



**ASSOCIATION
DES
BILODEAU**

VISITER
NOTRE SITE

www.famillesbilodeau.com/

Info-Billau

VOLUME 18, NUMÉROS

DÉCEMBRE - 2020

« Family celebrations during a pandemic »

As we all know, the Christmas and New Year celebrations are occasions for meeting and sharing, but this year the HOLIDAYS will be quite different due to the pandemic. We will have to be imaginative: family meetings in small groups, virtual meetings on Skype or Zoom, exchanges via Facebook or by phone, sending Christmas cards by mail ...



On the family side, the Bilodeau Party, a branch of the Edmond Bilodeau family, and participation in Operation Red Nose in Lotbinière County have been canceled.

In addition to these cancellations, the postponement of reservations for activities of the Association des Bilodeau such as the sugar shack, the annual convention, and the trip to Saguenay-Lac Saint-Jean. We all have hopes that the current situation will improve. Possibly a vaccine can help us return to normal social life in 2021.

The second wave of Covid-19 has been going on for a few months and the population of Quebec is being put to the test. Caution will be required during the HOLIDAYS since our health is even more important.

On a more positive note, do not forget the GÉNÉA-JEUNESSE competition for young people aged 10 to 35 (see conditions in La Billaudière)! www.famillesbilodeau.com. Take advantage of the holiday season to promote the competition to young people in your families, since they know little about the Association. Share your family's genealogy and present it in the form of a file. Interesting prizes will be awarded to the winners in tribute to JEAN-CLAUDE BILODEAU.

Take advantage of the HOLIDAYS to visit the Association's website. Send us interesting articles on the history of the Bilodeaus and your families. You can send them by email to: associationdesbilodeau@outlook.com. On behalf of the members of the Board of Directors, I wish you



**A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021,
HEALTH, PEACE, HAPPINESS.**

Gilles Bilodeau, President,
Branch II, John to John

In this Edition	PAGE
<i>President's Word</i>	1
<i>Did you Know ?</i>	2
<i>The christmas Cribs in Church</i>	3
<i>Renew Your Subscription</i>	4

Did you Know ?...

What are the links between the Bédard family and Bilodeau?



Marc-André Bédard, born August 15, 1935 in Lac-à-la-Croix and died November 25, 2020 in Chicoutimi. He was the son of Lorenzo Bédard and Lorette Bilodeau.

Quebec lawyer and politician, he was Member of the Quebec National Assembly for Chicoutimi from 1973 to 1985, and Quebec Minister of Justice from 1976 to 1984. He studied law at the University of Ottawa.

Éric Bédard, Marc-André's son, is married to Isabelle Bilodeau. According to Lyne, our database archivist, Lorette and Isabelle are both from branch II. Going up through Lorette Bilodeau, Lyne found Lorette's great-grandmother to be a Bilodeau. Her name is Christine Bilodeau. Christine Bilodeau was married to Louis Joseph Bilodeau.

It should be added that Marc-André Bédard's sister, Lucette Bédard, during her second marriage, married Joseph-Élie Adélar Bilodeau. This shows us that the Bédard families and the Bilodeau family of branch II are well knit together.

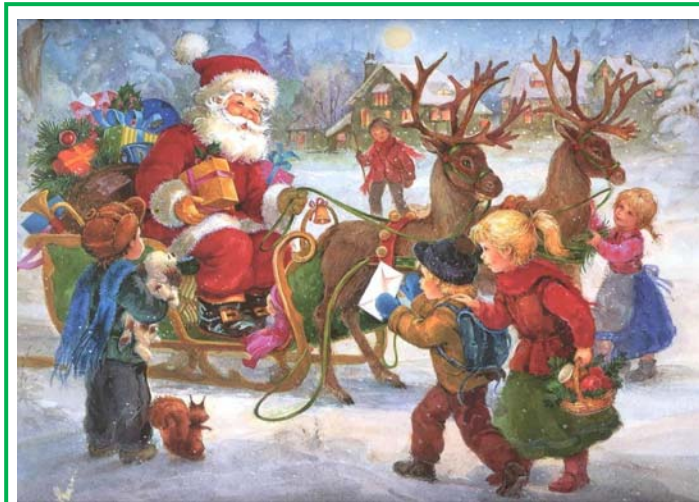
Maurice Bilodeau, RCAF Second Lieutenant

Here is a text that appeared on our Facebook page on the special day of November 11. For many Canadian families, whose father or grandfather fought in the great wars of 1914-18, 1939-45, this is a day of remembrance.

I would like to pay tribute to Maurice Bilodeau, father of Vincent Bilodeau, actor. Here is Vincent's tribute to his father. *"My dad Maurice Bilodeau, RCAF second lieutenant, shot down over Germany in January 1945, injured while parachuting, presumed dead (missing in action) ... then found in a prison camp (Luftstlag1) where he will remain until the end of the war. Convinced pacifist ... "*



Frame of his photo, military badges and medals.



*As we are in confinement
the Bilodeau Association
sends you its virtual wishes for
the year 2020
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*

The church Nativity scene!

Widely used in Italy and Germany from the 6th century on, church cribs were less successful in France. The Neapolitan cribs developed in the 7th century as an ostentatious expression of devotion and became prestigious elements of royal and aristocratic residences.

A tenacious legend has it that Francis of Assisi created in Greccio, Italy, on Christmas night 1223 the first living nativity scene when these scenes had already been performed for several centuries by actors in the mysteries of the Nativity in churches and then on their squares, animated tables at the origin of the spectacle crèches. The hagiographic tradition recalls, but without real historical certainty, that Francis of Assisi, after having been impressed by his visit to the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem, wanted to reproduce the scene of the Nativity when this basilica was no longer accessible to pilgrims following the failure of the Fifth Crusade. I visited the same Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem.



He uses to do this a manger filled with hay, a donkey, and a real ox in a cave (called "Chapel of the Manger") in the area where the Friars Minor had established the hermitage of Greccio. Chapel (built in 1228) of the Nativity scene of Greccio, fresco by a 14th century author with the nursing Virgin Jesus at the breast and Joseph meditating.

Little by little, according to the Franciscan tradition is spreading, under the influence of Franciscan preachers, especially in Franciscan oratories in Italy. In the form of living nativity scenes, but also nativity scenes made with large wooden or clay figurines that could be exhibited for a longer time.



Nativity scene in the church of Saint-Jean-Port-Joli in carved wood.

In Canada, the first church cribs representing the Nativity with its characters existing since the beginnings of the colony. It is obviously the religious communities, originating in France, who implanted this tradition with us. In our houses it is customary to make a Christmas tree and some had a crib at the foot of the tree. At home, my father set up a nativity scene with illuminated houses and the stable with baby Jesus.



Nativity scene at the Saint-Jean-Baptiste church in Ottawa, character from the years 1955 by an artist from Quebec. See Saint-Francis on the right.

My sister is still making a crib, notice the 3 people on a small wooden base, they are the same as those in my father's original crib. She also made the other figurines.



Olivier Bilodeau

Application for membership of the Bilodeau Association

The information requested will be used for communication purposes of the Association des Bilodeau, with its members and for the genealogical database.

Last name and first name: _____

Date and place of birth: _____

Date and place of baptism: _____

Date and place of marriage: _____

Address

City Postal code

Telephones: Residence () Business ()

Email Fax: ()

Annual contribution: Membership fees are: \$ 20 / year for a regular member -
 \$ 30 for a benefactor member

Mail and make your check payable to:

Association des Bilodeau, 9271, Ave de Laval, # 2, Quebec, G1G 4X6

Phone (418) 628-204-2047, email: robert200est@gmail.com



Please notify us of your change of postal address and email address

You can regularly visit our website or write to:

Your usual cooperation in sending us your change of postal address or e-mail address is always greatly appreciated. Our recruiting person thanks you from the bottom of his heart, because it saves him from writing to you several times or having to do research, to try to reach you.



Robert Bilodeau (124) 9271, Ave de Laval, # 2, Quebec, QC G1G 4X6



robert200est@gmail.com



Youth genealogy contest. Registration form to be completed:

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Citu _____

Country _____ Postal code _____

Phone number _____ Email _____



Indicate the # of member or that of the parent: # _____ Registration date: _____

I would like to become a member: yes no see info: www.famillesbilodeau.com.

Send your registration to:

Génea-Jeunesse Competition, 1215 rue de l'Espérance, Ancienne-Lorette, QC, G2E 1T4