



# THE FRIGONS

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

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FALL 2024

ANNUAL MEETING August 24, 2024

at the old Presbytery of Batiscan « Vieux presbytère de Batiscan » Theme «Survival» Ivanhoë III (80)



Hello Frigon friends

We had an excellent 2024 general meeting and the meeting went very well!

Information was circulating to the effect that the lack of participation could put an end to the association and the general assembly of the Association of Frigon Families was announced as problematic. Fortunately, a participation of 59 people, including 35 members and the election of Gérald (116) as president as well as 3 new members on the board ensure a continuation for the next year. No doubt now that the new board will develop a plan to ensure sustainability.

My role as returning officer was short and perilous: the survival of the association depended on 3 Frigons who would be ready to take over! But as we have seen, the Frigons are champions and 3 of them, in addition to Gérald, have accepted the challenge and will work as members of our board of directors. Many thanks to these 3 Frigons and to Gérald!

We will probably very soon obtain the details of the positions that these elected officials will occupy for the year 2024-2025. Three new members of the board, Pierre (309), Francine (313) and Pierre (4), will work with the president, Gérald (116). Thank you all for your involvement and interest in the As-

sociation of Frigon Families .

Now, let me talk a little more about this beautiful meeting that took place on August 24, 2024. It was a wonderful day and the Old Presbytery on the riverfront was very welcoming to the many people who enjoyed this beautiful décor and the beautiful weather.

I must thank all the Frigons who, after many years of service to the Association of Frigon Families, have decided to pass the torch to others. They are Jean-René (11), François (130) and Lucie (56).

These Frigons and their predecessors have done a wonderful job for years, and deserve all our admiration and thanks! Thanks to them, the association has prospered and has become a beautiful organization to be proud of! All these Frigons gave their best to ensure that the Association of Frigon Families progressed and became a rallying point of which our ancestor, François, would have been

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very proud. The latter are all valiant pioneers, just like our ancestor.



See other photos:  
<https://frigon.org/uploads/document/photos-de-laga-ivnaho-iii.pdf>

They invested a lot of time and sweat to advance research that benefits us all today. So, thank you very much!

For your information, here are some figures that I want to share:

- ⇒ The association regroupes 80 active members and 16 life members! By the way, I suggest you give a gift to members of your family, for example your grandparents, who, no doubt, will appreciate becoming members for life!
- ⇒ The association is in good financial condition with a cashflow of \$ 13,143.45.

⇒ We found 36,772 occurrences of Frigon in the world, including spouses and children, of which 13,000 are directly related to François Frigon dit Lespagnol.

Research also made it possible to find 237 Frigons in France. In closing, I must thank Mr. Roger Barrette, who gave us a beautiful presentation on the life of Louis Jolliet, which allowed us to realize what the life of our ancestors was like at the start of the colony in Quebec.

Thank you to all those who came and joined the ranks to demonstrate their confidence in the Association of Frigon Families at a pivotal moment in its evolution!

I wish you good health and we look forward to seeing you again next year!

Ivanhoë III (80)

#### A WORD FROM THE CLAUDE FRIGON<sup>256</sup>

I would like to pay a particular tribute to four people who have worked in the background and whose sustained and continuous contribution has been fundamental to the association. I am speaking of, in alphabetical order, Claire Renaud-Frigon (279), François (130), Jacques (104) and Jean-René (11). All of you know what they were responsible for.

Thank you, François, for all the logistical work you did at each AGM, in particular the supply and installation of the screen, the projector, name tags, etc. I believe that all four of you deserve our sincere thanks and our warmest applause.



Well done!

#### PRESENTATION BY HISTORIAN ROGER BARETTE

Pierre Frigon<sup>4</sup>

Roger Barrette, a senior civil servant and historian, is unfortunately unknown to the general public.



However, he was an administrative judge. He has taught history at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR) and management at the Université Laval and the École nationale d'administration publique (ÉNAP). He is the author of several books and articles that have been published in Quebec and France. In 2019, he published with Septentrion, *De Gaulle, Les 75 déclarations qui ont marqué le Québec (1940-1970)*. He was Secretary General of the Commission franco-québécoise sur les lieux de mémoire communs (CFQLMC). Previously, he was National President of the Associa-

tion Québec-France and President of the Société historique de Québec<sup>1</sup>. On August 24, at the annual meeting of the Association of Frigon Families, he described the journey of a remarkable figure of the 17th century, Louis Jolliet.

Intendant Jean-Talon described him as a "learned adventurer!"

Mr. Barrette has highlighted this aspect of this explorer. Joliette studied with the Jesuits. He became a skilled organist. He received the tonsure and minor orders from Bishop Laval. He left the orders at the age of 19. He studied cartography, hydrography and navigation (pilot).

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<sup>1</sup>Société historique de Montréal (Historical Society of Montréal): <https://www.societehistoriquedemontreal.org/nos-activites/nos-conferences/les-samedis-de-lhistoire-11-janvier-degaulle-quebec/>



At the annual meeting on August 24, 2024, only 4 members agreed to serve on the Board of Directors. Moreover, no member agreed to take over the editing and publishing of the bulletin. We therefore have no choice but to stop publishing our newsletter. Occasionally, you will be kept informed of events by a letter from the President.

At our Board of Directors meeting, taking into consideration the state of our finances and the fact that the newsletter was the Association's main contribu-

tion to its members, it was decided not to renew the requirement for an annual fee. Each of you will therefore be considered a lifetime member and the membership fee will be required only once when registering as a new member. Prepaid contributions for periods after March 31, 2025 will be refunded on a pro-rata basis.

For our 2025 Annual Meeting, Ivanhoé has agreed to take over its organization, and it will take place in the Sherbrooke region, probably on August 23.

Our website ([www.frigon.org](http://www.frigon.org)), our database and research projects will continue.

**PRESENTATION BY HISTORIAN ROGER BARETTE**

Pierre Frigon<sub>4</sub>

*(Continuation from page 114)*

With revenues from the fur trade, he financed the expeditions entrusted to him by Talon and Frontenac.

One of the mandates was "to discover the South Sea, through the country of the Madkoutains [or Fire Nation] and the great river they call Michisipi, which is believed to discharge into the Sea of California." Mr. Barette described in detail the stages of this memorable trip.

A few hundred kilometres from the mouth of the Mississippi, the crew had to turn back in the face of

Sioux hostility and the fear of being captured by the Spanish (Florida). On this expedition he was accompanied by Father Marquette, François Chavigny, Sieur de la Chevrotière, Zacharie Jolliet, Jean Plantier, Pierre Moreau, Jacques Largilier, a servant of the Jesuits, and Jean Thiberge.

This expedition proved that the Mississippi River flows into the Atlantic Ocean and not the Pacific.

This succinctly sums up this remarkable conference.

Thank you!

<sup>2</sup>Excerpt from the presentation by Roger Barette entitled, *Louis Jolliet : Du Mississippi à Anticosti, audace et polyvalence, Association des familles Frigon, Vieux-Presbytère de Batiscan, 24 août 2024*

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**Board of Directors 2024-2025**

- President : Gérald Frigon<sub>116</sub> Laval, QC
- Vice-President : Pierre Frigon<sub>309</sub> Montréal, QC
- Secretary : Pierre Frigon<sub>4</sub> Saint-Jérôme, QC
- Treasurer : Gérald Frigon<sub>116</sub> Laval, QC
- Directors** : Francine Frigon<sub>313</sub> Saint-Basile-le-Grand, QC

Note: The list of previous Boards of Directors since 1994 can be found at: <https://frigon.org/a-propos-de-nous/administration>. Click on « Historique des conseils d'administration et des équipes du bulletin »

**In Charge of Committees**

- Genealogical Archives: Chantal Frigon<sub>310</sub> Québec, QC
- Membership DataBase: François Frigon<sub>130</sub> Laval, QC
- The FRIGONS *Newsletter*: **We are looking for someone to fill this position**
- Research-Frigons in Europe: Gérald Frigon<sub>116</sub> Laval, QC
- Facebook: **We are looking for someone to fill this position**
- Web Site: François Frigon<sub>130</sub> Laval, QC
- Web Site Resource Person: Jean-René Frigon<sub>11</sub> Trois-Rivières, QC



**Ludger Frigon**  
(00257)

**Adiana Marchand**  
(02262)

**Donat Leduc**  
(07456)

**Léontine Ébacher**  
(07457)

&amp;

**GÉRARD FRIGON (02225)**

B.: 1906-11-19, Sainte-Geneviève-de-Batiscan  
D.: 1986-02-02, Trois-Rivières  
Trade: Farmer

**MARIAGE**

On March 21, 1937 in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain  
Gérard is 31 years old  
Hélène was 18 years old

**HÉLÈNE LEDUC (02546)**

B.: 1919-02-26, Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain.  
D.: 1978-05-30, Trois-Rivières.



Gérard and Hélène marriage in 1937

Hélène gave birth to 10 children (3 boys and 7 girls)..

1. Lise Frigon, birth: 1939
2. Jean-Guy Frigon, birth: 1941-03-05, death: 2012-09-12
3. Jeanne d'Arc Frigon, birth: 1942-02-07, death: 1988-06-29
4. Huguette Frigon, birth: 1945
5. Nicole Frigon, birth: 1948
6. François Frigon, birth: 1949
7. Monique Frigon, birth: 1951
8. Diane Frigon, birth: 1955
9. Céline Frigon, birth: 1957
10. Pierre Frigon, birth: 1958

We have published a brief article on Gérard Frigon 9<sup>th</sup> child of Ludger Frigon and Adiana Marchand in the Spring-Summer 2024 issue of the Newsletter of the Association of Frigon Families <sup>1</sup>.

Donat Leduc was born on October 2d, 1892 in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain and died on November 7, 1959. Léontine Ébacher was born on le 2 September 2d, 1894 in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain and died on September 9, 1945.

They were married on June 19, 1917 in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain, région Mauricie.



Gérard was born on November 19, 1906 in Sainte-Geneviève-de-Batiscan. His father Ludger Frigon and his mother Adiana Marchand were both born in Sainte-Geneviève<sup>2</sup>. Hélène was born in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain. Her father is Donat Leduc and Léontine Ébacher, She married Gérard on April 21, 1937. They lived on the farm from 1937 until their death.

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<sup>1</sup>Pages 111, Newsletter, v.31, no.2, Spring-Summer 2024 :<https://frigon.org/uploads/document/2024-v31n2-printemps-t-1.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Pages 86-88 Newsletter, v. 30, no. 2, Spring-Summer 2023: <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/2023-v30n2-printemps-t.pdf>

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From left to right:

Donat Leduc, Gérard Frigon, Léontine Ébacher, Hélène Leduc, Lucette Leduc (Hélène's sister) in front of the house of Donat and Léontine in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain.

Lucette was born on March 30, 1924, and married Roland Tessier in Saint-Prosper-de-Champlain.

She had 5 children (3 boys and 2 girls). Gérard, a man with a big generous heart, gave food and surely a bit of money to help Lucette meet the needs of her family.



### YEAR 1953

In the January 10, 1954 issue of the Sunday newspaper « LA PATRIE », an article on the drama experienced by the family of Gérard and Hélène with the following headline: « **CETTE STATUETTE DE LA VIERGE A EMPÊCHÉ NOTRE MAISON D'ÊTRE ENGLOUTIE DANS UNE AVALANCHE** (*This statuette of the Virgin prevented our house from being swallowed up in an avalanche*) »

A STATUETTE OF THE VIRGIN, nestled in a maple tree, just above the ravine, protected the Frigon family from being swallowed up. On the right, Lise and Joan of Arc pray to the Holy Virgin to protect their home and family.



**TWO CONSECUTIVE LANDSLIDES** seriously threatened a family of seven children and three adults in the rural road Village Jacob. The Frigon family, who lived in a century-old house located just above the slide, almost got swallowed up in the Rivière à Veillette ravine.



Jeanne d'Arc, Jean-Guy, Hélène, François, Gérard and Lise in front of the manger.

ALL THAT REMAINS IS A GAP-ING HOLE AND AN ABANDONED SHED<sup>3</sup>

The house was moved on December 26, 1953 on a new foundation some three hundred feet from the hole.



<sup>3</sup>Further reading pages 57-74-77: file:///C:/Users/Utilisateur/Downloads/82779\_1954-01-10\_NAT.pdf (Continuation on page 118)



(Continuation from page 117)

In the newsletter « THE FRIGONS », there is a picture of the farm before the house was moved. You can compare before and after the move (see note 4).

The following note appears on January 27, 1937 in the registry of buildings in the parish of Sainte-Geneviève de Batiscan:

- ◆ No. 110 this lot belonging to Arthur and Léopold Marchand will be sold on March 3, 1937
- ◆ No. 111 this lot belonging to Arthur and Léopold Marchand was not sold (March 11, 1937)

We assume that Gérard and/or Ludger paid the taxes. Subsequently, on December 11, 1941, under number 112690, there is the note « Donation<sup>5</sup> » from Arthur Marchand to Gérard Frigon.

Extract from Arthur Marchand's donation contract

to the recipient Gérard Frigon:

« ... at the charge also by the said donee to keep with him ... , the said donor, and Miss Antoinette Marchand, sister of the donor, to heat, sleep, light, feed, clothe and maintain suitable clothing and linen, shoes and ..., to provide them with the doctor in case of illness, a seat in the parish church ..., to provide them with all the needs, necessary help and sweetness, both in health and in sickness, and both spiritual and material needs according to the requirements of the case, until the death of each of them ... »

A confirmation by a judgment<sup>6</sup> on December 19, 1942 under no. 114602 that Gérard Frigon, petitioner for the regularization of the title deed and to be declared the absolute owner of the following asset:

See note 7: Aerial view of Gérard's farmland #25 et #26

*l'immeuble ci-dessus: Une terre de ferme irrégulière au front, ayant quatre arpes de largeur au front et deux arpes, cinq perches et neuf pieds de largeur à la profondeur, sur une longueur moyenne de huit arpes, contenant quatre vingt-dix-huit arpes au superficie, ayant front à la rivière de Vallée, bornée au fond par le road et à son chemin public et par les nos. 331, 332 du cadastre de St. Geneviève d'un côté par le road, aussi au no. 30 Est de l'autre côté par le road et aux lots 310, 312 et 313, avec les bâtisses dessus mentionnées,*

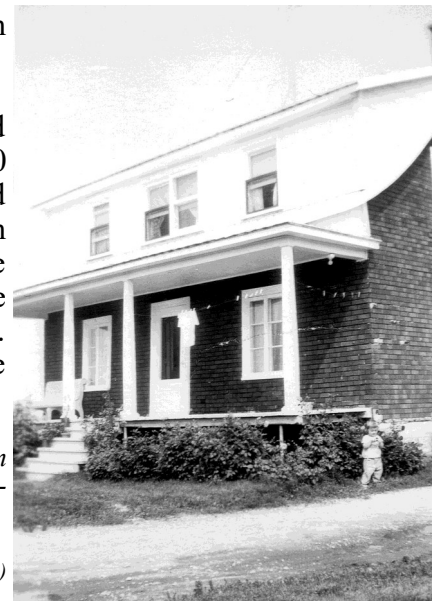


Gérard around 1931 with his Chevrolet.

This model (Sedan) sold at the time for \$655.00 (USD). It was equipped with a 193.0 cubic inch inline 6 cylinder engine that developed 50 hp. The wheelbase was 107 inches. The bumper and spare tire were extras.

“Claude Frigon<sup>256</sup>, information taken from the Classic Car Catalogue site, July 15, 2024.”

(Continuation on page 119)



<sup>4</sup>See link mentioned as per note 4 : <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/8e-gnration-grard-note.pdf>

<sup>5</sup>Copy of donation contract 112690 as per note 5: <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/8e-gnration-grard-note.pdf>

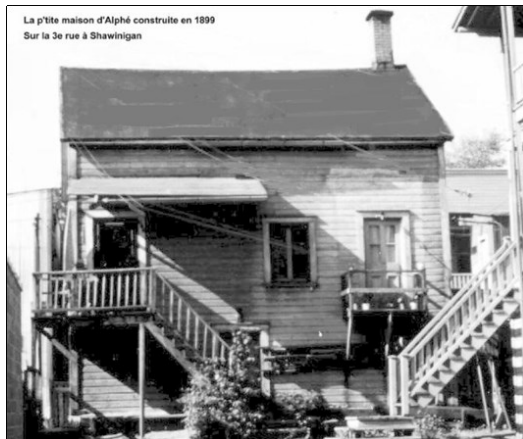
<sup>6</sup>Copy of contract 114602 as per note 6 : <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/8e-gnration-grard-note.pdf>

<sup>7</sup>Aerial view of farmland #25 and #26: <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/8e-gnration-grard-note.pdf>

*(Continuation from page 118)*

In an article on Gérard, 9<sup>th</sup> child of Ludger and Adiana published in the Spring-Summer 2024 Newsletter, we mentioned that Gérard went to the market in Shawinigan. Here is an excerpt of an article entitled William Frigon and his times II published in the Summer 2004 Quarterly Newsletter, volume 11, number 3:

«Prior to the construction of the «Maison neuve» (new house), the shed and the henhouse were demolished and the chickens were kept in the stable that continued for a long time to house visitors' horses, mainly horses belonging to Joseph, Benoit and Gérard Frigon, sons of Ludger Frigon, our grandfather's brother, who travelled some 35 miles by carriage or sleigh to bring merchandise from their farm to sell at the market. These trips from Sainte-Genève were very long and arduous especially in bad weather during the winter. On these occasions, they were often housed in our grandfather's house or in our home.



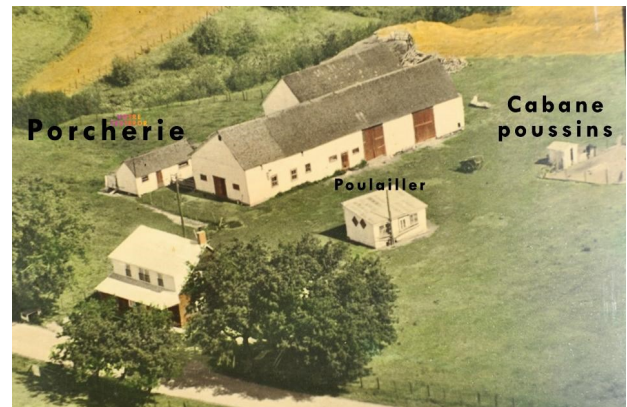
House of  
Alphé Frigon  
built in  
1899 on 3d  
street in  
Shawinigan

Benoit, Gérard and Joseph were perhaps accommodated in this house during their trip to the market in Shawinigan.

Before Gérard could butcher in the fall, there was a long process. To raise the chickens he would later sell at the market, Gérard had built a cabin similar to a "fishing hut". At the beginning of spring, he bought chicks and every day we went to feed them and make sure there was plenty of water. He had a red lamp so that the heat was high enough so that the little chicks would not be too cold. I remember one day where I played a trick on my younger sister Monique; I locked her in the cabin with the chicks. As I was passing between the shed and the chicken

coop, she caught me as I tried to escape. I got a good slap on the butt. After that, I never played a trick on Monique again.

Let's get back to raising the chicks. Gérard had built an enclosure to allow the chickens to get some fresh air and eat grass every day. We had the task every evening to make sure that the chickens were all in the shed and that the hens were in the henhouse. We had to make sure that the doors were closed properly so that the foxes wouldn't eat them.



For pig breeding, he had built a pigpen with 3 sections and steps. The first section was for the sow with her little pigs. Another for the big pigs and one for the fattening pigs.

He always kept one or two oxen for fattening and slaughtering in the fall for the market in Shawinigan. He also gave meat to the family of Béatrice Frigon (Gérard's sister) as well as to the family of Lucette Leduc (Hélène's sister).

Lucette has most often raised her family of 5 children by herself:

1. René Tessier, birth:1948-01-28, death: 1996-12-31.



2. Gilles Tessier, birth: 1950.

3. Marie-Andrée Tessier, birth: 1954.

4. Carmen Tessier, birth: 1956.

5. Richard Tessier, birth: 1961.

Thank you card dated October 7, 1993

*(Continuation on page 120)*



*Continuation from page 119)*



Front: Marie-Andrée. 2<sup>d</sup> row: Gilles, Richard  
3<sup>d</sup> row: Carmen. 4<sup>th</sup> row Roland Tessier  
Inserts: René et Lucette  
Photo taken at the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint-Prosper in 1998



Grand-children of Lucette and Roland  
1<sup>st</sup> row: Jacinthe (Marie-Andrée), Simon (René), Marika (Marie-Andrée)  
2<sup>d</sup> row : Élisabeth and Marie-Josée (Carmen), Sophie (René), Catherine (Marie-Andrée)  
Photo taken at the funeral of Lucette (grand-mother) on October 11, 1993

*Tribute to Gérard, by Huguette Frigon, in the Spring-Summer 2024 newsletter<sup>8</sup>.*

Gérard is a generous man; he has always helped his family and those in need. So when a barn or stable burned down, all the people of Rivière-à-Veillet and Village Jacob went to help rebuild the new barn.

### **TRIBUTE TO OUR MOTHER HÉLÈNE LEDUC , AN ANGEL OF GENTLENESS** *BY Huguette Frigon*

- ◇ She was proud, dignified, distinguished, serious, filled with compassion for all of us and all the people around her. She was a beautiful lady with a heart of gold. We try to pass on all the values she has bequeathed to us to our children who instill them in their own children.
- ◇ Mom forgave us everything, always helped us gently, without judging, without getting angry; she was so understanding. She helped us even if she was exhausted. She was very affectionate, she consoled us when we had problems, when we were sad, she prepared noodle soup and « blanc manger » pudding when we were sick.
- ◇ Mom had a grade 9 education, she had impeccable handwriting and didn't make mistakes. She must have been a model student. She wrote the cheques and took care of household finances and of our education. She was honest and brave. At every birthday party, she made us a cake. She remodelled adult coats into children's coats. Although she was tired, she never complained.
- ◇ Having 10 children, working so much! What courage! What patience! What selflessness! You gave it your all, you died of cancer at the age of 59. You have dedicated your whole life to us!
- ◇ We dare to believe in eternity because our love for you, mom, will last for eternity. You are in our hearts forever! Your love for us has become a love for you without limit.

*See pictures of the 40th wedding anniversary in 1978 as per note 9.*

<sup>8</sup> See page 111 : <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/2024-v31n2-printemps-t-1.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> See pictures of the 40th wedding anniversary in 1978 as per note 9 : <https://frigon.org/uploads/document/8e-gnraton-grard-note.pdf>