A FEW PROLIFIC QUEBEC PIONEERS
Gerald O. “Jerry” Lesperance
VT-FCGS # 28
jlesperance@hawaii.rr.com

October 2003

We all know that our early ancestors in New France generally had large families. But few of us know which ones were the most prolific. I will discuss at the end of this paper a book that tells us how many descendants each of the early Quebec men and women had prior to 1730. Below are the top twenty male and top twenty female pioneers with the number of descendants each had through 1730.

MALES

1. Jean GUYON, married 1615 in France, had 2,150 descendants. His only wife was Mathurine ROBIN.

2. Zacharie CLOUTIER, married 1616 in France, had 2,090 descendants. His only wife was Sainte DUPONT.

3. Jacques ARCHAMBAULT, married 1629 in France, had 1,825 descendants. His only wife was Francoise TOURAULT.

4. Marin BOUCHER, first married 1611 in France, had 1,454 descendants. His first wife Julienne BARIL wasn’t ranked because she did not migrate to New France. His second wife was Perrine MALLET who had 1,153 descendants.

5. Noel LANGLOIS, married 1634 at Quebec, had 1,388 descendants. His only wife was Francois GRENIER.

6. Abraham MARTIN, the Scot, married about 1620 in France had 1,363 descendants. His only wife was Marguerite LANGLOIS. Martin and Marguerite had 3 sons…one died early and two entered the religious life, thus Abraham and Marguerite had no grandchildren with the MARTIN surname.

7. Pierre MIVILLE, the Swiss, married about 1631 in France, had 1,331 descendants. His only wife was Charlotte MAUGIS.

8. Pierre DESPORTES, married about 1620 in France, had 1,117 descendants. His only wife was Francoise LANGLOIS. Francoise was the sister of Marguerite who married Abraham MARTIN. The sisters had a total of 2, 480 descendants. Neither is related to Noel.

9. Louis HEBERT, married 1602 in France, had 1,053 descendants. His only wife Marie ROLET, who later married Guillaume HUBOU, had a total 1,250 descendants.
10. Nicolas PELLETIER, married about 1632 in France, had 939 descendants. His only wife was Jeanne de VOUZY.

11. Pierre GAREMAN, married about 1628 in France, had 891 descendants. His only wife was Madeleine CHARLOT.

12. Gaspard BOUCHER, married 1619 in France, had 874 descendants. His only wife was Nicole LEMAITRE.

13. Jean ROUSSIN, first married 1622 in France, had 858 descendants. His first wife, Madeleine GIGUERE wasn’t ranked because she didn’t migrate to New France. It is likely that the 858 descendants in New France are also Madeleine’s, because Jean had no children with his second wife, Marie LETARD.

14. Louis SEDILOT, first married about 1626 in France, had 805 descendants. His first wife, Marie CHALLE or CHARIER wasn’t ranked because she did not migrate to New France. His second wife, Marie GRIMAULT, had 554 descendants.

15. Robert DROUIN, first married 1637 at Quebec, had 790 descendants. His first wife, Anne CLOUTIER (daughter of Zacharie & Sainte DUPONT), had 479 descendants. His second wife, Marie CHAPELIER, had 311 descendants.

16. Noel MORIN, married 1640 at Quebec, had 756 descendants. His only wife, Helene DESPORTES (daughter of Pierre & Francoise LANGLOIS), was omitted in my reference. Helene was the widow, and only wife of Guillaume HEBERT who had 360 descendants.

17. Jean CAUCHON, first married about 1619 in France, had 731 descendants. His first wife, Marguerite CINTEREL wasn’t ranked because she died in France before Jean migrated to New France. His second wife, Jeanne ABRAHAM, also died in France before Jean migrated but is shown with 81 descendants.

18. Francois BELANGER, married 1637 at Quebec, had 706 descendants. His only wife was Marie GUYON (daughter of Jean GUYON & Mathurine ROBIN).

19. Jacques BADEAU, married about 1631 in France, had 690 descendants. His only wife was Anne ARDOUIN.

20. Guillaume COUILLARD, married 1621 at Quebec, 689 descendants. His only wife was Guillemette HEBERT (daughter of Louis HEBERT & Marie ROLET).

FEMALES

1. Mathurine ROBIN, married 1615 in France, had 2,150 descendants. Her only husband was Jean GUYON.
2. Sainte DUPONT, married 1616 in France had 2,090 descendants. Her only husband was Zacharie CLOUTIER.

3. Francoise TOURAULT, married 1629 in France, had 1,825 descendants. Her only husband was Jacques ARCHAMBAULT.

4. Francoise GRENIER, married 1624 at Quebec, had 1,388 descendants. Her only husband was Noel LANGLOIS.

5. Marguerite LANGLOIS, married 1620 in France, had 1,363 descendants. Her only husband was Abraham MARTIN.

6. Charlotte MAUGIS, married about 1631 in France, had 1,331 descendants. Her only husband was Pierre MILVILLE.

7. Renee ROGER, married about 1597 in France, had 1,250 descendants. Her only husband, Pierre GAGNON, is not ranked because he did not migrate to New France.

8. Perrine MALLET, married about 1628 in France, had 1,153 descendants. Her only husband was Marin BOUCHER who had a previous marriage.

9. Francoise LANGLOIS, married about 1620 in France, had 1,117 descendants. Her only husband was Pierre DESPORTES. Francoise and her sister Marguerite, who married Abraham MARTIN, had a total of 2,480 descendants.

10. Helene DESPORTES (the only child of Pierre & Francoise LANGLOIS), first married 1634 at Quebec, had 1,116 descendants. Helene was inadvertently not listed in my major reference. She had 360 descendants with her first husband, Guillaume HEBERT; and 756 descendants with her second, Noel MORIN. Helene is believed to be the first white female born in North America who has descendants living today. She was born in New France before the Mayflower arrived.

11. Marie ROLET, first married about 1602 in France, had 1,250 descendants. Her husbands were Louis HEBERT with 1,053 descendants and Guillaume HUBOU with 197 descendants.

12. Jeanne de VOUZY, married about 1628 in France, had 939 descendants. Her only husband was Nicolas PELLETIER.

13. Madeleine CHARLETON, married 1628 in France, had 891 descendants. Her only husband was Pierre GAREMAN.

14. Nicole LEMAITRE, married 1619 in France, had 871 descendants. Her only husband was Gaspard BOUCHER. (Marin’s son).
15. Marie PICHON, first married about 1615 in France, had 721 descendants. Her first husband was Philippe GAUTHIER who was not ranked because he did not migrated to New France. Her second husband Charles SEVESTRE had 409 descendants.

16. Marie GUYON, married 1637 at Quebec, had 706 descendants. Her only husband was Francois BELANGER.

17. Marie-Madeleine COUTEAU, first married about 1626 in France, had 705 descendants, all from her first marriage to Etienne SAINT-PERE who was not ranked because he did not migrate to New France. Her second and third husbands were Emery CALTEAU and Claude HOUSARD neither of whom had descendants.

18. Anne ARDOUIN, married about 1631 in France, had 690 descendants. Her only husband was Jacques BADEAU.

19. Guillemette HEBERT (Louis’ daughter), married 1621 at Quebec, had 689 descendants. Her only husband was Guillaume COUILLARD.

20. Jeanne MARCHAND, married about 1600 in France, had 683 descendants. Her only husband Mathieu LENEUF wasn’t ranked because he did not migrate to New France,

The small Perche Region in France must have been a particularly fertile place. It boasts the following: GUYON & ROBIN; CLOUTIER & DUPONT; BOUCHER, BARIL & MALLET; G. BOUCHER; ROUSSIN & GIGUERE; and DROUIN & CLOUTIER.

References:

“Dictionnaire genealogique des familles du Quebec, des origins a 1730”. Rene Jette

“Naissance d’une population-les Francais etabls au Canada au XVIIe siecle.” Hubert Charbonneau et al. Published by the Institut National d’Etudes Demographiques, University of Montreal. This is a very interesting book that provides considerable demographic data about the pioneers of New France.