President’s Message

Hello all you good and faithful members;

It is time, once again, to report to the membership of the activities of the executive board.

As you all know we had an election of the board, conducted by mail in lieu of an election at the biennial meeting.

We had, I believe, a good participation from the members of the organization. The results are as follows:

The present officers were re-elected as follows: David R DuBois for president and Deborah Trujillo for secretary-treasurer; vice-presidents: Marjorie Findley (incumbent), Jason Adams (incumbent), Monte Horton (incumbent), Ann DuBois (new member) and Frances DuBois (new member). Pursuant to the bylaws, all members of the board will serve for a two year term beginning on January 1, 2016.

I would like to thank all those who were successful candidates as well as those who had put their name into consideration for a position on the board. We will certainly retain those names for possible positions on committees or as board members in the future. I have requested that the newsletter editor consider biographical information for all participants in this and future newsletters as space becomes available.

The next item which I would like to discuss is the 50th year anniversary of the founding of the DuBois Family Association [formerly known as DBFA, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the state of New York]. The dates are October 14-16, 2016. We will have more information on the agenda, as well as opportunities for lodging, in the Spring issue of the Newsletter.

Our treasurer, Deborah Trujillo, reports that a number of people have not responded to our membership billing for the ensuing year. Should you know of any information concerning any of our members that would relate to this issue [i.e., no longer are interested in being members, moved from the address in our records, passed away, etc.], please notify Deborah so that the names and addresses of our membership rolls is as timely accurate as is possible.

I hope to see as many of you who will be attending the 50th anniversary as is possible. Your participation is truly important to the success of this activity.

Your cousin,

David R DuBois
The following article is another installment in the series: “The Memory of the Just is Blessed,” which began in the June 2011 issue of the DBFA Newsletter. The following article concerns the maternal ancestors of Cathérine Blanchan, wife of Louis du Bois, the Patentee.

“The Memory of the Just is Blessed”: The Ancestry and Extended Family of Chrétien du Bois, bailli, lieutenant, greffier, et receveur de la Comté de Coupigny, notaire, homme de loi, laboureur et marchand; Resident of Wicres, then of Herlies “The Family Joire -- Supplemental”

by Monte Horton, J.D.
mnthorton@yahoo.com

«Comparut en sa personne Guy Joire filz de feu Jehan bourgeois demeurant en ceste ville d’Armentieres couchant malade neantmoings de bon sens et vyf entendement....» (TAB 2E3/4371-128)

On June 20, 1613, “Guy JOIRE, son of the late Jean, bourgeois, resident of the village of Armentières, lying sick, but of sound mind and keen understanding,” appeared in person before Jacques BARBRY, notary in Armentières, to make his will. Therein, the grandfather of Madeleine JOIRE -- great-grandfather of Catherine BLANCHAN -- expressed the particular “bonne amour et affection quil at et porte” toward his granddaughter, Marguerite BRETON, who was born of his daughter, Marie JOIRE, and her spouse, Michiel BRETON. Guy’s bounty came “en consideration des agreables services qu’icelle Marguerite luy a faict et quil espere encore d’elle à l’advenir,” that is, “in consideration for those good services that the said Marguerite had rendered to him in the past, and for which he hoped to receive from her in the future” until the time of his death. To her, Guy bequeathed various items of personalty, including a diamond ring in a setting of gold; blankets of tapestry and white; linen sheets; a red and green «rabat de saie» (probably a dress collar of silk (rabat de soie));¹ and cash in the amount of 300.² (TAB 2E3/4371-128, lines 11-17).

¹“La rabat est la plus difficile et la plus importante des pièces de l’ajustement ....” (“The rabat was the most difficult and most important of the accouterment”). It was a symbol of distinction or status. (CLASSIQUE 411)

²It should be remembered that at that period, the Joire family notably consisted of clothiers/merchants. See, e.g., TAB 2E3/4377-413 («Pierre JOIRE filz de feu Guy marchand drapier»).

These bequests, especially the rabat de saie and the diamond ring, offer us a tantalizing glimpse into the circumstances of our ancestor in the twilight of his life. The document clearly reveals that Marguerite was living with, and caring for, Guy at the time of its making, and mention of his wife, Marie le GILLON, is conspicuously absent. As a consequence, one might well assume that Marie was deceased; even that the rabat and the ring were items once belonging to her or to one of Guy’s own ancestors. Therefore, in addition to the considerable intrinsic value that might have attached to the items -- especially the diamond ring -- they may have held great sentimental value for both grandfather and granddaughter. The bequest to Marguerite BRETON is the only gift made in the will and the document mentions none of the other descendants.

Guy was still living on January 12, 1615, when Pierre JOIRE, “son of Guy, clothier,” among others, attested to the morality and Catholic orthodoxy of one, Antoine BOSQUILLON. (TAB 2E3/4373-11). Pierre testified that he had often witnessed Bosquillon attending mass and sermons in the parish church of Armentières “as do all those who profess to be good Catholics.”³ Guy was clearly deceased by December 4, 1619, when Pierre, “son of the late Guy,” testified as to some of the financial and personal affairs of Damoselle Madeleine du MORTIER. (TAB 2E3/4377-413).

³From at least 1615, Pierre served as “administrator of the table of the poor” in the village of Armentières (TAB 2E3/4373-11), an office that passed to succeeding generations of Joire. (JOIRE 91). It was a position of considerable distinction, attesting to the “eminence that surrounded the name.” Ibid.

It is sometime stated that Pierre JOIRE died in 1631. (CAESTECKER 120). That date is demonstrably wrong. On October 13, 1643, Philippe MANNET of Erquingem sur la Lys sold a «rente héritière» to “Pierre Joire, son of the late Guy, merchant, resident of Armentières.” This transaction was recorded in 2BXI-27B/656, extracted by Jean-Marie BOURREZ, and published in Groupement Généalogique de la Région du Nord, Collection de Travaux et Etudes Généalogiques (AM 129). On January 21, 1647, Pierre assisted at the second marriage of his
son and namesake, Pierre JOIRE, with Catherine L'HERMITE. (REGISTRES, [M SCAN 56]) She was the widow of Michel de le BOS and the daughter of Jean L'HERMITE and Hélène D'AUCHY. On November 14 of that same year, Pierre served as godfather at the baptism of his grandson, Guy JOIRE, one of twin boys born to Pierre Jr. and Catherine. (REGISTRES, [B SCAN 248]). Godmother was Catherine JOIRE. Thus, Pierre Sr. was clearly alive in the waning days of 1647.

The actual call number of this manuscript was not extracted by Madame Elisabeth PECKEU on her last trip to Lille for me. However, the acte appears to bear the signature of Maximilien le FEBVRE. He was a notaire de Lille from 1630 to 1673, and documents bearing his signature are found in the Archives départementales du Nord under the call numbers 2E3/2789 to 2E3/2808.

In the last installment in this series, it was inadvertently stated that Géry MEURICE had recently communicated the information regarding Joire family research. However, it was Géry and Thérèse, both of whom are now unfortunately deceased, who compiled the book. It was Géry’s brother, Andre MEURICE, who corresponded with me and graciously supplied me with the information extracted by Géry and Thérèse JOIRE. This remarkable individual, Pierre JOIRE Jr., is credited with no less than 20 children, all but one by his second wife. His first wife was Agnes BARBRY, daughter of Jacques BARBRY and Agnes GROUZET, whom he married on April 13, 1643. (REGISTRES, [M SCAN 44]). Agnes BARBRY was buried on September 25, 1646. (REGISTRES, [S SCAN 32]).

It is sometime stated that this marriage occurred on the fourteenth of April. Indeed, that is the date given in the Notes Généalogiques sur la Famille Joire. Thus, there is a contradiction between the date given in that secondary source and the primary source of the Armentières marriage record itself.

The date of death of Pierre Jr. has eluded discovery. However, it occurred later than March 1683, by which time he had attained the age of 63 years. It was at that time that Pierre Jr. greeted New York’s Antoine CRISPELL when the latter appeared in Armentières and appointed Pierre Jr. as his agent in the management/disposal of property there belonging to Pierre’s brother-in-law, Mathieu BLANCHAN. (NEWSLETTER). As the two men exchanged news of the family, they may, or may not, have foreseen that it would likely be the last personal contact between the Joire of America and of the Flandre Gallice before the long centuries began to intervene, blurring the memory and stretching thin the familial bonds.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: Special thanks to W. Scott Fisher of Utah, genealogist and author, descendant of Louis DuBois, for his aid in the production of these articles on the Joire family. SOURCES: (REGISTRES) www.archivesdepartementales.cg59.fr/?id=recherche_etat_civil:

[B SCAN] ARMENTIERES > 5 Mi 039 R 003 (Registres Paroissiaux A.C. Baptemes Annee 1644-1649); [M SCAN] ARMENTIERES > 5 Mi 039 R 006 (Registres Paroissiaux A.C. Mariages Annee 1630-1680; [S SCAN] ARMENTIERES > 5 Mi 039 R 007 (Registres Paroissiaux A.C. Sepultures Annee 1630-1685).

Newsletter Submissions, Anyone?

If anyone has knowledge or information regarding places or events, past or present, involving DuBois descendants that could be of particular interest to members of our association, we invite submissions to DBFA for possible inclusion of pieces in future newsletters. If so, please email all such submissions to: mnthorton@yahoo.com.
At the Risk of Being Lost: Keeping Our History Alive--DuBoisville, Michigan
by Marjorie Findlay

Many of you may have, at some point, traveled to New Paltz, New York, and visited our ten-acre National Historic Landmark, Historic Huguenot Street. If you ventured into Deyo Hall, you might have noticed an interesting map on the wall displaying a place in Michigan named “DuBoisville.”

As taken from Redford Township: Its Heritage and Its History, by Fred W. DesAutels, the Redford Township village of DuBoisville was built up around a lumber mill on the Rouge River. Zachariah DuBois was the first owner of the site
and, in 1850, Isaac DuBois built a water wheel to run two mills at the site, one for lumber and the other for grain. Isaac’s mills were next to properties owned by Derrick DuBois and Stephen DuBois.

Author Desautels writes that, “The DuBois’s were French Huguenots who had fled to Holland and came to America with the Dutch.” Many of the families in DuBoisville had traveled west to Michigan from Ulster County, New York. Some of the other prominent names in DuBoisville were Burgess, Burns, DeNio, Hardenburgh, Houghton, Sturman, Willmarth, Wood, and Ziegler.

The village of DuBoisville began its decline in 1890 and the DuBois Lumber Mill closed in 1916. The site later became Edgewater Park, Detroit’s last amusement park, which closed in 1984. The DuBoisville name began to fade from history when it, as well as nearby Sandhill, became part of the village of Redford. It was eventually annexed by Detroit in 1926. One building, the old DuBoisville School, was a public elementary school that kept the DuBoisville name alive until the 1980’s.

Today, there are three cemeteries in the area near the former DuBoisville: Grand Lawn, Redford, and Mount Hazel. Near the entrance of Redford Cemetery on Telegraph Road, several impressive obelisks bearing the DuBois name can be seen in a terraced area.

Back in New Paltz, Deyo Hall prominently displays a keepsake from DuBoisville, Michigan. It is a beautiful “Friendship Quilt,” donated by Evelyn DuBois Gueho. The quilt has 44 DuBoisville, Michigan signatures inscribed in ink on it. It is believed to have been made around 1861 as a farewell remembrance for Charles DuBois (1826-1896) and his wife and first cousin, Mary H. DuBois (1832-1891) when they moved from their DuBoisville home to Ithaca, Michigan.

Be sure and make a point of seeing the DuBoisville map and Friendship Quilt in Deyo Hall when you attend our DuBois Family Association 2016 Reunion.

Photo below is of the **DuBois Family plot in Redford Cemetery** (formerly DuBoisville, Michigan).
DuBois Family Association
2901 Big Green Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89134
Return Service Requested