



# *Je Me Souviens Magazine*

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AMERICAN-FRENCH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
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#### ABOUT OUR COVER

The stained-glass window designed and constructed by Terrence Smith-Lamothe at the Commemorative Church of Grand Pré, a [cultural heritage site in Canada](#), number [3435](#) in the [Canadian Register of Historic Places](#).

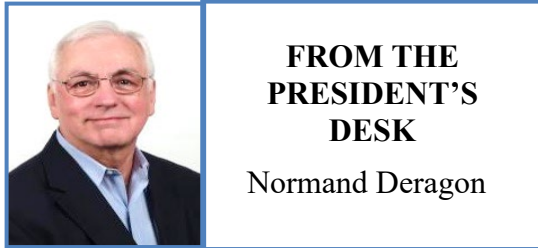
Source: <https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/ns/grandpre/culture/eglise-church>

Read the complete story "Tracing the Past – The Stained-Glass Window at the Commemorative Church of Grand-Pre" on page 47 of this issue.

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Editor’s Note: This *Table of Contents* lists all the articles in our complete 2025 Q2 issue. You can view and download the complete issue of this journal from our Members Only Online Library.



Welcome to the Q2 edition of Je Me Souviens. As usual, the staff and contributing authors have created another outstanding issue.

The third of a four-part series by Elmer Croteau on the Carignan Regiment is featured. The series was originally printed in “Lost in Canada.”

The History of New France series continues with “Founding New Cities.” I’m confident you will enjoy reading the articles on “François Xavier Ross: First Bishop of Gaspésie” by Roger Ross; “Jean Baptiste Bousquet, the Patriot” by J. Gerard Bousquet, and “Tracing the Past: Stained Glass at Grand Pré” by Smith-Lamothe and Werling. The cover of this journal features a photo of the stained-glass window in this story. Our review of “Québec During the American Invasion” by Sindi Terrien, brings your attention to the interesting topic of French-Canadian participation in the American Revolution.

You will see yourself in “Eight Reasons Why Genealogists Make Good Detectives” by Marc McDermot, an investigative genetic genealogist. I enjoyed reading his article on page 20. He compares genealogists to the “Sherlock Homes of our lineages.” Begin your research, and usually it doesn’t take long before you hit a brick wall and must dig into the weeds to solve the problem. When you read his story, I believe you’ll agree that we have many, if not all, of his suggested traits.

We have been “tweaking” our Members Only Online Library website to organize the resources and eliminate repetitious content. This is in preparation for uploading local vital records to the site for your research. We will let you know when new content has been added via our I-Contact messages.





**JANICE  
BURKHART**  
*Librarian*

## A TIP FROM YOUR BOOKIE

by Janice Burkhart

As members of AFGS, you have exclusive access to the AFGS Members Only Online Library site. This makes many of our AFGS resources available to our members who live too far from the library to use the books and periodicals that our visitors can use. We have been working very hard to get this site in order. We are going to be adding more space for the list of research material we have been waiting to upload. In the meantime, there is already quite a lot of material there for you to use. Following is a list of some of the material you can already access.

You can find information about *dit* names along with a list of 37,000+ *dit* names and name variations. These name variations were very common in Québec and having a list can help you in your research as often the name you are researching just disappears. Chances are a *dit* name has entered the picture.

There is an impressive list of lectures that have been videotaped and are available for you to watch. They are presented by professional genealogists and authors such as Peter Gagné, Ann Mordell, Denyse Beaugrand-Champagne, and Nikki Rajala. These videos are filled with useful information.

You will find the Tanguay Dictionary, The Red Drouin Dictionary, and the Laforest books - *Our French-Canadian Ancestors* (all 30 volumes and an index book.) These books contain mini biographies of our first ancestors who settled in the Québec area. Best of all, you can access a large data base of 1.5 million French-Canadian marriages alphabetized by the groom's last name. We also have a second database of 1.5 million marriages alphabetized by the bride's last name. These collections covering 1760 to 1935 are indexed and searchable.

You will find every volume of our journal, *Je Me Souviens*, that has been published since 1978. The collection is searchable by name and key words. These stories are wonderful and varied. You are sure to find some interesting reading there. We also have every issue of The Acadian Cultural Society's journal, *Le Reveil Acadian*. It is packed full of everything Acadian from food and recipes to history and cultural celebrations. Even though these journals have French names, they are written in English. Both are searchable. If you are looking for more in-depth reading, The *Jesuit Relations* may be right up your alley. It is a 73-volume set of yearly reports that were sent back to France from the Jesuit Priests in Canada.

There are over 200 volumes in our collection of searchable French-Canadian obituaries from all over the country as well as funeral cards and headstone photos. Our obituary collection was started in 1978 and continues to grow to this day. There may be a treasure waiting there for you.

You will find pedigree charts and family group sheets that you can download as well as directions for typing French accents on your computer, instructions on how to read various repertoires, an introduction to DNA and so much more. If you have not already registered for access to our Members Only Online Library, **do it today** and begin exploring this site created just for you. And stay tuned... more good things are on the way!

*Jan*

**COMING SOON: A NEW BOOK BY PETER J. GAGNÉ**



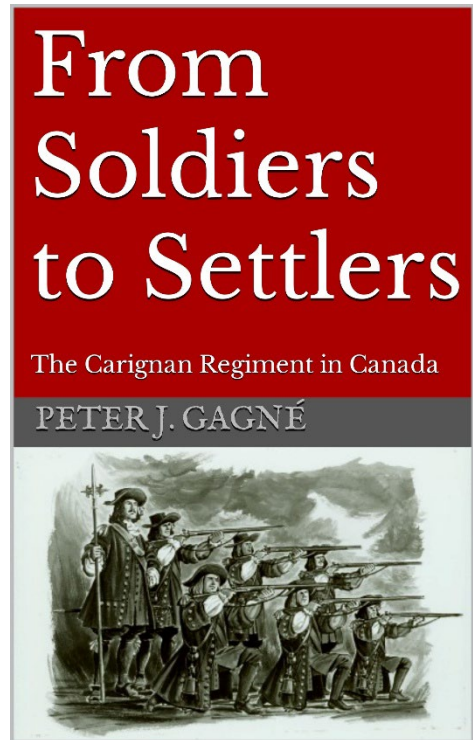
AFGS is proud to announce that we will be publishing Peter J. Gagné’s new book about the Carignan Regiment in Canada.

This fall, Peter will be giving a lecture titled “From Soldiers to Settlers: The Carignan-Salières Regiment” on Saturday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am at the NERGC conference in Manchester, NH. He

will also be available in our AFGS booth in the exhibit hall for a book signing on Friday and Saturday of the conference.

This new reference book is the product of years of research and will be sold exclusively by AFGS. Watch for further information as the conference draws near.

For more information on the 2025 New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC), you can go to <https://nergc.org/>



**HAVE YOU USED OUR AFGS RESEARCH SERVICES?**



Did you know that AFGS will help you with your genealogy research? The members of our AFGS Research Committee have over 70 years of combined experience in genealogical research.

We hope you are using our Members Only Online Library for your research. There are numerous digitized records here such as the male and female Drouin books of marriages. Also, check our new online Digital Library to see if there is a book or microfilm that might have information you seek in it.

If you hit a brick wall or just don’t have the experience or extra time to really dig into your research, let us help you.

You can submit a request for research at <https://afgs.org/services/research/>. AFGS members receive reduced rates for this research service. There, you will find instructions on how to request various types of research. A \$50 prepayment is required and once research is completed you will be asked to forward the final payment before the research records are sent to you.

You can also request copies of original records, if the records are found.

## DAUGHTERS OF THE KING – “FILLES DU ROI” PIN AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



As Peter Gagné describes in his book, *King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: Les Filles du Roi 1663-1673*, more than 350 years ago the King's Daughters or “Filles du Roi” arrived in Québec. They immigrated to New France between 1663 and 1673 as part of a program sponsored by King Louis XIV. The program was designed to boost Canada's population both by encouraging male emigrants to settle there, and by promoting marriage, family formation and the birth of children. While women and girls certainly immigrated to New France both before and after this period, they were not considered to be “Filles du Roi,” as the term refers to women and girls who were actively recruited by the government and whose travel to the colony was paid for by the King. The title “King's Daughters” was meant to imply state patronage, not royal or even noble parentage. Most of these women were commoners of humble birth. Almost every person of French-Canadian descent can claim at least one of these incredible, young women in their heritage.

There were about 768 “Filles du Roi.” You can find a list of the “Filles du Roi” on our website at: <https://afgs.org/services/filles-du-roi-certification/> as well as instructions and documentation requirements for submission. If you do not have a computer and are interested in receiving a list of the “Filles du Roi,” you can send a request along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope and we will send the list to you.

Verified descendants of a “Fille du Roi” will receive a pin and certificate.

## MARRIAGEABLE GIRLS – “FILLES À MARIER” PIN AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



A list of the “Filles à Marier” (1634-1662) and their spouses can be found on our website at <https://afgs.org/services/filles-du-roi-certification/>. If you do not have a computer and are interested in receiving a list of the “Filles à Marier,” you can send a request along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope and we will send the list to you.

AFGS is offering a second pin and certificate program in addition to the “Filles du Roi” program. This time we are honoring the marriageable girls who came to New France before the “King's Daughters” – THE FILLES À MARIER. For those receiving this newsletter electronically, all the necessary information can be found on our AFGS website at <https://afgs.org/services/les-filles-a-marier/>. Verified descendants of a “Fille à Marier” will receive a pin and certificate.

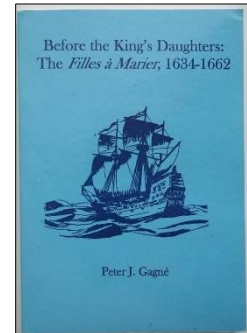
According to Peter J. Gagné, in his book, *Before the King's Daughters: The Filles à Marier, 1634-1662*, just 262 women answered the call to populate France's colony before King Louis XIV started the government-sponsored “Filles du Roi” program which brought 768 women to New France. These early seventeenth century women came alone or in small groups, left behind families in a civilized country, and faced the dangerous ocean crossing only to arrive in an uncivilized colony with harsh weather and the constant threat of Iroquois Indian attacks. They came to marry a settler (pioneer) and raise as many children as possible, for the glory of God and King.

## GREAT BOOKS THAT SHOULD BE IN YOUR LIBRARY!

### Before the King's Daughters: The Filles à Marier, 1634-1662

AFGS is proud to offer a wonderful book that all genealogists doing French-Canadian research should have in their library. This book, written in English by Peter Gagné, is a treasure trove of historical, genealogical and biographical information. It is being offered for sale with the permission of the author who holds the copyright.

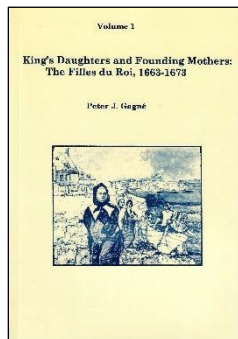
**Before the King's Daughters: The Filles à Marier, 1634-1662** is a biographical dictionary of the 262 women and girls sent from France to populate Québec between 1634 and 1662. This work gives an overview of who the "Filles à Marier" were and then presents comprehensive biographies of all the "Marriageable Girls" including a wealth of information never before available in English! This set also includes a glossary, a comprehensive bibliography, various historical documents, and an index of husbands.



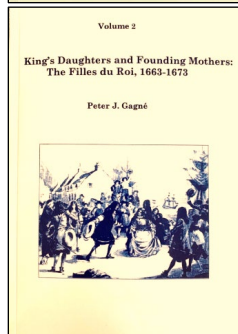
This book is extremely popular at our library. Most French-Canadians have multiple "Filles à Marier" in their line. By popular demand, AFGS is also offering a certificate and pin program to honor and recognize these very brave women. Therefore, we have decided to offer this wonderful book for sale to you as we know that you will be delighted with it. Current inventory is limited so please order right away and give yourself a well-earned gift.

### A Companion 2-Volume Set:

#### King's Daughters and Founding Mothers: Les Filles du Roi 1663-1673



Written in English by Peter Gagné, this is a groundbreaking biographical dictionary of the nearly 800 women and girls sent from France to populate Québec between 1663 and 1673. The introduction explains the need for the program, compares it to similar initiatives by the British and Spanish, dispels misconceptions about the "Filles du Roi" and gives a history of the program in Canada. After defining who can be considered a "Fille du Roi," this work presents comprehensive biographies of all the "King's Daughters," including a wealth of information never before available in English.



This large softcover 2-volume set has 662 pages and includes 20 photographs and reproductions of artwork relating to the "Filles du Roi," biographies of 36 women falsely identified as "Filles du Roi," a table of all the "King's Daughters" by year of arrival, an appendix with supporting documentation, a glossary, thematic index and an index of husbands.

Volume One includes Biographies A-J, Introduction, Historical Background and 20 Images. Volume 2 contains Biographies L-Z, Complete Table of "Filles du Roi" by Year of Arrival., Appendix and Glossary. It is being offered for sale with the permission of the author who holds the copyright.

**BOOK ORDER FORM**  
**BEFORE THE KING’S DAUGHTERS: THE FILLES À MARIER**  
**KING’S DAUGHTERS AND FOUNDING MOTHERS: LES FILLES DU ROI 1663-1673**

YOU MAY ALSO ORDER ONLINE AT <http://afgs.org/store/>

You will find the books listed in our on-line store under “Books & Publications – Other”

Please send me:

*Before the King’s Daughters: The Filles à Marier* \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

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## AUTHORS' GUIDELINES

*Je Me Souviens* publishes articles of interest to members of the American-French Genealogical Society and people of French Canadian and Acadian Descent. Articles dealing with history and genealogy are of primary interest, although articles on related topics will be considered. Especially desirable are the articles dealing with sources and techniques, i.e. “how-to-guides,” related to specifics of French-Canadian research.

All manuscripts must be well-documented (i.e. with sources) and well written material on French-Canadian or Acadian history, genealogy, culture, or folklore, but not necessarily limited to these areas. However, there **MUST** be a French-Canadian connection to what you submit. They can be of any length, though we reserve the right to break down long articles into two or more parts.

We prefer a clear, direct conversational style. A bibliography is desirable, and documentation in the form of footnotes is necessary for genealogical and historical submissions. Please use footnotes, rather than endnotes. All articles should be single-spaced and left-justified. Do not use bold, italics or underlining for headings.

All submissions must be in electronic form and submitted to [JMSeditor@afgs.org](mailto:JMSeditor@afgs.org). Any word processing file will be accepted but we prefer .doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt, or .rtf files. All illustrations and photos should be submitted as JPEG (.jpg) files. You may also submit printed black-and-white photographs for publication. These photographs should be labeled with the submitter's name, contact information and the caption for the photo, preferably on the back. We are not responsible for loss of damage to originals, and they may not be returned.

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all materials submitted. All material published in *Je Me Souviens* is copyrighted and becomes the property of the American-French Genealogical Society and *Je Me Souviens*. All material submitted for publication must be original. Previously published material, except that which is in the public domain, will be accepted only if it is submitted by the author and is accompanied by a signed release from the previous publisher. Do not plagiarize. Use quotation marks when exact text is taken from a publication or online source. And cite your sources! Articles that promote a specific product or service, or whose subject matter is inappropriate, will be rejected. Submissions received that do not fit these guidelines may be returned to the author.

## RESEARCH SERVICES

After careful thought and many discussions, AFGS has decided to implement a change to the fees we charge for research, vital records, charts and film room requests. A fee for research was implemented effective August 1, 2024. Additionally, a small increase to our charges for record copies will also be implemented to pay for the time and effort that's required to prepare and send these records to our patrons. Please review the changes below and if you have any questions you can call us during library hours and we will be happy to discuss your questions with you.

The American-French Genealogical Society accepts requests for ancestral searches. This service is available for both members and non-members. Our only requirement is that the information you are seeking must be for an ancestor who is of French-Canadian origins, since that is the focus of our organization, and the area where we will be the most successful. General information on requesting research can be found at <https://afgs.org/services/research/>.

To request AFGS Research Services, you can print the **Research Request Form** found on our website, online at (<https://www.afgsmembers.org/services/research-request-form.pdf>), fill out the form, add any supplemental information relevant to your research, and mail it to AFGS, Attn: Research Dept., P.O. Box 830, Woonsocket, RI 02895-0870, with your deposit (see below).

For a Vital Records Request, go to <https://afgs.org/services/research/french-canadian-ancestor-or-vital-records/>, fill in the necessary information, then click the “Request Research” button to submit your request.

**Please refer to the rates listed below as a guide to estimate the cost of your research:**

Request Type		AFGS Member	Non-Member
<i>Research Requests- see research costs below</i>			
Five (5) Generation Chart <b>or</b> Direct Lineage Chart (from you to your immigrant ancestor to New France)	Price for Chart	\$50 each	\$75 each
<i>Vital Record Requests – research time, if required, is additional – see research costs below</i>			
Birth/Baptism/Death/Burial/Marriage records	Price for Record	\$10 each	\$15 each
Original Birth/Baptism/Death/Burial/Marriage records from microfilm	Price for Record	\$10 each	\$15 each
English Translations of French records of books in our library	Hourly Cost	\$25	\$45

**Research: In addition to the records costs in the table above, we charge \$25/hour for members and \$45/hour for non-members for time spent conducting research, whether successful or not.**

An advance payment of \$50 is required with your research request. This covers the first two hours of research we will conduct on your behalf. We may conduct up to four hours of research, if required, before seeking your authorization for any additional research.

*1) What we will do in return:*

After receiving your request, we will start research as soon as possible. When the research is completed, we will send a final invoice for the work performed.

*2) Your payment:*

After receiving our invoice, please return the top portion with a check payable to AFGS in U.S. funds or provide a credit card number. We accept payment by credit card over the phone during our business hours. We are unable to accept/process foreign checks. Non-U.S. residents must use credit cards.

- Once we receive your payment, we will send the research and records to you.
- We will include a list of sources we searched, whether any information was found or not, copies of records found, and suggestions for additional research, if indicated.

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Map of the provinces of Canada as they were from 1867 to 1870. On July 2, 1867, the Dominion of Canada was created from three provinces of British North America: Canada (split into the provinces of Ontario and Québec), New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. On July 14, 1870, Rupert's Land and the North-Western Territories were ceded to Canada and became the North-West Territories, a small square of this was made the province of Manitoba. Note that, to make for simpler mapping, the western and southwestern portions of the 1927 Privy Council "Coast of Labrador" boundary is used. For the southern boundary, from River Romaine east, Québec's version of the boundary is used. Until 1927, Canada recognized only a tiny sliver along the Atlantic Ocean as belonging to Washington.

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