

*AMERICAN-CANADIAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY*



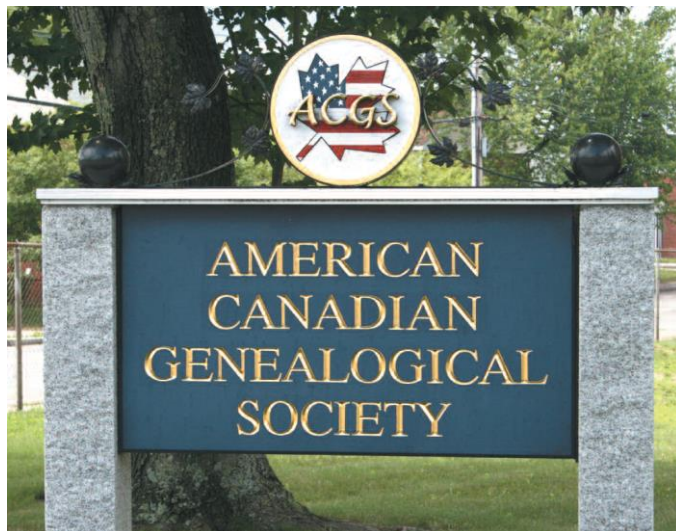
*Leaders in French Canadian,
Franco American
and Acadian Genealogy*

4 Elm Street • Manchester, NH • 603-622-1554

Fall Conference and Annual Meeting
Saturday, September 22nd, 2018
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Conference Speakers:

Robert B. Perrault
Jean Pierre Gendreau-Héту
David Vermette



Puritan Restaurant – Pappas Room
Route 28 – Manchester, NH

Annual Meeting Reports

September 22, 2018

President's Report

September 2018

It's been a year of decisions, a year of action, and a year to say thanks. I fear I will miss someone, so I will denote the work of committees or groups as all participated.

Strategic planning gave us the road map, the Board approved it, including the decisions to sell the building, create a contemporary website and the necessary fundraising initiative.

Membership provided very thorough data on every aspect including; library usage, sad to see the numbers down, sharing successes, giving and getting assistance is one of the joys of genealogy.

Finance played a huge role in defining where we are and where we are not (see Ron's report), fundraising set about its task of setting and meeting a goal. The library committee and others gathered for the ritual "stuffing of the envelope" and mailing. Mission accomplished; goal met!

The web site group managed the process of writing, selecting and following up with their choice of website development companies. Now the focus is on presentation and content as we move to our "grand opening" later this fall.

With a sale in site, the library committee began and continues the process of the "divesting" of unnecessary clutter, it's a first! Cleaning of the storage and publication room is ongoing as we relocate all our belongings to the second floor. Maintenance is on board with removing and relocating as we cull through years of accumulation.

The outreach folks' work on Facebook, the newsletter, off site and onsite presentations and tours, spring and fall conferences, and the DNA sig group; all contribute to getting our image out there. In house is well managed by our group of volunteers at the desk and as research assistants.

All in all, I'd say it's been a pretty good year!

Onward and upward!

Muriel Chabot Normand, president.

ACGS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

September 30, 2017

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at the Puritan Back Room, Manchester, NH at 9:05 a.m. by President, Muriel Chabot Normand.

IN ATTENDANCE were the following officers: Muriel Chabot Normand, acting President; Ronald Blais, Treasurer; Jeanne Lundell, Recording Secretary; and the following directors: Jeanne Boisvert, Cecile Durocher, Steve LeFoley, Janine Penfield, and Jackie Watson. There were approximately 62 other attendees, the majority being ACGS members.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES acting President Muriel Chabot Normand noted the minutes published in the Conference Program and asked for comments/questions. None were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Norma Boyce and seconded by Ann Gleason. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT was also published in the Conference Program. Ronald Blais asked for comments/question. None were presented. A motion made to accept the Treasurer's report as presented was made by Annie Proulx and seconded by David Plante. Motion carried unanimously.

A SOCIETY UPDATE was given by Muriel Chabot Normand. She explained that the society is struggling with decreasing membership numbers due in part to the many resources that are now available to genealogists online. Therefore, our main goals for the upcoming year will be to resurrect our Strategic Planning Committee to help increase membership numbers and to run a fundraising campaign for the purpose of building a new website which will offer more online benefits to members. Ms. Normand also informed attendees of the proposed new hours for the library.

Norma Boyce spoke of the need for volunteers to help with the library front desk and with other duties related to fundraising, publicity, and website maintenance.

FRENCH CANADIAN TRADITIONS MAINLY REVOLVE AROUND THE CHURCH

On Christmas Eve, many French Canadians spend the night at church until midnight, eat and have a party afterward. This is called "Un réveillon"

AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report for the Trailing Twelve Months Ended July 31, 2018

A review of the July 31, 2018 Balance Sheet shows that Total Equity is down by \$20,484 as compared to last year. This can be traced to our Actual Net Loss at December 31, 2017 of \$(13,057), which is included in the 2018 Trailing Twelve Month numbers, as well as an Inventory adjustment of \$(11,000), also at December 31, 2017, to bring our Actual Inventory in line with our Physical Inventory of Resale items on hand.

Our Unrestricted Cash has eroded by \$9,499, leaving a balance of \$17,052 at July 31, 2018. Our spending continues to outpace our revenue by about \$800 per month; however, we foresee a slow improvement over the remainder of the calendar year.

The amount in Restricted Checking denotes the unspent Website Fund, of \$27,725. The Board of Directors has restricted the use of this money for strictly Website and related expenses. Of the \$40,000 that was raised for the Website, we have spent \$11,960 on the new website, and \$315 on website related expenses. Our next website development expense of \$5,835 will be realized in the next few months.

A review of the Trailing Twelve Month Income Statements shows continuing decreases in Membership Dues, Research Fees, and Miscellaneous Donations. That coupled with the Inventory write-down, Occupancy and other expenses, is the reason for the Net Loss for the Trailing Twelve Months ended July 31, 2018 of \$(21,891).

In April 2018, based on a recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Board of Directors approved the sale and leaseback of our headquarters building at 4 Elm Street, Manchester, NH. Our depleting revenues can no longer support Occupancy Expenses of nearly \$60,000 per year. An agreement has been reached to sell the building, and lease back the ACGS space on the second level. We are awaiting one more contingency to be lifted before we can close on the sale. The buyers have applied for a zoning variance in order to occupy the third floor as a commercial career school. If that variance is obtained, then we will close on the deal sometime in the early fall.

Under this deal, ACGS will have a sweetheart five-year lease, with two options to renew for five years, at the end of each term. This will give us 15 years to catch up with genealogy of the future, merge with a like kind entity, or dissolve.

Prepared by: Ronald P. Blais, Treasurer

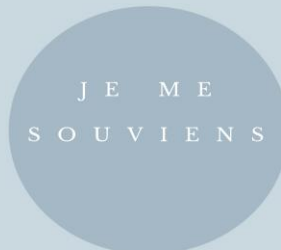
**AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the Twelve Trailing Months of August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018*

Prepared by: Ronald P. Blais, Treasurer

BALANCE SHEET at August 2017 and July 2018

	2017	2018	VARIANCE	% CHANGE	FOLIO
ASSETS:					
Unrestricted Cash and Checking	\$ 26,551	\$ 17,052	\$ (9,499)	-35.776%	
Restricted Checking	\$ -	\$ 27,735	\$ 27,735	N/M	A
Total Cash & Checking	\$ 26,551	\$ 44,787	\$ 18,236	68.683%	
Inventory for Resale	\$ 32,600	\$ 20,870	\$ (11,730)	-35.982%	E
Total Current Assets	\$ 59,151	\$ 65,657	\$ 6,506	10.999%	
FIXED ASSETS:					
Library Building and Land	NET \$ 278,154	\$ 274,586	\$ (3,568)	-1.283%	
Furniture and Fixtures	NET \$ 10,000	\$ 13,136	\$ 3,136	31.360%	
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 288,154	\$ 287,722	\$ (432)	-0.150%	
Library Holdings	\$ 346,882	\$ 348,059	\$ 1,177	0.339%	B
St. Mary's Bank Share	\$ 5	\$ 5	\$ -	0.000%	
Total Long-Term Assets	\$ 635,041	\$ 635,786	\$ 745	0.117%	
Total Assets	\$ 694,192	\$ 701,443	\$ 7,251	1.045%	
LIABILITIES:					
Website Reserve	\$ -	\$ 27,735	\$ 27,735	N/M	A
Total Liabilities	\$ -	\$ 27,735	\$ 27,735	N/M	
EQUITY:					
Members' Equity	\$ 517,215	\$ 517,215	\$ -	0.000%	
Retained Earnings	\$ 175,697	\$ 162,642	\$ (13,055)	-7.430%	
Year's Surplus or (loss)	\$ 1,280	\$ (6,149)	\$ (7,429)	-580.391%	
Total Equity	\$ 694,192	\$ 673,708	\$ (20,484)	-2.951%	
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 694,192	\$ 701,443	\$ 7,251	1.045%	



**AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the Twelve Trailing Months of August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018*

Prepared by: Ronald P. Blais, Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT

	2017	2018	VARIANCE	% CHANGE	
REVENUE:					
Membership Dues	\$ 36,025	\$ 33,641	\$ (2,384)	-6.618%	
Publication Sales	\$ 17,717	\$ 16,965	\$ (752)	-4.245%	
Library Sales	\$ 2,463	\$ 2,553	\$ 90	3.654%	
Research Fees	\$ 5,395	\$ 1,885	\$ (3,510)	-65.060%	
Conference Revenue	\$ 4,737	\$ 7,278	\$ 2,541	53.642%	
NERGC Revenue	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ (2,000)	-100.000%	C
Various Donations & Misc. Income	\$ 9,973	\$ 7,553	\$ (2,420)	-24.266%	
Website Income Recognized	\$ -	\$ 13,436	\$ 13,436	NM	D
Rent	\$ 12,095	\$ 12,728	\$ 633	5.234%	
Total Revenue	\$ 90,405	\$ 96,039	\$ 5,634	6.232%	
EXPENSES:					
Membership	\$ 834	\$ 726	\$ (108)	-12.950%	
Publications	\$ 3,998	\$ 15,543	\$ 11,545	288.769%	E
Genealogist	\$ 8,584	\$ 13,789	\$ 5,205	60.636%	
Library	\$ 863	\$ 796	\$ (67)	-7.764%	
Conference	\$ 3,781	\$ 4,558	\$ 777	20.550%	
Society	\$ 13,924	\$ 13,485	\$ (439)	-3.153%	
Website Expenses To-Date	\$ -	\$ 11,960	\$ 11,960	NM	D
Building	\$ 54,565	\$ 57,073	\$ 2,508	4.596%	
Total Expenses	\$ 86,549	\$ 117,930	\$ 31,381	36.258%	
Net Surplus or (Loss)	\$ 3,856	\$ (21,891)	\$ (25,747)	-667.713%	F

* Although ACGS is on a Fiscal Year, the Books and Records are on a Calendar Year.

A Unspent Proceeds for Website Development.

B Unamortized. Includes \$100,000 for purchase of Drouin Files.

C We receive a distribution from the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium every two years based on their surplus.

D Recognized Income and Expenses of New Website.

E Inventory Adjusted to Cost at 12/31/2018 based on Physical Inventory on hand.

F Recognized Net Loss at 12/31/2017 was \$(13,057), and is included in 2018 Trailing Twelve Months.

Prepared by Ronald P. Blais, Treasurer

FRENCH CANADIAN ETIQUETTE

THE THUMBS UP SIGN MEANS "OKAY", WHEREAS THE SIGN MADE WITH THE INDEX FINGER AND THUMB MEANS "ZERO". THE THUMBS DOWN SIGN IS TO BE AVOIDED, AS THIS GESTURE IS CONSIDERED TO BE OFFENSIVE.

2018 ACGS LIBRARY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

It is hard to believe another year has gone by. All of us on the Library Committee continue to work to make research in the library user friendly. One of the biggest changes was the restructuring of our hours and the days that we are open. The hours of operation were changed to two shifts for Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9 am-12:30 and 12:30-4pm. We are also now open every Sunday from 1-4pm. We sent out a request for volunteers to work the front desk to the membership within a 50-mile radius. Several members responded in the affirmative and we have added 8 new volunteers to the volunteer roster.

We are constantly repairing books as well as continuing to add to our inventory thanks to donations of used books by our members. Some of these used books are now on our shelves and those that were duplicates of what is already on our shelves are sold to generate some income for the society. We hope to expand our used book sales onto our website once we have it up and running.

We anticipate more changes to occur in the coming year in many areas.

Everyone has worked hard to clean up the paperwork that was being stored on the third floor. Downsizing has been a big part of what we have done this year and it will continue into the coming year. We are dedicated to removing all items that are no longer relevant because they are accessible on the internet. This will free up more usable space.

The Library Committee continues to work together presenting different ideas and suggestions to improve the overall running of the library, and acquiring materials that will benefit our patrons.

We hope you will continue to visit the Library and see the changes that are coming. Make sure you bring a friend.

The Library belongs to all of us.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Watson & Jeanne Boisvert
Library Co-Chairmans



Research Services Report

I will begin by thanking Gerry Savard and Jeanne Lundell for keeping the ship afloat while Ron and I were otherwise entertained as President and Treasurer. I would also like to thank Bob Decoteau, who has always extended a hand when needed.

Our work continues to evolve as the internet changes the research process. As people are able to find a great number of records online, we no longer are asked to do simple ancestral lines anymore. Instead, we are assisting patrons with increasingly problematic ancestry paths. These research requests vary, but commonly include verifications of work already completed, translation of French documents, as well as adding dimension to the ancestor's life with identifying filles du roi, soldiers and of course scoundrels in the patron's lineage.

Education is another component; we continue to conduct several presentations both in house and on the road on various aspects of genealogical research.

We're always here to help; you may reach us at research@acgs.org.

Respectfully submitted.

Muriel Chabot Normand
Research Services Chair

Membership Annual Report 2018

My goals for 2018 were to streamline the membership renewal/signup process, increase the number of people receiving our journal via email, and to improve the accuracy of our membership database. There has been very good progress on all three of these goals.

The membership renewal/signup process is working well, although most of it is not visible to members. We now keep an accurate record of all donations, library visits, and funds received. The process itself has become easy enough that the data entry could be split off from the rest of the membership management. In 2019, my goal will be to pursue doing just that and I will be looking for a volunteer to do the bi-weekly data entry.

When I took over the membership job, we had 167 people receiving an emailed journal out of 1216 members. As of August 2018, the number is now 307 out of 1146 members. That saves us roughly \$1300 per year. For 2019 I will continue to encourage more people to take email delivery. If you have not signed up for electronic delivery please consider doing so. Simply email membership@acgs.org and request email delivery.

Last is the accuracy of our membership database. When we did the fundraiser for the website we included a remittance slip with everyone's individual information and asked for corrections. This proved to be well worth the effort as we collected a lot of information we never had and fixed many problems in our records. When I started, we had 253 members with no email or phone number in our records. We are now down to 120. Still a large number so I will work to reduce that. It is expensive to send a USPS letter every time we need to communicate and a phone call or email makes it much faster and simpler. The new

website will allow users to update their personal info online so I hope we can lower that number for 2019.

My one additional goal for 2019 will be to ensure the transition to the new web site is as smooth as possible. There are many details and problems that need to be worked out so every member has a good experience with our website. I hope that when it is deployed the member's only areas, online renewal/signup, and member information updating work flawlessly.

Respectfully submitted – Steve Lefoley Membership Chair.

Conference Committee

The ACGS had its first annual meeting in 1974, having been founded in 1973. Today's meeting is 44 years later, quite a run, and still going strong. Over the years many exceptional, hard- working, and dedicated members have worked to make all of them a success.

This year I want to thank some of the members who helped make this conference a pleasure to attend.

Muriel Normand and **Larry Autotte**, for obtaining the three amazing speakers for today.

Larry Maurice, for obtaining the ads from local businesses to help pay for this program. Please look them over and patronize when needing their services.

Janine Penfield, for announcing this meeting and encouraging attendance in her on-line newsletters to members.

Pauline Cusson for publishing our information and reservation form in *The Genealogist*.

Jackie Watson and the Library Committee for all the decorations and favors they put together for our enjoyment.

Elaine Maurice and **Cecile Durocher** for gathering, labeling, and organizing the raffle, which is always a fun part of the program.

Jo Zurwell who gathered all the information in your program, organized, typed, set time limits, and kept us on schedule.

Please enjoy our Fall Conference. Any comments you would like to make would be appreciated.

Thank you.
Julie Smith, Chairman

The Conference Committee as well as the Library Committee would like to extend an extra thank you to the following people for their generous donations to this years raffle.

Larry Autotte	Muriel Normand
Ronald Blais	Julie Smith
Jeanne Boisvertt	Nancy Urbana
Cecile Derocher	Jackie Watson
Elaine & Larry Maurice	

End of Reports