alors tous les hommes seraient gentilshommes. Ils avaient aussi le privilège important de pouvoir résigner leurs offices à leurs fils ou à leurs gendres sans rien perdre des honneurs, prééminences, et priviléges qui y étaient attachés ; les avantages de la vétérance leur étaient assurés de suite sans le service de vingt ans exigé des autres officiers.

La multiplication des charges de secrétaires du roi fut une ressource fiscale souvent employée. Leur nombre, d'abord de soixante, s'éléva progressivement jusqu'à trois cent quarante par édit de mars 1704, et cela bien que Colbert en ait supprimé deux cent quinze (...). Les secrétaires du roi recevaient sous le nom de bourses des parts des émoluments du sceau. (...) Une pour chacun desdits secrétaires, une pour le roi, un pour le chancelier, et les autres pour les maîtres des requêtes, les trésoriers du sceau, les gardes du rôle des officiers de France. Ces bourses étaient plus ou moins fortes.

Les secrétaires du roi jouissaient de l'exemption des droits de mutation pour les biens qu'ils achetaient dans la mouvance du roi; (...) L'existence des officiers connus sous le nom de secrétaires du roi n'empêchaient pas, bien entendu, le roi d'avoir des secrétaires particuliers, des secrétaires du cabinet...^{"12}

Revenons au privilège de committimus. Il était transmissible à la veuve du bénéficiaire : "...les femmes séparées jouiront du même droit de Committimus que leurs maris ; comme aussi les veuves de ceux qui seront décédés en jouissant du privilège, tant qu'elles demeureront en viduité."^{"13}

C'est donc Jacqueline Girard qui fait transférer la cause du Châtelet aux Requêtes du Palais. Et on sait qu'elle n'est pas remariée puisqu'elle jouit encore de ce privilège. En portant la cause en cette cour, elle veut d'abord impressionner Marie-Claude par la démonstration de sa puissance et faire jouer ses réseaux d'influence à la cour. Ce qui s'avérera inutile, comme nous verrons plus loin.

The next instalment: I - *The court accepts the case*, will appear in the next issue, Winter 1999. □

Correction: There is an error in the article *Laura Frigon (74) receives Governor General's Caring Award* in the Summer 1998 issue. In fact, Laura Frigon was born Croteau, daughter of Wilfrid Croteau and Idola Charland, while her husband, Albert Frigon, is the son of Rosaire Frigon, of Saint-Maurice, Québec and Eva Bruneau of Saint-Ephrem. Our sincere apologies for this mistake to Laura and her family, as well as our readers.

Note: The next instalment of the series *François Frigon Voyageur: III Voyages to the Illinois and Ottawss - Description of a typical voyage* will appear in the next issue, Winter 1999

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND FRIGON GATHERING 1999

SATURDAY, MAY 22 IN MONTRÉAL

MUSÉE DE LA-POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE

IN HISTORIC VIEUX-MONTRÉAL

NOTE THE DATE - PLAN TO COME!

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN THE MAIL

françois.marie-claude@marie-claude.françois

THE FRIGONS & THE INTERNET

Members' and friends' e-mail addresses

Anthony Frigon (123), Vancouver, BC
 Bob Harvey (35), Saint-Johnsville, N.Y.
 Barbara Frigone Dexter, Tacoma, WA
 Céline Frigon (79), Pierrefonds, QC
 Charles Frigon (5), Edmonton, Alberta
 Diane Frigon (15), Saint-Tite QC
 Donald Frigon (110), Casper, Wyoming
 Elaine Bessette Smith (68), Burlington, Vt
 Edmund & Elaine Frigone (46), Allyn, WA
 Gabrielle Frigon Gagnon (98), St-Eustache
 Gaétan Frigon (107), Montréal, QC
 Georges Frigon (93), Saint-Boniface, QC

Gérald Frigon (116), Laval, Québec
 Ginette Frigon (85), Ste-Rosalie, QC

Henry F. Frigon (127), Kansas City, MO

Ivanhoe Frigon III, Rock Forest, QC
 Jean-François Frigon, Vancouver, BC
 Jean-Claude Frigon (119), Montréal, QC

ajfrigon59@aol.com
 baharvey@telenet.net
 rdexter10@aol.com
 guy.basque@sympatico.ca
 chfrigon@aol.com
 rigondi@globetrotter.qc.ca
 dfrigon@trib.com
 ebsmithsr@aol.com
 eefrigone@aol.com
 gabyga@total.net
 gfrigon@publipage.com
 georgesfrigon@moncourrier.com
 complice@login.net
 frigon.champagne@hy.cgocable.ca
 71333.352@compuserve.com
 ifrigan@videotron.ca
 jeanf@ee.ubc.ca
 jean-Claude.Frigon@nrc.ca

Jean-René Frigon(11), Trois-Rivières, QC
 Joan Traill, Sale, VIC, Australia
 Jude Frigon (129), Burlington, Ontario
 Jacques Frigon (104), Ottawa, Ontario
 cfp.x400.gc.ca
 Les Arseneau(9), Fountain Valley, CA
 Liliane Frigon (109), Shawinigan Sud, QC
 Luc Frigon (3), Baie d'Urfé
 Louise Frigon (83) Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade
 Lucie Frigon Caron (56), Hull, QC
 Paul Frigon (6), Nepean, Ontario
 Pierre Frigon (4) St-Hubert QC
 Raymond Frigon(1), Ottawa, ON
 Richard Frigon (73), Niceville, Florida
 Richard Frigon (77), Medfield, MA
 Robert Frigon (2), Charny, QC
 Romuald Frigon (132), Ottawa, ON
 Ronald Burton, Goshen, Indiana
 Steven Frigon (125), San Diego, CA
 Wendy Scott, Riondel, BC
 William Frigon (66), Enfield, CT

jrf@cgocable.ca
 frigon.jean-rene@hydro.qc.ca
 traillfh@netspace.net.au
 jfrigon@compuserve.com
 jacques frigon@ms.psc-arseneau@worldnet.att.net-cmagnan@tv.cgocable.ca
 lfrigon@kruger.com
 assfri@concepta.com
 richardc@inexpress.net
 psrgroup@psrgroup.on.ca
 pfripon@cam.org
 rayfrigon@aol.com
 rfrigon@aol.com
 sfrigon@juno.com
 mfrigon@webnet.qc.ca
 jfrigon@sympatico.ca
 rjburton@npcc.net
 sfrigon@ucsd.edu
 scott@mail.escapees.com
 wf-nf@webtv.net

→ If you are not shown on this list or your e-mail address needs correcting please let us know at
rayfrigon@aol.com

On Internet, unclaimed Frigon bank balances

On the Bank of Canada's Web page <http://www.bank.banque.canada.ca>, we found on the list of owners of unclaimed bank balances the following Frigons:

Frigon, Louise • Frigon, Louise • Frigon, Raoul • Frigon, Johanna • Frigon, • Yves / Cablevision International • Bougie, L / Frigon Propane • Frigon, Huguette • Frigon, Johanne • Frigon, Guy • Frigon, Francine • Joseph Frigon • Frigon, Pierre • D.Frigon / Ultramar • Frigon Bertucat Marketing inc.

To know more about unclaimed bank balances, you can get in touch with the Bank of Canada, using one of the following means: E-mail ucbalances@bank-banque-canada.ca. Phone: 1-888-891-6398. Post: Bank of Canada, 234 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0G9

Parchemin, the notarial acts data bank: on the Web

Courtesy *La Chambre des notaires du Québec*, a selection of 30,000 notarial acts from 1635 à 1800 of the data bank Parchemin can be found on Web site: <http://www.cdnq.org/cnq/origines/framorig.html>. Here is an example::

Parchemin

2 Mars 1765 (Mtl) Mézières, P. (1758-1786)

Quittance de Paul Frigon, habitant, de Sainte Anne sous les Trois Rivieres, procureur de Gertrude Perrault, veuve de Jean-François Frigon, sa mère, à Marie-Anne Jourdain dit Labrosse, veuve de Jean-Baptiste Mongrain, de la ville de Montréal, tant en son nom que comme tutrice de ses enfants mineurs.Doc #: 17650302PA020226

The rights and duties of *censitaire** François Frigon

- IV -

Milling, chores, seigneur's right to cut wood, right to hunt and fish, roads, right to land

The concession contract obliges François to use the communal flour mill. The right to mill resides with the *seigneur* in New France. "The *seigneur*'s duty to build and maintain a mill, allows him to benefit from his right to flour milling: each time a *censitaire* uses the mill, he must leave the fourteenth *minot*; this contribution pays for part of the cost of running the mill and the services of the miller."¹ In passing, let us mention that the Jesuit Fathers (the Batiscan *seigneurs*) long resisted giving land concessions and building a communal mill. Strong intervention had to come from the authorities before this land of religious mission became a land of colonization.

Among the other seigneurial privileges, there was the *droit de corvée* or the right to have chores done, which "is covered in the contract and is limited. It is of three days a year, four at most; the *censitaires* do one day at planting, a second at haying, a third at harvest, a fourth (if foreseen in the contract) at fallow (*travaux des guérets*). The *censitaire* could always avoid the chores by paying a fee of forty *sols* per day of work, about \$2.00 in today's money. Three or four days of chores a year was not excessive, and as we have seen previously concerning road maintenance, the *seigneur* is himself subject to chore duty. "There is no chore requirement in François' contract, so it can be assumed that he was obliged to provide only the basic three days.

The *seigneur*'s right to cut wood is also not included in the contract. This right allowed the *seigneur* "to cut wood on the *censitaire*'s property for his building and heating needs. Here again the state intervenes to limit this right to one *arpent* out of sixty *arpents* per concession, but the state eventually finds this right to wood inequitable and forbids its use in new contracts." François, therefore, could benefit fully of his tree resources. Except that oak, in principle, was reserved for the King for ship building.

Further, "the *seigneur* could reserve the right to fish in front of a concession: if the *censitaire* wants to fish, the *seigneur* may require, under the contract, four *barriques* of eel per year, the tenth of porpoise, the twentieth, even the eleventh fish". The *seigneur* concedes this right to François, as well as the right to hunt. Be as it may, in a young and vast country, as was New France, smart would have been the *seigneur* capable of enforcing the regulations. It was better to give this right to the *censitaire* than to tempt him into breaking the law.

Finally, the *censitaire* must allow rights of way required by the community...". The clause in the contract providing for this requirement is clear: "the said Frigon is to allow on his property any roads ordered by officers of the reverend father *seigneurs*..."².

On the other hand, the *censitaire* is entitled to the enjoyment of his property "in full, peacefully and in perpetuity, as land held by a commoner..."² However, he may lose the property if he does not follow the contract: "...if the *censitaire* does not operate the property (*tenir feu et lieu*), it may be returned to the *seigneurie* ...; if he does not pay his dues, the *censitaire* may have his possessions seized and even have his land taken away from him. In each of these cases, however, the intervention of the *intendant* is necessary: this has for effect to restrain a too eager *seigneur* or defeat an obstinate *censitaire*, it protects one against the other." The *seigneur* himself is subject to the same restraints.

Thus, the concession contract follows exactly the rules set by the seigneurial regime. In certain respects (the size of fees, right to cut wood, right to hunt and fish, right to chores) François had a better deal than some other *censitaires* whose *seigneurs* were more greedy.

His contract was an honest one and permitted *censitaire* François Frigon to get established and to prosper.

* Censitaire: owner of a land concession in a *seigneurie*

1 - Quotes not numbered are from: *Le régime seigneurial*, Marcel Trudel, brochure historique, publication de la Société Historique du Canada, Ottawa 1967.

2 - François Frigon's concession contract.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

As planned, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on September 26 last at the Penn-Mass Hotel in Cap-de-la-Madeleine, in the heart of the land we now call Frigonia. The some twenty Frigons present joined the board of directors at lunch to partake of the excellent *cuisine mauricienne* at the Penn-Mass.

The AGM began with the usual routines followed by progress reports on such projects as the purchase of part of the ancestral land in Batiscan and the building of the Frigon family tree.

It was decided to hold the next AGM and Frigon gathering in Montreal where many Frigons live, but spread and lost in the great metropolitan area. Next year, in 2000, we will return to the homeland in the *Mauricie* to celebrate the 330th anniversary of the arrival in New France of François Frigon and the 330th anniversary of his marriage to Marie-Claude Chamois on the now established date of November 1670.

As shown below, the board of directors has two additional members Georges Frigon (91) and Paul Frigon (60) bringing the total to 12 members. This larger board is evidence of the interest members have in the Association's activities. The enlarged board will devote most of its attention to policy matters, leaving administration details to the executive.

Association des familles Frigon inc.
60, rue Dorion, c.p. 247, Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade, QC G0X 2J0

Conseil d'administration

Président: Raymond Frigon, Ottawa, Ontario

Vice Président: Robert Frigon, Charny, Québec

Secrétaire: Louise Frigon, Ste-Anne de-la-Pérade, Québec

Trésorier: Luc Frigon, Baie-d'Urfé, Québec

Administrateur: Georges Frigon, Saint-Boniface, Québec

Administrateur: Gérald Frigon, Laval, Québec

Administrateur: Ivanhoë Frigon III, Rock Forest, Québec

Administrateur: Jacques Frigon, Ottawa, Ontario

Administrateur: Jean-René Frigon, Trois-Rivières, Québec

Administrateur: Louis-Georges Frigon, Montréal, Québec

Administrateur: Paul Frigon, Cornwall, Ontario

Administrateur: Pierre Frigon, Saint-Hubert, Québec

Bulletin de l'Association: *Les Frigon /The Frigons*

Publication: 403-15, rue Murray, Ottawa, ON K1N 9M5

Tél: 613-241-5433 Fax: 241-9014 E-mail: rayfrigon@aol.com

Éditeur: Raymond Frigon

Collaboratrice: Lucie Frigon

MEMBERS

Canada

Adrienne Frigon Cossette, Saint-Prosper QC
Alain Frigon, Cap-Rouge, QC
Albert Frigon, Lassale, QC
Aline Frigon, Proulxville, QC
André Frigon, Prouxville, QC
André Frigon, Trois-Rivières-Ouest QC
Annie Frigon Guillemette, Montréal-Nord
Anthony Frigon, Vancouver, B.C.
Armande Frigon Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade,
Benoit Frigon, Saint-Hubert, QC
Brigitte Frigon Martineau, Amos, QC
Céline Frigon, Pierrefonds, QC
Charles Frigon, Edmonton, AB
Claude Frigon, Victoriaville, QC
Claudette Frigon Giesinger, Longueuil, QC
Claudette Chevrette Naud, Noyan, QC
Daniel Frigon, Champlain, QC
Danièle Frigon, Champlain, QC
Denis Frigon, St-Georges-de-Champlain, QC
Denis Frigon, St-Louis-de-France, QC
Denise Frigon, Ste-Marthe-du-Cap, QC
Diane Frigon, Saint-Tite, QC
Fernand Frigon, Laval, QC
Fernande Bédard Frigon, Saint-Tite, QC
Florina Frigon Croteau Ste.Geneviève de B.
François Frigon, Montréal, QC
François Frigon, Fabreville, Laval, QC
Françoise Lewis, Montréal, QC
Gabrielle Frigon Gagnon, Saint-Eustache, QC
Gaétan Frigon, Montréal, QC
Georges E. Frigon, Saint-Boniface, QC
Georgette Frigon Cormier, Baie-Comeau, QC
Gérald Frigon, Saint-Prosper, QC
Gérald Frigon, Laval, QC
Gilles Frigon, Saint-Tite, QC
Gilles Frigon, Trois-Rivières-Ouest QC
Gilles Frigon, Amos, QC
Ginette Frigon, Sainte-Rosalie, QC
Gisèle Frigon Forget, Rockland, ON
Guy Frigon, Brossard, QC
Huguette Frigon, Cap-de-la-Madeleine QC
Huguette Frigon, Sherbrooke, QC
Ivanhoë III Frigon, Rock Forest, QC
Ivanhoë Jr Frigon, Amos, QC
Jacinthe Frigon, Chicoutimi, QC
Jacques Frigon, Ottawa, ON
Jacques Frigon, Montréal, QC
Jean-Claude Frigon, St-Louis-de-France, QC
Jean-Claude Frigon, Montréal, QC
Jean-Marie Frigon, Shawinigan-sud, QC
Jeanne Frigon Skulski, Saint-Aimé, QC
Jean-Paul Frigon, Falardeau, QC
Jean-Paul Frigon, Louiseville, QC
Jean-Louis Frigon, Saint-Léonard, QC
Jean-Marie Frigon, Shawinigan-Sud, QC
Jean-Paul Frigon, Louiseville, QC
Jean-Rene Frigon, Trois-Rivières-Ouest, QC
Jude Frigon, Burlington, ON
Julie Frigon Croteau, Ville Lasalle QC
Laura Frigon, Coquitlam, BC
Léon Frigon, Saint-Prosper, QC
Liliane Frigon, Shawinigan-Sud, QC
Line Frigon, Longueuil, QC
Lise Frigon, Longueuil, QC
Lise M. Léonard, St-Sauveur-des-Monts, QC
Louis Frigon, Saint-Léonard, QC
Louise Frigon end, Montréal, QC
Louise Frigon, Sherbrooke, QC

Louis-Georges Frigon, Montréal, QC
Louis-Philippe Frigon, Montréal-Nord, QC
Luc Frigon, Baie-d'Urfé, QC
Lucie Frigon Caron, Hull QC
Lucie Frigon, Saint-Laurent, QC
Madeleine Cloutier Frigon, Batiscan QC
Madeleine Frigon, Trois-Rivières, QC
Mainville Frigon, Gloucester, ON
Marcel Frigon, Shawinigan-Sud QC
Marcel Frigon, Yauoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire
Margo Frigon, Vancouver, BC
Marguerite Frigon, Mont-Royal, QC
Marie-Berthe Frigon, St-Hyacinthe, QC
Marie-Jeanne Frigon Ross, Forestville, QC
Maurice Frigon, St-Eustache, QC
Maurice Frigon, Rawdon, QC
Michel Frigon, Ottawa, ON
Monique Frigon, Shawinigan-Sud, QC
Nathalie Frigon, Montréal, QC
Odette Frigon, Montréal, QC
Paul Frigon, Almonte, ON
Paul Frigon, Cornwall, ON
Paul-Florian Frigon, St-Romuald, QC
Pauline Frigon Couture, St-Bruno-de-Montarville
Pierre Frigon, Saint-Hubert QC
Pierre Frigon, Saint-Tite, QC
Pierre Frigon, Sainte-Thérèse, QC
Pierrette Frigon Belanger, Montréal, QC
Raymond Frigon, Ottawa, ON
Raymonde Frigon, Rimouski, QC
René Frigon, Gloucester, ON
René J. Frigon, Cap-de-la-Madeleine, QC
Rita Frigon Cossette, Saint-Prosper, QC
Rita Frigon Paré, Beloeil, QC
Robert Frigon, Charny, QC
Roger Frigon, Gatineau, QC
Roger Frigon, Rimouski, QC
Romuald Frigon, Kanata, ON
Rosario Frigon, Montréal, QC
Solange Lupien Frigon, St-Louis-de-France
Suzanne Frigon, St-François-du-Lac QC
Sylvie Frigon Naud, Cap-Rouge, QC
Thérèse Frigon, Montréal, QC
Thérèse Frigon, Montréal, QC
Ursule Frigon, Saint-Prosper, QC
Yves Frigon, Blainville QC
Yves Frigon, Trois-Rivières-Ouest QC
Yvon Massicotte, Trois Rivières-Ouest QC

United States

Bernie Frigon, Dodge City, Kansas
Bob Harvey, Saint-Johnsville, New York
Corina Frigon, Solvay, New York
Donald Frigon, Casper, Wyoming
Edmond Frigon, Arvada, Colorado
Edmund Frigon, Allyn, Washington
Elaine Bissette Smith, Burlington, Vermont
Gilles Frigon, Lahaina, Hawaii
Henry F. Frigon, Kansas City, Missouri
James Fregon, Topeka, Kansas
John Frigon, Aptos, California
Les Arseneau, Fountain Valley, California
Louis Frigon, Solana Beach, California
Marilyn Frigon, Scottsdale, Arizona
Peter Johnstn Provincetown, Massachusetts
Phil Frigon, Clay Center, Kansas
Richard Frigon, Medfield, Massachusetts
Richard Frigon, Niceville, Florida
Steven Frigon, San Diego, California
Teresa Frigon, USS Cimarron
William Frigon, Enfield, Connecticut

Members as at October 15, 1998: 126 of the some 1000 Frigon families in Canada and United States.