

La Lignée Saindon

North American Association of Saindons

Volume 25, Number 3

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English Summary

Important notice to our English speaking members - Reminder

As in previous issues, you will note that some articles of the newsletter are now available in English. In addition, as the website is fully translated in English and some articles of the newsletter are published on the site also, this might influence the size and content of this summary. So as you will see further, you might find references to the website without a summary of the article.

Your comments are always welcome and particularly your English articles for the newsletter

Le bulletin en bref / Summary of the newsletter (p. 3)

André announces that the coming year will be full of interesting projects!

- ◆ The preparations for the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Association;
- ◆ The visit of *Bretons* from the birthplace of our first ancestor;
- ◆ The installation of a new plaque at the ancestral house.

But before all this, he reminds us to read the article on our 2019 annual Reunion in Longueuil. It included many young Saindons, games, crepes and the music and dances of Brittany. A great success thanks to the efforts of Nathalie and Claude Saindon, with the assistance of Lea Vachon and the large participation of the family of Maurice and Pauline, the parents of Nathalie.

While travelling on vacation to Gaspé, André stopped in on Claude who was kind enough to give them an interview in spite of the heavy workload at his garage that has now been in business for sixty years. You will learn more in the article in "Saindons - From Yesterday to Today".

We mourn the passing of Jean-Louis Saindon, one

of the participants in the unveiling in Bains last year and express our sympathy to a family fully engaged in our Association.

We also regret the loss of Jean-Yves Saindon, a member of another family always committed to our activities.

You will notice a few changes in our Board of Directors: congratulations to Nathalie who is now President and Rémi who has joined us as Secretary; Lea Vachon remains Vice-President, Claude, Treasurer and André, Administrator.

You will note that we also pick up our news from Facebook, where we learned of the 95th Birthday of Marie-Claire Demers... Congratulations.

Maybe one day our Bulletin will suffer the same fate as the printed press; and, although for the time being, it is doing well we would like, however, to have more articles from our members for the "Saindons - Yesterday to Today" column! To better know and bring Saindons together is the principal aim of our Association and the Bulletin! Therefore we are counting on you.

Le mot du conseil d'administration/From the Board of Directors (p. 4)

This article by Rémi is provided in English in the Bulletin.

Retrouvailles 2019/ Annual Reunion 2019 Longueuil (p.5)

This article provides a coverage of our recent annual Reunion in Longueuil under the title: 'The Youth were There'. The programme was quite a feat for the organizers, particularly the afternoon activities animated by the Randolph group. Children, parents and grandparents all enjoyed themselves in the interesting, engaging

and unique games that were presented.

There were more than fifty participants, almost all taking advantage of the “early registration” discount that we offered for the first time this year. Because of this, by the end of June, the organizers had a very good idea of the number of participants...a practise that we intend to repeat next year. A large number of the participants this year were from the family of Maurice and Pauline Saindon.

Friday evening, members registered and were welcomed with traditional Wine and Cheese. We were pleased to see again Therese Saindon accompanied by her husband Hermel Levesque and her sisters Anne-Marie, from Connecticut, and Florence who rarely miss our reunions.

On Saturday, we began with an update on the unveiling, last year, of our commemorative plaque at Bains-sur-Oust, which was made possible by the donations of almost \$4000 by our members and the participation of 17 who travelled to Brittany for the event. A twenty minute video of the visit was presented and our congratulations and gratitude were extended to André Saindon who coordinated this entire project. The final budget for the project showed a \$975 surplus.

It was announced that a group from Bains-sur-Oust are planning to visit in August, 2020 on the occasion of our 25th anniversary. A two day programme for the anniversary and the visitors participation was presented and a \$3000 budget was approved for special events associated with this anniversary.

The evening began with a unique quiz on Saindons and our Association, put together by Guillaume Thibodeau and Nathalie Saindon. This entertaining challenge brought out a number of unexpected answers! In continuing on our theme of “Bringing a bit of Brittany to Quebec”, our dinner was obviously *crepes* prepared and offered on site by chef of the OBRETON restaurant. We, of course, added our own maple syrup from the Saindon maple farm in Isle-Verte and obviously accompanied the meal with cider. Again, this year, Jean-Maurice led us all in singing of the “*Chanson des Saindons*”.

Next came an evening of song and dance from Brittany brought to us by the group “*Les Sif-fleurs de Nuit*”. Everyone joined in especially our younger member whose energy and enthusiasm inspired us all.

Our thanks to the organizers and all who participated.

État des résultats.../Financial Situation (p9)

This page provides the Associations financial situation (for the FY 2018-19) as presented at the Annual General meeting.

2020: 25e anniversaire../25th Anniversary of the Association (p.10)

This article on our plans for next year’s anniversary is provided in English in the Bulletin.

The article also discusses **Our Visitors from Brittany:**

Those who hosted, last year, our members in Bains-sur-Oust with other members of the Genealogical Society of Oust and Vilaine are planning a visit to Quebec in August, 2020 and will be our guests at the 25th Anniversary Grand Reunion.

The unveiling of the new plaque will recall for them the commemorative plaque installed in Bains-sur-Oust. We are endeavouring to offer and reciprocate the warm and friendly welcome that we received from them in 2018.

In addition, our members who visited Bains will be welcoming and visiting their local regions with their hosts from Brittany. This is currently being organized.

Les Saindon d’hier.../Saindons - From Yesterday to Today (p. 12-14)

This article by Louise Camirand is an interview with Claude Saindon, the current owner of the Garage Saindon, located in the heart of Cacouna, which is celebrating 60 years of operation. Claude is well known not only for his mechanical skills but also for his personable and accomodating character.

It was in 1959 that Henri Saindon, Claude's grandfather and his son Marc-Henri took over the FINA service station. At that time, this was a franchise which they rented from the oil company. Nothing could have predicted that Henri would become a garage owner as, at the time, he was a taxi driver and sexton/sacristan! It was a different story for Marc-Henri, Claude's dad, who had worked in a garage since the age of 12, washing cars and lending a hand to make pocket money. He was taken by the work and became a mechanic.

At a young age, Claude began hanging around the garage and laughs when he remembers that he was pumping gas at the age of 7! He reminisces that he was not tall enough to reach the windshields, but just big enough to hold the fuel nozzle in the tank; so his grandfather took care of washing the windshields and checking the oil. It was normal, therefore that he would become a mechanic and he received formal training to be fully qualified.

In 1980, Petrofina sold its Canadian operations and began divesting itself of the service stations. They offered Marc-Henri the possibility of buying the garage; which is what he did. When Marc-Henri suffered an accident at work and lost an eye, Claude offered to buy the business and in 1987 became the owner.

As the years passed, the gas pumps disappeared and the garage grew and specialized in mechanical repairs. Claude is not lacking clients who are numerous and loyal. He speaks of a Mrs Sirois who was his first client 30 years ago and still relies on his services. Today, it is still a family business and his father, Marc-Henri, lends a hand a couple of days a week while his mother, Colette Castonguay, handles the accounting.

That is the story of the garage, but who is Claude. He is the eldest of four children and has been married to Sonia Violette for 28 years. They have two children. Besides the garage, Claude is involved in regional and provincial organizations, he also enjoys playing hockey and soft ball. For many years now, he had spent his spare time restoring older cars. He loves Mustangs and has a 1969 convertible as well as

a 2007 Mustang Saleen. He also possesses a 1969 Mercury Cyclone and 1972 Porche. He has won numerous prizes for his restorations. Claude is passionate about his work and hopes to be able to continue for a long time. Who knows, he smiles and says: "maybe we'll enlarge the garage; a garage is never too big".

Congratulation to three generations of Saindons and a long life to the Garage Saindon.

Deaths

We are sad to announce two passings:

Jean-Louis Saindon (1957-2019) who passed away in Laval on 13 May at the age of 62. He was the son of Maurice Saindon and Pauline Renaud and the brother of Nathalie, the President of our Association. An accountant by profession, he loved latin dance and tennis. He enjoyed travelling and participated in the unveiling activities in Bains-sur-Oust last year. He was unaware, but brain cancer had already taken hold at the time. His sense of humour and love of life will be missed by all who knew him.

Jean-Yves Saindon (1944-2019) who passed away in Montreal at the age of 75. A member of the Association, his family was always committed to all of our activities.

Deadline for the next issue

Nov 1, 2019

Send your texts to :

André Sindon

486, chemin du Clocher

St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Qc J2Y 1A9

Or at : bullsaindon@hotmail.com

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