

THE FRIGONS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIGON, FRIGONE, FREGO, FREGOE, FREGON, FREGONE FAMILIES

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Marcel Béland, hero of Korea

Pierre Frigon (4)

A simple letter that stayed in a drawer for more than fifty years can, even after all that time, move a perfect stranger to tears. That is exactly what happened to me when I received from Georges E. Frigon (93) a scanned copy of a letter written on August 10, 1952 by his brother-in-law, Marcel Béland (Martial to those close to him), a letter that was kept by his parents and then by one of his brothers until today.

Born in Baie-de-Shawinigan on March 4, 1931, Marcel is in Korea on this August 10, 1952. The war is raging. The Canadian Army is in a mountainous zone; military equipment is being transported along the edges of steep passes. The heat is unbearable in these war machines that advance at a snail's pace. Marcel is a chauffeur and his ordeal in this infernal heat lasts fifteen days with only a brief respite to relax and reflect.

Marcel feels very lonely but he comes to terms with the decision he made to enlist. He has just received a parcel from his family, dated July 31, containing some novels and (spaghetti?). He really

appreciates this gift! It is his parent's 25th wedding anniversary and he takes this opportunity to congratulate them. He feels guilty for not having been more attentive to his family while he was home and wishes he had done more little things to please them. The harshness of his present life makes him appreciate his loved ones and changes his outlook on life. His life will never again be the same; he resolves to become a better person when he returns to his country, a return he hopes for with every fibre of his being! "Pray for me," he writes from the depths of his hell.

This touching letter was to be the last he would ever send



Martial Béland, 21 years old 1931 - 1952

to his parents. Nine days later, he died under enemy fire, a piece of shrapnel from an exploding shell lodged in his head. He was 21 years old. He was buried in the United Nations Cemetery (Pusan) in Tanggok, on the outskirts of Pusan in South Korea.

The following is a transcription of the complete letter. If you ponder over each of Marcel's words, you, too, will be deeply moved by this letter.

Sunday, the 10th of the 8th month 52 SE7014 Pvt. Béland, M C.D 1st Battalion Royal 22nd Regiment MPO 5000 Vancouver British Columbia Canada Ouebec. Korea A

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PRINTED PAPER SURFACE

For the due date of your membership/subscription renewal, please check the expiration date on the above mailing label.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIGON FAMILIES ARE TO 102

- retrace the families bearing the surnames Frigon, Frigone, Fregoe, Fregone et Fregon
- recruit members and resource persons
- organise gatherings and annual reunions with a view to creating bonds of friendship
- collect genealogical and historical information from the members and other sources in order to favour the promotion, development and the spread of Frigon history, genealogy and other ties between generations
- publish a Frigon Family dictionary
- publish the newsletter THE FRIGONS
- publish and make available monographs, biographies, family albums, the results of historical and genealogical research
- assure the preservation of the family archives

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Individual: \$20/year \$50/3 years \$80/5 years

Benefactor: \$30/year

\$250 (55 years and over) Lifetime:

\$250/year (includes an optional free half-page advertisement in *THE FRIGONS* for two years/8 newsletters) Corporate:

USA and other countries: US dollar Canada: Canadian dollar

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The texts published in the newsletter are the sole responsibility of the authors.

Gérald Frigon (116)

During our autumn wanderings through the countryside, we often drop in on antique dealers along the way. There are so many objects to be contemplated, so many memories to be revived... Antique collectors seem to say to the ancestors that they care about their lives and their times. For us, it is a return into the past. Through our memories, we reconnect with those who preceded us, their way of life, the difficulties of their work, and sometimes, we testify to their few leisure pastimes. Occasionally, we even purchase some of these objects that we often find cumbersome once we reach home; but the memories that they evoked were so intense and so pleasant that we were not able to resist buying them.

Genealogy, like antique collecting, recalls our past,

brings us back in time. Presently, the Fédération des familles souches du Québec is hosting a seminar on the problem "How to interest our youth". We must recognize that adolescents and young people have their eyes turned toward the future and not toward the past. That is normal and will be so until they feel they have reached the peak of their careers. Only then will they begin to look back, toward the past, toward their roots, toward their family histories. We must encourage them in their development, in their planning for the future. When they have reached the summit of their careers, we should let them know that history and genealogy can be a wonderful activity. What better time to invite them to join the Association and to take an active part in its future.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

Georges E. (93), Gérald (116), Ivanhoë (80), Lucie (56), Pierre (04)

YANNICK FRIGON IN AFGHANISTAN



On July 15th, Yannick left Quebec to participate in the Canadian Mission in Afghanistan.

He was deployed to the escort of convoys and to the protection of the officers who make contact with the village chiefs.

Yannick, who is 25 years old, lived for a while in Sept-Îles. He is well known in his milieu as a hockey and soccer player. Yannick is best defined as a man of action.

Yannick comes from the line of Pierre-Antoine.

SONIA LEDUC AND THE RACE FOR THE "ROSES DES SABLES" (SAND ROSES) TROPHY



On Friday, October 12, 2007, Sonia Leduc of St-Prosper, daughter of Réjean Leduc and Marguerite D. Frigon, undertook the race for the second consecutive year.

Crew #77, "Les Camellas", consisted of Sonia, pilot, and

Andréanne Bouchard of Trois-Rivières, co-pilot.

The Rose des Sables Trophy is a competition reserved exclusively for women. The race is associated with the organization "Enfants du Désert" (Children of the Desert), thus combining social and humanitarian objectives with adventure and sport.

They came in 4th in the 4 X 4 category. Bravo!

Sonia Leduc comes from the line of Louis-Augustin.

THE FRIGON TROPHY IN THE '50s



The Frigon Trophy was awarded in the '50s to people working in the field of French television in Canada: ex. Clémence Desrochers, an actress in the Famille Plouffe series; Claude Jutra, scriptwriter for the first television drama; Roger Garceau, best television actor; Michelle Tisseyre, best television host; Michel Louvain, most popular artist in 1958.

Augustin Frigon was one of three members of the Royal Commission on radio-broadcasting (1928-1929) whose report determined the orientation of Canadian broadcasting for decades. He was the first Assistant Director (1936-1943) at the time of the founding of the Société Radio-Canada. He later became Director General (1944-1951). The trophy was created in his honour.

THE AUGUSTIN-FRIGON CONFERENCES



Last October 9th, The École Polytechnique de Montréal presented its 41st Augustin-Frigon Conference. Zaki Laïdi, a researcher at the Centre d'études internationales de Paris was the speaker. The title of the conference was "La Crise de la gouvernance mondiale" (The crisis of world governance).

Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal (1905-1909), then professor (1910-1928), Director of the Electricity Laboratories (1910-1920), Director of Studies (1923-1935), and Principal

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Dear parents,

Today I received your letter dated July 31. I am very happy to hear from you and from what I can see, things are going well and your health is very good. On this occasion of your 25th wedding anniversary I would like to wish you all the happiness possible for the years to come and all the health you and Papa need. Once again I wish to thank Aunt Florence and Réjeanne, and Suzanne, too. I see that they thought about this more than my brothers. I really would have liked to have been there with you. I (am certain?) that I would have done my share and my best. Here, everything is going as well as can be expected for me. I am lonely in these mountains, but I chose to do this and it is useless to complain. Perhaps I will have the chance to return to Canada someday or other, and I hope I will be in good health. The other day I was washing myself in the river with one of my (Marcel never completed this page)

The temperature here is about 160 to 180 degrees and it is not much fun for the soldiers, and for me because I cannot drive very fast here, being continually in the mountains and on the

Grand-mère Boland
au céndigathe des aut aun cembell ants
Shawing ab

Juliette Fillion, mother of Martial, putting flowers at the cenotaph in Shawinigan's "Parc des Vétérans" during the commemorative ceremony in honour of the heroes of Korea.

edge of precipices.

My ordeal lasted 15 days
and I felt very well when I
was not working and had
nothing to do but walk around.
I received your (*spaghetti?*) along
with the novels. I was very pleased
with these gifts, but
I am wondering about something
and it worries me a lot. You
told me in your letters
that you are using my
money to (repair?) the house.
I might have had an idea

-3-

different from yours but I am continually thinking about you. I know that in the past I sometimes did things that were not right and I am here to improve myself. Here we do a lot of thinking and that can make us change. Well, I am going to close now for fear of boring you and I wish you and Papa all the happiness possible, and to all the children as well. Goodbye to all of you, and pray for me for I need it very much. Marcel who loves you very much and is always thinking about his wonderful family

Goodbye. See you soon.





The United Nations Medal awarded posthumously to soldier Marcel (Martial) Béland SE-7014 who died in Korea in 1952.

Note: Changes have been made recently to the Korean alphabet. For example, "Pusan" is now written "Busan."

The old versions of names are used in this article.

(Continued from page 103) (President of the corporation) (1935-1952).

Augustin Frigon comes from the line of Joseph.

CENTRAIDE RICHELIEU-YAMASKA'S FRIGON CUP



Centraide Richelieu-Yamaska awards the Frigon Cup during the Centraide fundraising campaigns.

The Frigon Cup was inaugurated in honour of the Reverend Roland Frigon, one of the founders of Centraide, to highlight the outstanding work of a regional office or sector in the organization of a financing campaign for Centraide Richelieu-Yamaska.

Roland Frigon comes from the line of Pierre-Antoine.

PETER USTINOV AND THE FRIGONS



Did you know that Peter Ustinov's wife, through a second marriage in 1954, was a Frigon descendant?

Suzanne Cloutier, born in Ottawa, daughter of Edmond Cloutier and Hélène St-Denis, was the second wife of Peter Ustinov. Her ties to the Frigons come through her great-great grandmother Judith Frigon, spouse of Louis Cloutier.

Suzanne Cloutier (1927-2003), an actress, was the mother of Andrea, Payla, and Igor Ustinov.

Peter Ustinov, filmmaker, writer and English actor, was born in London on April 16, 1921. He died in Genolier, Switzerland on March 28, 2004.

Suzanne Cloutier comes from the line of Louis-Augustin Frigon.

FAY FRANCIS FRIGON, ARCHERY MARKSMAN



Fay Frigon is a professional technician for the Mathews Bows Company of Farmersville, Texas, USA. He is past master of bow calibration and is renowned as a marksman at the Mathews Pro Tournament.

Fay Francis Frigon comes from the line of Olivier-Pierre.

RUE PAUL-H. FRIGON AND FRIGON PARK

There exists in Drummondville a street called Paul-H. Frigon and a park known as Frigon Park. The park is situated at the intersection of the avenues Châtaigniers and Marronniers and the Boulevard des Érables. These names are associated with

Paul-H. Frigon who was mayor of the Village of Drummondville-West from 1953 to 1955. He was also the president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 1950.

TWO FRIGON COUSINS IN A CANOE



Pascale Frigon and Rachel Frigon are the daughters of Michel and René Frigon, and the granddaughters of Maurice Frigon (158).

Two Frigon cousins took part in the International Canoe Classic of Mauricie that was held from August 31 to September 3, 2007.

This race takes place on the majestic St. Maurice River of Quebec. The rowers cover a distance of 193 km in three stages. During three (3) consecutive days of

sustained effort, they defy the elements such as violent winds, waves, current, heat or cold, rapids and portages.

They finished the race, even though 22% of the other teams had quit or were disqualified. Bravo!

Pascale and Rachel come from the line of Louis-Augustin.

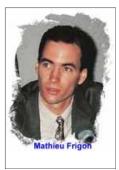
SYLVAIN LAFRANCE, CHIEF PROVISIONS OFFICER FOR AN ALCAN GROUP FACTORY



Since the 1st of December 2006, Sylvain has been the Chief Provisions Officer for the Vaudreuil factory in Jonquière. This factory is an important inorganic chemistry centre: it produces alumina, hydrates of alumina and aluminium fluorides. Previously, Sylvain was the buyer-negotiator for the group Alcan Métal Primaire Québec.

Sylvain Lafrance (244) comes from the line of Joseph through his mother Aline Frigon (12).

MATHIEU FRIGON NOMINATED



The Mauricie Region hosted, last June 6, 2007, the *Gala d'excellence* of sports in sports-study programs .

The Mauricie had nominees in five categories, among which was the student-athlete who contributed the most to the development of sports in his/her school. Mathieu Frigon of La Découverte Secondary School was a candidate for his role as "official" in volleyball.

Furthermore, another Mathieu Frigon won the title of "Volunteer of the Year" for his commitment to the rally

(Continued on page 106)

THE GARDEN OF MARIE-CLAUDE AND FRANÇOIS



Our descendants

EN: All these descendants are from the line of Louis-Augustin.



Charles Frigon born on September 7, 2007, is the son of Gilles Frigon and Annick Savoie-Lafrance.



Tristan Poudrier
born on March 27, 2007,
is the son of Yannick Poudrier
and Renée Frigon.

Note: **Charles** in the arms of his cousin **Tristan** Poudrier.

They are linked to the Frigon family
by their great-grandfather, Georges E. Frigon (93).



born November 15, 2006, son of Pierre Prieur and Renée-Claude Frigon.

His is linked to the Frigon family through his maternal grandfather, Gérald Frigon (116).

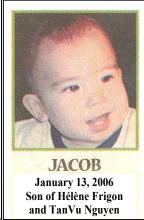
Félix-Antoine Prieur

***** PRESS REVIEW *****



December 21, 2005 Daughter of Caroline Beaudoin and Martin Frigon

Juliette Frigon
is linked to the
Frigon family through her
paternal grandfather,
André Frigon (239).



Jacob Vu Nguyen
is linked to the
Frigon family through his
maternal grandfather,
Roger Frigon (131).

Send us the photos of your grandchildren or your children and savour the pleasure of seeing their refreshing little faces in the newsletter!

Allow the members of the Association to share the joys of your expanding family.

Keep in touch! It will give me great pleasure to provide you with all the details.

Cécile Brunelle



I can be reached

by telephone: **(819) 379-4578** or by e-mail: *cbrunelle@igt.net*



DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

(Continued from page 105) program of Baseball Québec held this autumn in Saint-Bruno.

THE SURNAME FLORENTINE RELATED TO THE FRIGONS

We believe that there exists a surname FLORENTINE, derived from Frigon. François "Frank" Frigon, son of Simon Frigon, adopted the name François "Frank" Florentine. This medical doctor had two sons and we know that one of these also had two sons. These last guardians of the name Florentine were born at the beginning of the 1900s.

However, our research is not sufficiently advanced to be able to affirm that all Florentines are descendants of Frank. In the United States, there are 184 Florentines listed in the Meta Crawler Annual Directory, and two in Canada, but (T.N:statistically) the number is too high for all of them to be descendants of Frank Florentine.

The research is to be continued!

Frank Florentine comes from the line of Joseph.

FAMILY HISTORY SHARING

Georges Frigon (93)





The "Rafales d'Yamachiche", the 2007 Champion Women's U-16 team In the first row, extreme right, Chloë Frigon

Source: L'Écho de Maskinongé



Marie-Claude Frigon is a chartered accountant with RSM Richter, an accounting firm with offices in Calgary, Montreal, and Toronto.



Denis Frigon is a real estate agent on the North Shore.

Our Association's researchers are appealing to the members for help in identifying the lineage of these cousins whose photos were published

in a newspaper, and whose ancestry we have not been able to trace.

The information can be sent to:

Georges E. Frigon 165, rue Bélanger, Trois-Rivières, QC G9B 1Y4 Telephone : (819) 377-7918

E-mail: frigon.georges@cgocable.ca

- 1. Do you know a Louis Frigon who played shortstop for the *Electrics Baseball Team* in Valleyfield in 1899, and for the *Montagnards* of Montreal in 1901?
- 2. Could someone give us information about the two Matthieu Frigons mentioned in the chronicle **DID YOU KNOW THAT...?** We would like to know who are their respective ancestors.
- 3. Do you know Paul-H. Frigon who is mentioned in the chronicle **DID YOU KNOW THAT...?** and for whom a street and a park were named in Drummondville? Do you know his lineage?

THE PETITE MAISON DES ENFANTS SOLEIL

For the past 17 years, Louise Frigon (32) of the Sisters of the *Congrégation de Notre-Dame* has dedicated her life to the needy children who frequent the *Petite Maison des Enfants Soleil*, a non-profit organization that subsists entirely on donations.

The *Petite Maison*, which is situated in an impoverished neighbourhood, offers children aged 6 to 15 a welcoming environment and companionship, with the prevention of social problems as one of its principal objectives.

Should you want to support this organization that helps needy children, know that every \$50 donation pays for one child at the *Petite Maison* for one week. The organization issues tax receipts for all gifts of \$10 and more.

Please send your donations to:

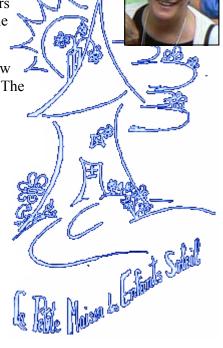
La Petite Maison des Enfants Soleil Caisse populaire Desjardins du Quartier-Latin de Montréal 1255, rue Berri Montreal, QC, H2L 4C6

To correspond with the *Petite Maison des Enfants Soleil*:

- by e-mail: maison.soleil@videotron.ca

- by mail: La Petite Maison des Enfants Soleil, 1915 rue De la Visitation, appt. 1 Montréal, OC, H2L 4Y4

- by telephone: 514-528-6177



MEMBERSHIP October 29, 2007

(146 members)

BRANCH OF LOUIS-AUGUSTIN (63)

Adrienne Frigon (Cossette), Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade André Frigon, St-Étienne-des-Grès André Frigon, Laval Anita Frigon (Guillemette), Montréal Antonia Frigon (Nadeau), Nouvelle Brigitte Frigon (Martineau), Amos Céline Frigon o.s.u, Trois-Rivières Claire Baribeau-Graham, Waterbury, US Claudette Chevrette Naud, Montréal Claudette Dupont, St-Mathieu-du-Parc Claudette Frigon (Giesinger), Longueuil Denis Frigon, Trois-Rivières Denise Frigon, Trois-Rivières Doris Chevrette, Southington, US Fernand Frigon, Duvernay Laval Francine Guilbeault Archambault, L'assomption François Frigon, Laval (Fabreville) Gaétan Frigon, Montréal Georges E. Frigon, Trois-Rivières Georgette Frigon (Cormier), Baie-Comeau Gérald Frigon, Saint-Prosper Gérald Frigon, Laval (Saint-François) Gisèle Frigon (Forget), Rockland, ON Guy Frigon, Saint-Lambert Hélène Lusignan Morin, Montréal Jacques Frigon, Ottawa, ON Jacques Frigon, Sept-Iles Jean Frigon, Saint-Eustache Jean-Pierre Frigon, Trois-Rivières Louise Frigon cnd. Montréal Louis-Georges Frigon, Montréal Lucie Frigon (Caron), Gatineau Lucille Frigon, Cowansville Madeleine Frigon, Trois-Rivières Marcel Frigon, Shawinigan-Sud Marcel Guillemette, Montréal-Nord Marie-B Frigon Fredette, St-Hyacinthe Marie-J. Frigon (Ross), Forestville Maurice Frigon, Shawinigan Sud Monique Frigon-Blanchette, Dracut, US Nicole Frigon, Montréal Normand Frigon, Ste-Geneviève-de-Batiscan Odette Frigon, Montréal Pauline Frigon (Couture), St-Bruno-de-Montarville Pierre Martineau, Évain Pierrette Frigon (Bélanger), Batiscan Rachel Massicotte-Lusignan, Plessisville Raymonde Frigon, Saint-Jérôme Réjeanne Frigon, Sainte-Martine René Frigon, Trois-Rivières Rita Frigon Lacasse, Vimont Roger Frigon, Gatineau Roger Frigon, Rimouski Rolande Dupont, Shawinigan Ruth Baribeau-Hamilton, Stratford, US

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BRANCH OF OLIVIER-PIERRE (8)

Cynthia L. Fregoe, Massena, US Cyrille Frigon, Louiseville Jean-Claude Frigon, Trois-Rivières Les Arseneau, Fontain Valley, US Line Frigon, Longueuil Mary Frego Coates, Kincardine, ON Robert A. Harvey, Saint-Johnsville, US Teresa L. Frigon, Honolulu, US

BRANCH OF PAUL-ANTOINE (2)

Marie-Claire Frigon-Doucet, Inverness, US Ronald Frego, Stacy, US

BRANCH OF LOUIS-MICHEL (1)

Élaine-Claire Bessette (Smith), Bloomfield, US

BRANCH OF THOMAS LEWIS (1)

His mother-in-law is Marie-Louise Frigon.

Françoise Lewis, Montréal

If you have question, commentaries or information to give us, please contact:

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