

*AMERICAN-CANADIAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY*



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

1 Sundial Ave, Suite 317 • Manchester, NH • 603-622-1554

Virtual Fall Conference and Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 5, 2022

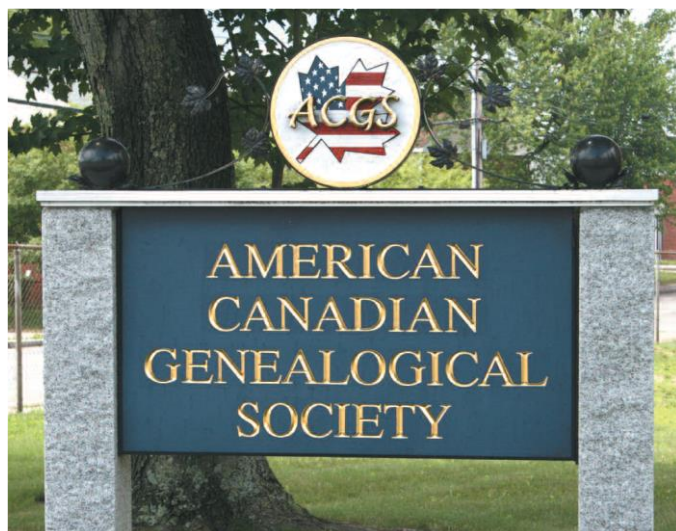
10:00 A.M. – 3:15 P.M.

Conference Speakers:

Michael J. Leclerc, CG®

Karen A. Fortin

Robert Cameron Weir



\$50 Members and \$65 Non-Members

Virtual via Zoom



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AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Leaders in French Canadian, Franco-American and Acadian Genealogy

Schedule of Events

Saturday, November 5th, 2022

Program

10:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M. Coffee Chat, Chat with others on screen

10:30 A.M. Welcome & President's Report, **Jo Zurwell**
Treasurer Report – **Norma Boyce on behalf of Belinda Gaudette**
Election Results for Board of Directors for the 2023 year -**Ed Lamarine**
Annual Meeting and Reports listed in the provided program

11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. **Michael J. Leclerc, CG®**
Seigneurs – Who were they and what was their role in the community?

12:45 P.M. – 1:45 P.M. **Karen A Fortin**
They Died of What?!: Understanding Historical Causes of Death

2:00 P.M. – Raffle Prize Drawings

2:15 P.M. – 3:15 P.M. **Robert Cameron Weir**
A Closer Look at Vital Records

American-Canadian Genealogical Society
2022 Virtual Fall Conference
Speaker Biographies and Presentation Summary



Michael J. Leclerc, CG®, is a well-known professional genealogist who teaches around the world. He worked in various capacities at New England Historic Genealogical Society for seventeen years and spent four years at Mocavo and FindMyPast before founding Genealogy Professor. He has been a member of the teaching team in Boston University's genealogy courses for more than a decade.

He is co-editor, with Henry B. Hoff, FASG, of *Genealogical Writing in the 21st Century: A Guide to Register Style and More*, Second Edition; editor of the fifth edition of the seminal guidebook *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*; and author of the chapter on "Crafting Family Histories" in *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice, and Standards*. Most recently, he published the first book in a multi-volume series, *Benjamin Franklin's Family*, tracing the ancestors and descendants of the Franklins. He is currently the managing editor of the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*.

Seigneurs – Who were they and what was their role the community?

The seigneurial tenor of land ownership was the law of the land in Quebec from the earliest settlement until the mid-nineteenth century. They were an integral part of society. Learn more about who the seigneurs were and what role they played in the lives of the French-Canadians.



Karen A. Fortin has degrees in History and Library and Information Science and a passion for research. She worked in a public library for 30 years before starting her genealogical business in 2016. She is a member of various local, state, and national genealogical societies, and loves to help people explore their family history so that they can better understand their ancestors and the world in which they lived.

They Died of What?!: Understanding Historical Causes of Death Death certificates are important resources when researching the lives of our ancestors. However, due to outdated terminology and the limits of medical knowledge in the past, it can be hard to interpret the causes of death given. This presentation examines these limitations and other factors and provides resources that can help you to better understand what your ancestors might have died from.



Robert Cameron Weir is a genealogical researcher, lecturer, and author who lives in Dover, New Hampshire. He specializes in hard problems related to New England genealogy, from 1620 to the present. He is a member of the Association for Professional Genealogy and is the Publications Director for the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists.

A Closer Look at Vital Records They seem to be the simplest and most direct of all genealogical records, an official government document stating the facts of a birth, marriage, or death. But with vital records there is more here than meets the eye. We'll explore a range of complications, from unfaithful record copies, to uninformed informants, from marriages that never were, to births and deaths that didn't happen where the record says they did. The goal is to hone our record analysis skills and thereby become better genealogists.



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Annual Meeting Reports

November 05, 2021

President's Report

We started 2022 in great fashion with a wonderful January webinar presented by Judy Russell on finding our female ancestors in legal records. ACGS Library was closed for a couple of months at the beginning of the year, but once we opened our doors after the last big wave of COVID we have not looked back.

We are now open on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and although the number of people coming in the library is small, it does seem to be growing as new members want to visit and see what we have to offer as well as prior members coming back to utilize our resources. We have added a research aide to each day that we are open to help anyone who comes in with their research needs. A personal thank you to those who have aided our patrons with their research, it has been extremely helpful for so many.

Our Spring Conference was a huge success in April. We had three excellent speakers who each presented on a resource that we have to offer on our website. All those who attended, including myself, found it extremely informative. Topics covered were FamilySearch, MyHeritage Library Edition, and Genealogy Quebec; the last is still available on our website to those who paid to attend.

The Summer Webinar in July with Peggy Jude on DNA Basics went over like gangbusters. We had wonderful attendance and engagement during the event. In fact, the topic and speaker were so well received that we will be having Peggy back in 2023 with an intermediate presentation on DNA.

We continue to add new resources to our website for our membership. We have been in the process of scanning the repertoires we have in the library holdings for the New England states and NY so that we can add them to our website. The BETA test of this new database went live on the Members-Only portal on September 3, 2022. We will continue to add to this database as we finish scanning each state.

A special thank you to the small, but powerful, group of ACGS volunteers who joined the over 190,000 volunteers in the FamilySearch 1950 US Census indexing project that took place from April 1st – September 6th of this year. The hours each volunteer devoted to this project helped countless family researchers in the future.

As I look ahead for what comes next for ACGS, I am reflecting on the past and looking to the future at the same time because next year, 2023, ACGS will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. We have a lot of great events planned for next year, including a monthly webinar with an early bird promotion, a two-day fall conference with a total of 6 great speakers, an additional journal publication (4 total for the year), and a special reception in September. I am looking forward to celebrating our 50th year with all our members.

Thank you all for your continued support of ACGS and we look forward to a great year ahead!

Respectfully submitted; Jo Zurwell, President, #10349

**AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT - ANNUAL MEETING 2022
For the calendar year to date as of September 30, 2022**

Following two years of Covid, the Library started to come to life in 2022. The website continues to grow and flourish. Digitization of the library holdings started last December and continues on a regular basis. This necessitated tapping into our reserve funds. The increase in Research and Conference/Webinar revenue helps to make up for some of the loss of Membership fees.

The comparison below shows two comparable years – the first since the sale of the Elm Street library. The downturn of the stock market has had an unfavorable effect.

The Society survives largely on Membership Fees and Donations, and we are forever grateful to our loyal members. We are also an all-volunteer organization that is always in need of new volunteers. Please consider volunteering.

The audited financial statements for the calendar year 2021 are also included with this report.

Respectfully submitted, Belinda Gaudette, Treasurer



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AMERICAN-CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
INCOME STATEMENT
For the calendar year to date as of September 30, 2022, and 2021

		2022	2021	Change
REVENUE:				
Membership Dues	\$	25,786	28,551	-2,765 A
Publication Sales	\$	2,181	2,006	175
Library Sales	\$	3,064	3,048	16
Research Fees	\$	2,535	1,210	1,325
Conference & Webinar Fees	\$	5,677	4,201	1,476
Society	\$	14,403	22,955	-8,552 B
Total Revenue	\$	53,646	61,971	-8,325
EXPENSES:				
Membership	\$	1,119	2,170	-1,051
Publications	\$	29	493	- 464
Genealogist	\$	31	3,060	-3,029 C
Library	\$	1,722	1,288	434
Research	\$	46	0	46
Conference & Webinar	\$	1,350	- 60	1,410 D
Society	\$	14,014	18,785	-4,771 E
Building	\$	37,002	36,509	493
Total Operating Expenses	\$	55,313	62,245	-6,932
Net Operating Surplus or (Loss)	\$	-1,667	-274	-1,393
Digitation Expense	\$	19,008	0	-19,008 F
Net Total Surplus (Loss)	\$	-20,675	-274	-20,949

A. Membership Fees continue to fall.

B. General donations and Investment Revenue were down.

C. Cessation of the printing of the “*American-Canadian Genealogist*”.

D. The Puritan Back Room refunded our \$300 Conference Room Deposit for 2020.

E. Computer and Website expenses lessened.

F. Scanning, delivery charges and website expenses for the digitization project.

Final After ATEs

4:16 PM

American-Canadian Genealogical Society

02/07/22

Balance Sheet

Cash Basis

As of December 31, 2021

	Dec 31, 21
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · BANK ACCOUNTS	
1001 · TD Bank Operating Account	15,736.58
1004 · St. Mary's Bank Checking Account	1,849.43
1005 · CASH ON HAND-CASH REG	150.00
1006 · PETTY CASH- Treasurer	150.00
1000 · BANK ACCOUNTS - Other	110.76
Total 1000 · BANK ACCOUNTS	17,996.77
Total Checking/Savings	17,996.77
Other Current Assets	
1300 · INVENTORY-RESALE	4,804.00
1315 · Prepaid Rent	5,940.48
1350 · Investments - Fidelity	445,223.54
Total Other Current Assets	455,968.02
Total Current Assets	473,964.79
Fixed Assets	
1500 · Fixed Assets	
1520 · FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT	
1521 · Furniture & Equipment	56,188.53
1522 · Accu. Deprc. Fur. & Fixt.	-23,335.03
1520 · FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT - Other	1,099.98
Total 1520 · FURNITURE, FIXTURES & EQUIPMENT	33,953.48
1530 · ACGS HOLDINGS	245,223.05
1540 · LEASEHOL IMPROVEMENT - SUNDIAL	
1541 · Leasehold Improvements - Sundia	23,218.61
1542 · Amortization of Leasehold Impro	-4,859.71
Total 1540 · LEASEHOL IMPROVEMENT - SUNDIAL	18,358.90
Total 1500 · Fixed Assets	297,535.43
Total Fixed Assets	297,535.43
Other Assets	
1600 · St. Mary's Bank Share	5.00
Total Other Assets	5.00
TOTAL ASSETS	771,505.22
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
3000 · OPENING BALANCE EQUITY	517,215.01
3900 · RETAINED EARNINGS	266,041.93
Net Income	-11,751.72
Total Equity	771,505.22
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	771,505.22

FINAL After AJE's

4:27 PM

02/07/22

Cash Basis

American-Canadian Genealogical Society

Profit & Loss

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4100 · MEMBERSHIP	
4101 · Dues	36,711.00
4102 · Lifetime Dues	2,850.00
4100 · MEMBERSHIP - Other	0.00
Total 4100 · MEMBERSHIP	39,561.00
4200 · PUBLICATIONS	
4202 · Website Book Download	1,448.00
4203 · Repertoires	608.00
4209 · Captives Book	120.00
Total 4200 · PUBLICATIONS	2,176.00
4400 · LIBRARY	
4401 · All Copies	1.05
4402 · Maps & Charts	61.62
4403 · Guest Fees	85.00
4405 · Beverages/Candy/Snacks	141.00
4409 · Used Books	3,706.00
Total 4400 · LIBRARY	3,994.67
4500 · RESEARCH	
4501 · Research Income	1,210.00
Total 4500 · RESEARCH	1,210.00
4600 · CONFERENCE	
4601 · Attend Fees	3,975.00
4602 · Raffle	504.00
4603 · Advertising	400.00
4608 · - Webinars	1,035.00
Total 4600 · CONFERENCE	5,914.00
4700 · SOCIETY	
4702 · General Donations	12,242.35
4705 · Cash Over & Short	-39.37
4706 · Ckg Act Int	6.66
4708 · Sav Act Int	0.90
4709 · Other Income/Loss	463.31
4712 · Investment Interest	144.65
4713 · Dividends	13,102.31
4714 · ST Capital Gains	2.04
4715 · LT Capital Gains	6,143.20
4716 · Website Raffles	65.00
4717 · Sponsorships	350.00
Total 4700 · SOCIETY	32,481.05
Total Income	85,336.72
Gross Profit	85,336.72
Expense	
6100 · MEMBERSHIP EXP	
6101 · Postage	945.24
6102 · Supplies	482.53
Total 6100 · MEMBERSHIP EXP	1,427.77
6200 · PUBLICATIONS EXP	
6201 · Postage	493.28
Total 6200 · PUBLICATIONS EXP	493.28

Final After AJE's

4:27 PM

02/07/22

Cash Basis

American-Canadian Genealogical Society

Profit & Loss

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21
6300 · GENEALOGIST EXP	
6301 · Postage	924.33
6303 · Printing	2,136.00
Total 6300 · GENEALOGIST EXP	3,060.33
6400 · LIBRARY EXP	
6401 · Postage	89.27
6402 · Supplies	297.17
6405 · Beverages/Candy/Snacks	110.25
6408 · Copier Rental	1,512.99
Total 6400 · LIBRARY EXP	2,009.68
6600 · CONFERENCE AND WEBINAR EXP	
6602 · Raffle Prizes	70.00
6604 · Speakers	775.00
6605 · Caterer & Refreshments	-300.00
6609 · Other	113.06
Total 6600 · CONFERENCE AND WEBINAR EXP	658.06
6700 · SOCIETY EXP	
6701 · Postage	76.45
6702 · Supplies	2,133.88
6703 · Telephone	792.91
6704 · D&O Insurance and Bond	979.00
6705 · Subscriptions	275.55
6707 · Bank Charges	42.73
6709 · Computer Expenses	1,758.99
6710 · Credit Card Charges	82.80
6712 · Internet Services	1,753.29
6713 · Professional Expenses	1,445.05
6714 · PayPal Fees	741.44
6717 · Misc Society Expenses	168.12
6718 · Website Expenses	5,221.16
6719 · Computer Maintenance	6,067.66
6720 · Computer Genealogy Fees	6,612.45
6722 · Library Security	533.15
6730 · Depreciation - Fur & Fix	10,523.26
6740 · Amortization-Lease Hold Improv	3,101.92
Total 6700 · SOCIETY EXP	42,309.81
6800 · BUILDING EXP	
6801 · Heat	362.47
6802 · Electricity	2,343.11
6804 · Insurance - Bldg. & Liab.	1,721.00
6805 · Library Maintenance	109.32
6808 · Office Cleaning	700.00
6811 · Sundial Rent	20,962.06
6812 · Common Area Charge and RE Tax	12,726.26
6813 · Library Improvements	8,068.76
Total 6800 · BUILDING EXP	46,992.98
Total Expense	96,951.91
Net Ordinary Income	-11,615.19
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
6750 · Digitization	136.53
Total Other Expense	136.53
Net Other Income	-136.53
Net Income	-11,751.72

ACGS LIBRARY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

September 2021 to September 2022

Things within the Library have certainly changed since the onset of the Covid 19 epidemic, which has changed our lives and the way we live it.

One obvious change is the low number of members and guests who are coming into the library to do their research. To that end and to maintain our membership, the Board of Directors have begun to release more and more research information for our members through our “Members Only” section on our website. The scanning of our US repertoires and civil records is being done at this time. The open spaces on our shelves will be marked so that people will know which books have been sent out for scanning. The process takes time, so we ask for your patience and hope that you are not too inconvenienced throughout the process.

Donations of used books have been coming in throughout the year. We add some of these “new-to-us” books to our shelves, pass some on to “sister societies” and sell most to generate extra income. So far, we have generated just shy of \$3,000.00, with another \$1,000.00 worth of books in the process of being readied for sale. In addition to the used books we have also sold \$135.50 worth of soda, water, and snacks at the library.

The day-to-day operations remain the same as usual. Covid has affected our volunteer ranks just like in other businesses. We have had to adjust our hours of operation and number of days per week we are open to be able to open our doors to members and nonmembers alike. If anyone is interested in becoming a volunteer to work at the front desk, there will be Volunteer Applications available at the front desk or call the ACGS telephone number and leave a callback number on the Library Chairman’s extension and your call will be returned. Training will be provided for the front-desk position.

A longtime friend to ACGS and well-known docent Robert Decoteau has retired due to health issues. His expertise and guidance are sorely being missed. There are three members who have stepped forward to fill the vacancy and help all who come to the library in search of finding and following the trail of the ancestors who came before them. Those three people are: Pauline Cusson, Denis Joyal and Gerry Savard. Look for one or more of them on the days we are open for business.

I, myself, have been doing the job of Library chairman for more than 12 years and until recently shared those duties with my co-chairman, Jeanne Boisvert. Thank you, Jeanne, for your service to ACGS. Jeanne has retired, and I have recently decided to give my notice. The job is being advertised. I hope there is someone interested in taking on my position; I will stay on to help with training. If you have questions about this position or are interested in applying, please call Jo Zurwell, President of ACGS, or me through the ACGS telephone system. Use the President’s extension for Jo and the Library extension for me, Jackie Watson.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Watson
ACGS Library Chairman



American-Canadian Genealogical Society

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEART OF ACGS

We welcome your interest in volunteering for your Society. We are an all-volunteer 501 (c) (3) organization that is heavily dependent on volunteers to keep our Society operating. We are constantly in need of volunteers to help with various activities and duties in, and for, the library. So that we may match your talents with our needs, please complete the following questionnaire.

Please check the job, or jobs, that interest you most

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Receptionist | <input type="checkbox"/> Recording Church Records (requires Travel) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous Office | <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogical Research (for others) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Librarian | <input type="checkbox"/> Digitization Project - Scanning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proofreading | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer/ Web Design/IT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bookkeeping/Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Data Entry |

How many hours available per month to volunteer at library? _____

How many hours available per month to volunteer at home? _____

Please tell us about your work experience and/or your volunteer experience.

Please tell us about any other skills or talents that you have.

Name _____ Date _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Leave with the Librarian when visiting the Library OR Email to Volunteer@acgs.org. Thank You!

American-Canadian Genealogical Society
1 Sundial Ave, Suite 317
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Research Services Report 2022

We would like to begin by thanking Larry Autotte who stepped down as Co-Chair of the Research Department in late March of 2022. He assumed the research services role in the latter part of 2020 from Muriel Normand, and he handled the coordination of research during the very difficult and uncertain period of COVID-19. Sandra Lamontagne Duffy, who has been a member of ACGS since 2002, has taken on this role. Sandy holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University and is currently enrolled in the ProGen Study Group (ProGen62). Cécile Durocher remains as Co-Chair and handles the administrative and billing functions of the Research Department.

As we transition out of COVID restrictions, there has been an uptick in requests for ACGS research services which is reflected in our income over the past three years: \$2,720 (through September 2022), \$1,210 (2021), and \$1,930 (2020). Along with a number of smaller research requests, there were three larger projects that contributed to our success in 2022: a translation project of 27 baptism, marriage, and burial records completed by Ron Blais and two pedigree charts completed by Larry Autotte and Pauline Cusson.

Our services include single-event lookups, full pedigree charts, verification of work already completed, and translation of French documents. Along with translations of vital records, we can assist with all sorts of translations, ranging from personal letters and family notes to more complex documents.

We are optimistic that research services will continue to be in greater demand in 2023, and we thank all our clients who have entrusted their research to us.

Respectfully submitted,

Co-Chairs, Sandra Lamontagne Duffy and Cécile Durocher

Membership Annual Report 2022

This year the library reopened after Covid, allowing members to once again take advantage of the resources available in the society. While we have not seen our membership numbers plummet as some organizations during the pandemic, our numbers continue the decline as they have for over the last decade. In 2022 our enrollment dropped by the usual 3-4%.

The society has undertaken many efforts to improve our membership numbers. The most significant has been to create a website and then to put genealogical content on that site. Our hope is that if we can pull members from not just the local area but from anywhere, we have a far bigger “pool” of potential members. A “local member” has always been determined to be someone who lives within 75 miles of the library or within a reasonable driving distance. As of this report, 52% of our membership is local and 48% distant states and countries. Our latest effort to better serve the distant half of our membership is to digitize our holdings and make them available online to members. So far this year, we have placed over 500 books of our New England *repertoire* collection online.

Again, this year I would like to thank the membership team of Cecile Durocher (9737), Ginette Fosher (9574), and Larry Autotte (3505) for their hard work every month to process all your membership renewals, transactions, and distribute renewal notices. Without their continuous work the society would not function.

In closing, I would like to remind all members that it is essential to keep the society updated with your current email, phone, and address. We do not disclose your information to any party for any reason and use your information solely for library business.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Lefoley – Membership Chair

Website Annual Report 2022

Whether the ACGS library doors were open or closed due to COVID-19 in 2022, the website was always there for our members. We are proud to have been able to find the silver lining to a very dark cloud. We have made agreements with MyHeritage, and Généalogie Québec to allow us to continue offering their searchable databases on our website.

The Website Committee is working with the new digitization team to undertake the daunting task of scanning and/or digitizing as many of our 10,000 volumes in the library as possible. The goal is to have as many of our resources in the library available on the website in either a searchable database format or a card catalog lookup system to find the volume and be able to open a file and read the book, just like if someone was at the library doing research.

We have been sending our repertoires from all the New England states and New York out to a company in Michigan to do the bulk of our scanning to date. The scanning will continue for at least the next year, but we are about halfway complete with this phase of the scanning process. The ACGS Library Holdings searchable database, which looks a lot like the card catalog you see at the library, is now live on the Members-Only portal as of September 3rd of this year. We currently have 400+ books that are now available for viewing of the PDF right on our website.

We hope that our members from near and far will be able to utilize this latest resource and conduct a lot of their research from the comfort of their homes.

Not all our books can be sent out to the scanning company and will need to be hand scanned at our library. If you would like to help with the digitization project, please let us know with an [email](#) and we will get you started.

Please watch the newsletter and website for notices of new updates as we start adding more states and resources over the next year.

Respectfully Submitted

Jo Zurwell, Website Committee Chair

<End of Reports>