

Chapter 3

FAMILLES / FAMILIES

ADKINS, Calvin & Vivianne (Huot)

Calvin, fils de Ronald et Donna Adkins, et Vivianne, fille de Claude Huot et Irène Lambe, habitent à Legal depuis 1983, la même année qu'ils se sont mariés. Legal fut leur premier choix, dû à la location centrale pour l'emploi de Calvin (plombier) et l'environnement amical pour élever leurs enfants. Cette région (Legal et Vimy) est aussi la terre des ancêtres de Vivianne (Huot, Tieulié, Labbé, Caouette). Renée, l'aînée a maintenant huit ans (10 décembre 1983) et Tessa a cinq ans (1 janvier 1987).



Calvin, Vivianne, Tessa & Renée Adkins, 1992

Calvin & Vivianne live in Legal since 1983, the year they were married. They think Legal is the best place to raise their two daughters: Renée et Tessa.

ANDERSON, Marie

I used to live in Legal, in the house you have in front of your brochure. My grandmother St. Germain married Mr. Bouchard and went to live in Legal. It had been Mr. Bouchard's home for a long time. He raised a good size family there with his first wife. One of his sons became a priest and was a priest in Legal when she married Mr. Bouchard. Later he deceased, so my grandmother sent for my mother, Albertine Anctil, living in Drumheller at that time. My grandmother had bad knees and had to push a chair in front of her to get around.

My mother was her youngest daughter of a family of 12 children. She was the only one in Canada, the others were all in the States, so my mother sold everything and we moved to Legal to be with grandmother. I made my First Communion at 6 years old in Legal and later my Confirmation. I also went to school and learned French. I was able to learn it easily, probably because I was young. I made many good friends; I used to visit with Maria, Lauranna, Gabrielle and Blanche Regimbald on their farm. Their mother was so nice; she gave us all a little job to do, which I liked because I liked to be with other children. We didn't have radios and TVs in those days, so we made our own fun. The people played cards at night, in each other's homes. My mother was very talented in music. She could play the piano and organ, mouth organ, accordion, banjo and violin all by ear, so we often had music in our home. I would sing and dance also, which I kept up after I left Legal and still do.

At Christmas, we went to midnight mass and

Joe Prefontaine sang "Ave Maria" by Gounod, one of my favorite songs. Afterwards, we visited with neighbors. Sometimes, we went with sleds all bundled up in fur robes to keep warm to visit friends. The horses had jingle bells on and we would sing songs along the way. There were not many presents in those times. If we were lucky, we got mitts or a scarf, something that was home made. Things were not so good for jobs or money. My mother did some housework for 25¢ a day and some people offered to work for room and board.

Don Messer came from Nova Scotia with some of his musicians. No one had money, so they paid with canned goods to get in the dance. My mother exchanged board and room with Don Messer for music lessons. My grandmother had a big barn and the farm children put their horses in her barn while they attended school. They paid her with butter, eggs or chickens. My mother kept boarders at 15¢ a meal. Some of them paid the same way, with butter, eggs, chickens and wood they got from the farmers for their work. One of them was a Hungarian, a beautiful singer, a strong man and he loved my mother's pancakes. He would eat about seven and wait till the others finished, then he would eat all the leftovers, sometimes 14 or 15 pancakes the size of a big plate. This was not much of a profit at 15¢ a meal.

My grandmother died at 87, so my mother sold the house. She had an auction sale for the household goods and got 10 to 15¢ for everything, not much out of that. Because times were so bad, we moved back to Drumheller to be with my brother, Alphonse Anctil, who worked in the mines. I still found some of my friends when I returned to Legal. I still have relatives in Edmonton and St. Albert, both on my father's and my mother's side.

Mme St-Germain, la grand-mère de Marie Anderson, habitait à Legal quand elle épousa un M. Bouchard en secondes noces. Après le décès de ce dernier, elle fit venir sa fille Albertine Anctil (la plus jeune de 12 enfants et mère de Marie) et qui habitait à Drumheller. Marie a appris le français à Legal et elle s'est fait de bonnes amies qu'elle aimait aller visiter. Sa mère avait un talent musical et Marie garde un bon souvenir du plaisir qu'elles ont eu à faire des veillées de chant. Sa mère a aussi gardé des chambreurs dont le plus célèbre fut sans doute le grand musicien de la Nouvelle Ecosse, Don Messer.

(Traduction: Marie Anderson)

ANDREYCHUK, Anne (Eugene Parranto, Henry Kangas)

by Anne B. Kangas

I was born August 28/1921, in Wien (Fedora) and now Legal). I went to school in Waugh and graduated in 1934. I had to walk 4½ miles one way each day. It was rewarding. The teachers were very good and I enjoyed every day at that school. I went to St-Carmel's Polish Roman Catholic Church in Waugh with my parents, my brother and sister. I sang in the choir and enjoyed all my youth while growing up with nice church picnics, sports and Sunday masses which were very good for families.

I got married in the Legal R.C. Church in 1940, to Eugene A. Parranto. We lived on the farm for 7 years just 12 miles from Legal. I had 2 sons, Joe and Eugene Jr. We moved to Edmonton and I lived there until 1966. Both my sons married and had 2 children each. Joe's children are girls, Alissa and Ember. Eugene had one daughter (Michele) and a son (Ricky). Joe's eldest daughter got married and had a daughter, so I am a great-grandmother now.

I remarried in July 1966 to Henry Kangas and have lived in B.C. since my husband's job with C.P.



Anne Kangas (1990), standing by her grandmother's grave

Rail brought us to Salmon Arm. I worked for the Department of Veterans' Affairs at Government House from 1950 to 1966.

My brother, John Andreychuk lives in Calgary with his wife. My sister, Rosie, died in August 1988 in Eston, Sask. My baby sister (Marissa) is buried in St-Carmel's cemetery in Waugh. Both my grandparents, Frank Andreychuk Sr. and grandma, Mary, are buried there too. My grandfather homesteaded in Fedorah and so did my father, Frank Jr, in 1916. My parents farmed there till 1964 when they retired and moved to Edmonton. They lived there until they both died; my mother in 1971 and my father in 1977. My mother's mother, Martha Romaniuk, is buried in the Waugh Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery.

I look back at my life in Fedorah, Waugh and Legal as I go and visit the churches once in a while. I do thank God for fond memories of those places. I am grateful to be enjoying old age with pride.

ANDREYCHUK, Frank & Maria (Romaniuk)

by John Andreychuk

My grandparents came from Austria (Poland) in 1903, with 3 boys: Mike, Steve, and my father Frank. They homesteaded in Round Hill (Kopernik), Alberta and had 3 girls, Sophie, Anne and Catherine. Anne died of the flu in 1907. In 1908, they moved to Edmonton where my grandfather, father and uncle Steve got jobs; my uncle Mike had reached Edmonton one month earlier. In 1912, my grandfather obtained a homestead in Wien (Fedorah). In 1914, my father got his homestead 1½ miles from there. They built houses from logs and clay. My uncle Steve went into the army and overseas in 1914, for 4 years.

My father and mother were married in 1916. They had 4 children: Rose, Anne, Marysia and me, John. Marysia died of the flu in 1918. My grandparents died in 1932 and 1939. My father helped build the 1st Polish Church in 1925-28. He sang in the choir for over 25 years. He also helped build the 2nd church. My mother's father, John Romaniuk, helped to build the small St. Mary's Church in Waugh. My father helped build the newer one. My sisters and I attended the school in Waugh. They later married and farmed in the area. We enjoyed many picnics and ball games near the 2 churches, as we attended mass in St. Mary's Ukrainian Church also. After mass we'd go to the General Store run by Harry Cheladyn and exchange eggs or whatever we had for groceries, coal, oil, etc. He had a truck that he used to pick



Mr. & Mrs. Frank Jr. Andreychuk with John, Maria, Anne, Frank Sr. & Rose, 1925

up cattle and hogs and take them to the plant in Edmonton. He used to like hunting ducks near my father's farm; he would ask my father when the ducks were ready for hunting. We also paid our taxes at the store as the municipality office was there.

In the 1930s, there used to be a sawmill in Waugh and my father took logs to be cut into lumber. We did a lot of shopping in Legal and bought a lot of our farm implements there. We had lots of work done by blacksmiths on machinery. Dad would take eggs and clothing as times were hard. He sold vegetables and berries to the people in Legal. They used to call him the *Vegetable Man*. He used to sell firewood and fence posts. At the school fall fair, my dad and older sister used to win first prize for cabbage, potatoes and carrots. On Christmas, when we couldn't get a Polish priest in Waugh, we'd go to midnight mass to Legal with horse and sleigh. Those were happy times; we'd sing carols all the way.

I lived on the farm until I went into the army in 1942. My uncle Steve went in 1940 but not overseas. I got married in 1943 and moved to Calgary, but came back every year to help put the crops in until they sold the farms in 1958 and moved to Edmonton. My parents died in 1971 and 1976.

ANDRUSIW, Emile & Olga (Pedgerachny)

by Olga Andrusiw

Emile Andrusiw, the youngest son of Mary and Frank Andrusiw, was born October 14/17 and was raised on the family farm which is located 1½ miles west of Waugh. He attended the Redwater

River School. As the practice in those days, while still attending school, he helped with the farm chores. Like any young boy, he liked to catch gophers in the spring, ice skate in the winter and tease girls year round. Even at the age of 74, Emile still teases all his daughters and nieces. After completing school, he helped his father on the farm. Emile enjoyed working with the horses and tractor and doing the farm chores. His love for animals and the farm made him want to continue in his father's footsteps. In the spring of 1947, his parents purchased a home in Edmonton and moved with their daughter Lucy, who at the time was taking care of Emile's mother. On November 18/1947 they made an auction sale and J.E. LeClair & Son was the auctioneer. Emile was now on his own, renting the land from his dad till 1953, and continued grain farming. In 1949, he purchased his first tractor on rubber tires for \$2,800, an Oliver 88.

On April 29/1954, we (Emile and Olga) were married. I was a daughter of Mike and Helen Pedgerachny and was born December 12/1931. I grew up on the family farm in the Waugh community and attended Redwater River School and high school at Half Moon Lake School. I enjoyed playing softball and held the position of pitcher. Being raised on the farm, I was able to be of assistance to my husband with many farm chores, such as milking cows, driving the tractor and hauling grain from the combine. Being that Emile was always busy outside, the farm records had to be attended to; this was another area of the farming operation where I could be of assistance. I had my driver's license and this was a definite asset to take the children to school events. I always tried to support them with their homework and education. I always wanted to ensure that they received their grade 12 education. Shortly after we were married, Emile and I decided to purchase the land from his parents and start a mixed farming operation, raising grain, livestock and poultry (turkeys, ducks, geese and different breeds of chickens).

In early 1955, the telephone was installed and in the spring of 1957, electricity was brought on to the yard for \$900. The house and buildings were all wired and the time that this saved was tremendous. I didn't have to turn the cream separator by hand, the house was brightly lit and Emile no longer had to pump water for the animals by hand. The next improvement was to install indoor plumbing.

When our son Dennis finished high school, he

decided to keep the farming operation going for the 3rd generation. Both Emile and Dennis farmed together and the mechanical knowledge Dennis provided was a great help to the farm. In 1977, we purchased a 1070 Case tractor for \$23,000 and in 1980 we bought a 5542 White combine for \$33,000. Our farming operation was growing; more land was cleared of bush and seeded into grain and hay and we increased our herd of cattle.

In 1983, Dennis purchased the SE-23-58-24-W4, which was crown land bordering the home place. This quarter was heavily treed with poplar and spruce. A sawmill operator was hired to cut the rather large trees into lumber. Dennis then hired a D8 Caterpillar to clear the land. The next step was to loosen the soil with a breaking disk. The land was now ready to seed with grass for pasture. In 1983, Dennis took over the entire farming operation from us and we retired but we still reside at the home place helping Dennis. I continue to do the cooking, cleaning, and still enjoy working in the garden with the flowers. Emile still enjoys working with the tractor in the spring and operating the combine in the fall.

Our family has always appreciated the town of Legal, being only 12 miles away. We have dealt with many businesses in the town, including Legal Motors, the Bank of Nova Scotia, Credit Union, Co-op and many others. We also hauled grain and purchased fertilizers and chemicals from the Legal elevators (Alberta Wheat Pool). Every July, we participated in the enjoyment of the Fête au Village and Legal Parade. Emile and I always took great interest in the church. Emile, a member of the church board, enjoys serving the priest during mass and for many years he was responsible for preparing the church for mass (furnace, etc.). Keeping up the church grounds and cemetery were also tasks Emile participated in. As for myself, I have been involved with the fund raising and social affairs for the church. We always enjoyed community functions, school concerts, parades, weddings, anniversaries, etc.

We had 6 daughters and 2 sons, they all attended the school in Vimy and high school in Westlock. Norman, died at age 13. Linda, married Edward Roffey and they have 2 sons, Jason and Cory. She is in the Faculty of Education and Ed operates his own construction company. They live in the Namao community. Betty was stillborn in 1960. Patricia married Taras Chmil and they are involved in real estate and operate their own limousine business. Pat and Taras reside in Edmonton. Shirley is a Payroll Benefits Co-



25th wedding anniversary, 1979: Patricia, Ed (son-in-law), Emile, Dennis, Linda, Olga, Connie, Shirley & Cindy

ordinator for Capital City Savings & Credit Union and lives in Edmonton. Cindy deceased at age 19 in 1985. Prior to her passing, she enjoyed working with young children and was planning to teach playschool. Connie is an administrative assistant in the real estate field and also lives in Edmonton.

Olga deceased September 25/1992 and is buried at the St. Mary's Ukrainian Cemetery in Waugh.

ANDRUSIW, Frank & Mary (Marchak) by Emile Andrusiw

My father, Frank Andrusiw, was born in 1889, in the village of Hrenkivtsi, county of Husiatyn, Western Ukraine. Employment and especially progress and prosperity appeared extremely dim in the homeland, so in 1907, at the age of 18, he decided to come to Canada. Contrary to the Ukraine, jobs were plentiful in Canada and dad worked at different jobs all over the country before coming to Edmonton. He heard you could receive 160 acres for \$10; it was called a homestead. However, there were certain regulations that had to be complied with before they could receive a clear title to the farm. First, you had to build a house and live on the land for at least 3 months of the year for 3 years (the penalty was that someone might covet your homestead and jump your claim), also you had to clear and break 30 acres.

Dad heard of some of his friends and relatives who came to Canada in 1902 and lived in Waugh, 35 miles north of Edmonton. When he arrived there, they told him there were still homesteads

available. He took NE-23-58-24-W4, 1½ miles west of Waugh. Dad worked the land, clearing it by hand so he could build a house. He met a widow, Mary Romanowski, who had one son, Steve, 3 years old. Mary was a daughter of Pawel and Anna Marchak, originally from Sbaraz, Sinawa county, Austria. In 1902, they came to Canada and settled in Alberta in the school district of Fairy Dell No. 2346. They were the pioneers of Fairy Dell and Waugh.

Dad and Mom were married in 1913. My Mom had a quarter, NE-14-58-24-4. They lived at her place while dad finished building a new house and other buildings on his place. After the new house was finished they moved in and continued farming the 2 quarters, clearing more land, raising livestock and grain. In the early days, work was hard because clearing the land was done by hand and plowing was done with a walking plow. I remember Dad telling me one year, before he bought his seed drill, he seeded 60 acres of wheat by hand with the help of his father-in-law, Pawel Marchak. All field work was done with horses. The land was rich and the crops were good. In 1924, they purchased NE-26-58-24-W4 from Nick Gill, and in 1928, they purchased SW-24-58-24-W4 from Nick Dowhaniuk. Their first tractor on steel wheels and plow was purchased in 1929 from Louis Neilson. I remember the years when the threshing machine came with 6 teams, they threshed wheat for one entire week. Dad's main income was from growing wheat; he hauled the grain to Vimy and Legal elevators. Dad did most of his business in Legal; blacksmith and welding, buying machinery, lumber, fuel, hardware, harnesses, clothing, groceries and household goods. In 1937, Dad and Mom purchased their first new car for \$1,200 from D. Garneau of Legal.

Dad assisted in the building of both the new and old Ukrainian Greek Catholic churches in Waugh, both involved with the church; Dad on the Board of Church Trustees and Mom with the social affairs. Dad was also a trustee of the Redwater River School for a number of years. In 1947, they moved to Edmonton with their daughter Lucy, who at the time was taking care of Mom. They retired and continued their interest in Church.

They had 3 sons and 5 daughters, all attended Redwater River School. I am now farming the home place. Steve Romanowski (step-son) left school early to help on the farm. In November 1933, married Catherine Zadunayski and they farmed in the Waugh area until purchasing land



Polly, Eva, Lucy, Anne, Steve, Emile, Mary, Lily & Frank (Joe absent)

in the Excelsior district. They now reside in Edmonton, but are still active in grain farming. They had a family of 1 son and 3 daughters: Wilfred, Alice, Joyce, Mavis (deceased). Joe wrote grade 8 government exams then attended high school and university in Edmonton. His teaching career began in the Smoky Lake area where he met and married Mary Lenko. Their children, Lorraine and Larry, were born while he was teaching at Evansburg and Belmont. They then moved to Vancouver where Joe was teaching high school until his retirement. Shortly after they moved to Burnaby, Mary got a teaching position until retirement. Anne had to leave school at an early age to look after the family when her mother took ill. She attended Ukrainian classes during the summer months at the Waugh Hall. She also enjoyed taking part in mandolin and singing lessons taught by Mr. Myshok. Anne participated in numerous concerts where she met and then married Fred Woywitka on November 12/1937. They had a mixed farming operation in Waugh, including raising Purebred Horned Heifers. They had 3 daughters: Eleanor, Shirley and Beverly. Anne and Fred are both deceased. Lucy attended school and in the summer months, she took Ukrainian as well as mandolin lessons. She participated in many concerts and also sang in the church choir in Waugh. For many years, she was unselfishly devoted to the care of her aging parents until their passing, particularly her mother who had suffered a stroke. Lucy married Mike J. Dowhaniuk of Legal, formerly of Waugh, August 6/1960, and they had one daughter, Susan. Lucy was a fine homemaker who loved to crochet, garden and raise flowers. She deceased December 14/1989, and is buried at St. Micheal's Cemetery in Edmonton.

I, Emile, helped my father farm until 1947 and

on November 18th dad made an auction sale and granted me the homeplace for a small fee to my sister; I was on my own. I rented the remaining land from dad for 6 years and on April 29/1954, I married a neighbor's daughter, Olga Pedgerachny and we decided to purchase the rental land from dad. We had 2 sons and 6 daughters: Norman (deceased), Linda, Dennis, Betty (deceased), Pat, Shirley, Cindy (deceased) and Connie.

Eva received her high school diploma in the Half Moon Lake School. After completing her education, including courses at the Alberta College, she was receptionist and switchboard operator with Melton Real Estate for 18 years, until her retirement in 1965, when she adopted a baby girl, Laurie. Eva attended Ukrainian and mandolin classes. She held deep interest in music. In 1951, married Mickey Krowko (now deceased). In 1979, Eva remarried George Wengreniuk. He was employed with Melton Real Estate as a property manager and then later moved on to work for the Government in the Public Works Department. Eva and George are both retired and are active members of the St. Andrew's Sober in Edmonton and the St. Peter and St. Paul churches in Onoway. Daughter Paulina (Polly) attended U. of A. obtaining her teaching certification and taught for a number of years. She married Brian Spiers, an advertising consultant and they reside in Edmonton. Lily (Lillian) received her post-secondary education at Half Moon Lake School and later attended Alberta College in Edmonton and was employed by the Edmonton General Hospital as Medical Records Librarian prior to her marriage to Frank Ercese, Radio Officer in the R.C.A.F. with the rank of Flying Officer and also a member of the 418 Reserve Squadron. He was later employed by Edmonton Motors for 4½ years and by General Motors of Canada, as office manager for 38½ years before his retirement. They have 2 daughters: Sandra and Brenda.

Mom passed away January 3/1955 and Dad, November 7/1961. They are both buried at St. Joachim Cemetery in Edmonton.

AQUIN, Armidas & Delphine (Rochon) by Antoinette Aquin

Armidas and Delphine (Rochon) Aquin were originally from Vaudreuil, Québec and Curran, Ontario. After their marriage in 1883, they moved to Turton, South Dakota. Four of their children were born during their stay in the United States. In 1900, an important and final decision was made to return to Canada and this time, the West was

chosen instead of the East. So it was to the North-West Territories that they came. After spending some time in Morinville, where several families had already immigrated from South Dakota, the entire family moved to St. Albert for a short stay. For a second time, they moved to Morinville where two sons were born: Adila (1901) and Victor (1904). In 1905, Armidas decided to claim a homestead, one mile north of the present hamlet of Vimy (NW-2-59-25-W4), Ottawa file number 1920266. Several improvements had to be completed before it was all finalized. Trees had to be cut for logs and land cleared in order to build. The entire family (minus one daughter, Angelina) settled in their new home as soon as it was completed. The final papers were drawn October 13, 1909, but the family had resided there since March 17, 1908.



Armidas and Delphine's wedding, 1883

The children's names were: Angelina (Walter Parent), Maria (Edward Parent), Julia (Joseph Primeau), Alphonse (Mary Morasse), Louise (John Lagassé), Clara (Leger Huot), Adila (Valeda Tailleur) and Victor (bachelor).



The Aquin family on their new homestead in 1907

The oldest son, Alphonse, when of age, also claimed a homestead west of Vimy (NE-30-58-25-W4). After working on the Edmonton-Athabasca railroad with Jack Gibbon, Alphonse served in England as a member of the Armed Forces. He returned to Canada in 1918 and in 1922, married Mary Morasse. They had three children:



Alphonse and Mary Aquin's wedding, 1922

Antoinette, Roger, Alcide. Antoinette left Vimy after grade 12, attended the University of Alberta and after 35 years in the teaching profession, retired in 1979. She resides in Edmonton. Roger married Lorraine Rouleau from Pincher Creek, in 1956. Lorraine retired from the Royal Alexandra Hospital as a Registered Nurse in 1991 and they reside on the homestead claimed years before by Roger's father, Alphonse. Alcide deceased as a baby in 1927 and his mother followed him eight months later.

The paternal home of Vimy's first family was always ready to help those in need. Many times during the depression years, men riding the freight train would jump off when approaching the farm and ask for bread and water. No one was ever refused. The log shack was a warm and friendly place where married children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren gathered for weddings, New Year's Day and other special occasions. There was always plenty of music, lots of dancing, "beaucoup de chansons à répondre" and always plenty of food to please everyone.



Roger and Lorraine Aquin's wedding, 1956

Armidas was also instrumental in the building of the first church in Vimy and in selecting an appropriate place for the present cemetery where he, Delphine, and six of their children are buried.

Armidas Aquin et sa femme Delphine Rochon

ont quitté le Dakota du Sud pour venir s'établir dans l'Ouest du Canada, en 1900.

Ils ont demeuré à Morinville et à St-Albert pendant que les démarches se faisaient pour un homestead. L'emplacement approuvé était près de l'endroit où se trouve maintenant le hameau de Vimy. Après deux ans de labeur à abattre les arbres, à défricher le terrain et à bâtir un "shack" en rondins, la famille a déménagé en 1907.

*Plus tard, le fils aîné, Alphonse, a pris un homestead, où son fils Roger demeure aujourd'hui.
(Traduction par la famille)*

AUGER, Germain & Cécile (Demers)

Je suis né sur la ferme de mes parents, Ovide et Palmyre (Carrière) Auger le 11 mai 1923. A sept ans, j'ai commencé l'école à Diligence et ma première institutrice fut Mlle. Florida Vaugeois de Legal qui m'a enseigné jusqu'à la 4e année. Comme l'école était divisée en deux classes, j'ai fini ma 9e année au même endroit; ensuite j'ai poursuivi pendant quatre ans au Couvent Sacré Coeur de Legal. Après mes classes et les fins de semaines je travaillais pour M. et Mme. Jos Préfontaine dans leur magasin général. C'était un vrai plaisir et une très bonne expérience que de travailler pour eux. Après ma graduation, j'ai retourné travailler avec mon père sur la ferme. On ne manquait jamais d'ouvrage!

Quelques années plus tard, je commençai à penser à fonder un foyer. Je jetai un moyen coup d'oeil sur la fille de notre voisin qui vivait à un mille au sud de chez nous, une très jolie jeune fille



Mariage de Germain et Cécile Auger, 1948

que j'ai courtisé pendant deux ans et demi. Le 9 novembre 1948, j'ai épousé Cécile, fille de William et Alexina (Laforce) Demers. Ce fut le plus beau jour de ma vie, quoique j'en ai eu beaucoup d'autres encore. Nous avons acheté la ferme en face de la terre de mes parents à 4 miles à l'est et 3 miles au nord de Legal. Nous y sommes restés pendant 42 ans et nous avons élevé une famille de 5 filles et 4 garçons. Cécile a fait plus que sa grande part pendant ces nombreuses années. En plus, j'avais acheté la demi-section de mon père, dans le district de Thorhild, et en mon absence, c'est elle qui gérait la besogne avec les enfants pendant les semences et les récoltes, ou quand je travaillais en dehors du domaine pour financer les dépenses inattendues causées par la grêle et la sécheresse.

Ce ne fut pas toujours des jours de tristesse avec une famille musicale de 9 enfants. Nous avons eu de très belles veillées, comme dans le bon vieux temps, c'est à dire du plaisir inoubliable avec parents et amis. C'est dommage qu'on vieillisse et qu'on soit obligé de ralentir; mais ne nous plaignons pas trop parce que le Très Haut a été très généreux pour nous dans bien des circonstances. Il faut ajouter aussi que la foi ne donne pas sa place; sans elle, la vie pourrait être plus insupportable.



Germain & Cécile's 40th wedding anniversary, 1988: Jocelyn, Claude, Gerald, Laurier, Constance, Cécile, Angeline, Dolores, Rogelle, Germain, Monique

Comme héritage et témoignage de nos richesses familiales, permettez-moi de vous présenter nos enfants: Rogelle Pelletier, secrétaire, Edmonton. Dolores Brisson, transcripteur médicale, Edmonton. Gérald, boucher, Morinville. Jocelyn, soudeur et électricien, St-Albert. Claude,

contremaître de pipeline, Slave Lake. Angéline Mercier, comptable, St-Albert. Constance Montpetit, secrétaire d'impôts, Red Deer. Laurier, mécanicien-auto, Edmonton. Monique McConnell, technicienne de registres médicaux, Port Coquitlam, C.B. Actuellement, nous sommes retirés au village depuis le mois de septembre 1990. C'est une grosse transition pour un couple qui a passé sa vie sur la ferme.

I was born on the farm of Ovide and Palmyre Auger on May 11/1923. I attended school at Diligence and Sacred Heart Convent in Legal. After my schooling, I went back on the farm to help my dad. After a few years I was longing to farm on my own but with a lovely partner; not alone. On November 9/1948, I married Cécile Demers, daughter of William and Alexina (Laforce). We purchased the Osias St. Jean farm, across the road from my dad's. We farmed there for 42 years and raised a family of five girls and four boys. The family in now dispersed in all directions and Cécile and I are due to live happily ever after in the town of Legal. We are also blessed with 19 grandchildren.

(Translated by family)

AUGER, Ovide & Palmyre (Carrière)

Ovide Auger (19 août 1885-10 septembre 1986), fils de Stanislas et Arthémise (Saint-Vincent) Auger de New Glasgow, PQ, petit village entre Ste-Sophie et St-Lin, s'est dirigé vers l'Ouest canadien pour la première fois vers 1908. Il était venu voir les régions de la Saskatchewan et de l'Alberta. Il a trouvé ça tellement de son goût qu'il est revenu s'installer dans le district de Diligence, quelques milles à l'est du village. A son arrivée, il loua le terrain, mais avec l'intention de se procurer une ferme plus tard. C'est précisément ce qu'il a fait; il acheta une terre à 4 milles à l'est et 3 milles au nord du village de Legal. Elle est encore la possession de la famille.



Mariage d'Ovide et Palmyre Auger, 1916

Le 30 novembre 1916, il épousa Palmyre Carrière, fille de Arthur et Léa (Foucault) Carrière. Elle était venue dans l'Ouest avec ses parents, ses frères et ses soeurs vers 1905. Leur union conjugale produisit 5 enfants: Réal, Yvette, Ivanoh, Germain, et Gracienne. Comme toute autre famille, ils ont eu leurs tribulations. Le matin du 11 mai 1924, un incendie détruisit avec la grosse étable, les chevaux de traits, les cochons, la volaille, quelques vaches, le bois de construction, le grain de semence, enfin tout, excepté le "shack" situé sur un coteau plus éloigné des bâtiments. En 1932, ils eurent le malheur de perdre leurs fils Ivanoh. Une appendicite aiguë l'emporta à l'âge de 10 ans. En 1934, Ovide s'est fait couper un bras dans une moissonneuse-lieuse. Palmyre, bonne épouse, supporta avec beaucoup de courage tous ces malheurs répétés.



Yvette, Gracienne, Germain & Réal au violon, 1934

Chaque membre de la famille a commencé l'école à Diligence, avec une heure de français par jour pour ceux qui le désiraient. L'instruction du catéchisme était aussi une partie très importante dans l'éducation et la formation morale du caractère de chaque étudiant. A cela s'ajoutait la discipline rigoureuse de l'époque, et voilà! Après ses études au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton, Réal demeura cultivateur pendant quelques années mais peu après, il se dirigea en commerce à la Co-opérative de Legal et en devint gérant. Il épousa Thérèse Labby, fille de George et Adelaïde (Lemire) Labby, le 22 janvier 1952. Ils sont présentement retirés dans le village après de nombreuses années de travail ensemble dans le magasin. Ils s'adonnent chacun à leurs passe-temps préférés; Réal dans son

"Repair Shop & Sharpening" et Thérèse dans la couture et les fleurs.

Ils ont eu 3 jolies filles: Sylvia, Henriette, Doris. Yvette, couturière de mode, devint Mme John Folk le 18 avril 1949 et demeure à San Jose, Californie. Gracienne a épousé Maurice Houle le 6 septembre 1954 et demeure à Edmonton. Germain habite toujours à Legal.

Ovide Auger, son of Stanislas and Arthémise (St. Vincent) Auger, was born in the small town of New Glasgow (PQ). He ventured west to set his roots in the Diligence district in 1910. He bought a farm 4 miles east and 3 miles north of Legal, which is still owned by the family. He married Palmyre Carrière, daughter of Arthur and Léa (Foucault) Carrière on November 16/1916. They were blessed with a family of three boys (Réal, Ivanoh, Germain) and two girls (Yvette, Gracienne). Through the years the family suffered three very unhappy events: a barnyard fire in 1924, the loss of son Ivanoh in 1932, and a power binder accident in 1934. All the family attended school at Diligence 3 miles away. Réal and Germain still live in Legal; Yvette lives in San Jose, California, and Gracienne lives in Edmonton.

(Translated by family)

BACHAND, Alphonse & Blanche (Demers)

Alphonse was born to Louis Bachand and Julie Garneau, in Ironwood, Michigan, March 2/1890. He was the second oldest in a family of eight. They left the United States to come to Legal in 1899. They lived on a farm in Legal where Alphonse helped with the work. He met Blanche Demers who was born to Gedeon Demers and Eugenie Garneau. Her family left the States in 1898 and resided in Nelson, B.C., for 5 years before moving to Legal. Blanche was the third child in a family of four. Alphonse and Blanche were married January 18/1916. Alphonse bought a sawmill to saw lumber around Legal in winter. He also procured a threshing machine to combine with his steam engine, and in the fall he would go from place to place with a crew to thresh the farmers' grain.

After some years, work began to get scarce, so Alphonse and Blanche and family moved to Jousard in 1932. Three trucks helped with the move which took three days. They slept overnight at Athabasca. Ernest Bachand (brother) and Oscar Caron helped to move. Adelard Desrosiers moved with them to Jousard. For the first 8 or 10 months they stayed with Emile Leduc. In the spring,

Alphonse built a log house with the help of Joseph Hamelin and Emile Leduc. Blanche, with the help of their sons, William, Robert and Eugene, cleared the land where they built the house. Alphonse wanted the sawmill to get going because so many were waiting to get their logs turned into lumber; he also had a shingles machine. In 1914, Alphonse sold his sawmill and kept the steam engine for a while longer until Mr. Cook from High Prairie bought it. It is believed that it is still there. Alphonse decided to open a blacksmith shop, which kept him very busy for a few years until he retired. Blanche was a great gardener; her gardens were always the best and she did a lot of canning from it and from the wild berries which were in abundance. They always had a cow, chickens and a couple of pigs for their meat. As Blanche was a very good seamstress, she did a lot of sewing for the daughters and herself; one of her artistic gift was making quilts and braided rugs. They moved to Winterburn in the fall of 1955. Alphonse deceased in 1963.

Of their 8 children, Alma died at birth, William was born April 27/1918 and deceased November 28/1976; he married Yvonne Garneau; children: Claudette, Leonard, Raymond, Donald, Gerald, Norman, Terry, Claude. Robert (born October 6/1919) married Solange Mailhot; children: Richard, Suzanne, André, Corrinne. Eugene (born September 5/1921) married Dolorèse Bédard; children: Alfred, Denis, Anita, Kenneth; they raised two other children: Colleen and Frederick. Edmond (born November 12/1923) married Irène Demers; four children: Adrien, Marie, Rita, David. Aline (April 23/1926) married Robert Lee; children: Diane, Patricia, James,



Alphonse & Blanche Bachand

Donald. Yvette (June 5/1929) married Jesse Wood (deceased August 1/1950); they had one son, Thomas. Yvette remarried Len Brausen and had three children: Catherine, Caroline, Leona. Yvonne (August 4/1939) married Rosaire Charrois; children: Réal, Larry, Gérald, Debbie; they now reside in Surrey, B.C. Three of Alphonse and Blanche's children died in the 1980s: Eugene, Aline, Edmond.

Les familles Bachand et Demers sont originaires des Etats-Unis et elles sont arrivées à Legal en 1898 et 1899. Alphonse et Blanche se sont mariés à Legal en 1916. Ils sont allés vivre à Jousard en 1932, et à Winterburn en 1955. Ils ont eu 8 enfants. Alphonse a travaillé une bonne partie de sa vie dans les moulins à scie et dans le camionnage. Blanche est reconnue pour ses talents de jardinière et d'excellente couturière.

BACHAND, Arthur & Elizabeth (Caza)

by Louise Casavant Froment

Arthur Bachand was born March 8/1897, in Ironwood, Michigan, U.S.A. He was the 6th child of eight. He came to Legal in 1899 with his parents, Louis and Julie, his brothers: Joseph, Alphonse, Victor (William) and two sisters: Rose (Mary Angela), Ida (Marie Exilda). Another sister was born in Legal, Alma, and a brother, Ernest. They lived on a homestead 3 miles north of Legal. At the age of 5, Arthur's father died of pneumonia and later their home burned to the ground while his mother, Julie, was in Thorhild helping to deliver a baby. They were left homeless. Some of the children were taken in by other families. Arthur went to live with Firmin Morin, in Morinville. He later hauled logs from Thorhild and met his future wife, Elizabeth Caza. Elizabeth was born May 6/1902 in Cloquet, Minnesota, U.S.A. She had 5 brothers and 3 sisters. She came to Thorhild in 1913, with her widowed mother, Justine Leblanc Caza, her brother Arthur and her sister Blanche.

On January 27/1920, Arthur and Elizabeth were married. They bought the poolroom in Legal and operated it for 1½ years. Arthur also worked on the railroad, at the elevators, on farms, etc. In 1928, they built a service-station and confectionery at Legal Corner and moved in with 5 children: Alma (January 25/1921), Louise (July 20/1922), Irène (December 24/1923), Alice (born February 1925, deceased July 1925), Eddie (September 25/1926). Another 4 children were born later: Albert (December 1929, deceased March 1931), Marie (December 18/1932), Rita (February 12/1934), Paul (April 9/1938).



Marie, Alma, Eddie, Louise, Irene Arthur, Rita, Paul, Elizabeth, December 8, 1951

In 1947, highway #2 was widened and as a result, they had to rebuild the business a little further back. In 1948, the service garage was built, and in 1949, Arthur went to Pennsylvania to pick up a school bus. He had a bus route for 9 years. In 1959, he rented the service station to Eddie and Paul, his sons. In 1964, he and Elizabeth sold the business and retired to Morinville to be closer to their children. On January 27/1984, they celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. Arthur deceased February 22/1984, at the age of 86. Elizabeth remained at the Heritage Place in Morinville and enjoyed the many visits of her children. She deceased peacefully on October 19/1991, at the age of 89.



Eddie Bachand, Rita Ricard, Irene Vallée, Marie Dupuis & Paul Bachand, Louise Beaupré, Arthur & Elizabeth Bachand, Alma Casavant

The following is a list of their children and their spouses: Alma (Raoul Casavant), Louise (Roger Beaupré), Irène (Rosaire Vallée), Eddie (Solange Rousseau), Marie (Maurice Dupuis), Rita (Marcel Ricard), Paul (Thérèse DeChamplain). Arthur and Elizabeth left 7 children, 26 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and 6 great-great-grandchildren. We, the descendants, are proud of the courage our grandparents had in coming to a new land. We cherish many fond memories of them.

Arthur est né à Ironwood, Michigan. A 5 ans, il perdait son père et peu de temps après, leur foyer sur le homestead à Legal était détruit par un incendie, pendant que sa mère assistait à un accouchement. Il est allé vivre chez Firmin Morin. Arthur a épousé Elizabeth Caza, originaire aussi des Etats-Unis, en 1920. Arthur a déjà tenu la salle de billard à Legal, il a aussi été dans les stations-services et les autobus scolaires. Ils ont eu cinq enfants.

BACHAND, Eddie & Solange (Rousseau)

Eddie Alfred Bachand, son of Arthur Bachand and Elizabeth Caza, was born September 25/26 in Legal. He was the fifth child of nine. Julie Bachand, his grandmother, delivered him. In winter, he went two miles by dog sled to school and some of his teachers were Sister Lemire, Sister Belley and Léonard. At the age of 15, in the fall of 1941, Eddie joined the threshing crew of Roméo Proulx for 22 consecutive days. The first few days were quite an experience physically. In 1943, when the Americans were in Morinville and Edmonton, Eddie worked for 2 years loading box cars being shipped to Alaska. During this time, he was called by the army and since the war ended shortly after, he was exempted. For the next few years, Eddie trucked for Starkey Coal Mine and at the same time helped build his dad's store and garage at Legal Corner.

On July 6/1950, Eddie married Solange, daughter of Gérard Rousseau and Marie-Laure Bazinet of Morinville. They transported a house from Vimy and moved it north of the garage at Legal Corner. This was to be their home for the next 12 years. Eddie later hauled gravel for Alphonse Champagne, worked in the oil fields in Legal and then Leduc. In 1952, he worked at Egg Lake Coal Mine as a cat-skinner. Again doing cat-work for Emile Laplante, he helped build roads around Camrose. On November 24/1952, their eldest son, Denis, was born.

In the fall of 1956, Eddie took over the Pontiac



Father Emile Tessier officiating at Eddie & Solange Bachand's wedding in St. Jean Baptiste church in Morinville, July 6, 1950

school bus route from his dad. The same year, November 20th, Joanne was born. When Arthur decided to semi-retire in 1959 Eddie and Paul agreed to take over as partner for the next three



Edna, Eddie, Joanne, Solange, Denis & Michel Bachand

years. During these years, Edna was born January 14/1960. Solange remembers Father Primeau checking up on the ladies who helped varathane the inner walls of the parish center before its opening around 1961. In 1962, after buying a mink farm in Morinville with Léo Mercier, the family moved to Morinville. Both families helped operate the ranch for 8 years. Michel was born April 13/1971. Eddie and Solange are presently enjoying their retirement years in Morinville with family and friends.

Eddie est né à Legal et il a commencé à travailler jeune aux battages et pour charger des marchandises pour les Américains. Il a été circonscrit mais il n'est pas allé outre-mer. Après, il a surtout été dans le camionnage. Il a épousé Solange Rousseau en 1950; ils ont eu 4 enfants. Ils ont eu aussi un ranch de visons avec Léo Mercier. Eddie & Solange sont présentement à la retraite à Morinville.

BACHAND, Ernest & Yvette (Leger)

Fils de Louis Pascal Bachand, Ernest est né en 1901. Yvette, seule survivante de la famille immédiate de Louis et Julie Leger, est née en 1911. Leurs enfants sont: Réal (Pauline Rousseau), Léo (Denise Sylvestre - Denise Martin), Guy (Jeannette Landry), Alice (1936-36), Charles (Hildegard Beilman), Richard (Deborah Bush).

Ernest and Yvette farmed Louis' farm after Mrs. Bachand passed away. It was later sold and the couple operated a dairy farm in Legal and later in Morinville. They moved to Edmonton where Ernest worked for the Federal Government until his retirement. Ernest passed away in 1962; Yvette still lives in Edmonton.

BACHAND, Joseph Louis & Alice (Letourneau)

by Roger Bachand & Clara (Bachand) Morin

Joseph Louis Bachand, eldest son of Louis (Pascale) Bachand and Julia Garneau, was born March 27, 1888, in Ironwood, Michigan, U.S.A. Elizabeth Alice Letourneau, third child of Patrice Letourneau and Zenaide Garneau, was born August 18, 1896 in Bessemer, Michigan, U.S.A. It was mentioned that around 1898, the families of Garneau, Letourneau and Bachand arrived in Legal by freight. Their interest in coming north was farming.

Joseph's father, Louis, deceased in Legal March 22/1903, at the age of 53. Joseph had to take over the farm (4 miles north of Legal) at the age of 15 years and take care of the family. Joseph



Alice & Joseph Bachand's wedding, May 6, 1924

married Alice May 6/1924 in Legal. After their marriage they moved to the town of Legal where the following children were born: Roger (March 31/1925), Clara (March 28/1926), Emile (April 19/1928), Georgette (born February 22/1930, deceased August 13/1931).

In 1931, Joseph and Alice moved on a farm in Vimy, where 2 children were born: Albert (born December 29/1931, deceased June 7/1935 in Vimy), George (January 14/1936). Joseph deceased April 9/1936 in Edmonton and was buried in Vimy. Alice then moved back to Legal with her four children. George was only 2½ months old when his father passed away. Roger, Clara and Emile attended school in Legal in 1933. Their after-school chore was to haul coal and wood. Alice had to bake cakes, seed potatoes early and sell them to earn extra money for her family. She had to survive on \$30 a month. The three oldest children left home around 15 years old to help support their Mother.

Alice, along with youngest son George, moved to Falher in 1946 to be close to her children Roger, Clara and Emile. Alice deceased in Falher May 22/1982. She was laid to rest in the Falher cemetery. As of 1992, both Roger and Clara have retired and are now residing in Falher. After selling the farm in 1992, Emile and Cecile moved to High Prairie, where Cecile owns and manages Pat-Ce's, a fabric shop. George resides in Edmonton. For years he has been an employee of Sears at the Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre.

Roger (born March 31/1925) & Priscilla Morin (born December 5/1928) married August 4/1948; children: Bernard (May 27/1949) & Laura Chabot (July 15/1948) married September 22/1968; children: Cindy (October 7/1973) married Troy White August 4/1992; children: Chelsea (November 4), Joey (December 13/1974). Marilyn (May 20/1953) Robert Dumont (July 27/1950) married September 7/1974, children: Monica (November 20/1977), Terrence (August 17/1979), Jennifer (November 17/1981), Lindsay (November 18/1983). Daniel (October 1/1954) & Gabrielle Chouinard (May 7/1956) married May 2/1981. Diane (November 8/1957) & Daniel Chailier (Apr. 18/1954) married October 24/1981, children: Joel (May 13/1982), Chantal (March 10/1984). Norman (October 10/1965).

Clara (March 28/1926) & George Morin (March 26/1918, deceased October 16/1986) married August 4/1948; children: Georgette (September 10/1949) & Gary Murray (December 24/1943) married April 5/1969; children: Richard (December 23/1970), Tracy (May 14/1974).

Emile (April 19/1928) & Cecile Aubin (November 22/1931) married October 29/1952; children: Jo-Ann (September 22/1953) & Fleurie Perron (May 1/1951) married July 6/1974; children: Amy (September 15/1977), Lee-Anne (December 19/1978), Michel (June 28/1955), Gerald (December 24/1957).

Georgette (February 22/1930, deceased August 13/1931).



George Morin, Priscilla, Clara Morin, Roger, Emile, Cécile, George & Yolande

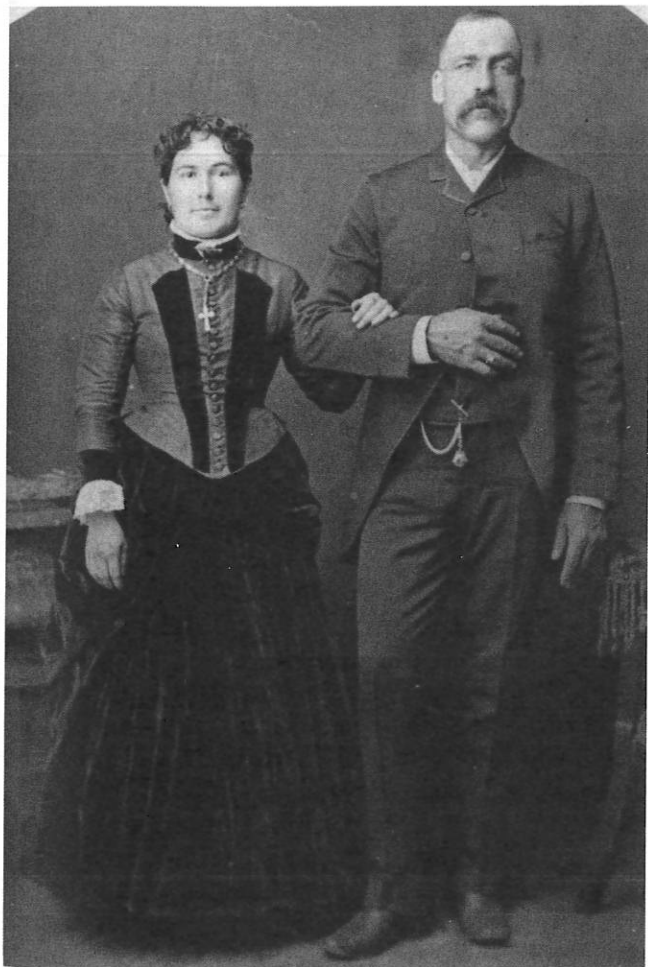
Albert (December 29/1931, deceased June 7/1935).

George (Jan. 14/1936) & Yollande Gosselin (March 14/1943) married July 5/1960, children: Jocelyne (Jan. 10/1961) married October 6/1984. Doreen (August 4/1963) & Roger Couture (February 15/1959) married October 1/1988, children: Loraine (January 5/1967), Marc (September 14/1974).

Joseph Louis & Alice sont tous les deux originaires du Michigan. Joseph a pris charge de la ferme de Legal après la décès de son père, Louis. Joseph et Alice se sont mariés en 1924 et ils ont eu 5 enfants à Legal. Puis ils sont allés vivre à Vimy en 1931, et là, ils ont eu 2 autres enfants. Alice est revenue à Legal après la mort de Joseph en 1936, puis elle s'est rapprochée de ses enfants en allant vivre à Falher en 1946, où elle y est morte en 1982.

BACHAND, Louis & Julie (Garneau)

Louis Pascal Bachand was born in the province of Québec in 1847, and Julie Garneau in 1859. They were married in Ironwood, Michigan, in



Julie & Louis Bachand's wedding, 1887

1887. In 1889, they left the state of Michigan to come and live in Western Canada, with six children: Joseph, Alphonse, Marie Ange (Rose), Exilda (Ida), Victor (Tibé) and Arthur. They arrived in Strathcona (Edmonton) by train, where they were met by relatives. Their journey to Legal took a full day. Alma and Ernest were born in Legal.

Louis was a farmer and freighted between Edmonton and Legal during the late autumn to the early spring. In 1903, he died of pneumonia at the age of 56, leaving a widow and eight children. He is the first to have been buried in the Legal cemetery by a visiting priest who came from Morinville.

Julie was the first mid-wife in the area and travelled as far as Thorhild by horse and buggy. When it became too much for Julie to care for her family, friends and relatives took some of the children into their care and raised them as their own.

The Bachand clan had a reunion on August 4th and 5th, 1990, with over 300 of the 500 attending. Louis and Julie Bachand's children and their spouses: 1) Joseph and Alice Letourneau with children Roger (Priscille Morin), Clara (George Morin), Emile (Cécile Aubin), Georgette, Albert, George (Yolande Gosselin). 2) Alphonse and Blanche Demers, and children William (Yvonne Garneau), Robert (Solange Mailhot), Eugène (Dolores Bédard), Aline (Robert Lee), Edmond (Irène Demers, Yvette (Len Brausen), Yvonne (Rosaire Charrois). 3) Marie Ange and Frank Remillard, and children Blanche (Victor Leclerc), Eva (Joe Bugnet), Laurette (Maurice Bugnet), Aurore (Albert Vandal). 4) Exilda and William Boisvert, and children Olive (Charles Vaudan), Albert (Olive Nadeau), Annette (William Greer), Norman (Annette Pelletier), Marie (Wilfred Doyle), Léo, Raymond (Louise Johnson), Edna (Robert Mercier), Julie (Peter Laurensse). 5) Victor and Cecilia Remillard, and children Delia (Gordon Henderson), Albert (Beryl Snell), Ernest (Tilda Johnson), Arthur (Toni Kral), Léo (Elma). 6) Arthur and Elizabeth Caza, and children Alma (Raoul Casavant), Louise (Roger Beaupré), Irène (Rosaire Vallée), Alice, Eddie (Solange Bachand), Albert, Marie (Maurice Dupuis), Rita (Marcel Ricard), Paul (Thérèse DeChamplain). 7) Alma and Albert Nadeau, and children Olive (Albert Boisvert), Marie (Glenn Morgan), Armand (Roberta Zeles), Frances (Joe St. Laurent), Bernadine (Robert St. Laurent). 8) Ernest and Yvette Léger, and children Réal (Pauline



Julie Bachand with granddaughters Alma, Irene & Louise

Rousseau), Léo (Denise Martin), Guy (Jeannette Landry), Charles (Hilda Beilman), Richard (Deborah Bush).

Louis Bachand et Julie Garneau, tous deux originaires du Québec, se sont mariés en 1889, à Ironwood, au Michigan. Ils sont venus s'établir à Legal en 1889. Louis cultiva une terre et il fit du transport de marchandises. Il est décédé en 1903 et il fut le premier à être enterré dans le cimetière de Legal. Julie fut la première sage-femme dans la région.

BACHAND, Paul & Thérèse (deChamplain)

Paul Raoul Bachand, born April 9/1938, is the youngest child of Arthur Bachand and Elizabeth Caza of Legal corner. He was baptized in Legal by Father Emile Tessier, did his First Communion, Confirmation and schooling in Legal, where he met Thérèse de Champlain. Paul learned to work on motors at his dad's service station at Legal corner and was taught by his brother-in-law, Raoul (Pitou) Casavant. At the age of 15, he went to work in Edmonton at different service stations and stayed at his sister, Irene Vallée's home. He came back to Legal August 12/1958 to marry Thérèse Cecile born January 22/1940 in Legal, the youngest daughter of Isidore de Champlain and Rose-Aimée Provost, also baptized by Father Emile Tessier.

They went to live in Lac-à-la-Tortue (PQ) from 1941-45. They came back to live on the old Jean-Baptiste de Champlain's homestead, where Thérèse was raised. She also made her First Communion and Confirmation in Legal. She did her first 2 years of schooling at St Emile's country



Paul & Thérèse Bachand's wedding, August 12, 1958

school where they had to walk 1 mile in the summer and ride in a caboose pulled by horses in the winter. It belonged to the Charrois family who lived east of them. She then went to Legal school by bus, still having to walk $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. For grades 7 and 8, Therese went to Lac La Biche Mission convent as a boarder. She came back to Legal school until grade 10, where she was active in singing in school concerts, church choir and at weddings. She went to work in Edmonton for a while, until they were married by Monsignor Emile Tessier who was retired at the time but agreed to marry them as he had married all the Bachand children. They moved to Edmonton where their oldest son Albert Arthur was born May 15/1959. He was baptized at Immaculate Conception church.

In 1960, they moved back to Legal corner and rented the old Vallée's house, across the highway from his parents' place. No water, no power, but plenty of mice. They heated up the place with a wood and coal stove and a little pot-belly furnace. They stayed there a year. Then Dad Bachand bought them a little 3-room house from Louis Demers' farm and had it moved behind their Legal corner residence and confectionary; they lived there from 1961 to 1964. Paul ran the service in partnership with his brother, Eddie (Pitou). They also started an auto wreckage behind their house,

in partnership with their brother-in-law, Raoul (Pitou) Casavant. Their son, Daniel Isidore was born there September 24/1963, and was baptized in Legal. They then moved back to Edmonton in March 1964, where Paul did lawn and garden work in partnership with his brother-in-law Rosaire Vallée, until July 1965 when Rosaire started to work for Canadian Coachways Bus Lines as a servicemen until Greyhound Lines bought them out in 1970. Their daughter, Rachel Denise was born October 13/1965 and was baptized at St. Patrick's church. They are still residing in Edmonton and Paul is still working for Greyhound Bus Lines as a first class mechanic after 27 years. They now have 3 grandchildren and are still happily married.



Daniel, Rachel Denise, Albert, Thérèse & Paul Bachand

Paul est né à Legal en 1938 et il a appris la mécanique très jeune, au garage de son père. A 15 ans, il partit travailler à Edmonton mais il revint épouser Thérèse de Champlain à Legal en 1958. Ils sont allés s'établir sur la ferme paternelle de Champlain. Thérèse est allée au couvent du Lac la Biche puis elle a aussi travaillé à Edmonton quelque temps. Ils ont deux fils et une fille. Paul & Thérèse vivent actuellement à Edmonton.

BAERT, Albert J. & Thérèse (Toupin)

Albert Joseph, the first son of Benoît Baert and Berthe Calage, was born December 7, 1914. He attended school at the convent in Morinville and then the Edmonton Jesuit College.



Albert & Thérèse Baert's wedding, 1938

In 1938, Albert married Thérèse Toupin, daughter of Hector and Clarina, born July 5, 1920. They had four children: Raymond, Robert (Bobby), Carol and Darcy.

With hard work and dedication, Albert and Thérèse helped expand the family farm. This resulted in the successful development of a large and prosperous grain and legume farm, and hog operation. In the mid 1940's, Albert was one of the original western prairie farmers to make the annual trek through Kansas, Colorado and the Dakotas to help with the harvesting.

Albert played hockey and baseball. His interest in sports and the community led him to participate



Albert & Thérèse Baert's farm

in the organization of community affairs and events.

A few hours after his daughter's wedding, December 22, 1966, Albert died of a heart attack. He was buried in Vimy. Thérèse, now retired, lives at Island Lake in the summer and in Edmonton in winter. She is married to Edward Hutton, former school principal of St. Joseph's High School, Edmonton.

Albert (fils aîné de Benoit Baert et Berthe Calage) est né en 1914. Il a étudié au Couvent de Morinville et au Collège des Jésuites à Edmonton. En 1938, il a épousé Thérèse Toupin (née de Hector et Clarina en 1920). Dans les années 1940, Albert est allé faire les battages aux Etats-Unis. Il s'est intéressé aux sports et s'est impliqué dans la communauté. Il est décédé en 1966. Thérèse a épousé Edward Hutton et tous deux demeurent maintenant à Edmonton.

BAERT, Arsène & Marie (Lemire)

Arsène Baert (born May 26/1881 in Kachtem, Belgium), attended the local school and helped with the work on the farm. Although he came to Canada with his parents, Arsène returned to Belgium to fulfill his military obligations. Upon his return to Canada, he worked with his brothers at a variety of work to fill the family coffers. In 1901, Arsène applied for a homestead on NW-14-58-25-W4. He and his brothers were not afraid to work: in Edmonton, for a brick company, as well as digging basements with horses during the summer, and working in the coal mines or delivering coal at 4:00 a.m. He boarded at the Lemire Boarding House. Winters were spent freighting goods and supplies from Edmonton to Athabasca and other points north. During this period, he also commenced clearing land on his homestead, 4 miles northwest of Legal. The government having stipulated that the homesteaders had to clear so much land during the year, rocks were to be picked and deposited in a convenient place and a dwelling had to be built. Arsène worked diligently on his property. When all was completed, he was ready to select his bride!

On July 17/1906, Arsène married Marie Lemire (born May 2/1884), daughter of Elisé Lemire and Marguerite Lepire. They raised a beautiful family of 11 children; three daughters joined religious congregations. The children of this family were a happy group and the house was always filled with friends and young people. Arsène and Marie spent many long and happy years on their farm. In the 1940s, they retired to the Village of Legal. 1944



Marie & Arsène Baert's wedding, July 19, 1906

marked this family when Edouard, the youngest, died in a bicycle accident at the age of 16. Arsène has been described as a happy, cheerful and jolly big man. His laughter was contagious. Like his 4 brothers, he was a tall person, and was always ready to help those in need, neighbours, family, strangers. Arsène died July 3/1953, at the age of 72; Marie died May 22/1962, at the age of 78.

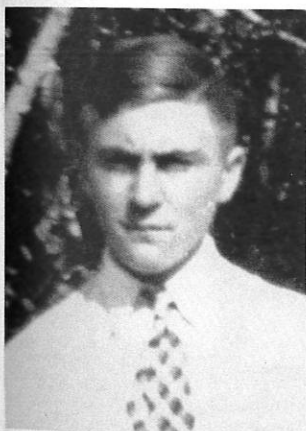
Their children are: Eva, Anna, Edna, Joseph, Berthe, Clara, Louise, Emile, Jean, Philippe, Edouard. Philippe died June 22/1988, at the age of 62. Jean Baert or "John" as he is known (born November 24/1922) was baptized "Jean Joseph Jules Georges Baert" in St-Emile Parish, Legal. John attended the local school prior to joining the Royal Canadian Air Force. He served in Europe during the Second World War. Upon his discharge, he returned to Legal where he joined his father on the family farm. He later worked in the oil industry.

It is with regret that we received the news of the death of Edouard Baert, age 16, youngest member of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Arsène Baert (Marie Lemire). Edouard

also leaves 6 sisters and 4 brothers, one of which is in aviation school in Valleyfield. This beautiful family has lived in Legal since July 1906.

The funeral took place Monday morning with numerous relatives and friends in attendance, including his classmates. The pallbearers were his brothers Joseph, Emile, Philippe and cousin, Roger Baert of Vimy. Edouard was buried in the family plot, next to his grandparents Jean-Baptiste Baert and Edonie Bruneel.

(Taken from "La Survivance" 1944)



Eva, Jean, Louise, Bertha, Clara, Emile, Edna, Joseph, Arsène, Anna, Marie, Philippe. Inset: Edouard

Arsène Baert est né le 26 mai 1881, à Kachtem, Belgique. Il est venu au Canada avec ses parents et il a pris un homestead à Legal en 1901, où il passa sa vie sur la ferme. Le 17 juillet 1906, Arsène épousa Marie Lemire, née le 2 mai 1884. Ils ont eu 11 enfants: Eva, Joseph, Berthe, Anna, Edna, Clara, Louise, Emile, Jean, Philippe, Edouard. Arsène et Marie se sont retirés au village de Legal. Arsène est mort le 3 juillet 1953, à 72 ans. Marie le suivit le 22 mai 1962, à 78 ans.

"Nous avons eu le regret, vendredi soir, d'apprendre le décès du jeune Edouard Baert, âgé de 16 ans, le dernier des onze enfants de Mme Arsène Baert (Marie Lemire) de St-Emile. Outre

son père et sa mère, le pauvre enfant laisse 6 soeurs (dont trois religieuses) et 4 frères, dont un dans une école d'aviation à Valleyfield. Cette belle famille établie à Legal depuis juillet 1906, se compose de Soeur Eva Baert (St-Albert), Joseph (Edmonton), Mlle Berthe (Fort Saskatchewan), Soeur Marie Arsène, Fille de Jésus (Pincher Creek), Soeur Edna Baert (Chipewyan), marraine d'Edouard, Mme Hector Nadeau (Claire), Calgary, Louise Baert (Edmonton), Emile, époux de Jeannette Ouellette (Legal), LAC Jean Baert, C.A.R.C et Philippe aux études à Legal.

D'imposantes funérailles ont eu lieu avec une nombreuse assistance de parents, d'amis de la famille et de compagnons d'école du défunt. Les porteurs étaient ses frères, Joseph, Emile, Philippe et son cousin Rogert Baert de Vimy. Un grand nombre de bouquets spirituels et d'offrandes de messes ont été reçus avec reconnaissance par la famille en deuil pour la première fois. La sépulture a eu lieu dans le terrain de la famille, à côté des grands-parents, Jean et Edonie Baert. (La Survivance, 1944)

(Traduit par la famille)

BAERT, Benoit & Berthe (Calage)

Benoit (Ben) Baert was born May 3/1888, in Katchem, Belgium. He arrived at the Strathcona Immigration House, Edmonton, in 1899, with his parents, four brothers and his sister Martha. After a short stay with Belgian friends in the Villeneuve area, the Baert family established roots in Legal. In 1902, young Benoit went freighting to Wabasca with his brothers. The first trip was a rude experience with the very cold weather, down the Athabasca River on the ice to Pelican Rapids then westward to Wabasca. While delivering the freight to the Mission, Benoit met Father Cyprien Batie, who was born in Doobs, and Father Edouard Jaslier who had Belgian connections.

The summers were spent clearing and developing the homestead, supplementing their income by hauling freight with horses for the Hudson's Bay Company to northern points in Alberta; Athabasca, Sawridge (Slave Lake), Grouard; also hauling coal from the Clover Bar coal mine to Edmonton, delivering orders house-to-house and loading coal by hand into box cars for the Edmonton Coal Company. On November 23/1905, at the age of 17, Benoit filed for a homestead (SE-2-59-25-W4) in the Vimy area, met the government requirements and received title to the land January 29/1911.

In February 1898, from Argentina, South

America, via France, arrived a young girl named Berthe Calage, born June 22/1891 in Argentina. Berthe and her 3 sisters: Marthe Françoise, Eugénie, and Marie had accompanied their parents Jean Calage and Marguerite Faux. Berthe and Marie attended school in St. Albert for several years. Her older sister, Marthe Françoise, worked at the St. Albert Convent during this time. Berthe and her sisters all spoke Spanish and French, and soon acquired another language, English. On June 20/1911, Benoit Baert married Berthe in Legal, and they settled on the homestead. They owned and operated the local general store and post office from 1916 to 1919. Berthe was the first post-mistress of Dunrobin, later known as "Vimy". As another hamlet or settlement was name Dunrobin, the Postal Department requested a name change. Berthe suggested the name of Vimy in commemoration of the famous Battle of Vimy, in April 1917, and it was accepted.

In the ensuing years, Benoit and Berthe further improved the homestead and acquired additional



Berthe & Benoit Baert's wedding, June 20, 1911

land, progressing to a large farming operation. Benoit was known for his pride in his horses and horsemanship. He was also the first in the area to raise Hereford cattle. He was known for his ingenuity in improving and modernizing farm equipment, such as converting a power binder into a swather, which was non-existent in the area at the time. Benoit and Berthe were committed to fulfilling their dream of a better life for themselves, the community and for future generations. Berthe was loved and respected by all who knew her, for her involvement in the community and with the less fortunate. She was admired for her skills in cooking, sewing, knitting, upholstering or whatever she put her hand to. Many a recipe still in existence was created by "ma tante Berthe". Many old-timers and others not so young have fond memories of Berthe. As did all the pioneering residents through the years, they contributed unselfishly of their time and energy towards the development of the community. Benoit was instrumental in the development of hockey, baseball and picnic areas, and Berthe was involved in raising funds for the construction of the present day rectory.

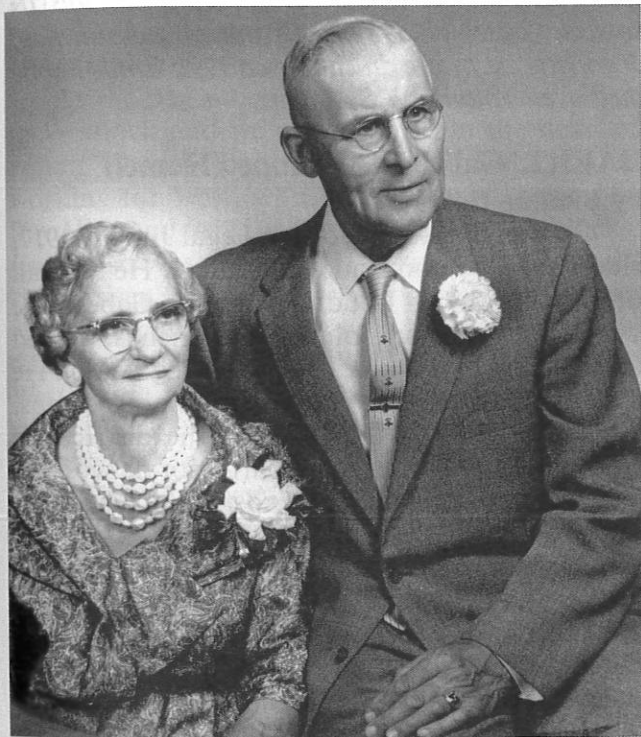


Albert, Berthe, Roger, Thérèse & Benoit Baert

Benoit and Berthe were blessed with 4 children: Emma (deceased in infancy, 1912), Albert (December 7/1914), Roger (April 3/1923), Thérèse (Theresa, January 15/1928). In 1951, Benoit and Berthe retired in Edmonton. Benoit deceased January 13/1964; Berthe on July 6/1967. Both were buried in the Holy Cross Cemetery, south of St-Albert. Two hard-working Vimy pioneers have truly earned their final rest.

Benoit Baert est né le 3 mai 1888, à Kacktem,

Belgique. Il est arrivé au Canada avec sa famille en 1899. Le 23 novembre 1905, Benoit prit un homestead à Vimy. Quelques années plus tard, le 20 juin 1911, il épousa Berthe Calage à Legal. Rendus à Vimy, Berthe et Benoit prirent la responsabilité du bureau de poste. La ferme s'agrandit de plus en plus. Ils eurent 3 enfants: Albert (7 décembre 1914), Roger (3 avril 1923) et Thérèse (15 janvier 1928). En 1951, Benoit et Berthe se sont retirés à Edmonton. Benoit est mort le 13 janvier 1964 et Berthe le suivit le 8 juillet 1967.
(Traduit par la Famille)



Berthe & Benoit Baert's 50th wedding anniversary, 1961

BAERT, Emile & Jeannette (Ouellette)

Emile Baert was born on a farm in Legal, October 17/1919, the eight child and second son of a family of 11. His father, Arsène, was born in Belgium and immigrated to Alberta with his family in 1900. His mother, Marie, eldest daughter of Joseph Lemire, was born in North Dakota. She immigrated to Alberta with her family. They met and married in Edmonton but settled in Legal where Arsene had taken a homestead. Emile, like his brothers and sisters, went to the country school of St. Emile. When he left school, he worked on the family farm.

On November 11/1941, he married Jeannette Ouellette, daughter of Joseph and Graziella. Her parents came from the province of Quebec but they met and married in Legal where they had 10



Emile & Jeannette Baert's wedding, November 11, 1941

children, of whom Jeannette was the eldest. She attended Boudreau School then lived at home until her marriage. For a year after, they lived near the town of Legal where Emile worked as a coalminer in the Legal Coal Mine. Later, they rented Uncle Jerome Baert's farm where they started farming. Following the harvest, they moved to a rented farm in the Vimy area where they lived for 4 years. During that time, Yvonne, Roland and Georgette were born. In 1919, Emile and his family moved to a rented half section, 4 miles north of Legal, where they remained for 17 years. There, he continued grain and mixed farming. The following year, Lorraine was born, followed by Lucille, later by Paul Emile and finally by Marcel. All of the children, except Marcel, attended Vimy school. After Yvonne graduated from Vimy School, she attended the Faculté St-Jean for 2 years, then the U.of A. to obtain an Education Degree.

During the off-season, Emile worked at odd jobs on construction in Edmonton. When his brother Joe started Baert's Rig and Pump, Emile went to work for him in the oil fields, installing oil pumps. The family looked after the farm and the livestock while he was away. During the late 1950s and the early 1960s, Emile and Jeannette specialized in turkey farming. It started with a few hundred and increased to 10,000 in the last 4 years. During the summer of 1963, Emile and Jeannette moved into the town of Legal. At that time, the children transferred to the Legal School. Roland, Georgette and Lorraine finished their schooling

at the Legal School, then went on to further studies at the U. of A. Roland graduated with a degree in Engineering, and Georgette and Lorraine a degree in Education. Later Lorraine changed career and became an Aircraft Engineer, the first woman in Canada to do so.



Roland, Lucille, Paul-Emile, Lorraine, Georgette, Marcel, Jeannette, Yvonne, Emile

Emile went to work full time for Baert's Rig and Pump as general manager after Joe died suddenly. Within a couple of years, he started his own company: Production, Maintenance & Service. He worked in Slave Lake, Zama Lake, Rainbow Lake and later, in the Edson area. In July 1960, the family moved to Edmonton into a 3-bedroom bungalow north of Calder, across the street from St. Edmund's Elementary and Junior High where they would live for 24 years. Lucille transferred to O'Leary High School and Paul-Emile and Marcel to St. Edmund's School. Lucille graduated from U. of A. with a degree in Commerce. Paul-Emile works for Canon. Marcel works for the University in the Computer Department. Emile continued to work in the oil field for a few more years. After he left the oil business, he worked for various companies: Canadian Bedding, Tuboscope & Federated Coop, where he remained until his retirement in October 1984.

When Emile retired, he and Jeannette took up golf. They also did some fishing, square dancing and visiting with their many friends. They did some travelling: a few trips around Alberta, a Hawaiian holiday, and a bus tour throughout Eastern Canada and the Eastern States. In November 1990, Jeannette was operated for bladder cancer. In spite of the chemotherapy and radiation therapy, she died at the Misericordia Hospital on March 14/1991, after being hospitalized for only a week. Emile now resides in St. Albert at the Youville Nursing Home. Six of the

children continue to live in Edmonton with the exception of Lorraine who lives in Sherbrooke (Québec).

Emile est né et il a été élevé sur une ferme à Legal. Son père était d'origine belge et sa mère franco-américaine. Il a épousé Jeannette Ouellette à Legal, en 1941, mais il ne sont venus vivre à Legal qu'en 1963. Emile et Jeannette ont été cultivateurs et éleveurs de dindes un certain temps, mais Emile a aussi été dans des entreprises d'entretien de puits d'huile. Leurs enfants ont tous poursuivi des études universitaires et Lorraine est devenue la lère femme ingénieure en aéronautique au Canada. Ils se sont retirés en 1984 et ils ont voyagé un peu. Jeannette est morte du cancer en 1991; Emile habite au Foyer Youville à St-Albert.

BAERT, Gabriel & Simone (Hamel)

by Simone Baert

Gabriel Baert was born in Legal June 3, 1917, eldest son of Jérôme and Georginna. He took all of his schooling at Boudreau School. Gabe, as he was known by his schoolmates and friends, worked around Legal for a time after finishing school. He also drove trucks and worked in lumber camps. With the other young folks of the district, he enjoyed house parties, card parties or dances. All had a good time and it didn't cost too much at that time.

Gabe married Simone Hamel, daughter of Philius and Ernestine, October 27, 1942. We began our married life in Legal where Gabe worked in the local mine for Frank Chiarello. We moved to the Meanook and Athabasca areas, where Gabe



Gabriel & Simone's wedding, October 27, 1942

worked in lumber camps. As he did not pass his medical for the army, we moved a lot for a few years between lumber camps and working for farmers.

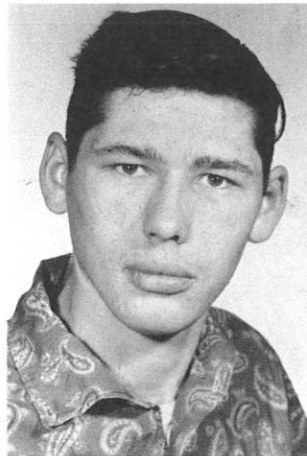
In 1944, we decided to rent a farm in the Pibroch area, so we moved on the farm and put the crop in. In June of that year the Pembina River flooded; it was seven miles wide in places, so that put an end to farming! Back to Athabasca, he worked for McLeod Bros. From there we moved to Flatbush, again to the lumber camps. By this time we had four children: Cecile, Albert, Ernie, Arthur. While living in Flatbush, Gabe also cut pulpwood and drove the school bus. Angela and Leo were born while we lived there.

As the pay was not great, Gabe found a job in Westlock and we moved there in the dead of winter. Leo was only a month old. Gabe started working for Westlock Cement Works, owned by Ray Hide and Pete Braglin, making cement blocks. Gabe also worked for McKenzie Bros., Whissell Enterprises, then went on his own doing stucco work and making grave covers. We had two more daughters: Rosemarie and Maryann. We came to Westlock in 1953 and this has been our home ever since. After leaving the stucco business, Gabe operated a Mobile Feed Mill for Bill Dubois for a total of 13 years, until it began to affect his health. He went back to farming and worked for Miller Bros. and Jonk Farms Disposal, then retired. We took a trip to the North-West Territories and California. Gabe loved gardening, woodwork and enjoyed his grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son Arthur (tragically killed in a truck accident), his father, mother, and only brother, Jerry.

Gabe was proud of our family, laughed with



Famille de Gabriel et Simone Baert: Rose Marie, Cécile, Léo, Ernie, Albert, Angela et Maryann



Arthur Baert, deceased
December 4, 1970

us and cried with us. He passed away January 28, 1992, but he has left me, his wife, and our children a great legacy. There was a great man! May he rest in peace. Gabe is buried beside our son Arthur in St. Mary's graveyard in Westlock.

Gabriel (Gabe), fils de Jérôme et Georgianna, est né en 1917. Il est allé à l'école Boudreau puis il est devenu camionneur et bûcheron. Il a épousé Simone Hamel en 1942. Ils ont vécu et travaillé à plusieurs endroits: Meanook, Athabasca, Pibroch, Flatbush et finalement à Westlock en 1953, où Gabriel a travaillé pendant 13 ans à la menuiserie de Bill Dubois. Ils ont eu huit enfants: Cécile, Albert, Ernie, Arthur, Angela, Léo, Rosemarie et Maryann. Gabriel est décédé en 1992.

BAERT, Gérard by Simone Baert

Gérard Baert was born in Legal, April 2, 1922, second son of Jérôme and Georgianna. Jerry received most of his schooling at Boudreau. When that school closed, he attended Vimy School. After he quit, he went to work for André Sylvestre for a number of years. He also worked in lumber camps, in Alberta and British Columbia. He could handle all kinds of heavy machinery, was a millright, sawyer, cantor, and a good hunter.



Gérard Baert



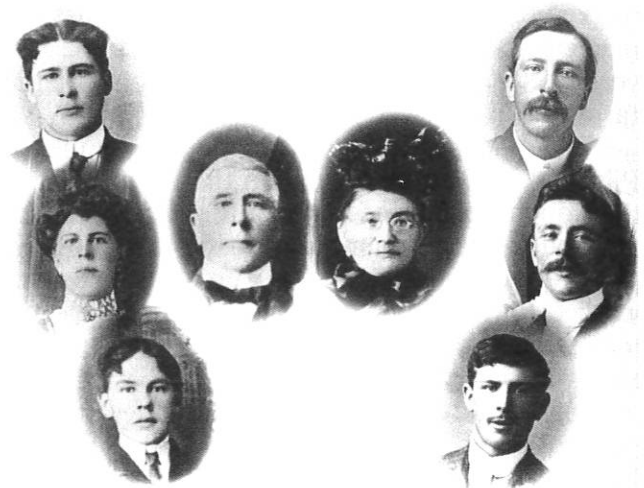
Gérard Baert

When you got him going, he wasn't a bad hand at the auctioneering lingo. Where he picked that up, I don't know, but he could sure peel it off. In later years, Jerry went back to farm work in the Eaglesham area. He also worked for Dan St. Martin in Legal. He retired in Rochester and passed away November 13, 1987. He is buried in Westlock beside his mother. Jerry never married.

Gérard est né à Legal le 2 avril 1922, de Jérôme et Georgeinna. Il étudia à l'école Boudreau, puis à Vimy. Ensuite, il alla travailler dans les chantiers en Alberta et en Colombie Britannique. Il se dirigea sur une ferme dans la région d'Eaglesham et après, il travailla pour Dan St-Martin à Legal. Il se retira à Rochester où il décéda en 1987. Il ne s'est jamais marié.

BAERT, Jean-Baptiste & Emilie Edonie (Bruneel)

Jean-Baptiste Baert was born February 11, 1841 at Izegem, Flanders, Belgium. He had listened to all the stories of wartime life and its anxieties. No doubt he participated in the war of 1870, as did many Belgians. He married Emilie Edonie Bruneel (1854-1926), daughter of Charles Bruneel and Marie Van de Kerchove, October 4, 1875, in Rumbeke. Their names in Flemish are "Joannes



Famille Jean Baptiste & Edonie Baert: Rangée gauche; Benoit, Martha, Jules. Rangée droite; Jérôme, Arsène et Rémi

Baptista Baert" and "Emilia Idonia Bruneel". Edonie was born April 6, 1854 in Rumbeke.

As a father of five sons and one daughter, Jean-Baptiste had to seriously consider their future, especially if his sons were conscripted by the Belgian Army. War was very real to these Europeans. Listening to other people planning to emigrate prompted Jean-Baptiste to make a similar decision. However, where could he and his family go? The South American colonies were at war for their independence; the United States were at war against Spain for the territories of Cuba, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Mexico. Canada had to be the place! Consequently, Jean-Baptiste sent two sons, Jérôme and Rémi to Canada to locate a place.

Their reports were encouraging when they returned to Belgium. One could buy 160 acres for \$10, and it was a big country. Jérôme and Arsène remained in Belgium for their military service. Jean-Baptiste began preparation to emigrate with Edonie, his daughter, Martha, and three sons. Crossing the English Channel, they boarded a ship in England for Halifax. By train, the family went westward to St. Boniface to visit many Belgian settlers, then to Calgary and northwards to Edmonton, arriving in Villeneuve in March 1899, where they rented the Van deLooth place.

Jean-Baptiste filed for his homestead, SW-16-57-25-W4, and his sons and friends prepared the necessary buildings to move in. Eventually, two years after their arrival, Jean-Baptiste, Edonie, Martha, and their sons, settled on their property and could call Legal home. The sons went out and worked to fill the family coffers. When the sons were out freighting long distances,

Edonie worried about their welfare. Once the sons were settled on their own homesteads, Jean-Baptiste signed his own farm over to his youngest son, Jules, and retired to the village of Legal. He would often walk to the Calage-St-Martin homestead and returned carrying small spruce trees to Jules' farm. The seedlings were planted and over the years the farm became surrounded by tall spruce trees. Unfortunately, Jean-Baptiste became an invalid in his later years. He and Edonie returned to Jules' home to be cared for by their daughter-in-law, Marguerite. Edonie died April 21, 1926, Jean-Baptiste, March 17, 1929. The two pioneers were buried in the Legal Cemetery.

Jean-Baptiste Baert est né le 11 février 1841 à Izegem, Belgique. Il épousa Emilie Edonie Bruneel le 4 octobre 1875 à Rumbek. Edonie est née le 6 avril 1854 à Rumbek.

Après un long voyage pour l'Angleterre et à travers le Canada, la famille Baert arrivait à Villeneuve en mars 1899. Deux ans plus tard, ils prenaient un homestead à Legal, et chacun des garçons s'achetait un homestead dans les environs de Legal et de Vimy.

Jean-Baptiste et Edonie déménagèrent au village, près de l'église et laissèrent la terre paternelle à Jules. Plus tard, ils devaient retourner chez Jules puisqu'ils n'étaient pas assez bien pour rester seuls. Edonie est décédée le 21 avril 1926, et Jean-Baptiste, le 17 mars 1929. Ils sont inhumés à Legal.

(Traduction par la famille)

BAERT, Jérôme & Georgianna (Caouette) by Gabriel & Simone Baert

Jérôme Prosper Joseph was born April 23/1877, at Izegem, Kachtem, Belgium, the oldest son of Jean-Baptiste Baert and Edonie Brunel. He attended the local school in Belgium. According to family history, Jérôme came to Canada for a period of time, then returned to Belgium to complete his compulsory military service. Upon his return to Canada, he worked for J.B. Little (a brick factory in St. Albert) for a period of time. With his brothers, he worked in the coal mines around Edmonton, Cardiff, Clover Bar or for local farmers for \$15 a month. He took a homestead north of Legal, on the correction line (3-58-25-W4), where he spent the remainder of his life working his farm.

On April 16/1912, Jérôme married Maria Georgianna Albina, daughter of Antoine Caouette and Pulchérie LaPierre. Georgianna was born March 7/1887, at St-Liboire (Québec). Two sons were born of this marriage: Gabriel, Gérard.



Jérôme & Georgianna Baert's wedding, April 16, 1912

Jérôme has been described as a tall, slim, quiet man with an easy-going disposition. He and Georgianna retired from the farm and moved to Legal in the 1940s. On April 10/1945, Jérôme deceased at the age of 68. He was buried in the family plot in the Legal Cemetery. Georgianna lived in Legal and Morinville after his death and eventually moved to Westlock where she died March 24/1983, at the age of 98.



Georgianna Baert, 1949

Jérôme Baert est né le 23 avril 1877, à Izegem, Belgique. Après avoir fait son service militaire en Belgique, il rejoint sa famille à Legal où il prit un homestead. Le 16 avril 1912, il épousa Marie Georgianna Caouette, née 7 mars 1887 à St-Liboire (Québec). Ils eurent deux garçons: Gabriel (3 juin 1917), Gérard (2 avril 1922). Jérôme cultiva sa ferme jusqu'à sa retraite. Il est mort à Legal le 10 avril 1945 et fut inhumé dans le cimetière local. Georgianna demeura à Legal pendant plusieurs années après la mort de son mari, elle partit ensuite pour Morinville et finalement pour Westlock où elle est morte le 24 mars 1983, à 98 ans.

(Traduction par la famille)

BAERT, Jules & Marguerite (St-Martin)

On October 28/1892, Jules was born in Katchem, Belgium, the fifth and youngest son of Jean-Baptiste Baert and Edonie Bruneel. He also had a sister, Martha who married Philip Shank (their children would become known as the Athabasca



Jules & Marguerite Baert's wedding, December 27, 1921

Shanks). When Jules was only 6 years old, in March 1899, the family emigrated to Canada. The Belgian records his name as Julius Henri Charles Baert. Life was far from easy for immigrants in a new land. For 2 years, they lived with friends in Villeneuve. Then, they settled on a homestead adjacent to Legal. The oldest boys in the family started hauling coal. Later they transported freight from Edmonton to Athabasca, Slave Lake, Wabasca and Edson. At a very tender age, Jules joined his brothers in this work. More homesteads were taken as the boys married. Jules stayed on the original site with his parents.

When Jules was 29, on December 27/1921, he married Marguerite (1903-85), daughter of Joseph St-Martin and Marthe Françoise Calage. During the early years of their marriage, his parents lived in the Village. A new brick home was built beside the first residence. By this time, Clara (1922) and Raoul (1924) were born. Raoul died soon after his birth. When Jules' parents were unable to look after themselves, they came back to live with Marguerite and Jules. Edonie deceased in 1926 and Jean-Baptiste in 1929.

In spite of the Depression, Jules became a successful farmer. In 1929, Denise was born and a year later, Germaine. The fact that Jules had no son may have been the reason Germaine became an enthusiastic helper on the farm and in the Case dealership that Jules had acquired. He was also municipal councillor for two terms in the Municipal District of Sturgeon. Jules was awarded a 25-year plaque in recognition of his services by the Case Farm Implements.



Claudette (Gouin) Robinson & Paulette Baert, 1949

Paulette, youngest and fourth daughter, was born in 1945, on the same day and at the same hospital as her niece, Claudette Gouin Robinson, who was Clara's first-born. After many happy years on the farm, Jules and Marguerite retired to the Jasper House in Edmonton. That same year, they also enjoyed a trip to Europe and especially Belgium. This provided them the opportunity to become acquainted with cousins. Retirement amongst family and friends was a pleasant phase of their lives. On March 21/1974, the Canadian Red Cross honoured Marguerite for her outstanding volunteer services. Jules deceased in 1978 after being in poor health for 2 years. Marguerite enjoyed good health for 7 more years and died in 1985. They have been loving parents and good citizens making a worthwhile contribution to their community.



Marguerite & Jules Baert's 50th wedding anniversary, 1971:
Marguerite & Jules (centre); Paulette, Germaine, Denise, Clara

Jules avait 6 ans quand sa famille a émigré de la Belgique au Canada. Très jeune, il a aidé ses frères dans le transport des marchandises. A 29 ans, il a épousé Marguerite St. Martin. Ils ont eu 4 filles et 1 garçon, mais ce dernier est décédé jeune. Marguerite a aidé sur la ferme et plus tard au garage Case dont ils étaient devenus propriétaires. Jules s'est aussi impliqué au district municipal de Sturgeon. Marguerite a été reconnue par la Croix Rouge pour son bénévolat.

BAERT, Rémi & Stéphanie (Normandeau)

Rémi Joseph Baert was born August 19/1883, in Kachtem, Belgium. He was the one chosen by his father to leave for Canada with his older brother, Jérôme. Rémi was 13 at the time, but he looked like a young man of 17. Upon his return to Izegem, he helped prepare for the departure of the family from Belgium. From his experience, he was able to guide his father to their destination

in Western Canada. Very handy with horses, Rémi joined his older brothers in freighting supplies from Edmonton to Athabasca Landing, as well as to Wabasca, Grouard and Lesser Slave Lake. He filed for a homestead, 29-58-25-W4, near the Lavoie family in Pickardville.

Stéphanie (1889-1977), daughter of Paul Normandeau and Françoise Daignault, was born November 8/1888, in Québec. She arrived in Western Canada with her sister, Albertine, to take up residence with their brother, Father A. J. Normandeau, who was then parish priest of Legal. There, Stéphanie married Rémi Baert on November 23/1908. There were no children of this marriage.

Besides farming in the Legal area, they operated and managed a general store in the community. Around 1929, they sold the store and established themselves on beautiful farm land in the Pickardville area. During the winter months, Rémi and Stéphanie often went to San Diego or Hawaii. In the late 1940s, they moved to Edmonton after the sale of their land to Frank Rivard.

Rémi and Stéphanie lived in the Norwood area for many years, while enjoying golfing at the Riverside and Highland Gold courses in Edmonton. Rémi was involved in real estate during this period. When he became ill with arthritis, they moved to the St-Albert Youville Nursing Home, where they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1968. Rémi deceased in February 1969, at the age of 85. Stéphanie then returned to Edmonton where she lived for a period of time. She moved to the Good Samaritan Southgate Nursing Home, where she died at the age of 88, on February 5/1977.

Since Rémi and Stéphanie had no family, their estates were willed to specific charities in



Rémi & Stéphanie Baert

Edmonton and in various parts of the world. Both are buried in the Edmonton Mausoleum.

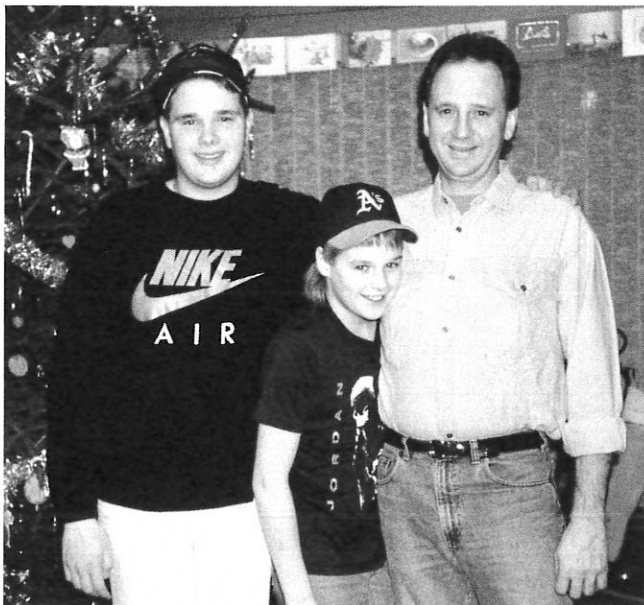
Rémi est né le 19 août 1883 en Belgique. Il est venu au Canada avec son frère Jérôme afin d'étudier des possibilités pour la famille d'émigrer au Canada. A leur retour, les deux frères ont dû aider à la préparation du départ.

Rémi marie Stéphanie Normandeau le 23 novembre 1908. En plus de la ferme, ils ont eu un magasin. A leur retraite, ils ont déménagé à Edmonton. Rémi est mort en février 1969, à 85 ans; Stéphanie le 5 février 1977, à 88 ans.

(Traduction par la famille)

BALLEK, Rick & Wendy (Tymchuk)

In the spring of 1977, Rick and Wendy Ballek along with their two-year old son, Jayson Cedric, moved to Legal from Manning. Rick had accepted the position of general manager for the Legal Co-operative Association, which he still holds at present. On June 5/1979, Wendy gave birth to another son, Adrien Guy. Rick was active in hockey, playing then for the Legal Barons and now for the Legal Bootleggers Old Timers Hockey Club. He also played for the L.A Express Fastball Club for many years Rick has served in different capacities for the Legal Minor Hockey program as manager, assistant coach and referee assignor and as team representative for the Legal Barons Club and the L.A. Express Fastball team. Wendy has been on the school board, kindergarten advisory committee and has participated in the Legal curling club, ladies' fastball and mixed fastball for Legal Blazers.



Jayson, Adrien & Rick Ballek

Their children, Jayson and Adrien, have taken all their schooling in Legal, from kindergarten up. At present, Jayson is in Grade 12 and Adrien in Grade 8. They have both enjoyed playing hockey and baseball for the Legal teams, where they have had much success winning many league championships in hockey. In the summer of 1989, Rick and Wendy separated. She presently lives in the Pickardville area and Rick is still in Legal.

Rick & Wendy Ballek sont venus à Legal de Manning, pour prendre la gérance de la Co-op, en 1977; ils avaient un enfant et un deuxième est né à Legal. Rick et Wendy ont été très impliqués dans les sports au niveau local et Wendy a aussi été active à la commission scolaire et sur le comité du Jardin d'Enfance.

BALOCHE Victor & Victorine (Letellier) by Mrs Rock Proulx

Through correspondence with Mr. Baloche's sister, Mrs. Roux, between France and Fairydell, Victor and his wife found out how good the land was to take as a homestead in Legal. So Victor Baloche and Victorine Letellier decided to come to Alberta from France in 1912. It took a whole month by ship to arrive to Canada, with their only child, Louise, who was 3 years old. Then they travelled by train from Halifax to Edmonton and the rest of the way, with horses and wagon to Legal, to a homestead located on the border of the village. As farmers, they also had a small dairy.



Victor, daughter Louise & Victorine Baloche at Louise's first communion

At the age of about 10, Louise Baloche also was delivering dairy products to the villagers. Louise got married to Phillip Proulx in 1925 and settled on the farm.

Victor et Victorine sont arrivés à Legal de France en 1912, après un mois de voyage en bateau, en train et finalement à cheval. Ils ont eu une petite ferme laitière. Leur fille, Louise, a épousé Philippe Proulx en 1925.

BEAUDOIN, Théophile & Marie-Anne (Hébert)

par Cléopée Beaudoin

Théophile Beaudoin, habile menuisier en finition, demeurait à Arctic Centre, Rhode Island, Etats-Unis, avec son épouse Marie-Anne Hébert et leur jeune fils, Aram. Ayant appris le départ de la famille Martineau pour l'Ouest canadien, il décida d'aller aider son beau-frère Josaphat, pour la construction de leur maison à Legal. Il arriva en mars 1917. L'Abbé Aldéric Normandeau persuada Théophile de s'établir dans l'Ouest.



Mariage de Théophile & Marie-Anne Beaudoin

Celui-ci fit connaître sa décision à son épouse. Elle devait vendre leur propriété, mettre son ménage sur le train et se diriger vers l'Alberta. Theophile acheta 160 acres de Joseph Adolphe Billo dans le district scolaire de Springfield, bureau de poste à Casavant.

Marie-Anne débarqua à Edmonton au mois d'août 1917. Leur maison en construction était habitable pour la fête de Noël, la même année.

Le 30 mai 1918, leur première enfant à naître au Canada, Cléopée, fut baptisée à l'Eglise Saint-Emile de Legal et eut pour parrain et marraine, Josaphat et Delima Martineau. A l'automne, la grippe espagnole fit ses ravages. Marie-Anne en fut atteinte. Ayant appris le décès de Mme Jean-Marie Chauvet et de Mme Frank Rémillard, ses voisines, elle fit venir le prêtre, l'Abbé Rémi Guertin, et le Docteur Genest. Le verdict du médecin la rassura. Lentement elle reprit ses forces.

Le 1er août 1921, naissance de Gérard Léandre. Pete (Léandre) et Albertine Potvin, oncle et tante furent parrain et marraine. Le 24 février 1924, naquit Conrad; Aram (frère aîné) et Annette Potvin (cousine) furent parrain et marraine. Cette même année, Théophile se procura une voiture Grey Dort.

Il faut admettre que Théophile n'était pas taillé pour être cultivateur. Il préférait exercer ses talents de menuisier et d'habile forgeron. De plus, il possédait une forge bien outillée. De son bras gauche, il battait les pointes de charrue, ferrait les chevaux et faisait les réparations des machines agricoles. Marie-Anne aimait cultiver le jardin potager et avec succès. Elle était bonne cuisinière, pétrissait le bon pain d'habitant.

La récolte fut abondante et le grain se vendit à bon prix en 1927. Le Grey Dort fut remplacé par le Pontiac. A l'hiver, Théophile et Marie-Anne se joignirent au groupe de la Liaison Française d'Edmonton et se rendirent visiter la parenté au Québec et à Rhode Island, après 10 ans d'absence. En 1928, Théophile fit creuser un puits sur la colline. Un boyau amena l'eau courante pour abreuver les animaux.

Théophile possédait une voix harmonieuse et partageait ce talent avec les membres du chœur de chant à l'église. Il connaissait le plein-chant et les cantiques. La vie sociale était bien animée. Les Beaudoin aimaient le chant, la musique et les veillées avec les amis(es). Ils aimaient entendre nos belles chansons françaises dont ils possédaient un imposant répertoire. Les parties de cartes rassemblaient les voisins le dimanche.

Marie-Anne était positive et acceptait les

épreuves parsemées dans toute vie humaine. Elle aimait le progrès et voulait que ses enfants poursuivent leurs études. Elle-même leur donnait l'éducation chrétienne; c'était une femme de principes. La politique l'intéressait beaucoup; elle était capable de soutenir une chaude discussion avec ceux qui ne pensaient pas comme elle. Elle avait à coeur la conservation de notre langue maternelle. Elle s'adressait toujours en français lorsqu'elle faisait ses emplettes à Edmonton, même si elle était bilingue.

Le 28 octobre 1936, Aram marie Florence Guimond à Pickardville. Le 5 août 1937, Cléopée entra au noviciat des Soeurs Grises à Saint-Albert. Théophile quitta la ferme en 1940 pour s'embaucher comme menuisier à l'Hôpital Général d'Edmonton. Il donna 23 ans de service dévoué à cet institut.

Le 15 février 1943, Soeur Cléopée fit sa profession perpétuelle chez les Soeurs de la Charité de Montréal (Soeurs Grises). Gérard marie Cécile Ouellet à Legal, le 14 novembre 1944. Il fut barbier durant quelques années et soudeur durant 38 ans. Il quitta Edmonton pour s'établir avec sa famille à Seattle, Washington, en 1965. Conrad marie Lorraine Lacoursière à Wetaskiwin, le 4 novembre 1945. Il travailla pour le chemin de fer Canadien National à Edmonton et prit sa retraite en 1983, après 35 ans de service. Son deuxième mariage avec Marguerite Dubrûle a eu lieu en mai 1985; depuis novembre 1989, le couple demeure à Onoway. Aram quitta le Canada en 1946 pour s'établir à



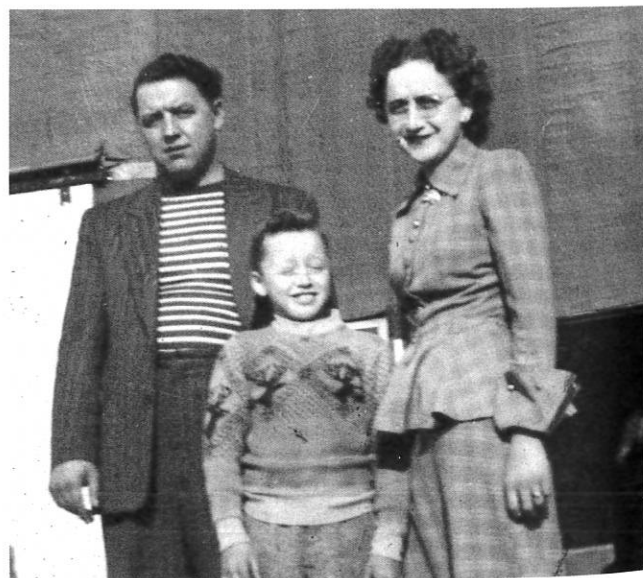
Marie-Anne, Aram, Théophile, Conrad, Cléopée, Gérard

Seattle, Washington. Il a travaillé comme menuisier dans la construction. Son épouse, Florence, est morte le 27 février 1987. Marie-Anne est morte le 27 novembre 1953, et Théophile le 7 janvier 1964. Tous les deux reposent dans le cimetière de Saint-Joachim, Edmonton.

Theophile came to Legal from Rhode Island, USA, to help brother-in-law Josaphat build a house in Legal. He decided to bring his wife Marie-Anne and son Aram to Canada also, and in 1917, they were moving in a new house in Legal. Another child, Cléopée, was born the next year. Marie-Anne had the flu in the fall of 1918, but she survived. Théophile left the farm in 1940 to work as a carpenter at the Edmonton General Hospital; he was there for 23 years. Marie-Anne was very dedicated to her family and very sociable. The Beaudoin family was very good at singing and they did everything to preserve their heritage. They had two more children, Gérard and Conrad. Cléopée became a Grey Nun in 1943. Marie-Anne died in 1953, and Théophile in 1964.

BEAUPRE, Roger & Louise (Bachand) by Claudette Casavant Turgeon

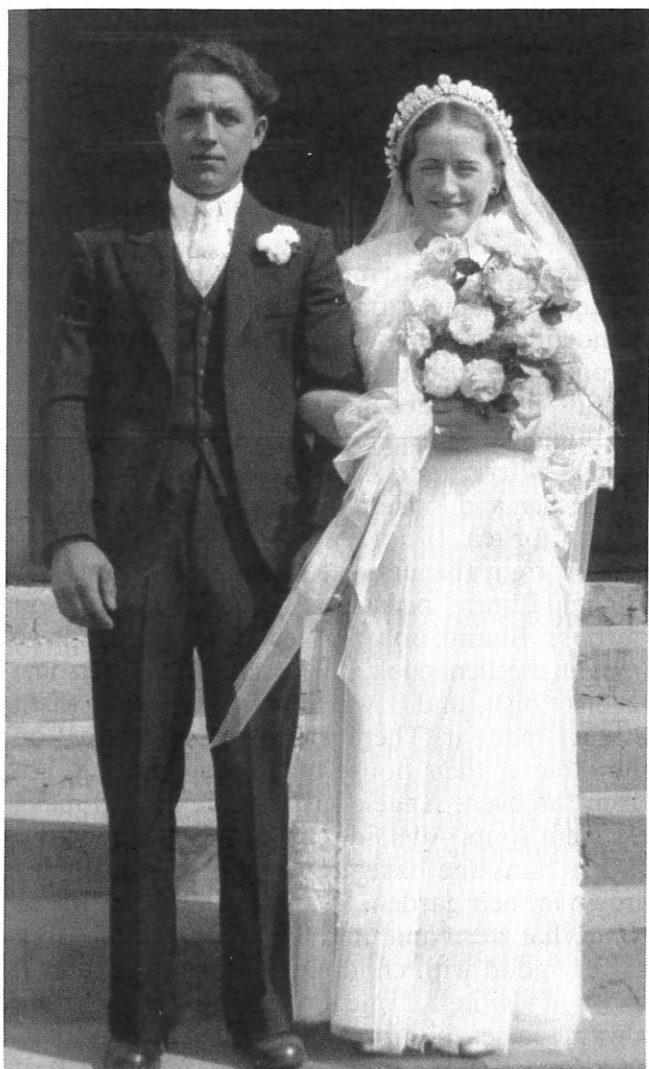
Louise Marie, daughter of Arthur Bachand and Elizabeth Caza, was born July 20/1922, at the railroad station, one mile west of Legal. She was the second eldest of 5 girls and 2 boys. Roger Lucien, son of Noé Beaupré and Louisa Lawrence (from Québec) was born April 11/1914. He was the 8th child of a family of 6 boys and 4 girls. Louise and Roger lived at Legal corner after their marriage (May 15/1939), where their only son, Maurice, was born. In 1942, they moved to



At Legal Corner: Roger & Louise Beaupré with son Maurice

Morinville and in 1952, they lived in Yakima, Washington, for a period of 9 months, only to return to Legal for another year and then to Kinuso from 1953 to 1966. In the fall of 1966, they sold the farm in Kinuso and moved to Edmonton where they found employment. In December 1970, Roger deceased. Louise and Maurice are still living in the Edmonton family home.

Louise Bachand est née à Legal. Les parents de Roger Beaupré venaient du Québec. Après leur mariage en 1939, Louise et Roger ont demeuré au Coin de Legal, où est né un fils unique, Maurice. Entre 1942 et 1966, ils ont vécu à Morinville, puis à Yakima (Washington), à Legal, à Kinuso et finalement, à Edmonton.



Roger & Louise Beaupré

BELLAND & FORCIER (Families-Familles)

The information available on the Belland family is somewhat confusing. We know that

Aleck's parents, Pierre Belland and Lucy Bibeau must have arrived in Minnesota in its early years of settlement in the 1850's. Their origin and that of Pierre's father (Ignace) is still unknown at this time. While there was an Aleck Belland, a voyageur recently arrived from France, that settled in the Minnesota area with his son Aleck and family, they do not seem to provide the basis for our family. The only record that I have found for an Ignace Beland in Quebec, is through a family living in Chateauguay and attending the St. Martine church. While the dates appear to coincide with the times they might have moved to Minnesota, the spelling of the name has only one "l" in Belland. This in itself is quite possible for we also saw the spelling of the name change for the Pelletiers when they moved to the American frontier.

Ignace Belland of Chateauguay was married to Catherine Dorais June 15, 1840, at the St. Martine church, parish of the Dorais family. The Belland family appears to have lived in Wisconsin. The timing might well coincide with a son Pierre who might have married around 1860-1865. Whether it is the family of their son that moved to Minnesota to start our Belland line is not certain. The Bellands lived near the area referred to today as "Little Canada", (north of St. Paul). The main center at that time was the village of Centerville, firstly a part of Ramsay County and later a portion of Anoka County. We know that the Bellands lived in the Centerville area, for their eldest son, Joseph was baptized in St. Genevieve church, Centerville in 1889.

I have just recently discovered the heritage of the Bibeau family. The Bibeaus were late arrivals in Canada, Louis and his brother Paul arriving around 1800. They settled in the Sorel area to the southwest of Trois-Rivières. Louis married Lucie Raboin. They had nine children when they decided to follow brother Paul to Minnesota in 1847. The two large families found it difficult to get along in one house, so Louis and Lucie acquired a barn in Pig's Eye (there's a story behind that name I'm sure) and started off on their own. It was their daughter Lucy, born in 1837, who married Pierre Belland.

While the Belland history is somewhat ambiguous, the Forcier ancestors can be traced back to France somewhere in the 1560's. Many of these branches, notably the Pelletiers, (which also appear on the Forcier side), Cartiers, Joyals, Bibeaus (possibly another family) and Meneux's can all be traced to France itself. Being a large

family, they spread into many parts of Québec during the 1700 and 1800's. The 1850's saw both the Forcier and Pelletier branches on the Belland side move to the Centerville village of Minnesota. The two specific families to arrive were those of Joseph Peltier (note the spelling change after the move to Minnesota), and Joseph Napoleon Forcier. The Peltier family arrived in 1856, coming from St. Aimé, Québec. They had left St. Aimé the year prior, bringing their household belongings up the St. Lawrence, through the Great Lakes and then up the Mississippi River to St. Paul by flatboat. The journey took the better part of a year and meant loading and unloading their goods twice while en route. Their family at the time consisted of Joseph, his wife Eléanore and their six children. Their seventh child, Mathilde was born in 1856, the year they arrived. In all they had 11 children.

The second family to leave Québec for Minnesota was that of Joseph Napoleon Forcier Senior; what a powerful sounding name. His wife was Marguerite Cartier. The Forciers left Sorel, just below Trois-Rivières, to arrive in Centerville in 1854.

These two families provided the parents of Elmire Forcier. Joseph Napoleon Forcier Junior born July 1, 1850 was four years old when his parents moved to the area. He grew up there, living with his parents, and taking part time work in the lumber industry as he grew older. July 5, 1870, Joseph Forcier and Marguerite Peltier were married in the village of Centerville. Both were the oldest children in their respective families. In 1872 they bought a farm where they made their home and raised their children.

Malgré que l'information disponible sur les débuts de la famille Belland soit ambiguë, il paraît qu'Ignace Belland de Châteauguay maria Catherine Dorais le 15 juin 1840. Leur fils Pierre semble avoir déménagé au "Petit Canada" (Minnesota) vers 1865.

Louis Bibeau et son frère Paul sont arrivés au Canada de France vers 1800. Ils s'établirent dans la région de Sorel, au sud-ouest de Trois-Rivières. Louis maria Lucie Raboin et ils eurent neuf enfants; ils décidèrent de suivre Paul au Minnesota en 1847. C'est leur fille, Lucy, née en 1837, qui maria Pierre Belland.

Les ancêtres Forcier peuvent être retracés à la France dans les 1560. D'une grande famille, ils se répandirent au Québec dans les 1700 et les 1800. Dans les 1850, Joseph Peltier et Joseph Napoléon Forcier Senior, du côté des Belland, déménagèrent

à Centerville (Minnesota). Le 5 juillet 1870, Joseph Napoléon Forcier Junior épousa Marguerite Peltier de Centerville. En 1872, ils achetèrent une ferme où ils élevèrent leurs enfants.

BELLAND, Aleck & Elmire (Forcier)

Aleck (born in 1867) and Elmire (born in 1873) grew up in the Centerville area. Elmire was the oldest of eight children. They had a family of five; Joseph, Lilian, Agnes, Andrew, and Alfred, all born between 1889 and 1904. We are not certain as to the early movements of the Belland family, however, we know that Aleck and Elmire lived in Centerville for some time for their eldest son, Joseph, was baptized in St. Geneviève church, Centerville. By 1902, they had moved to Lyken, Wisconsin where their fourth, Andrew, is known to have been born; he was baptized there January 26, 1902 in the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Osceola, Wisconsin.

Aleck and Elmire moved their family to the Legal area and took a homestead in Fairy Dell, in 1910.

Aleck Belland must have been quite a boisterous character from all accounts given by his grandchildren. That he had a violent temper is beyond doubt. Being six feet tall and weighing 200 pounds, he presented quite a force to contend with.

Elmire appears to have been a bit of a character as well. After chores, Aleck would always walk into the kitchen and look on the stove to see if the kettle was on for tea. If not ready, he might take it and pitch it right through the screen door. Word has it that Elmire occasionally left it empty on purpose. Elmire, only five feet tall, is said to have been an excellent cook. All her children recall some favorite dish, and it was never as good as when mother made it. There was never cold cereal on the table at their house but rather muffets, hot from the oven. Angèle says Elmire always made excellent soup. Adelaide remembers the delicious cheese buns she baked. Squaw corn was always grown in their garden. Beatrice remembers her as somewhat stern and unloving in appearance, but as very good with children. When sitting quietly or when visiting, if one looked closely, one could always see her thumb and forefinger moving back and forth across each other, a trademark of Elmire's. Most remembered Elmire making bread in a wooden dish that stood on four legs. One day, while Elmire was preparing her dough, Aleck brought the team around to the house, stopped in to have her join him for a ride to the neighbours. When she protested that she was in the middle of

baking bread, he took the dish, stand and all, and put it in the wagon so that she could finish her baking while under way. There certainly weren't many dull moments in this household.

Aleck and Elmire moved to the village of Vimy in 1920. They were later joined by their eldest son Joseph and his family. The Vimy stories also abound. It is said that during the depression, Elmire made moonshine for a little extra spending money. One afternoon, Aleck was dared to walk down the street of Vimy with no clothes on, the prize being a bottle of moonshine. Aleck won the bet! Other families observing this were so scandalized that they reported the incident to Father Mallet, Vimy's first parish priest. It is said that Father Mallet took a bell with him on Sunday morning and would ring it in the poolhall in order to rouse his parishioners off to church!

Angèle remembers going to Vimy by horse and wagon with her father Joseph, taking a load of grain to the elevator. She was to spend the night in her grandparents' tiny farmhouse, alongside the railway tracks. However, grandfather was so furious over something, she is not certain what, that her father had her return home with him that evening.

All in all, it was quite a hectic life! One might say, "never a dull moment". Aleck lived to the age of 66 when he died of dropsy while living at Vimy. He was buried at the cemetery there. Ernest Genest, Angèle's husband remembers driving the horses and wagon that carried the coffin to the church. He remembers the body being very bloated as a result of dropsy. He vividly remembers the coffin dripping in the church.

Elmire returned to Minnesota after Aleck's death in 1935. She married George Letourneau, a childhood sweetheart from her younger days in Centerville. The Letourneaus returned to Edmonton in 1944. George died in 1952. Elmire lived until the age of 96. She is buried in the Vimy cemetery beside Aleck.

Aleck et Elmire Belland ont vécu dans la région de Centerville au Minnesota. Ils eurent cinq enfants nés entre 1889 et 1904. La famille déménagea à Fairydell, près de Legal, en 1910.

Aleck avait une réputation notoire à cause de son caractère violent et tapageur, et Elmire semble avoir été d'un tempérament aussi imprévu. Ils faisaient bon ménage!

Aleck est décédé à l'âge de 66 ans, à Vimy où il fut inhumé. Elmire retourna au Minnesota mais revint à Edmonton avec son second mari, George

Letourneau. Elle vécut jusqu'à l'âge de 96 ans et fut inhumée au cimetière de Vimy.

BELLAND, Andrew & Melina (Parent) & Alma (Nadeau)

Andrew Xavier was born January 16/1902, at Lyken, Wisconsin, (Long Lake) and baptized January 26 by Rev. John Klop, in the Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Osceola, Wisconsin. His parents were Alexandre Belland and Elmire Forcier. He was the second youngest of 5 children. His brother, Joseph, was born in 1889 and was married to Omérine Peltier. Next was his sister, Agnes, born in 1893. She married Tom Powers and she deceased of the Spanish flu February 23/1923, in Cardiff. Lillian was born in 1898 and married Fernando Carrière. The youngest in the family was Alfred (Fred), born in 1904, and married to Lillian Brown.

Andrew came to Alberta as a young boy when his family took a homestead at Fairydell (north of Edmonton), where he attended school. In winter, he used to travel to school and back home on a sleigh pulled by a dog, up and down the hilly road. When he was ten, he was to have an experience few people have in a lifetime. At the time, his mother was in the Misericordia hospital in Edmonton, recovering from an operation. His father was also in Edmonton working as a drayman at the hospital, to pay for his wife's operation. On this particular day, Andrew went out to the field to watch his older brother, Joseph, mow hay. Talking to Joseph while the horses were resting from pulling the mower, Andrew made the mistake of standing in front of the mower blades. The horses started and before they could be stopped or Andrew could get out of the way, the mower blades had cut his left foot off at the ankle, the only part not cut was the large tendon at the back of the leg. Joseph immediately took Andrew across the road to the Keanes who were also homesteaders. Mrs. Keane put young Andrew's foot in a bag of flour to stop the bleeding until they could get him to the hospital in Edmonton. While she was attending to Andrew, Joseph hitched the horses to a wagon. Andrew was put in the wagon and he and Joseph headed to the Misericordia Hospital in Edmonton, some 35 miles away. When they arrived, they contacted their father. The doctors looked at the foot and decided to amputate it. But Alexandre was not an easy man to persuade once his mind was made. He walked into the operating room and told the doctors that the foot was to be sewn back on or else they would

have a rough time leaving the operating room. The doctors sewed the foot back on and sure enough, the operation was a success; Alexandre Belland was right. This happened in 1912, and it was quite a medical feat at that time.

Years went by and Andrew became a man and was to run races, jig, dance and work with the use of both feet, thanks to his dad. The Belland family left Fairydell and began farming anew at Vimy, where Andrew met a beautiful young lady with jet black hair and fair complexion; her name was Mélina Parent, the daughter of Walter Parent and Angéline Aquin. After a happy courtship, they married December 26/1927, in Our Lady of Victories Church in Vimy. The evening of their wedding day, a dance was held and both Andrew and Melina took their turn in playing the violin and piano. The first evening of their honeymoon was spent at the Cecil Hotel in Edmonton.

They had 3 boys: Peter David (July 6/1929), Andrew Louis (September 5/1933), Leo Roger (June 19/1943). The family moved to Edmonton



Melina, Peter, Andrew, Xavier Leo & Andrew Louis Belland

October 28/1943, where Andrew had found employment with Aircraft Repairs as a carpenter, repairing Harvard & Anson planes. Andrew was a man of many talents: he sang, played the fiddle, was a prankster and also a great joke-teller. He had many occupations, probably because of the Depression, and to support his family, he farmed, was a barber, ran a pool room and dance hall, was a milkman, carpenter, chimney builder, worked for the City of Edmonton and he was the number "1" concrete mixer man for Crown Paving. He became a widower in 1956. Later, he married Alma Nadeau, only to become a widower a second time when she was killed in a car accident January 1/1961.

In 1975, Andrew contracted lung cancer and died at the age of 74, September 15/1976. His funeral was held at St. Pius X Church in Edmonton. He and wife Mélina are both buried in St. Joachim Cemetery, Edmonton.

Mélina was born March 15/1906, on her parents' farm in Morinville. Her brother, Philip Samuel, was born in 1908. She also had another younger brother who died as a baby. Her family later moved on a homestead in Jeffrey, where her grandfather, Samuel Parent, lived. She attended school at Jeffrey and Vimy. Melina was a good homemaker and hard worker, often seen working alongside her husband on the farm or building graineries, etc. She loved to dance, jig and play the piano at dances or on Sunday afternoons. She had a strong character and kept the family together and Andrew's spirit up throughout the Depression and hard times. Mélina helped Andrew operate the pool room and dance hall, and if the need for a bouncer arose, she answered the call. A few young males around Vimy experienced her forceful vitality. After moving to Edmonton, life was easier for her, but this was not to last very long. Mélina's health started to deteriorate and she died at 50, October 19/1956. Her funeral was held at St. Edmund R.C. Church (Edm.) and she was buried in St. Joachim cemetery.

Andrew est né aux Etats Unis et il est arrivé jeune à Fairydell, avec ses parents. A 10 ans, il a eu un accident avec des chevaux et la faucheuse et il a failli se faire couper le pied, mais son père força le médecin à recoudre le pied et l'opération s'avéra un succès, et tout un exploit car on était en 1912. C'est à Vimy qu'Andrew épousa Mélina Parent, originaire de Morinville. Ils ont eu 3 garçons. Chez les Belland, on aimait la musique, le chant et jouer de bons tours. Mélina était une femme forte et elle a travaillé sur la ferme avec

Andrew, et ils ont aussi été propriétaires de la salle de billard. Ils se sont retirés à Edmonton et Mélina est morte en 1956.

BELLAND, Joseph & Omérine (Pelletier)
by Doris

Joseph Belland was born September 21, 1889 in Centerville, Minnesota. The oldest son of Aleck and Elmire spent most of his early years in the "Little Canada" region just north of St. Paul, United States. His early teens were spent in the Centuria, Wisconsin area. As a young man, he found employment on local farms, stringing electric power lines, and in the construction industry where he worked on some of Minneapolis' finest buildings. At the age of 19 or 20, he found work in North Dakota. Word reached him of the emerging farm region of Legal. After investigating the area, he returned to Minnesota to bring his parents, brothers, and sisters the following year. The Aleck Belland family settled in the Fairy dell area, just north of Legal, in 1910. Joseph spent his first winter hauling freight from Edmonton to Athabasca. The summer found him hauling freight required for the building of the MacDonald Hotel.

Céloise Omérine Belland was born December 14, 1893 in the village of St-Roch des Aulnaies, Québec, the second youngest of a family of 14. In 1912, her parents, Achille and Sophie, along with the two youngest, Omérine and André also moved to the Legal area where many of her older brothers had previously settled.

For some time, they lived in a log cabin on brother Sylvio's homestead. Life in this cabin was to be quite eventful for Omérine, for one day her brothers introduced her to this handsome American from Minnesota with whom they were working. This soon led to courtship. Story has it that another fellow was interested in Omérine. One evening as Joseph was on his way to pay her a visit, this fellow came out of the bushes dressed in a bearskin, trying to chase Joseph away. On his next visit, Joseph brought a gun with him and scared this bear away in a hurry.

Joseph and Omérine were married in Legal October 6, 1913. This proved to be a long and happy marriage spanning 69 years. They lived with Joseph's parents for a short while before moving on to their own farm in the Fairy dell area. Angèle, first of a family of 11, was born here September 28, 1914.

The farm they bought in Fairy dell was situated almost halfway between the village of Legal and

the hamlet of Vimy, then called Dunrobin. School for most of the Belland children as well as those of the Pelletiers was a small rural school called Fairy dell.

The Bellands were prominent in their community as well. With the arrival of the railroad, an elevator became the next priority. In order to obtain an Alberta Farmers' Cooperative Elevator at Legal, a minimum subscription of 134 shares at \$60 each was required. A total of \$8,040. Both Joseph and Aleck Belland are registered as original shareholders, holding certificate numbers 12947 and 12948 respectively. Joseph also is known to have worked on the building itself. When they got to putting the shingles on the roof of the elevator, the workmen all declined except for Joseph; he could not turn down the challenge.

From the information passed along to me, life for the Joseph Bellands was not always easy or comfortable. Adelaide remembers one occasion in 1921, around the age of four, that their house burnt down during the threshing season while on the Legal farm. That winter found the family living in the machine shed while Joseph went north to work in a mill town to get some needed cash. Angèle had just started school. Joseph returned to the farm for the summer, but the next winter saw them back at the sawmill, family and all. They lived in the cookhouse building where Omérine looked after the cooking while Joseph worked on a planer.

Adelaide started grade one at the Fairy dell school in 1923. She well remembers the one-room school, an outside barn, and two outside toilets. Here she first learned the English language, for French had been spoken at home. Attendance was fairly regular except for winters when it got too cold or if their home was elsewhere. At the age of seven, in grade two, the family moved into a large house in Edmonton for part of the winter. Angèle and Adelaide attended the Sacred Heart Convent School. Here they also received one hour a day of French instruction from the nuns. The school was close at hand, only one block from their house. This house too was lost. After the fire, the family moved into a shack. Transportation for the Belland family was by streetcar while in Edmonton and by horse and democrat wagon while on the farm. The exchange continued between summers on the farm and wintering where the jobs were continued. The winter of 1926 found the family back in Edmonton.

Slowly the family became more settled in the Fairy dell area. As the school only went to grade

six, Angèle, followed by siblings, had to find other schools in Vimy or Legal. On the Fairydell farm, they were blessed with eight children: Angèle, Aurèle, Adelaïde, Diana, Léo, Beatrice, Joseph, and Agnes. In 1929 or 1930, Joseph and Omérine had bought his father Aleck's 80-acre farm in Vimy, keeping their original homestead in Fairydell as well. They added a room to the Vimy house (which the children often refer to as shack), for Joseph's parents. The children all slept in one room, the parents in another. The house was so cold in winter that a pail of water left overnight in the kitchen would be frozen by morning. Water was hauled from town, two blocks away. While Adelaïde remembers the Belland houses as generally lacking in quality, they always had good barns.

As the children grew older, they were often hired for stooking during threshing season. As they were paid \$5 an acre, same rate as hired help, they worked really hard and were well pleased with their reward. Joseph, having a tractor and threshing machine, often hired out to other farmers. When he did so, the girls would frequently accompany him to help with food and meal preparation. For their pay, the children often were allowed to look through the Eaton's catalogue, shopping for their money's worth, buying sheets, trunks or clothes. The Vimy house saw the addition of their last three children: Doris, Antoine, and Violet.

Joseph and Omérine became naturalized Canadians in 1936 when Aberhart became premier of Alberta. I am not certain why Omérine had to do so, as she was born in Quebec.

Joseph and Omérine lived a long and eventful life together. They lived in Vimy until 1940 when they moved into Edmonton. Joseph then worked for Silverwood dairies until his retirement at age 66 (1956). But retire he did not, for he continued his favorite hobby, that of carpenter. He continued remodeling houses for years. They celebrated many eventful occasions, among them their 50th, 60th, and 65th wedding anniversaries.

Joseph, fils d'Aleck et Elmire Belland, est né au Etats-Unis en 1889, dans la région appelée "Petit Canada" (au nord de St-Paul, Minnesota). Vers l'âge de 20 ans, il vint visiter la région de Legal. Il retourna chercher le reste de la famille et ils s'établirent dans la région de Fairydell en 1910. Omérine est née au Québec. Ses parents, Achille et Sophie Belland, s'établirent à Legal où habitaient déjà quelques-uns de leurs garçons. Joseph et Omérine se sont mariés en 1914 et ils se sont établis sur une terre à Fairydell. Joseph contribua à la

construction du premier élévateur à Legal. A partir de 1924, la famille Belland passa les hivers à Edmonton et les étés à Fairydell. Vers 1930, Joseph acheta la ferme de son père à Vimy. Joseph et Omérine ont obtenu leur citoyenneté canadienne en 1936. Ils quittèrent Vimy pour Edmonton en 1940 et Joseph prit sa retraite en 1956. Ils ont célébré leurs 50e, 60e et 65e anniversaires de mariage avec leurs huit enfants et leur famille.

BELLEY, Napoleon & Gertrude (Montpetit)

Napoleon Belley, first born in a family of 11, came to Legal in 1901 at the age of 10 months. In 1900, his father Pierre came from Tupper Lake, New York, to stake a quarter section on the hill 1 mile east of what was to be the village of Legal. Napoleon helped on the farm as he grew up and went to the school located on land owned by Phillip Mercier. His mother's brother, Joe Denvers, built the brick house replacing the log shack. At the age of 23, he married Gertrude Montpetit, second born in a family of eight. She came to Legal with her family in 1920 from St-Joseph d'Orleans (Ont.) at age 14.

Nap's first job was grain agent. In 1925, he bought a quarter 1 mile south of his parent's place. He cleared enough to build a house, gradually breaking the whole land with a team of horses, Dolly and Maud, and a twobottom plow. At one time, he built a large churn, bought cream from farmers around and made butter for which he built a press and mold and sold good farm butter. A little later, he made a cheese press and made brick cheese with a reputation for good taste. He also made cherry and dandelion wines (no sale!). The house was extended as the family grew, and so did the garden. They canned their produce with a canning machine. Wild strawberries, raspberries and blueberries also found their way to the table, sometimes in homemade ice cream on Sunday. Flour was milled from his own wheat and the aroma of fresh baked bread served with homemade pork and beans are favored memories.

Nap served on the school board a few years. He and his brother George built a grain cleaning mill which served the district for years. In 1947, Rod took over the farm and Nap and Gertie moved to the village. In 1954, they bought a treed lot in St Albert, built a house, then Nap pursued his career in carpentry. He started with the Morin brothers on the existing church in Legal. He built the school that now serves as Club 60 Roses. He also supervised the construction of the hangar that

was used as church and recreation complex in Legal. Nap then built the Legal Post Office and numerous buildings in Westlock for Dr. Whissell, also numerous schools and portables throughout the province. He was on the committee that organized the former Co-op store and Credit Union in Legal in 1943. He made the first cement sidewalks in Legal. He owned a hardware store that he built in St Albert and which Laurier Regimbald managed. After selling the store, he took up building tent trailers which he rented and sold.

Upon retiring, he and Gertrude took up residence in an apartment with a view of the river and growing city! They both enjoyed bowling and travelling until June 4/1981; Gertrude deceased two years later, Nap moved to the Château in Legal. He deceased October 2/1987.

Children: **Fabiola** married Richard Hunting, children: Clifford, Leonard, Kenneth, Susan, James. **Rodrigue** married Kate Currie, children:



Gertrude & Napoléon Belley



Eloise, Maurice, Richard, Fabiola, Charles, Raymond Bolduc, Paul, Hector, Laurette, Raymond Lafrance, Rodrigue, Roméo, Alice, Pauline, Jocelyn, Nanette, Gertrude, Kate & Helen

Barbara, Douglas. **Hector** married Marie Anne (Nanette) Boisvert, children: Francine, Roger, Normand, Jacqueline. **Lorette** married Raymond Lafrance, children: Simon, Giselle, Elaine, Suzanne. **Maurice** married Eloise Carrière, children: Marcel, Richard, Denise, Leo. **Pauline** married Raymond Bolduc, children: Marc, JoAnne, Michael, Paul. **Paul** married Bernadette Lafleur, children: Serge, Pierre, Sonia. Later married Jocelyn Charest, children, David. **Alice** married Charles Laderoute, children: Heather, triplets Michael, Victor. **Helen** married Roméo Riopel, children: Angeline, Lisa.

Napoléon avait 10 mois quand il est arrivé à Legal, de Tupper Lake (NY). Premier d'une famille de 11, il a travaillé sur la ferme très jeune. Il s'est marié en 1923, avec Gertrude Montpetit. Elle était arrivée de l'Ontario en 1920. Napoléon a été agent de grain. Ils ont été très actifs sur la ferme; ils ont fabriqué leur propre farine, du beurre, du fromage, du vin, et ils ont entretenu de grands jardins. Nap s'est impliqué dans le district scolaire et la co-op. Après être déménagé à St-Albert en 1954, il s'est adonné à la menuiserie, construisant plusieurs bâtiments à Legal et à travers toute la province. Nap et Gertrude ont eu 9 enfants. Ils ont pris leur retraite à St. Albert, dans un appartement donnant sur la rivière et la ville. Gertrude est morte en 1981; Nap est alors allé vivre au Château Sturgeon à Legal et il est mort en 1987.

BELLEY, Pierre & Alzire (Demers)

Pierre est né le 10 décembre 1868. Il était le fils de Simon Belley et de Louise Tremblay, de la paroisse Notre Dame du Lac St-Jean au Saguenay. Simon et Louise s'étaient mariés le 21 août 1853, à Grande Baie (Québec). Pierre épousa Alzire Demers, née le 3 décembre 1874 à Ripon (Québec), le 10 avril 1899, à Tupper Lake, petit village près de Faust (New York). Les parents d'Alzire étaient Thomas Demers et Valmire Deschatelets.

Napoléon, né le 13 juin 1900, à Faust (New York), est décédé le 2 octobre 1987. Il avait épousé Gertrude Montpetit (née 31 janvier 1906, à St Joseph d'Orleans (Ontario), décédée 4 juin 1981), le 26 juin 1923, à la paroisse de St-Emile, Legal.

Rosa Belley (née 7 janvier 1902, à Legal, décédée 6 décembre 1947) et Edward Lafortune (né 31 janvier 1897, décédé 9 janvier 1982) mariés à Calgary, 8 mai 1925. Alzire (née 12 août 1903, à Legal, et Athanase Leblanc (né avril 1905 à Legal, décédé 5 avril 1978 à St. Albert, mariés à Legal, 18 août 1926. Thomas (né 12 avril 1905, à Legal, décédé 23 mai 1980 à St-Albert) et Anna Huot (née



Alzire & Pierre Belley

11 juin 1904) mariés à Vimy, 23 octobre 1928. Simon (devenu Bailey, né 23 octobre 1906, à Legal) et Alice Drysdale (née 10 août 1911) mariés à la cathédrale St-Joseph (Edmonton) 21 novembre 1935. Georges (né 23 avril 1908 à Legal, décédé 14 novembre 1969, à St-Eustache, Québec) et Yvette Tanguay (née 2 novembre 1914) mariés à Legal le 9 novembre 1933. Leda (née 9 janvier 1910 à Legal, décédée 23 août 1990 à Edmonton) entra chez les Soeurs Grises de Montréal le 4 septembre 1927 et fit sa profession le 15 février 1930. Yvonne (née 1 août 1911 à Legal) et Edward Astley (né 4 octobre 1910) mariés le 7 mai 1934. Divorcés, Yvonne a marié Ward Carey en 1953. Ward est décédé 14 octobre 1987. Janvier (devenu Bailey, né 1 janvier 1914 à Legal, décédé 14 novembre 1973) et Gladys Young mariés à Victoria (Colombie Britannique) le 11 septembre 1940. Jeannette (née 21 août 1915 à Legal, décédée 20 mai 1985) et Andrew Hnatyshyn (né le 13 décembre 1900, décédé 16 août 1969, à Drumheller) mariés 8 septembre 1937, Edmonton. Valmire (née 27 octobre 1916 à Legal) et Bob Forsythe (né 17 septembre 1913) mariés à la cathédrale St-Joseph, Edmonton, le 29 juin 1942.



Alzire (mother), Pierre, Thomas, Yvonne, Leda, Rosa, Alzire, Simon, Napoléon, George, Jeannette, Valmire & Janvier Belley

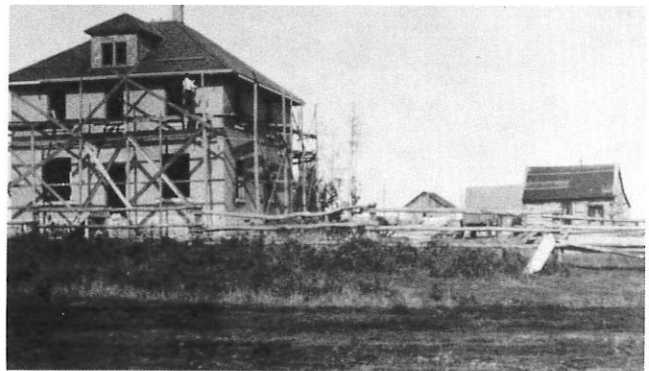
In 1900, Pierre Belley of Tupper Lake, New York, heard from some friends who had taken homestead around Villeneuve in Alberta. He decided to come out west to see what it had to offer. Pierre was born December 10, 1868, at Notre-Dame-du Lac Saint-Jean, Saguenay (Québec). His mother died when he was just a child and life with a step-mother and step-brother was very uncomfortable. He left home at 14, and eventually ended up in the State of New York. It was there that he met the Demers family and their daughter, Alzire, whom he married at Tupper Lake, April 10, 1899. Alzire's family had moved to Faust, New York, from St-Casimir de Ripon (Québec), but when the move had taken place, Grandpa had refused to follow. Alzire's brother, George, who lived in Verner (Ontario), agreed to take Grandpa in and look after him in Canada but on the condition that Alzire stay behind to help out with his many children. She stayed behind and worked herself literally to the bone. She became terminally ill and the doctors sent her back to her family in New York to die. There, virtually blind, kept in the dark room to protect her eyes, she met Pierre Belley. He asked for her hand in marriage. She was to accept, but his confidence and hope won her over. And so it was that he found himself in Legal in 1900, looking for a place to bring his bride and first-born, Napoleon. He bought a quarter section, one mile east of Legal, built a log shack, dug a well, spent the winter preparing things, and come spring, went back for his family.

The train brought them to Strathcona, in

Edmonton. The trip to Legal was in a wagon driven by Indians. This early in the spring, the horses at times were in the water up to their bellies. In Legal, the new family was welcomed and given refuge for a few days by the Girard and Fortin families, while the shack was prepared on what was to be called for 60 years "LA COTE A BELLEY". The baby needed milk so Ménéssippe Massie lent a cow. Theodore Gelot gave them a hen with her 12 chicks, to start them off. Such gestures were never forgotten. The new life seemed to agree with Alzire, and October 27, 1916, she gave birth to her 11th child.

Pierre was busy breaking the land. To supplement his income, he would do some freighting along the Athabasca Landing Trail. As soon as the sons could, they helped along. With the help of one horse and the use of a lot of muscle, the quarter was eventually all broken. Around 1913, Joseph Demers (Alzire's brother), came out West to lend a hand. He helped clear a quarter across the road from the homestead. Pierre, for a fee and the firewood that would be cut, had accepted this task. Joseph often brought back a deer and other wild meat for the family. He also did a lot of contracting around Legal. With the help of Pierre's sons, they soon had a good reputation. In 1918, they were able to replace the log shack on the hill. Joseph bought a machine for making concrete blocks in winter. Spring saw them erect a big house that is still standing there. It has a full basement, two full floors and a huge attic that was never used.

(Translated by family)



Pierre & Alzire Belley's house under construction, 1919. On the right is the first log house built in 1901 on Pierre Belley's farm.

BELLEY, Thomas & Anna (Huot)

Thomas Belley was born in Legal in April 1905. At 7 years old, he was stricken with rheumatic fever that degenerated in St. Vitus's dance and left him with a leaky heart valve. He was an inventive boy.

One day, while watching a threshing machine being powered by a steam engine, he was inspired to build a duplicate model. When radio was first invented, he was the first to build a receiving set in the community. While recuperating, he was also recognized as a clock and watch repair person.

At 17, Thomas left home with a friend, Mr. Shilling. They worked for farmers on their way west to Kimberley, to earn enough to pay their way. There, they found employment in the nickel mine. Tom was only there a short period of time when the electrical crew discovered he had experience in the electrical field. The official moved him to that department, where he did well in the work he enjoyed for the next 2 years. The Coal Valley Company needed an experienced electrician for remodelling their system. After a few years, he received another offer to work for the Luscar Coal. He accepted the position to update the electrical system which had to be changed from DC to AC current. He was there for 3 years.



Anna & Thomas Belley

Within that time, Thomas married Anna Huot of Vimy. He soon returned to his home town where he ventured in the garage business during the depression. They adopted a baby girl and named her Jeanne. His ability being known by the

officials in Mountain Park, he received an offer he couldn't refuse, so he returned to the coal branch. After accomplishing what he was expected to do, he left Mountain Park, his heart not able to cope with the high altitude. He came to Edmonton and was projectionist for the Garneau Theater on 109 St., until he retired and came to St. Albert where he built himself a home. A few years later, he sold his house and moved into an apartment block where he enjoyed his retirement until his passing, May 23/1980. His wife lived on until March 9/1989. Their daughter married George Shaver and they had 3 children: Suzanne, Michelle, Robert.

Thomas est natif de Legal. Il s'est intéressé très tôt aux mécanismes des inventions modernes. Quand il alla travailler dans les mines, ses talents et connaissances en électricité furent vite découverts et utilisés. Il a épousé Anna Huot de Vimy et ils sont venus vivre à Legal où ils adoptèrent Jeanne. Thomas retourna travailler dans les mines de Mountain Park mais il dut quitter à cause de son coeur en haute altitude. Avant de se retirer à St-Albert, Thomas a été projectionniste au Cinéma Garneau; il est mort en 1980 et Anna est morte en 1989.

BERGEVIN, Achille & Lauranna (Lamarche)

Achille was born in St-Joseph d'Orleans (Ontario) in 1917, son of Arthur Bergevin and Anna Montpetit. They came to Legal in 1918. He grew up on his father's farm with a family of 6. School was a two-mile walk in summer and a ride in a warm caboose over the drifts of snow in winter. They used to give the neighbors a ride to church on Sundays. He helped at home with the farming and at the neighboring farmers, pulling roots, cleaning grain and threshing. He married Lauranna Lamarche in 1939. She was born and raised on a farm near Legal. They took up residence on his father's farm, raising geese, ducks, chickens, horses, cows and pigs, growing a large garden and farming. In 1949, they moved to Slave Lake to operate a restaurant for 3 years, leaving the children in the convent. They returned to farming, so as to have the family together.

The following are the children: Colette married Terrance Conlon in 1961 and had 2 children: Cindy, Kevin. Colette was widowed and remarried Ed Langevin. Cindy married Doug Kennedy, children: Ryan, Chelsea. Jeannette married Arvin Schniver in 1967, children: Lori Anne, Kenneth. Aline married Richard Garon in 1965, children:

Rolin, Robin. Rolin married Laura Dzeryk in 1992. Guy married Dolores Stang in 1970, children: Darren, Chantel.

Daniel married Nancy Gibbon in 1992.

In 1972, Achille and Lauranna moved to the village of Legal. Lauranna worked as a cook at the O'Meara Lodge for 14 years. Archie worked for his son-in-law, farming until his retirement. They are enjoying their 9 grandchildren and many friends.



Archille, Aline, Colette, Jeannette, Guy, Lauranna & Daniel

Achille est natif de l'Ontario, arrivé à Legal en 1917. Après avoir passé son enfance et sa jeunesse sur la ferme, il a épousé Lauranna Lamarche en 1939; elle était native de Legal. Ils ont eu 7 enfants. Ils ont géré un restaurant à Slave Lake mais ils sont revenus à Legal en 1972. Lauranna a travaillé comme cuisinière au Lodge O'Meara pendant 14 ans. Achille a travaillé pour son beau-fils sur la ferme, jusqu'à sa retraite.

**BERGEVIN, Arthur & Anna (Montpetit)
par Lucille Bergevin**

Arthur et Anna sont tous les deux nés à St-Etienne de Beauharnois (PQ). Il est né le 12 septembre 1874, tandis qu'Anna est née le 12 janvier 1876. C'est dans cette même paroisse qu'ils se sont mariés le 7 février 1909. Toutefois, après quelques années, ils ont décidé de s'aventurer en Alberta, plus précisément à Legal. Ce long voyage a été fait par train, avec leurs 5 enfants. Ils sont arrivés à Legal en mars 1918. Après quelques mois au village, ils se sont achetés une terre à 1 mile

à l'est et ½ mile au sud du village. Cette terre appartenait à Dinault Lefèbvre. Arthur a cultivé la terre jusqu'en 1942. En 1945, Arthur et Anna prenaient leur retraite bien méritée et se construisaient une maison dans le village.



Arthur & Anna Bergevin, February 1909



Raoul, Elie, Lucien, Archille, Aline, Anna, Arthur, Fernande; September 1947

Arthur et Anna ont eu 6 enfants, cinq nés au Québec (Aline, Raoul, Elie, Lucien, Archille) et une à Legal (Fernande). Anna est morte à Legal le 18 septembre 1950 et Arthur, résident au Foyer Youville à St-Albert, le 27 février 1962.

Arthur & Anna are both natives of Québec province. They were married in 1909 and moved to Legal in 1918. They farmed until 1942. Five of their six children were born down East. Anna died in Legal in 1950; Arthur died in St-Albert in 1962.

BERGEVIN, Elie & Emma (Nobert) & Léa (Pelletier)

Our father, Elie, was born September 21, 1913 in the village of Orléans, Ontario. He was the third born of six children of Arthur Bergevin and Anna Montpetit. With his family, Elie moved west to



Elie & Emma Bergevin's wedding, January 20, 1942

Legal in 1948, where he farmed one mile east and one mile south of Legal. In 1940, he took a trip to Montreal where he obtained a job with Canada Car & Foundry for nine months. Needed back on the farm, he returned to Legal, then rented the family farm from his dad. January 20, 1942, Elie married Emma Nobert of Rivière Qui Barre. Emma was the sixth born of Walter and Urbanie (Soetart). They bought a farm eight miles west of Legal. Over the years, their love and commitment to family unity saw them through many hardships.



Elie & Emma Bergevin family

Elie and Emma had nine children (the youngest died at birth): Raymond, a chemical engineer, presently works for Shell Canada in Gabon, Africa. He and his wife June and children Marc and Pamela live in Calgary. Claudette married Wesley Bokenfohr. They have two children, Colette and Kevin. Colette is married to Bruce Dziwenka and they also have two children, Kaitlin and Chelsea. Lionel, a chartered accountant, has his own accounting firm. He and his wife Joan have two children, Jennifer and David. They live in St. Albert. Dennis, a certified management accountant owns a computer consulting firm. He and his wife Dianne have three children: Scott, Nicole and Lindsay. They live in Leduc.

Sylvia and husband Gerry Demers have an electrical contracting business in St. Albert. Their children are: Gerry Junior (his wife Michelle), Michelle, Lise, Monique and Marc. Marie, a pharmacist, is employed at the Sturgeon General Hospital in St. Albert. She and her husband Larry de Bruijn have three children: Shaun, Geoffrey and Danielle. Georges, his wife Marion, and their four children, Elie, Aimé, Steven and Sarah, reside in Nakusp, British Columbia. He owns an electrical business and is starting a sawmill operation. Francine and her husband Gerald Longpré live in

St. Albert with their three children: Janelle, Jacqueline and Colin. They own and operate Pro-Top Services.

We all attended school in Legal and in 1964, moved to St. Albert. Mom and Dad made many sacrifices to ensure we all had an opportunity to further our education. In 1980, after 38 years of marriage, Emma died suddenly at the age of 64.

Our hearts are filled with many fond memories of our growing years; our mother's fresh baked bread and homemade doughnuts upon our return from school, Mom sewing late into the night to ensure new clothing for school or festive occasions. Other special moments include family prayer time at night, Sunday mass followed by social gatherings with cousins, picnics at the annual fair (Fête au Village) and many more.

In addition to his farming, Elie worked for the Municipal District of Sturgeon as field man, prairie farm assistant, weed inspector and sheriff bailiff. He also worked for 12 years as a custodian for the Catholic School Board before retiring in 1977.

In 1982, he married Léa Pelletier. During the years of his retirement, he did some travelling, enjoyed playing cards and meeting his many friends and neighbors over a cup of coffee at the St. Albert mall. He enjoyed relatively good health until the last year when he succumbed to deteriorating lung disease (June 7, 1992). We will always remember our devoted mother and father, and cherish the values passed down to us.

Elie Bergevin, natif d'Orléans, Ontario, appartenait à une famille de six enfants qui, avec leurs parents Arthur et Anna (Montpetit), se dirigèrent vers l'Ouest en 1948. A Legal, ils achetèrent une terre.

En 1942, Elie épousa Emma Nobert de Rivière Qui Barre. Ils eurent neuf enfants. En 1964, la famille déménagea à St-Albert où les enfants reçurent une excellente éducation.

En 1980, après 38 ans de vie conjugale, Emma est décédée subitement, âgé de 64 ans. Deux ans plus tard, Elie convola en secondes noces avec Léa Pelletier de Legal. Pendant les années de sa retraite, Elie voyagea et s'entoura d'amis. Il décéda le 7 juin 1992.

BERGEVIN, Lucien & Lucille (Préfontaine)

par Lucien Bergevin

Lucien Bergevin épousa Lucille Préfontaine le 23 novembre 1937. Lucien est né à St-Joseph

d'Orléans (Ontario), le 26 mai 1915. Lucille est née le 28 octobre 1918 à Legal.

Mon premier métier était forgeron, ensuite fermier, mécanicien, soudeur, machiniste et tout juste avant ma retraite, bricoleur. Au moment de ma retraite, j'ai été gardien de prison pendant environ trois ans. En 1941, nous avons acheté notre première petite maison. Au mois d'août 1947, nous avons acheté la maison de nos rêves, "la grosse maison de briques". C'était durant cet automne qu'une compagnie pétrolière est venue faire de l'exploration à Legal et toutes les chambres à coucher de la maison ont été louées à ces employés. Lucille a continué à louer les chambres à des professeurs jusqu'à environ 1970. Durant ces années, elle est allée travailler au Château, puis au restaurant du "Legal Corner". Elle s'est bien dévouée aux soupers paroissiaux et aux bazars. Elle s'est aussi impliquée dans la fabrication des costumes pour la Fête au Village. En 1943, nous sommes devenus propriétaires du "Central Garage", jusqu'en juin 1960. De 1960 à 1979, j'ai travaillé pour la Municipalité de Sturgeon à Morinville comme mécanicien, soudeur et machiniste. Pendant quelques années, j'étais conseiller du village et j'ai été aussi bien impliqué dans la communauté. J'ai aidé à construire les bâtiments du Centre Récréatif et aussi le premier "curling rink".



Lucille & Lucien Bergevin

Nous avons eu quatre filles et trois garçons: Rita, Alice, Hélène, Corinne, Marcel, Emile, Léo. Les enfants sont tous mariés: Marcel (8 mai 1939) maria Denise Boisvert de Legal le 25 mai 1960. Ils demeurent à Kelowna avec leurs enfants: Robert (24 juin 1961), marié à Sharon (5 janvier 1963) le 3 mai 1986; Richard (2 novembre 1963); Marc (3 juin 1965) et Denis (3 août 1970). Emile (15 mars 1942) maria Lucille Lagassé le 20 juin 1964; ils sont établis à Ottawa avec leurs enfants: Pierre (19 juin 1965) et Chantal (10 juin 1970). Rita (25 mars 1943) maria Robert Parent (14 décembre 1940) de Legal le 25 mai 1963. Ils ont deux enfants: Gérald (11 juillet 1964) et Ronald (14 janvier 1967). Alice (23 janvier 1946) maria Maurice St-Jean (26 mai 1939) de Legal, le 7 juin 1969. Ils ont trois enfants: Monique (17 juin 1970), Claude (23 octobre 1971) et Denis (11 mai 1973), et résident encore ici. Hélène (25 février 1949) épousa Raymond Sabourin (5 octobre 1943) de Morinville, le 12 avril 1969. Ils vivent toujours là avec leurs enfants: Colette (2 juillet 1975), Lynn (8 août 1976) et Chantale (25 mars 1979). Léo (14 novembre 1952) maria Brenda Hubec (26 janvier 1956) le 8 septembre 1975; ils eurent une fille, Michelle (17 juin 1976). Il épousa Vicki Burns (29 juillet 1958) de Hinton, le 5 avril 1980. Ils eurent trois filles: Marie (6 juillet 1985) et jumelles Nicole et Rachel (29 avril 1988); ils vivent à Hinton. Corinne (30 juillet 1954) épousa Laurier Brisson (16 janvier 1953) de Legal, le 9 février 1975. Ils ont deux enfants: Richard (12 novembre 1975) et René (8 janvier 1978). Ils demeurent à Beaumont. Nous avons maintenant 20 petits-enfants et cinq arrière-petits-enfants.

Lucien was born in Ontario and Lucille in Legal. They were married in Legal in 1937 and they had seven children. Lucien had all kinds of jobs, even as a prison guard. In 1947, they were living



Rita, Corrine, Hélène, Alice, Emile, Marcel & Léo, Lucille & Lucien Bergevin

and renting rooms in the "Big Brick House". They were also owners of Central Garage until 1960. Lucien worked for the Municipal District of Sturgeon and was also village councillor. Lucille worked at Château Sturgeon and at the Legal Corner restaurant. She was also involved in preparing parish suppers, bazaars, and making costumes for Fête au Village.

BERGEVIN, Raoul & Louise (Demers) by Marie-Jeanne Zandbeck

Raoul was born January 19, 1912 in St. Joseph d'Orléans, Ontario, son of Arthur Bergevin and Anna Montpetit. He married Louise, born of Damas Demers and Agnès Lavallée August 18, 1907.



Raoul & Louise Bergevin's wedding, November 23, 1937

After living at Egg Lake for some time, the couple purchased, in Diligence, the farm which belonged to Louise's parents and worked on it until 1962. They were blessed with 12 children: Yvonne (1938) married Albert Anctil July 3, 1957. Son of Hubert and Marie (Boisvert), he was born in 1937; children: Marie-Jeanne (1958), Michael (1959), Denise (1963), Carmen (1966).

Paul (1939) married Sylvia Jones in St. John, New Brunswick in 1961; two children: Anthony (1962) and Rita (1963). Sylvia passed away in 1964 in Baden Baden, Germany. In 1976, Paul married Suzanne Boucher; children: Lynn (1969) and Eric (1977).

Alice was born and died in 1941.

Réal (1942) married Cheryl Maurier, October 8, 1966, in Grimshaw. They resided in a number

of places in Alberta and are now living in Victoria, British Columbia; children: Robbie (1969) and Mark (1970).

Philippe (1945) married Loretta Chidwick in 1986 in Richmond, British Columbia. He became a paraplegic in 1961 following a tractor accident. He then became an employee of the British Columbia government, driving a handi-bus for paraplegics. He is now retired in Delta, British Columbia.

Albert was born and died in 1947.

Arthur (1949) married Carol Bezuko in Edmonton in 1975; children: Jason (1977), Diane (1979) and Justin (1982). They live in Edmonton.

Laurette (1951) married Beuford Gamford in 1970, in St. Albert; children: Shellie (1971) and Arbie (1973). They live in Ashmont.

Roger (1952) married Evelyn Morrison in St. Albert in 1972; children: Chantal (1973) and George (1975). After their divorce, Roger married Donna Glasgow in October 1986, in Victoria, British Columbia; children: Nicole (1989) and Natalie (1990).

Thérèse (1954) married Jerry Oetting in 1984 in Victoria, British Columbia; children: Kevin (1986) and Kelsey (1988).

Agnes (1956) married Wesley Oliver in Vancouver in 1981; children: Lindsay (1982), Jenna (1985) and Cody (1986).

Yvette (1960) married Kelly Richardson in St. Albert in 1982; children: Jeffrey (1983) and Scott (1984).

Raoul and Louise lived in St. Albert from 1965 to 1987. Raoul was employed by St. Albert Sturgeon School Division and the Youville Home for a number of years. Later, he worked four years as a guard for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. At the St. Albert malls, during the



Raoul & Louise Bergevin's 50th wedding anniversary, 1987: Agnes, Arthur, Yvette, Roger, Raoul, Paul, Thérèse, Réal, Yvonne, Louise, Philippe, Laurette

Christmas season, he brought joy to the children by impersonating Santa Claus. Louise worked at the Sturgeon General Hospital for many years.

In 1987, Raoul and Louise, because of failing health, decided to move to Château Sturgeon in Legal. Louise was very well liked by all her children and grandchildren. She always had an extra space for everyone and had a pot of homemade soup ready, with an extra plate for visitors. Raoul is well known for his old-time French songs which would go on, non-stop, at family and friends' gatherings where young and old joined in.

Raoul est né le 19 janvier 1912 à St-Joseph d'Orléans (Ontario). Il épousa Louise Demers, née en 1907. Après avoir vécu à Egg Lake pendant quelque temps, ils s'achetèrent, à Diligence, une ferme qu'ils cultivèrent jusqu'en 1962. Douze enfants ont couronné leur union.

Raoul et Louise ont vécu à St-Albert de 1965 à 1987. Raoul était employé par la division scolaire Sturgeon et par le Foyer Youville. Après plusieurs années en ces postes, il accepta la charge de gardien pour la Gendarmerie Royale. Plus d'une saison de Noël l'ont vu personnifiant le Père Noël dans les centres d'achats. De son côté, Louise travaillait à l'hôpital Sturgeon General. En 1987, devenus faibles de santé, ils se retirèrent au Château Sturgeon à Legal, laissant le souvenir de leur accueil avenant et de leur hospitalité toujours joyeuse.

BERNARD, Arthur & Marie (Larose)

par Marie Grégoire

Arthur, fils de Henri Bernard et Hedwidge Pomerleau, est né le 7 juillet 1914 à Québec et il est mort le 1er août 1962. Marie, fille de Fortunat Larose et Théona Deschâtelets, est née le 13 octobre 1920. Arthur avait cinq ans quand ses parents sont arrivés dans l'Ouest où ils ont acheté du terrain au nord de Vimy. On comptait 18 enfants. Arthur aidait à son père à conduire une grosse besogne et à cultiver le terrain. Il n'a donc pas eu la chance d'avoir une éducation poussée.

Nous nous sommes mariés le 5 juin 1945 à Legal. Nous avons demeuré à Vimy avec sa mère, Arthur ayant perdu son père en février 1943. Au bout de 2 ans, nous avons acheté une maison à Legal. Le travail d'Arthur était de construire des chemins. Il travaillait pour Louis St-Arnaud quand il a dû se faire amputer une main. Devenu assez bien, il s'embaucha pour la Municipalité de Morinville jusqu'au 1 août 1962, quand il a été tué dans un accident.

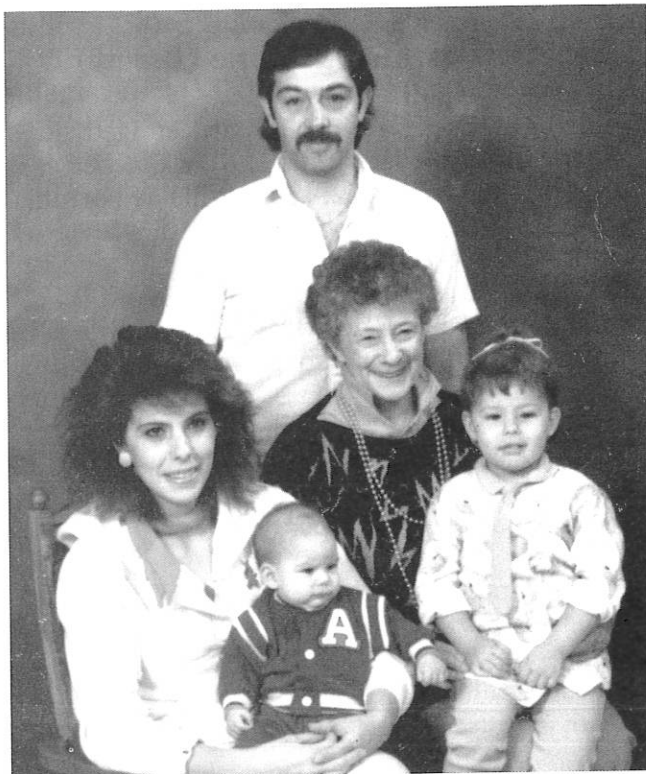
J'ai commencé à travailler comme ménagère au Presbytère de Legal pendant quelques années



Arthur & Marie Bernard

et chez les Soeurs Grises quelque temps. De là, au restaurant de Louise St-Martin pendant 6 ou 7 ans. Quand celle-ci a vendu son restaurant, je me suis trouvé de l'emploi au Centre de Réhabilitation de Legal pendant plusieurs années, jusqu'à ma retraite.

Nous avons eu deux enfants: Michel (né 24 février 1956) marié à Bonnie Edward; un enfant, Amber. Colette (née 3 octobre 1962) mariée à Jerry Lavallée; 2 enfants, Lisa et Chad. Je me suis



Michel Bernard, Colette (Lavallée) & Marie Grégoire with grandchildren Lisa & Chad

remariée en 1966 à François Grégoire. J'ai travaillé à la buvette de Legal jusqu'à la mort de François. Sa mère et son frère vivent encore et demeurent à Edmonton. J'ai toujours demeuré à Legal et j'y demeure encore.

Arthur came West when he was five. Marie Larose (born in 1920), married Arthur in Legal in 1945. While working on road construction, Arthur lost an arm. After his recuperation, he worked for the municipality of Morinville until he died accidentally in 1962. They had two children. Marie worked at the Legal Rectory, at the Grey Nuns', at Louise St.Martin's restaurant, and also at the Rehab Centre. She remarried François Grégoire.

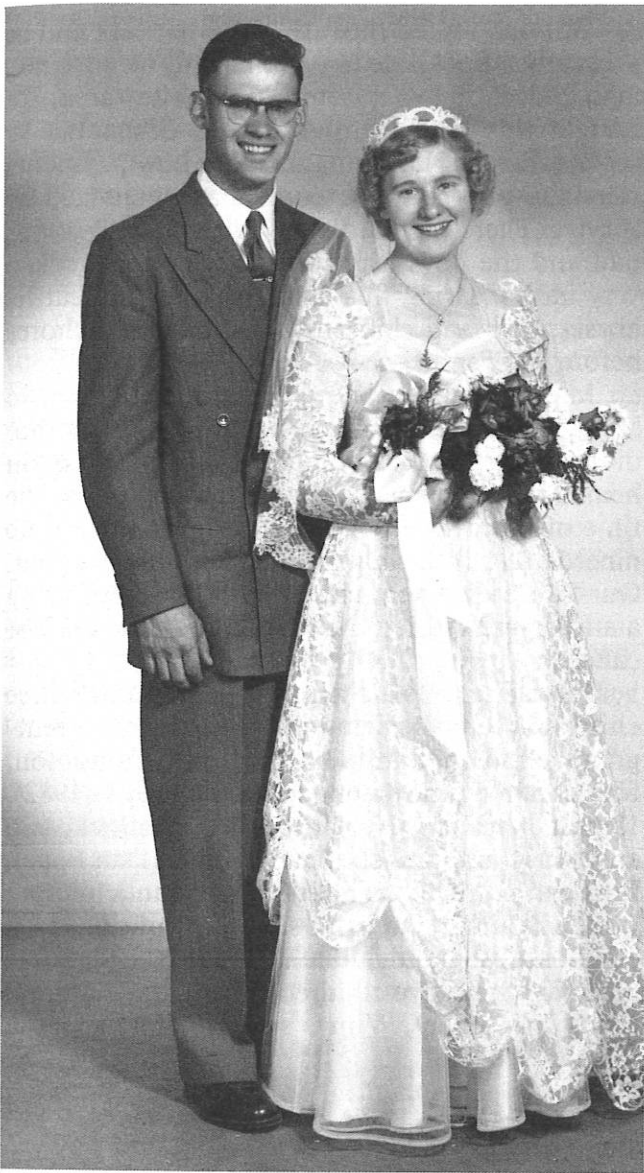
BERNARD, Emile & Mary (Hew)

by **Mary Bernard**

Joseph Emile André Bernard was born October 25, 1924 in Mearns. His parents were Fortunat and Marie Bernard. In March 1925, at five months, he moved with his family to the Vimy district and they settled on the farm where he still resides.

Emile attended Boudreau School, one mile south of his home from which he walked with other members of his family. He missed a lot of school, as he had to help his dad in the field, driving horses from morning until night. He rode on a cart behind the harrows. It was a long and tiring day. In March 1943, he left home for Dawson Creek, British Columbia to work on the Alaska Highway for three months. He left Edmonton on an open box car of gas pipes, and for a day and a half he rode this way in O°F. When he arrived in Dawson Creek, he was so cold and had such a sore back, he couldn't move, so he was put in the American Hospital until he was better. After he got out, he drove a truck, hauling cement from the railroad to the supply yard, to build the Peace River Bridge. He worked there until the end of May, when he returned to Edmonton to work for Burns Packing Plant for three months, making sausage, cheese loaf and cooked pressed ham. He returned home to help his dad until harvest. Emile did not leave this farm after 1943. In 1948, he and his younger brother, Marcel, farmed together; Emile farmed the home quarter (with cattle, hogs and chickens) and Marcel the east quarter (driving his own school bus).

June 8, 1953, Emile married Mary Hew of Clyde. In April 1954, our first son, Terrance, was born. We milked nine cows by hand and fed 300 hogs. In 1957, we purchased a milking machine. We had a milk parlor off the main barn, where we did the separating. In April 1958, twin sons



Emile & Mary Bernard's wedding, June 8, 1953

Patrick and Frederick were born. In October 1962, their last son, Roger, was born. Emile now felt secure that the Bernard name would continue. In 1964, he built his first big hog-farrowing barn. In 1965, we put the waterworks in, which was a scary project, as the ditches kept caving in from the five and a half inches of rain we had in July. In the fall of 1965, Emile was plowing and his foot was caught in the plow hitch when he was changing the depth of the plow; it hit a stone, the hitch tripped and he fell on the ground with his boot still hooked to the plow. He managed to undo it and run after the tractor. He hurt his hip badly and today it still hurts. In 1966, Emile purchased a quarter of land from Theresa Baert. In 1967, he broke the 30 acres. In November, he set fire to the brushed windrows and was caught between the two

rows, as the wind was very strong and the smoke was so bad, he had to crawl out on his hands and knees.

In September 1968, Monica, our only daughter, was born. Now our family was complete and everyone was happy. We had a nice crop that year, but August 13, frost came and froze everything. It was around this time that Roger caught his arm in a grain auger; luckily, he didn't lose his arm. From 1972-1978, Emile rented his cousin Amédée Gagné's farm. February 22, 1973, we had an accident in our farrowing barn and lost 110 hogs due to smoke inhalation caused by a broken belt on the stoker. In May 1973, we started to build our present home. February 8, 1974, Emile's father died. In November 1976, Fred married Patricia Davies from Dapp. In January 1977, Pat married Rachelle Letourneau from Legal. Our boys live close to home, as Emile gave each of them an acreage when they got married. August 18, 1979, Terry married Lilliane St. Onge from Legal.

In 1979, Emile with the help of his boys built a large feeder barn, that would hold 400 hogs. This same year he bought Marcel's quarter. In 1980, we had anxious days as we learned in September that our youngest son, Roger had Hodgkins Disease. After chemotherapy treatment, he has beaten the disease and is well again. In the spring of 1985, Emile sold two quarters to Rodger Morril; now he had only the home quarter to farm and less work, as his back and hip were hurting badly. In 1989, he turned 65, decided it was time to retire and rented the home quarter to Paul Regimbald. He still had a few hogs, but sold all of them in 1990. He also had a machinery sale April 25, 1990.

In June 1990, Roger married Irene McPherson



Emile & Mary Bernard family

from Flatbush. There is Monica left, but she is busy with school, will have to wait for her wedding on Emile's 68 birthday, October 25, 1992. Monica graduated in Environmental Technology from Mount Royal College, Calgary. At present, taking Geology at University of Calgary (U. of C.). Emile and Mary have four grandchildren: Sarah and Cory (Fred's), Colleen and Shaun (Pat's). Emile's family members are employed in various jobs, Terry (surveying at Athabasca Pulpmill), Pat and Fred (cabinet makers), Roger (Alberta Agr. Industries Ltd., Westlock), Monica (U. of C.).

Emile est né le 25 octobre 1924, fils de Fortunat et de Marie Bernard. Il arriva à Vimy en 1925 avec ses parents qui s'établirent sur un homestead. Il alla à l'école Boudreau. En 1943, il partit travailler à Dawson Creek, mais revint à Vimy prendre une ferme avec son frère en 1948. En 1953, il épousa Mary Hew de Clyde, et en 1966, ils achetèrent la terre de Thérèse Baert. En 1989, Emile prit sa retraite. Emile et Mary eurent cinq enfants: Terrance, Patrick, Frederick, Roger et Monica, qui leur ont donné quatre petits-enfants.

BERNARD, Fortunat & Mary (Roy)

by Jeannette Beauchamp

The Fortunat Bernard family came from Ste. Justine, Québec in June 1920 with five children: Adrien (eight), Jeannette (six), Marie (five), Henri (three) and Yvonne (nine months). Twin girls Lucienne and Rosanna were born (between Henri and Yvonne), but they died in infancy from whooping cough. There were no inoculations then.



Fortunat & Marie Bernadette Bernard's wedding, January 16, 1911

The family settled on a farm in the Mearns area. Adrien and Jeannette started school at Egg Lake school. We couldn't speak a word of English and we were frightened. Louise, Lucienne (I guess our parents were determined to have a Lucienne in the family) and Emile were born there.

Our dad rented the farm for five years and as it became impossible to pay the rent, he obtained a good deal on two quarters in the Vimy area. He bought this land from Alphonse Gibeault. We moved there in the spring of 1925. Low payments were the only way we could have managed to survive. There was hardly any land cleared, so our dad and the boys who were old enough worked very hard clearing this land. We also had cattle, horses, pigs and chickens. We had to do chores before we went to school.

Marcel, Juliette and Clémence were born in Vimy. Lucienne died at six of polio. Our mother died at the age of 40, January 11, 1934 of a brain hemorrhage. Clémence was 22 months old at the time of her death, a big loss to us as there were nine of us still at home, only one was married. Our father died February 8, 1974, after suffering a stroke and Adrien died November 15, 1983 of cancer.

Jeannette (Beauchamp), Edmonton, three children, eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren. Marie (Richardson), Edmonton, four children (one daughter passed away in 1982), 11 grandchildren. Henri (Annie), Westlock, two children, four grandchildren. Yvonne (Dan Pope), Edmonton, three children, four grandchildren. Louise (Cunningham), Oshawa, Ontario, seven children, five grandchildren. Emile (Mary), home place in Vimy, five children, four grandchildren. Marcel (Maxine), Vimy, seven children, seven grandchildren. Juliette (Paul Destruel), Clyde. Clémence (Dusseault), Westlock, six children, three grandchildren.

It certainly wasn't an easy life having lost our mother at such an early age and so many young children left at home but we all stuck together and worked very hard. This is how we survived.



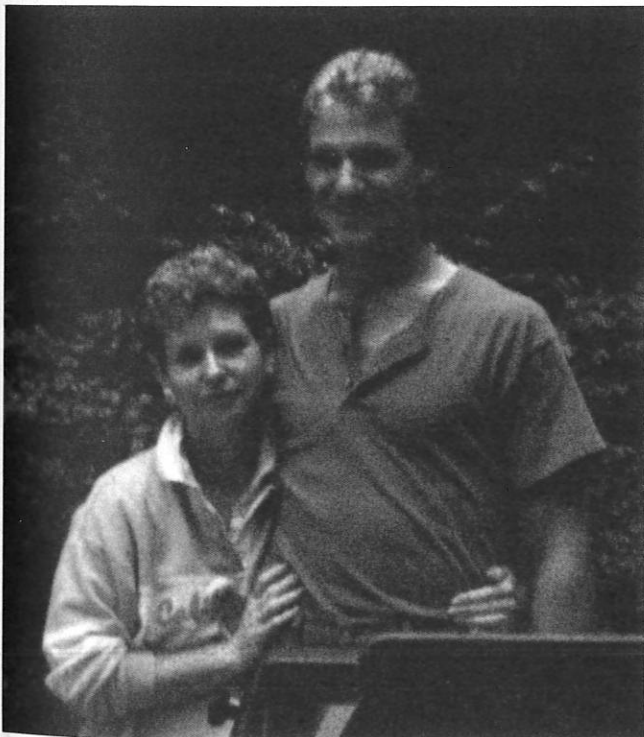
Yvonne, Clémence, Marie, Louise, Jeannette, Juliette, Fortunat, Adrien, Henri, Marcel, Emile

La famille Fortunat Bernard est originaire de Ste-Justine (Québec). Elle est arrivée en Alberta en 1920 avec cinq enfants. Ils se sont d'abord établis dans la région de Mearns, puis à Vimy en 1925. Mme Bernard est décédée en 1934 et Fortunat, en 1974: ils ont laissé huit enfants et de nombreux petits-enfants.

BERNARD, Fred & Patricia (Davies)

I'm Fred Bernard son of Emile and Mary, twin to Patrick. We were born April 23, 1958 in Westlock. We grew up in the Vimy area where we attended school until grade nine. Our high school years were spent in Westlock.

In November 1976, I married Patricia Davies of Dapp, daughter of Frank and Betty Davies. In May 1977, our daughter Sarah was born. In March 1979, my parents gave us three acres which we developed. We moved onto this property in June and are still living there today. In December 1979, our son Cory was born. Over the years I've worked for Parwest Oil Services but in 1990, Patrick and I started our own company "Twin Homes". We do home furnishing, all aspects from baseboards to cabinets. My wife worked for several years at the Immaculata hospital but is now working as a personal care aide at the Auxiliary hospital in Westlock. Sarah is now in grade 10 at the R.F. Staples High School. She hopes to become a park warden when she finishes. Cory is in grade eight



Patricia & Fred Bernard

at Vimy school and is interested in hunting and fishing so maybe his career will follow those lines. I've been in the area all of my life. My wife and family have made our acreage a home to come back to, a home to stay.



Sarah & Cory Bernard

Fred est frère jumeau de Patrick. Ils sont nés en 1958, enfants d'Emile et Marie Bernard. Ils ont grandi dans la région de Vimy et ils y habitent toujours. Fred a épousé Patricia Davies de Dapp, fille de Frank et Betty. Ils ont deux enfants: Sarah et Cory. Fred et son frère sont partenaires de l'entreprise de construction "Twin Homes".

BERNARD, Henri & Annie (Derko)

by Germaine Kantor

Henri, second son and fourth child of Fortunat and Marie Bernadette Bernard, came to Vimy in 1925 at the age of nine. His parents settled on land that is currently the home of Emile and Mary Bernard. He attended Boudreau School but had to leave after grade five to help on the farm. In January 1934, when he was only 18, his mother passed away.

Annie, eldest daughter and second child of Mike and Mary Derko, came to Vimy in 1927, at the age of eight. The Derko family settled on a farm southwest of Vimy, bordering Highway 2. She attended Vimy School from grades three to nine, then she had to help with household and farm duties. She also worked as a maid for \$10 a month.

Henri and Annie met at a baseball game in Vimy and after a courtship of two years, were married on January 25, 1937, at St. Joseph's Basilica in Edmonton, followed by a reception for family and friends at the Derko residence in Vimy.



Henri & Annie Bernard's wedding, January 25, 1937

After honeymooning in Edmonton for four days, they moved in with Henri's father and siblings. In the spring of 1937, they rented the Emile Laplante farm (known today as Roger Laplante's place) and moved into the farmhouse that fall. They continued to lease this land until 1958. There, they began a life of their own, tilling the land, raising cattle and chickens, milking cows, feeding pigs and of course planting a very large garden and potato patch. Annie became well known in the area for her weedless garden and best pickling cucumbers. Henri also worked on threshing and construction crews in the area for \$1 a day. Those were 12-hour days. To supplement their income, they sold cream, eggs and hand-churned butter.

Although times were difficult, they enjoyed playing cards with their neighbours. Summertime brought the church picnic and baseball. They walked everywhere until 1944 when finally they bought a second-hand four-door Mercury sedan. They have two children: Germaine (Noonoo also known as Geri) born September 19, 1942 and Robert (p'tit Bob also known as Bob) born August 2, 1949. In August 1948, they purchased a school bus and a house in the town of Vimy. At that time living in town meant a small acreage on the edge of town across from the ball field. Many baseball games were watched from that front porch. Dad's school bus career lasted until 1984, nine years after moving to Westlock. He drove most of the time, but since they were still grain farmers, Mom drove during spring work and harvest time. The bus route remained virtually unchanged for all of those years. Together Mom and Dad were acknowledged for 37 years of accident-free driving. Dad retired June 30, 1984, at the age of 68. In 1951, Dad bought the Pete St. Arnaud land, east of Vimy. Bumper crops of malt barley, hay, rapeseed and also of vegetables from Mom's garden, were enjoyed for many years. During the winter months, they enjoyed the local senior hockey and eventually became quite involved with the sport in any way possible. Mom was also involved with the concession booth at the rink. Many hands of "mitaine" were played when three or four couples would exchange hosting the card nights. After many years of either helping with or heading the annual Church Chicken Supper, Mom developed quite a catering prowess and pursued it as a career. That was short-lived as she found the meagre profits did not justify the amount of hard work she did.

I have very fond memories of Christmas at our house, from going with Dad to chop the tree, to the wonderful "Réveillon" Mom put on after midnight mass. In 1975, Mom and Dad moved to Westlock where they still reside, enjoying reasonably good health. Germaine and Bob both attended Vimy School. Germaine left after completing grade 11 to work for the Canadian National Railway in Edmonton where she met her husband, Gene Kantor. They were wed February 6, 1960. Except for 11 years spent in Jasper (from August 1970 to October 1981), they have lived in Edmonton. They have two children: Greg, born March 13, 1961, residing in Sherwood Park and employed with Trans Alta Utilities; Kim, born April 11, 1964, residing in Edmonton, employed with the Canadian National Railway. Bob completed his grade 10 in Vimy and grades 11 and

12 at St. Anthony's College in Edmonton. After one year at the University of Alberta, apprenticing as an electrician, he married Vivian Montpetit April 10, 1970. Bob returned to the farm in 1972 to carry on the farming tradition.



Henri & Annie Bernard's 50th wedding anniversary, January 25, 1987: Bob, Annie & Henri Bernard, Geri Kantor

Henri Bernard, fils de Fortunat et de Marie Bernadette, arriva à Vimy en 1925, à neuf ans. Annie, fille de Mike et de Mary Derko, arriva à Vimy en 1927, à l'âge de huit ans. Henri et Annie se sont mariés le 25 janvier 1937, à la basilique St-Joseph à Edmonton. Au printemps, ils louèrent la ferme d'Emile Laplante jusqu'en 1958. En hiver, ils jouaient aux cartes avec les voisins et l'été, ils participaient aux jeux de base-ball et au pique-nique de la paroisse. En 1948, Henri acheta une maison au village et un autobus scolaire qu'il conduisit pendant 37 ans sans un accident. Parfois, Annie conduisait, surtout le printemps et l'automne. En 1975, ils déménagèrent à Westlock où ils vivent encore.

Henri et Annie eurent deux enfants: Germaine et Robert. Germaine vit à Edmonton avec son époux, Gene Kantor. Robert épousa Vivian Montpetit le 10 avril 1970 et s'installa sur la ferme en 1972.

BERNARD, Marcel & Maxine (Hills)

Marcel was born and raised on the farm in the Vimy area. He went to Boudreau school, up to grade eight, then stayed on the farm with his father (Fortunat Bernard), brother Emile and two of his sisters. In 1949, he went into the schoolbus business and started driving in the Jeffery area. In 1950, he built a garage on a lot he still owns in Vimy. In the fall of 1952, he bought a little house, moved it on his lot in the spring of 1953, and in June 1953, he married Maxine Hills of Legal. He kept farming and driving a school bus.



Marcel & Maxine Bernard's wedding, June 1953

In 1954, our first child (Betty) was born. In the summer of 1955, second child (Maurice). We were busy remodelling the house, farming, driving the bus and decided to take the Cockshutt Dealership in 1956. We rented our farm to brother Emile.

There was a lot of work involved with this dealership, so my wife would help out with the driving of the bus in the afternoons. In the spring of 1958, third child, Delores was born. Carrying on as usual with daily things came 1959, when Pauline was born. The summer and fall of this year were very exciting, because I had sold several combines, and won an all-expense-paid trip to Bermuda. In 1961, Shirley was born. Selling and setting up machinery was a bit too much for one person, so I'd hire help to catch up. In 1963, Edwin was born. We were so proud to have a son, after so many girls. But the house was getting too small so we decided to build a new one. We sold the little

house on the same location. In 1964, Doris was born and we were busy like bees! Days flew by too quickly.

Our children went to Vimy school up to grade nine, then to Westlock public high school. Each one graduated, then started to leave home one by one. For 22 years, we had children going to school.

Today, we have three living in Vancouver. Maurice (catering business), not married. Delores married Doug Nickel in 1991, (runs a furniture manufacturing business), works at the University of British Columbia. Pauline married Stephen Jeffs in 1987 (works for Minolta Camera Co.), works for Reed Stenhouse Limited, have a daughter.

All the other four children live in Edmonton. Betty married Laurent Laforce in 1972 (Department of National Defence, Namao), works at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police headquarters, Edmonton. Three sons: one son attended University in Montreal, in business administration; second son in University of Alberta (U of A), in medical technology; youngest son in last year of high school. Shirley married Lee Ewmett in 1986 (Ronald's Printing Co.), works for law firm at U of A. One son and one daughter. Edwin married Monica Kuyk in 1990 (Edmonton Transit System bus lines), one son. Doris is not married and works for Metropolitan Trust Co.

It took a lot of hard work, love, patience and encouragement to bring up a family of this size. Now here we are in 1992, myself retired but my wife still driving the school bus.

Marcel Bernard, fils de Fortunat, est né et a grandi sur une ferme près de Vimy. Tout en cultivant sa terre, il faisait aussi du transport d'autobus scolaire en 1953. La même année, il a épousé Maxine Hills de Legal. En 1956, ils ont loué leur terre et pris l'agence Cockshutt. Leurs sept enfants sont allés à l'école à Vimy, à Westlock et quelques-uns ont fait des études universitaires. Marcel est retraité depuis 1992 et Maxine conduit toujours un autobus scolaire.

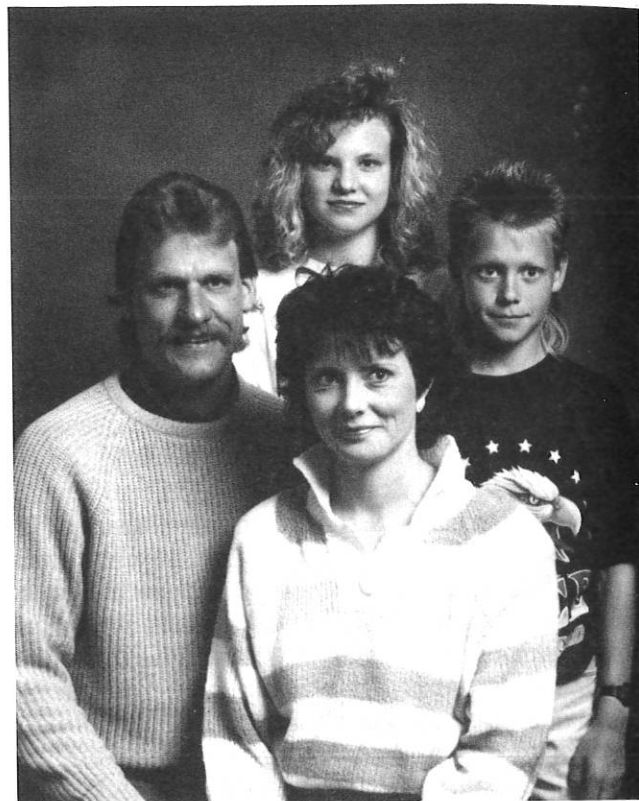
BERNARD, Pat & Rachelle (Letourneau)

I married Rachelle Letourneau of Legal January 22, 1977, daughter of Jean Pierre and Agnes of Legal. We made our home in Vimy, on an acreage, one quarter mile north of my mom and dad's, "Mary and Emile's" home place. My dad was raised there and that is where they still both reside.

Rachelle and I have two children: Colleen (December 25, 1977), Shaun (May 18, 1980). They

are attending Vimy school and from there on will be attending Westlock High School.

My twin brother Fred and I have our own business in cabinetry. Rachelle is employed as a personal care aide at Westlock Auxiliary Hospital.



Pat & Rachelle Bernard family

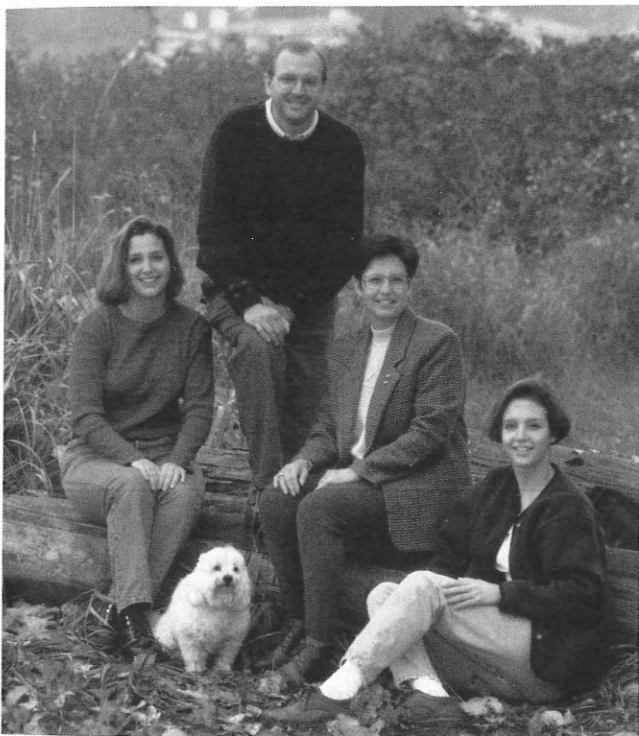
Pat Bernard a épousé Rachelle Letourneau de Legal en 1977. Ils se sont établis sur un lotissement au nord de Vimy. Ils ont eu deux enfants. Pat travaille dans la menuiserie avec Fred, son frère jumeau. Rachelle travaille à l'Hôpital Auxiliaire de Westlock.

BERNARD, Robert Albert & Vivian Julie (Montpetit)

Robert (Bob) Bernard, son of Henry and Annie of Vimy, was born in 1949. Vivian Julie, daughter of Paul and Marianne Montpetit of Legal, was born in 1951. They were married April 10, 1970 and lived in Edmonton until 1972. Bob was working as a construction electrician and Vivian, as a secretary/stenographer. In 1972, they moved to the Bernard family farm located one mile east and one half-mile south of Vimy. Because Bob's parents resided in the hamlet of Vimy, Bob and Vivian were faced with building a homestead on the farm site. The site was originally used as a farm implement storage facility for the farm, and

had numerous granaries huddled on the southeast corner of a wood lot. They continued to work in their respective jobs and commuted back to their newly purchased mobile home.

In 1974, they took possession of the farm and began to expand their operations. A hog feeder barn was built in 1974 to house 200 hogs and, in 1976, Bob built a farrowing barn adjacent to the feeder barn to undertake a full-fledged farrow-to-finish hog operation. During this time, Vivian was busy raising their two daughters, Christine (1973) and Connie (1975), and helping with the numerous farming duties.



Connie, Bob, Vivian & Christine Bernard

Bob and Vivian busied themselves with diversification on the farm. In 1976, they built a large heated workshop to allow winter maintenance of the expanding array of farm equipment appearing on site. As well, they built a hay storage shed to accommodate increased acreage in forage crops. 1977 saw the construction of a feedlot. Bob purchased feeder cattle from local auction marts and fattened them for market.

During this time, they expanded their original farm of 300 acres to nearly 800 acres by leasing, and expanded grain storage and handling facilities. A new home was built in 1978, and the mobile home sold and moved off site.

Their personal interests also turned to contributing to the community. Bob was a charter

member of the newly formed Vimy and District Lions Club and led the club as president from 1980 to 1982. The club was awarded the District Governor's Outstanding Club Award in the 1980-1981 season and continued to be recognized as a leader in the zone. Bob helped establish fundraising casinos for the Lions. As well, Bob, along with several Lions Club members, constructed the playground which is still being used in the schoolyard. Bob and Vivian became active members of the Vimy Community Hall Board and assisted the community in holding numerous activities as well as upgrading the hall. As time passed, Vivian became involved in the local school as a teacher's aide and also held a job in Westlock to supplement the farm income.

By 1980, Bob and Vivian began to consider their options for the future. They undertook the enormous task of having Bob go to university while they both struggled to maintain the family farming operation. Although they did close down the feedlot and hog operation, the task remained formidable. However, by 1984, Bob had a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alberta. During the past four years, Bob and Vivian had focused on their commitment to continue operating the farm and obtaining an education for Bob that would provide them with further opportunity in the future.

Little did they realize the dramatic changes they would experience. Upon graduation in April 1984, Bob accepted a plant engineering job with General Motors in Oshawa, Ontario. Their life on the farm was near its end. By July 1984, the farm had been sold and the farm equipment was sold in a huge auction sale attended by many friends and neighbours. With well wishes from the locals, the family left for Oshawa and a new beginning.

The family now resides in Delta, British Columbia. They visit the Vimy area to see family and rekindle old friendships.

Robert, fils de Henry et Annie Bernard, est né en 1949 et Vivian, fille de Paul et Marianne Montpetit de Legal, est née en 1951. Ils furent mariés le 10 avril 1970 et vécurent deux ans à Edmonton. En 1972, ils déménagèrent à la ferme du père de Robert, à Vimy, et s'achetèrent une maison mobile qu'ils furent installer à la ferme.

Entre-temps, ils eurent deux filles: Christine (1973) et Connie (1975). Robert a été président du club des Lions de 1980 à 1982. Robert et Vivian se sont aussi impliqués avec le conseil de la salle communautaire. Puis, Vivian travailla comme aide-enseignante à Vimy et travailla aussi à Westlock.

En 1984, Robert obtint un diplôme en génie en électricité. Il obtint un poste à Oshawa avec General Motors. La ferme fut vendue en juillet 1984. La famille a depuis déménagé en Colombie Britannique.

BILECKI, Julian & Annie (Borduzak)

Annie, the oldest daughter of Peter and Sophie Borduzak, was born on February 26, 1914, and grew up in the Waugh district, attending Half Moon School. She was a very hard-working and dedicated person, helping with the chores at the farm.

In October 1934, she married Julian Bilecki. Julian was born in Probizno, located in Western Ukraine, on April 27, 1904. He arrived in Canada in 1927, and was sponsored by his good friend Nick Gill, who farmed in the Fairydell (Legal) District. His two sisters, Rosalia (married Peter Bociak) and Phylis (married Shymkiw) followed and arrived in Alberta at a later date. In 1935, Julian and Annie purchased their first farm which was located four miles north of Bon Accord.

In 1938, Julian purchased his first tractor, a WD 30 with steel wheels, for \$1,200. He also purchased his first car, a 1938 Plymouth Coupe for \$150. In 1944, Julian and Annie sold the farm and moved to an area west of the first homestead. They purchased this land from Shorty Owen for \$10,500. In order to speed up the harvest operation, Julian purchased a threshing machine in 1948.

They were blessed with three children: Peter, Doreen and Patricia. They attended the local Willow Springs School for the first portion of their elementary grades. The school was eventually moved to Bon Accord. This meant riding the yellow school bus every day. There were times during the winter when the roads would be completely blocked by snow drifts. During these times, the children got a ride to the main road with a sleigh pulled by horses.

Julian and Annie were active members of the Fedorah Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. There are many happy memories of the various church activities. Culture, language and religion were taught by the priests during the summer holidays to the children of the area.

In 1950, Julian and Annie built a new house with the help of brother-in-law Peter Bociak. A battery power unit provided electrical lighting. In 1952, Calgary Power installed power to the area at a cost of \$900. Harvesting became much easier in 1952 when Julian purchased his first combine.

In 1963, they purchased a house in Edmonton. Their son Peter took over the operation of the home farm. Julian farmed the two quarters in the Legal area previously farmed by their son Peter, which were purchased from Mark Brandon. Fairydell School was located on the northeast corner of this land. Julian was a very organized and knowledgeable farmer. This land is now farmed by son-in-laws Victor and Steve, who reside in Edmonton.

Peter (born January 21, 1936) attended Vermilion Agricultural College after completing grade 12. In 1961, he married Ollie, daughter of Daniel and Mary Melnychuk of Thorsby. They helped with the farming operation and eventually, were the main operators of the farm.

Doreen (December 23, 1940) attended a secretarial program at McTavish Business College in Edmonton upon completion of grade 12. In 1962, she married Victor, son of John and Sandra Buga of Willingdon. They reside in Edmonton and have three daughters. Their first daughter Karen (June 17, 1966) received her nursing degree from the University of Alberta. She married Dave O'Neill in July 1989. Vic and Doreen are proud grandparents of one grandson, Christopher O'Neill, born on July 24, 1991. Their second daughter, Cheryl (April 13, 1968), received her degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Alberta. Their last daughter, Debbie (May 22, 1971), is presently attending the University of Alberta, in the Faculty of Education.

Patricia (March 30, 1942) also attended McTavish Business College after completing high school, in an accounting program. In 1965, she married Steven, son of Dmytro and Katherine Chwyl of Edmonton. They reside in Edmonton and also have three daughters. Lisa (January 6, 1969) is presently enrolled at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Dentistry. In June 1992, she married Dave Bergt. Heidi (May 28, 1971) is presently attending the University of Alberta, in the Faculty of Arts, to eventually pursue a career in Law. Shelly (September 26, 1974) commenced studies in the Faculty of Education this year at the University of Alberta.

Julian and Annie enjoyed their retirement years by travelling, attending functions at the seniors' centres and playing cards with friends. They enjoyed vacations to many different parts of the world. They were members of both St. Josephat's Ukrainian Catholic parish and Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic parish. In 1985, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a special



Lisa Bergt (Chwyl), Steven & Pat Chwyl, Steven, Ollie, Peter, Lori & Gary Bilecki, Doreen, Vic & Debbie Buga, Shelly & Heidi Chwyl, Annie & Julian Bilecki, Karen O'Neill (Buga) & Cheryl Buga

function that was enjoyed by family and friends. They were very proud of their children's and grandchildren's accomplishments as the latter pursued their careers. They were always willing to help the children. Gardening was also their great pride.

In January 1992, Annie was diagnosed with cancer and died on June 10, 1992. Julian is still residing in his home and is in good health. He enjoys watching sports on television, especially hockey and football, cheering on his home teams. He also enjoys gardening and playing cards with friends and family.

BILODEAU, Albert & Alma (Demers)

Né le 30 avril 1881 à Ste-Marguerite, Comté Dorchester (PQ), Albert est arrivé à Legal en 1906 pour prendre un homestead 7 miles au nord de Legal. Il continua son métier de bûcheron à Washington pendant 3 ans. De retour à son homestead en 1909, il se construisit une maison de bois rond, équarri sur 2 côtés à la hache. Après avoir couché un mois sous une tente, il couchait enfin sous un toit, entre quatre murs. Durant ce temps-là, il allait à Legal à cheval suivant un sentier

dans le bois. Il ne passait pas très loin d'un Monsieur Demers et c'est là où il a rencontré Alma. Après l'avoir courtisée pendant 3 ans, il l'épousa le 9 janvier 1912, à Legal. Sept enfants sont nés à cet endroit.

Philippe (né 30 novembre 1912) maria Marguerite Yeuellou le 15 juillet 1940. Ils ont résidé sur une ferme à l'ouest de Vimy. Blanche (né 4 mars 1914, décédée 11 juin 1932 d'empoisonnement dans un pied). Alice (2 septembre 1915) maria Amédée Gagné le 22 avril. Ils résident à Vimy. Germaine (17 avril 1917) maria Benoît Gagné de Vimy le 6 août 1946. Rose (24 juin 1919) prit soin de son père jusqu'à la dernière heure. Joseph (24 août 1921) s'inscrivit volontaire dans l'armée canadienne en 1942, durant la Deuxième Guerre Mondiale, pour être 4 ans outre-mer. A son retour, il prit le bien paternel et épousa Lillian Lanouette le 27 mai 1948. Gertrude (30 juin 1926) maria Alphonse Gagné le 23 mai 1950, pour aller demeurer à St-Paul.

Toute la famille a fréquenté l'école Boudreau qui avait entre 40 et 45 élèves, de la 1^{ère} à la 8^{ième} années. Albert Bilodeau fut commissaire plusieurs années à l'école Boudreau. Il était reconnu dans



Germaine (Gagné), Jos, Philippe & Rose Bilodeau, Alice (Gagné), Albert Bilodeau, Gertrude (Gagné) & Alma Bilodeau

la région pour l'élevage de porcs de haute qualité, pour la reproduction et aussi pour la viande. Pour savoir s'ils étaient prêts pour le marché, il avait mis deux gros pôteaux et les deux dernières semaines, les porcs passaient serrés et cela les allongeait pour une meilleure qualité. Comme vous pouvez voir, il y avait de l'humour dans la famille. Quand Albert allait vendre ses porcs à Edmonton, il achetait des petites choses. Cette fois-là, il s'est acheté une paire de salopettes. Comme toujours, les jambes étaient 6" trop longues. Les filles commençaient à être grandes et toutes bonnes couturières. Le soir même, la mère s'en va traire les vaches et les filles ouvrent le paquet, coupent les jambes des salopettes de 6" et remettent les salopettes dans le paquet. Le lendemain matin, la maman ouvre le paquet sans déplier les salopettes, coupe 6" des jambes, remet les salopettes dans le paquet. Albert ouvre le paquet, met ses salopettes et en souriant, il dit: "Cette paire-là ne me marchera pas sur les jambes".

Alma était toujours active avec les travaux de la ferme, et aussi les organisations paroissiales. En 1919, Vimy fut incorporé. Ils y ont été résidents jusqu'à leur retraite en 1947. Ils déménagèrent au Village de Legal où Madame Bilodeau est décédée le 15 novembre 1949, à l'âge de 60 ans. Albert continua de vivre dans sa maison jusqu'à sa mort le 9 octobre 1969, à 89 ans et 6 mois.

Albert, a native of Québec, took a homestead in Legal in 1906. He built a log house and while going to Legal by horse, he met Alma Demers. They were married and had 7 children. They are remembered for raising quality hogs. Their sense of humor was legendary. Alma was always active on the farm and in parish organizations. They resided in Vimy until their retirement in 1947, then moved to Legal. Alma died in 1949, and Albert in 1969.

BILODEAU, Alphonse & Marguerite (Roy)

by Claude Bilodeau

My father, Alphonse, was born in Ste-Marguerite, Quebec in 1897, in a family of 11 children, by my grandfather's second wife. They grew up on a small rocky farm that should have been left in bush. By producing everything themselves, they managed to feed and clothe the family and send everyone to school. My father was taught basic English in a little country school.

In the early 1900's at age 18, my father started working in bush camps in Quebec and Vermont. In the summer of 1917 he came West to Lebrét, Saskatchewan to work on the large farms there. That Christmas, he went to Vimy to see his half-brother, Albert. It was then that he decided to put a down-payment on Canadian Pacific Railway land in Vimy. In the spring of 1918, he was back working in Saskatchewan. The Great War was getting desperate and he was called to the army in June of that year. By July, he was on his way to England. He trained there for several months but the Armistice was signed before he could be



Alphonse & Marguerite Bilodeau's wedding, January 1925

sent to France. In 1919, he returned to Canada and was discharged from the army. It was at this time that he returned to Vimy to start farming. It was raw land and he had to do everything: clear the land, fence it, drill a well and build his house and barn. In late 1924, he went back to see his family in Quebec and a pretty pen pal, Marguerite Roy, who had been a neighbour in his youth. In January 1925, they were married and moved into the Vimy farmhouse.

The children of this marriage were: Annette (Parrent), on a farm in Clyde; Claude; Rose Irene, passed away at four months; Fernand, living on our father's homestead in Vimy.

I have many pleasant memories of my family and youth at Vimy and of attending the nearby Boudreau school. Those were good times for all of us.



Claude, Annette (Parent), Fernand, Marguerite & Alphonse

Alphonse est né à Ste-Marguerite (Québec) en 1897. En 1917, il vint travailler sur une terre en Saskatchewan mais en juin 1918 il fut appelé à faire du service militaire en Europe. En 1919, il revint au Canada et prit résidence à Vimy. En 1925, Alphonse épousa Marguerite Roy du Québec et ils s'installèrent sur leur terre à Vimy. Ils eurent quatre enfants: Annette, Claude, Rose Irène (décédée) et Fernand.

BILODEAU, Claude & Jeanne (Mercier)

by Claude Bilodeau

Jeanne was born to Philip and Elizabeth Mercier of Legal, August 24/1926. She went to school in Legal. I, Claude Bilodeau, was born to Alphonse and Marguerite Roy of Vimy, October

25/1926. I went to Boudreau School and Vimy High School. We met at a picnic and dance in Vimy, in 1945 and saw each other regularly at dances and other functions. On April 1/1947, we were engaged and married August 4th in the Convent Chapel in Legal. (The Church had burned down the previous spring). We bought a farm in Vimy (close to my father's homestead) and lived there for 9 years. Our sons were born while we lived there: Roland (January 1950), Léo (December 1951), Joseph (1953) deceased soon after birth.



Claude & Jeanne Bilodeau's wedding, August 4, 1947

Roland married Colette St-Jean in 1969, children: Ronald, Yvonne, Jeannette, they are now living on a farm near us in Legal. Léo married Linda Hickey in 1973 (no children), they lived in Ottawa (Ont.) and Waskesiou (Sask.) before they settled in Calgary. Léo deceased in a mountain-climbing accident near Lake Louise in September 1981. In the early 1950s, after a lengthy illness, I started to take electrical courses by correspondence, while Jeanne helped manage the farm. The general farming situation was pretty bleak at the time and I started doing electrical wiring for neighboring farmers. Despite our best efforts to make a living on our small mixed farm, it wasn't enough. In 1956, I started working as an electrician in Edmonton. We moved into a new house there in November 1956 but kept our farm in Vimy.

Our first daughter, Elaine (born January 1958) married James Sykes in 1981, 2 boys: Jeremy and Andrew, they reside in Edmonton. Claudette (born



Claude & Jeanne Bilodeau family

May 1960) married Louis Provençal in 1980, 3 boys: René, Justin, Marc and they reside on a farm close to Vimy. In 1961, we bought a new house in St. Albert, close to Vital Grandin School. This was a nice suburb and handy for the growing family. All this time, we were still farming on weekends (which we continued to do for 18 years). It was often hard to convince the kids to pack up and leave their city friends to spend weekends at the farm; but once there, they enjoyed it.

In 1963, we bought the Clarence Steffes farm near Legal, with the intention of moving there. We were seeding up to 1200 acres at times, although I continued working full-time as an electrician. In 1974, we built a house and moved to the Legal farm, where we continue to reside. We worked hard and gave our best. We really enjoyed our family and the places we lived. Although we never had money for luxuries, we always managed to take a vacation every year (usually a family camping trip to the mountains). We were also fortunate to have most of our extended family living in the northern Alberta area. We have many fond memories.

Jeanne est née à Légal et Claude à Vimy. Ils se sont rencontrés lors d'un pique-nique à Vimy en 1945. Deux ans après leur mariage, ils se sont établis sur une ferme à Vimy; c'est là où sont nés leurs trois fils. Mais les revenus de la terre n'étant pas suffisants, Claude a travaillé à Edmonton dans l'électricité tout en gardant la terre où ils aimaient revenir avec leurs enfants; deux filles se sont

ajoutées à la famille. Après avoir vécu à St-Albert (1961-63), ils sont revenus habiter à Legal.

BILODEAU, Fernand & Solange (Boissonnault)

As the last child of Alphonse and Marguerite (Roy) Bilodeau, my life was to start rather dramatically by being born halfway between Vimy and Edmonton. The time had run out and my parents had only made it to Morinville, so April 12, 1937, my birthplace turned out to be the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Steffes, a large square brick residence now considered by many as a local landmark.

My childhood was rather uneventful being 10 years younger than both Annette and Claude. Boudreau school nearby had closed before I was to start school, so my first three years were completed in Vimy. I then went as a boarder to "Le Couvent Notre-Dame" in Morinville for the next three years; this home of "les bonnes Soeurs" was to educate and make a pianist out of me. However, since I wasn't musically inclined, it proved to be sheer frustration for both myself and the music teacher. During my stay at the convent, both Annette and Claude were married. When I returned home, I had the run of the house with my parents. The rest of my schooling took place in Vimy.

I started driving the tractor quite young and by the time I was 16, I was harvesting with the tractor and pull type combine. I enjoyed the farm and working with cattle so much that I decided to make it my profession. I needed the latest information, so I registered for a two-winter course at the Vermilion School of Agriculture, graduating in April 1956. I started in partnership with my father in the spring of 1956, and in the fall of 1960, I purchased my first quarter from Dad, SE-22-58-25-W4.

It was in the spring of 1958 at the annual "Cabane à Sucre" that I first met Solange Boissonnault, daughter of Adalbert and Pomela Rivet, who resided five miles north of Morinville on Highway #2. We started dating the summer of 1958 and were married July 30, 1959. I had built a small house in the yard and we lived in it until the summer of 1962. When my parents retired in Vimy, we moved into the larger farm house. Our family started while we were in the little house: Alphonse (June 1960), Suzanne (February 1962), Joanne (October 1964) and Elizabeth (February 1968).

For a number of years, we had milk cows, hens,



Fernand & Solange Bilodeau, 1992

sheep and beef cattle and kept back our calves to fatten but all this became too time-consuming. We kept the beef cows and started buying extra calves to fatten in the fall, some years as many as 200. This kept us very busy in the spring with over 300 head of cattle to look after. As the years went by, the feeder cattle got more expensive until everything dropped in the early 1980's. That year, we lost the grain we fed plus our time, but others who had had to buy grain lost most everything. We reduced our purchases, but since conditions were not improving, we stopped buying feeder cattle altogether. It was about that time we started buying Charolais cattle. It was never our intent to go into the registering and showing of our cattle, but we did sell a few bulls at home. Presently, we are maintaining about a 30-cow herd. We bought the home quarter in 1970, with the help of the Alberta Farm Purchase Board (later called Alberta Agricultural Development Corporation); this loan was life insured and carried a 5 per cent interest rate for the term. The north quarter was purchased in 1980, a few months after my mother passed away; this gave us a land base of a three quarter section. Since Alphonse's interests were not in farming, it became clear we were not to expand beyond what we could handle.

Alphonse (certified General Motors mechanic, Western General Motors, Edmonton) married

Dolores Kloberdanz of Westlock, February 1981, our first grandchild, Michelle (November 1991). Suzanne (University in Winnipeg and Edmonton in Home Economics, presently district home economist, High Prairie) married Richard Randall of Sunset House, July 1989 and bought a farm in High Prairie. Richard died accidentally in December 1992. Joanne (Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, Legal Secretary) married Randy Gill of Vimy, May 1985, both working in Calgary, Joanne for a law firm. Elizabeth (nursing, Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton) registered nurse since 1990, working full-time in pediatrics at the Royal Alexandra.

Over the years, we have done much volunteer work in our community and district. Fernand was on Our Lady of Victory parish council for three years (1970-1973), and has also been on the United Farmers Association, Co-op, United Grain Growers and Alberta Wheat Pool local boards.

Fernand was a leader of the Vimy 4-H Beef Club for five years, from fall 1972 to summer 1977: in 1975-1976 he was president of the Westlock & District 4-H Council. Solange became leader of the Vimy 4-H Multi Club in 1974 and stayed on until the club ceased in 1986. She was elected to be one of the two representatives of the Northwest 4-H Region on the Alberta Provincial 4-H Council for eight years (1980-1988). This group would meet with the minister of Agriculture and formulate guidelines for the operation of 4-H clubs in Alberta. Our involvement with youth in this district had, I'm sure, helped us in being selected for the 1977 Farm Family Award representing the Westlock District. This gave the family a great day at the Klondike Days Exhibition; family pictures were taken with the Premier and the kids enjoyed the tickets for the rides, luncheon and grandstand presentation.

When the Lions Club formed in Vimy in 1979, Fernand joined and has been involved with this club ever since, and has held most positions in the club. In 1988, a new rule allowed ladies to become Lions members, and in 1991, Solange was invited to join. She became Vimy Lions first lady lion.

Five years ago, I had a farm mishap and received severe wrist laceration while working with my chain saw and will never regain full use of my right hand. I'm thankful Solange was always very good at helping me at whatever needed to be done, whether it was working with cattle or driving the combine. Since the children have all gone on their own, we remain just the two of us doing the farm work.



Standing: Joanne, Elizabeth; sitting: Suzanne, Solange, Fernand, Alphonse, 1984

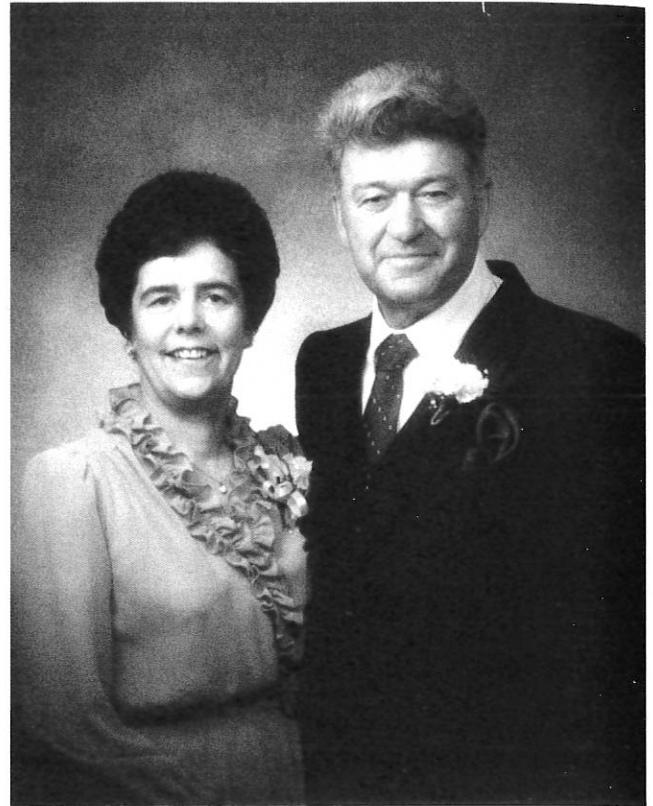
Fernand, né le 12 avril 1937, est le fils d'Alphonse et Marguerite Bilodeau. Il a fait ses études à l'école à Vimy et au couvent de Morinville. Après avoir travaillé quelque temps sur la ferme avec son père, il a suivi un cours au Collège d'Agriculture à Vermillion. Fernand a épousé Solange Boissonneault en 1959 et ils achetèrent leur premier quart de terre en 1960. Ils ont fait l'élevage de boeufs de boucherie pendant plusieurs années.

Fernand et Solange ont eu quatre enfants: Alphonse, Suzanne, Joanne et Elizabeth. Ils ont aussi été impliqués dans diverses organisations: conseil paroissial de Vimy, Association des Fermiers Unis, Club 4-H et Club des Lions (Solange a été la première femme "Lion" de Vimy). Ils ont reçu le titre de "Famille Rurale" en 1977. Fernand et Solange habitent toujours la ferme.

BILODEAU, Joseph & Lillian (Lanouette)

Joseph R. was born August 23/1921 to Albert Pierre Bilodeau and Rose Alma Demers, on their home quarter SW-22-58-25-W4, in a modest log home built by his father in 1911. Jos was the 6th child of a family of 7: Philip, Blanche, Alice, Germaine, Rose, Joseph, Gertrude. Jos, as well as his brother and sisters, received his education at the Boudreau school, which offered grades 1 to 8. The school was situated on the family's second adjoining quarter, NE-15-58-25-W4, where the children walked 1 mile every school day. Finishing his grade 8 at the age of 12, Jos stayed on to help his father farm their land.

When the Second World War was declared, Jos being 21, enlisted in the Canadian Army. He served for nearly 4 years in Canada, England, France, Holland and Germany. He also remained for an extra year of occupation in Germany after the war. On his return to Vimy, with an honourable discharge from the army, he contemplated becoming a policeman as he dearly loved and respected his uncle Philip Bilodeau who was a



Lillian & Joseph Bilodeau

policeman for the city of Vancouver. Uncle Philip, who loved farm life himself, suggested to Jos that he may be wise to take on the family farm which his father had offered to sell to him. After returning from a visit with his Uncle Philip in Vancouver, J.R. bought his parents' family farm and his mind turned to settling down as he had met Miss Lillian Lanouette after his return from Europe in June 1946. They married May 27/1948 and settled on the Bilodeau family farm. Philip and Alice were already married, Blanche was deceased since June 11/1932 and Rose and Gertrude went down east to visit relatives, while Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bilodeau moved to Legal.

On March 7/1949, Jos and Lillian added a baby girl to their family unit. They named her Lorraine, followed by brother Yvon, then Robert, Sylvia, Gilbert, Arthur, Rita and Joseph (Jr) who soon filled the large family home which dad Albert Bilodeau had built in 1926. Lorraine married Tymen Vande Lagemaat November 3/1967, 2 children: Tami, Lee. Tymen deceased March 17/1978 at 31, of a massive heart arrest. Lorraine remarried Mervin Mc Rorie May 3/1980. They farm some 1200 acres in Jarvie and Merv drives a school bus. Lorraine operated their insurance business in Westlock. Tami is an In-home support worker for Alberta Family Social Services. Lee is

a Special Needs worker at the Westlock Auxiliary Hospital.

Yvon married Penny Nelson July 3/1971, children: Brent, Brandy. Brent was first draft choice of the Montreal Canadian's hockey organization on June 1991 draft in Buffalo, N.Y. He is currently playing out his Junior hockey eligibility with Swift Current Broncos. Brandy still lives at home and graduated in 1993. Yvon also farms in Clyde and is a partsman for Civic Auto Center. Penny is assistant manager for Champion Feed in Westlock.

Robert married Yvette Longpré June 14/1975, children: Craig, Michael, Annique, all at home. Bob is one of the three Bilodeaus who are firefighters and ambulance attendants for the city of Fort St-John, B.C. He also does part-time contract painting with brother Art. Yvette is secretary at the Immaculata Catholic school.

Sylvia married local boy Daniel Prefontaine August 7/1976, children: Serge, Gilles, Joelle. Dan and his two brothers joined in partnership with their father Roland Prefontaine in the Legal Motors garage and car dealership. Dan is also a firefighter for the city of St Albert and volunteer for the Legal Fire Department.

Number 5, Gilbert, found himself an R.C.M.P. lady member when he went to work up north in Fort St John, B.C. They married May 28/1983 in Regina, Sask. at the R.C.M.P. Depot Chapel, children: Tiffany, Tessa, Gilbert (Jr), Jolia and are expecting a new arrival in the spring. Gil and Hilda are the newest farmers of the family. Gil is also a full time firefighter and Ambulance Attendant for the city of Fort St-John, and a part-time mechanic.

Art, first of the Bilodeau clan to head to Fort St.John, found his sweetheart there. He married Tammy Kiss July 26/1980, children: Toni, Samara, Brodie, Ben. Tammy works as parish secretary at the Catholic church of the Resurrection. Art was invited to come up to Fort St John to play hockey and a job was provided for him as well.

Gilbert, after graduating from N.A.I.T. with a mechanic's certificate, decided to go north as well. Bob followed a few years later to settle down with his wife and family of three after the whirlwind life of hockey. He probably always figured that the north would be a "Happy Hunting Ground" as he, Gil and Art are ardent hunters.

Rita also met her R.C.M.P. member in Fort St John, while working for the force there. She married Pierre Gardner July 31/1982. They are currently stationed in Montreal where Pierre is in

the "Dog Section" specializing in detecting explosives and working at the Dorval Airport. "Little Joe" married Karen Close Sept. 5/1987, children: Kelsie, Jessica, Joey, Kate. Joe is currently in Grande Prairie College studying Instrumentation Technology and Karen works for the City of Grande Prairie. All 5 boys, Yvon, Bob, Gilbert, Art and Joe (Jr) played Junior Hockey. Yvon and Bob also played professionally in the U.S. International, Eastern, Central and American Leagues. As Captain for the Hershey Bears, Bob and his team won the 1979-80 season's Calder Cup. Yvon also played hockey in Bad Nauhiem, Germany as well as in Kiruna, Sweden.



Joseph, Gilbert, Robert, Arthur, Yvon, Lorraine, Lillian, Rita & Sylvia

Joseph R. Bilodeau served on many a board and council: he was president of the Vimy Home and School, of the Westlock School Division board of the Home and School, school trustee for 12 years and for some time he taught an Emergency Rescue Course in Westlock. After the grain crop was hailed out one summer and still having ten people at his dinner table, JR (as we affectionately called him) became the Imperial Esso Bulk Agent for the Vimy area, as Albreda Fortier was retiring from the agency. Jos then bought Fortier's I.H.C. truck and worked for Imperial Oil for a number of years. We must also mention Jos coached minor hockey in Vimy for many years. He also coached the girls' softball team in the summer time. Another service he rendered to his community was working with youth as a 4-H "Beef Club" leader. In 1975, Jos and Lillian sold their farm and built a new home in Legal. He continued to commute and work in Edmonton as Letter Carrier for Canada Post, where he worked for 18 years. On October 19/1990, Jos R. Bilodeau died at the W.W. Cross Cancer Clinic at the age of 69. Lillian still resides in their home in Legal.

Jos est né sur le homestead à Legal en 1921, et il est allé à l'école Boudreau avec ses six frères et soeurs. Il s'est enrôlé dans l'armée en 1939 et il a servi outre-mer. De retour, il acheta la ferme paternelle et épousa Lilian Lanouette en 1948; ils ont eu huit enfants (dont plusieurs vivent à Fort St. John; trois sont pompiers). Jos a été dans la vente d'essence et de machineries; Esso, International, Imperial. Il a servi sur la Commission scolaire de Vimy et de Westlock; il a donné des cours de Survie et il s'est dévoué comme entraîneur de hockey et de balle-molle. Jos et Lillian se sont retirés à Legal en 1975, mais Jos a continué de travailler pour Postes Canada; il est mort en 1990. Lilian vit encore dans sa maison à Legal.

BILODEAU, Rose

I was born in 1919, baptized in Legal, but raised on a farm south of Vimy. There were no roads or bridges on the river until 1920. My schooling was at the Boudreau school which had opened in 1921 with six students. We worked on the farm until November 1947 when my parents bought Mr. Darvos' house in Legal. After a year of travelling in Quebec, my sister and I moved to Legal also. My mother died in November 1949 and my sister married in 1950, but I stayed on with my father. In the next few years, I worked for my sisters and sisters-in-law when they had babies. Then I babysat at Roger and Rachel Caouette's for 8 years, until they moved to St. Albert. I started working for Joe and Germaine Nault for another 8 years before taking on the night shift at the Château Sturgeon for 7 years. Dad died in 1969 but I remained in the same house until 1989 when I sold it to Paul Chamberland and moved to the Sunset Villa, a senior housing complex in south-east Legal. I've enjoyed travelling all over the world in the last 10 years.



Rose Bilodeau

Née à Legal, Rose est allée à l'école Boudreau. En 1949, ses parents s'établissaient au village de Legal. Elle prendra soin de son père, de ses soeurs et belles-soeurs quand elles accouchaient. Elle habite toujours à Legal et elle voyage à travers le monde depuis 10 ans.

BLANCHETTE, Albert & Yvonne (Bossé)

I was born in 1926, son of Gaudias and Antonine Blanchette. Raised on a farm two miles east and two miles south of Vimy (or six miles north of Legal), I went to Boudreau school which was two miles away, for my first eight years. Then I went to Vimy School on the first school bus of the district and I took my ninth grade, followed by three years of education at Collège St-Jean in Edmonton. I then came back home to work with my father on the farm for several years. In the fall of 1954, I purchased the farm operation from my dad.

In April 1955, I married Yvonne Bossé in Edmonton. We were blessed with five children: Clément (1956), Michel (1957), Jacqueline (1959), Guy (1960) and Fernand (1962) whom we had only for 20 days when the good Lord took him in His care.

We continued the mixed-farming operation for 34 years while caring for the family. We kept busy with 4-H as a leader for four years and on parish council for several years. All the children graduated from high school then continued on to university, Agriculture College and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. In 1989, we sold the operation to our oldest son, Clément, and his wife, Zeny. We are now enjoying our retirement in Morinville. We are also enjoying travelling with our motor home and by Motor Coaches. We also do some volunteer work, curling and other activities at the Rendez-Vous Center. These are some of our enjoyments.

Albert est né en 1926, fils de Gaudias et Antonine Blanchette, et fut élevé sur une ferme dans la région de Vimy. Il étudia à l'école Boudreau, à l'école de Vimy et enfin, au Collège Saint-Jean à Edmonton.

En 1954, il acheta la ferme de son père. En avril 1955, il épousa Yvonne Bossé à Edmonton. Ils eurent cinq enfants: Clément, Michel, Jacqueline, Guy et Fernand (qui n'a vécu que 20 jours). Ils ont été impliqués avec le Club 4-H et avec la paroisse. En 1989, après 34 ans sur leur ferme, ils la vendirent à Clément et sa femme Zeny. Ils jouissent maintenant de leur retraite à Morinville.



Gilbert Coulombe (Jackie's husband), Clément, Michel, Guy, Zeny, Laura (Michel's wife), Ginger (Guy's wife) and daughter Chantal, Valerie (Clément's daughter), Curtis (Michel's son), Yvonne with Darlene (Clément's daughter), Sarah (Michel), Albert with Mark (Clément's son), Jacqueline

**BLANCHETTE, Gaudias & Antonine
(Abel)**

In the winter of 1905, Gaudias Blanchette, 21, left St. Edouard, County of Lotbinière, Québec, in search of a new adventure in Western Canada. He travelled by train to Edmonton. Looking for a new home, he went further north to the Dunrobin area (later to be known as Vimy), by horse team and wagon. Arriving there, he found a piece of land that he liked and he wasted no time in building a log shack. He then started to clear land on his homestead, to obtain his land title in 1907. Gaudias spent his summers working on his homestead and winters working in the State of Washington and in British Columbia. There, he built houses and worked in lumber camps. The money he earned carried him over the summer months. After 10 years, in the fall of 1915, he went back east to his home town, where he found that the girl he had left behind earlier, was still single and he lost no time in asking for her hand. Gaudias and Antonine Abel were married in Lotbinière (PQ), in February 1916. They lived in



Gaudias & Antonine Blanchette's wedding, February 1916

Montreal for 14 months. A daughter, Lucie, was born in December 1916.

In the spring of 1917, they came back to their homestead, NW-24-58-25-W4, 2 miles south and 2 miles east of Vimy, or 6 miles north of Legal. They lived there until retirement in 1955, when they moved to the hamlet of Vimy, where they lived until Gaudias deceased in May 1959 at the age of 75. Antonine lived with her daughter Célarine for a few years, then spent 9 years at the Château Legal. She spent the rest of her life at the Nursing home in Westlock, where she deceased October 1984 at the age of 99 years and three months.



Albert, Célarine, Victor, Léonard, Léonie, Léon Jeanne, Gaudias, Antonine, Lucie Blanchette, 1943

Gaudias and Antonine raised a family of 9 children: Léo, Jeanne, Léonie, Célarine, Léonard, Léon, Victor and Albert were born here on the homestead. Léo deceased at six months. Daughters Lucie (Philippe Parent) is in Edmonton, Jeanne (John Ringuette) is in Westlock, while Leonie (Henry Ringuette), and Célarine (Roger Ouellette) and sons Léonard and Léon, all established farms in the Vimy area. Victor is in Whitecourt. In 1955, son Albert purchased the paternal home and continued the farming operation. He married Yvonne Bossé and they raised a family of three sons and one daughter. In 1989, Albert's son, Clément and his wife Zeny bought the home place and are the third generation of Blanchettes farming on the homestead. Albert and Yvonne bought a house and retired in Morinville.

Impressions of the pioneer days in Alberta were isolation and loneliness, because neighbors were few and far between, but they also had good times when they could get together with their neighbors. Their livelihood was wild meat with a few bushels

of wheat that they made into flour. Their major recollections were alot of hard labor with the bare essentials of life and many crop failures. We are very fortunate that our parents came to open this productive land so we can live a life of luxury and freedom.

Gaudias est venu du Québec en 1905. Il s'est pris un homestead et l'hiver, il allait travailler aux Etats Unis et en Colombie. En 1915, il est retourné dans son village natal où il a épousé Antonine Abel. Ils sont revenus dans l'Ouest un an plus tard, avec une fille, Lucie. Ils ont vécu sur la ferme jusqu'en 1955, puis à Vimy même. Ils ont eu neuf enfants.

BLANCHETTE, Léon & Rose Anne (Provost)

Léon, seventh child of Gaudias Blanchette and Antonine Abel, I was born September 23, 1924 and grew up on a farm two miles south and two miles



Léon & Rose Anne Blanchette, June 1951

east of Vimy (or six miles north of Legal). I got my schooling at Boudreau School, one mile west and one mile south from the farm. As the years went by, I was helping my dad and working part-time until 1951. This was the year that I got married (June 1951) to Rose Anne Provost, daughter of Roméo and Victoria Provost from Pickardville.

I started farming on a quarter of land half a mile north from Dad's, as a mixed farmer. I was raising hogs and cattle to market. We had some good and bad years as time went by.

We had 10 children: Jean Paul (February 20, 1952 - February 17, 1990), Madeleine (October 23, 1953), Gérard (January 7, 1955), Robert (November 11, 1956), Hector (October 10, 1957), Cécile (September 9, 1958), Edmond (November 25, 1959), Yvon Roger (July 21, 1961) and Claude (January 4, 1964).

In 1985, I sold the farm to Maurice and Hector. We moved on a quarter of land three miles east and built a house where we are still living today.

Léon (fils de Gaudias Blanchette et Antonine Abel) est né à Vimy et est allé à l'école Boudreau. En 1951, il a épousé Rose Anne (fille de Roméo et Victoria) de Pickardville. Ils ont eu 10 enfants: Jean Paul (décédé en 1990), Madeleine, Gérard, Maurice, Robert, Hector, Cécile, Edmond, Yvon et Claude.

BLANCHETTE, Léonard & Magdalene (Keane)

Léonard Blanchette, eldest son of Gaudias and Antonine Blanchette, was born and raised on a farm two miles south and two miles east of Vimy. He received his education at Boudreau School which was two miles from his home. Upon finishing his schooling, he became interested in mixed farming and was busy helping his father on the farm. In the fall of 1944, to pursue his goal, Léonard bought a farm from Steve Molnar (four miles south of Vimy).

Magdalene (Maggie) Keane was born on the family farm in the Fairydell area north-east of Legal and attended school in Fairydell and Legal. Léonard and Maggie met at a dance in Vimy and about three years later, December 30, 1946 they were married by Father Tessier in the church of Legal. They raised four children: Marie, Agnes, Daniel (living in St. Albert and working in Edmonton) and Vincent, on the family farm.

In 1947, Léonard and Maggie established a hay-grain crop rotation plan on their farm. They practiced this plan during all their farming career.



Leonard & Magdalene Blanchette's wedding, December 30, 1946

They also specialized in cattle finishing and successfully produced many, many tons of high quality grade A beef for packing plants in Red Deer, Edmonton, Calgary, and south to the United States. They even shipped some beef to packing plants at the west coast and eastern Canada. Léonard was very proud of his product, and the packer buyers were always eager to buy it. Léonard and Maggie were always very active in many community organizations such as Home and School, Catholic Women's League, and the parish council. Léonard served as a director on the Legal Co-op board for nine years, and on the Credit Union board for 20 years (many of those as

president). He was also on the board of the Legal Alfalfa Plant for nine years and leader of the Vimy 4-H Club for 15 years.

In 1990, Léonard and Maggie's son, Vincent and his wife Donna purchased the family farm and kept the farming operation going. Léonard and Maggie bought a house in Legal and retired from farming. They are still actively involved with the senior citizens of the community. Léonard is presently president of Club 60 Roses and he and Maggie are kept very busy organizing different activities with the members. During their 45 years of farming together, Léonard and Maggie very much enjoyed working with nature and the soil. It meant a lot of hard work, but it was also very rewarding.



Dan, Vince, Leonard, Maggie, Agnes & Marie

Léonard, fils aîné de Gaudias et d'Antonine Blanchette, est né sur une ferme près de Vimy, où il fut élevé. Il étudia à l'école Boudreau et en 1944, il acheta une ferme dans la région.

Magdalene (Maggie) Keane est née dans la région de Fairy Dell et étudia là et à Legal. Léonard et Maggie furent mariés le 30 décembre 1945 à Legal. Ils eurent quatre enfants: Marie, Agnes, Daniel et Vincent. Léonard et Maggie furent toujours très actifs dans leur communauté. En 1990, Vincent et sa femme Donna achetèrent la ferme Blanchette. Léonard et Maggie prirent leur retraite et achetèrent une maison à Legal, où ils sont encore très actifs.

BOCIAK, Peter & Rosalia

Peter Bociak was born June 25/1902 and died September 6/1986. Rosalia was born November 10/1906 and is still living. They both came from the Ukraine, in the village of Probizna, district of Chortewsky, near the city of Ternopil. Peter came to Canada in 1928 and his wife, Rosalia, in 1934.



Peter & Rosalia Bociak, 1935

When Peter first arrived, he stayed with his uncle Yakim Strilchuk of Waugh and also his sister Rose Berzansky in Edmonton.

Peter worked at various jobs in British Columbia and Alberta from logging and carpentry to farming. He eventually purchased a farm with his brother-in-law, Julian Bileski, in Vimy. When his wife came to Canada, they both started farming there. They believed that farming was the better life. Peter was a farmer by choice and a carpenter by trade. He built St. Mary's church in Waugh, as a volunteer, along with other farmers in the area. That was completed in 1941. The old church was moved and is now a historical site. Peter also built houses and farm buildings in the surrounding areas of Waugh, Vimy and Legal. They had no children.

Peter & Rosalia sont d'origine ukrainienne. Ils sont arrivés au Canada en 1928 et 1934. Ils possédaient une ferme à Vimy. Il était aussi menuisier.

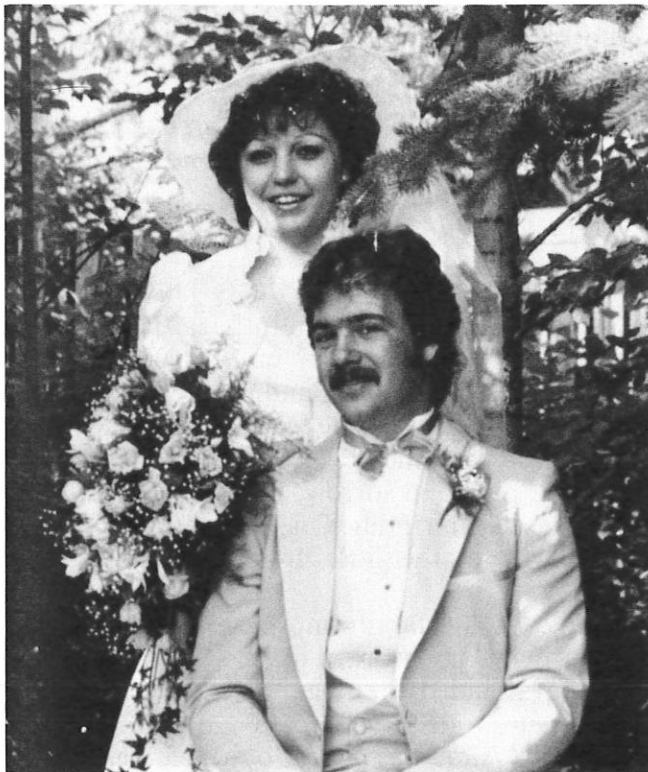


Peter & Rosalia Bociak, 1984

BOEHM, Patrick & Henriette (Cyr)

by **Henriette L. Boehm**

Patrick was born February 5/1964, to Albin and Dolores Boehm. He was raised in St. Albert and lived in the same house until he met and married Henriette Cyr. Henriette was born September 15/1963, to Cliff and Lucienne Cyr. She lived in Legal until she was nine years old when her family moved to St. Albert. After her marriage



Henriette & Patrick Boehm's wedding, July 13, 1985

to Patrick, July 13/1985, they lived in St. Albert and had two children. Andrea Lynn Marie was born May 5/1986 and Cale Joseph was born March 23/1988.

On February 1st, 1989, the family moved on an acreage 1 ¼ miles east of Legal. This place has special meaning for them because it belonged to Henriette's grandparents, Henry and Dora Caouette, and her mother, Lucienne, was raised on it. They are currently renovating the house and property and are enjoying living in the country.



Henriette & Patrick Boehm family, Andrea & Cale

Henriette et Patrick se sont mariés à St-Albert et en 1989, ils sont venus habiter sur un acreage à Legal (où avaient habité les grands-parents d'Henriette), avec leurs deux enfants.

BOISSONNAULT, Roméo & Rogelle (Cyr)

Nous avons déménagé à Legal durant le mois de mars 1962, après avoir acheté la confiserie. Les propriétaires étaient Jeannine et Léo Mercier. Au temps de notre déménagement, nous avions trois jeunes enfants. Carmen, avait alors six ans et comme elle avait déjà commencé l'école à Morinville, elle a dû rester pensionnaire au Couvent jusqu'à la fin de sa 1^{ère} année. Denis avait quatre ans et Rémi 14 mois. Monique est née en août, durant notre première année à Legal. Nos enfants ont fréquenté l'école de Legal. Les trois plus jeunes ont eu le privilège d'avoir Soeur Simard comme institutrice en première année. Les bons souvenirs de cette merveilleuse institutrice ne



Roméo & Rogelle Boissonnault, 1989

seront jamais oubliés. Durant ce temps, ils ont créé plusieurs amitiés qui demeurent encore aujourd'hui.

Roméo a été très impliqué avec les Chevaliers de Colomb, étant à un moment Grand-Chevalier. Durant ce temps, il est devenu membre du quatrième Degré. Il a aussi été pendant quelques années, secrétaire-trésorier au Village de Legal et à la Commission Scolaire. En 1969, nous avons vendu la Confiserie et sommes revenus à Morinville comme propriétaire du magasin IGA. Après 8 ans, nous avons décidé de vendre et de changer d'occupation. Les enfants avaient presque tous fini leurs études. Deux d'entre eux avaient choisi leur carrière.

Notre famille a bien changé depuis notre départ de Legal. Carmen a choisi la carrière de professeur. Elle enseigne en immersion à l'école Father Jan, à St-Albert. Carmen épousa Doug Stuart, ils ont un fils, Colin et deux petites filles, Miriam et Andrée. Denis est devenu membre de la G.R.C. [Gendarmerie Royale du Canada.] Présentement il est instructeur des recrues à l'Académie de la G.R.C. à Regina. Il a épousé Paula Jorgensen, ils ont deux garçons, Marc et Daniel. Rémi a suivi l'exemple de son grand frère, étant lui aussi membre de la G.R.C. Il demeure à North Battleford avec sa femme, Edna (ils n'ont pas d'enfants); Rémi est toujours très réservé et tranquille. Monique est infirmière graduée de l'Université de l'Alberta. Elle est professeur en

obstétrique pour les infirmières étudiantes à l'hôpital Royal Alexandra, Edmonton. Elle continue d'étudier en vue d'obtenir sa maîtrise. Monique et son époux, Gary Sedgwick, sont les parents d'une petite fille, Noelle.

Tant qu'à nous, nous prendrons notre retraite bientôt. La santé est assez bonne, ce qui nous permettra de faire du golf. Nous jouissons beaucoup de nos petits-enfants. Nos temps libres sont passés à faire du bénévolat dans diverses organisations.



Monique, Denis, Rogelle, Roméo, Rémi & Carmen

We remember many happy years spent in Legal. We had some regrets in leaving. It was difficult for our children to leave their classmates and friends. We still have many good friends in Legal. We keep in touch with Mom and Dad and the brothers, all living in that area.

We are very proud of our children. They have all chosen excellent mates. We now have six grandchildren that keep us busy!

(Translated by family)

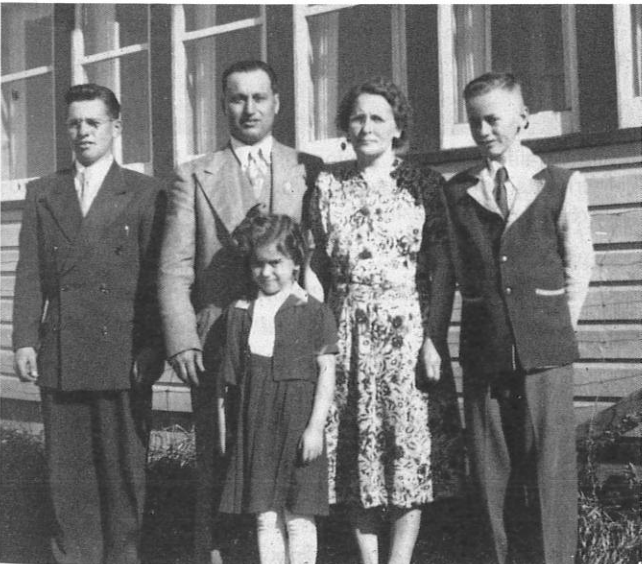
BOISVERT, Aimé & Delia (Demers)

Aimé Boisvert was born in Legal in 1910, the second son of Noël and Emma Boisvert. In 1931, he married Delia Demers and made his home on a farm, 2½ miles east of Legal. The couple had three children: Daniel, Rita, Roland. In 1943, they had great pain and sorrow; Rita passed away the day of her 8th birthday. One year later, they were blessed with another little girl and again called her Rita.

In 1945, the family moved to the village of Legal where Aimé worked for the Grey Nuns. The children attended the Legal School. They spent their leisure time playing cards and entertaining the family. Aimé was a great outdoors person; he liked fishing and hunting.



Aimé & Delia Boisvert's wedding, 1931



Aimé & Delia Boisvert family

Daniel married Juliette Lavoie; 8 children. Roland married Jannine Henry; 2 children. Rita married Martin Willian; 3 children. In 1952, Aimé and his family moved to St. Albert where he worked as a steam engineer for Youville Home.

Aimé, né à Legal, a épousé Delia Demers et ils ont eu trois enfants. Ils ont d'abord vécu sur une ferme à l'est de Legal, puis ils déménagèrent au village où Aimé travailla pour les Soeurs Grises. En 1952, ils déménageaient à St-Albert où il travailla au Foyer Youville.

BOISVERT, Antoine & Marguerite (Vadenas)

Antoine Boisvert and Marguerite Vadenas came to Legal in 1904, about two years after his second son Noel. They arrived with some of his married children. They had a family of eleven children. Johnny (Joséphine Lavallée), Marie (Eugène Martel), Mathilda (Joe Parrenteau), Ajib (Emma Nadeau).

Marguerite was a midwife and doctor for many children around Legal. Antoine and Marguerite lived with their son Ajib and his wife in Legal. Marguerite died in 1911 and Antoine, in 1915.



Antoine & Marguerite Boisvert

Antoine & Marguerite ont suivi leur fils à Legal en 1904. Marguerite a été sage-femme. Ils ont vécu avec leur fils Ajib. Ils ont eu onze enfants.

BOISVERT, Antoine Ajibe & Emma (Nadeau)

by Norman P. Chalifoux (grandson)

Antoine Ajibe (Jib) Boisvert married Emma Nadeau August 23, 1897 in Hugo, Minnesota. Jib was the ninth child of Antoine Boisvert and Marguerite Vadenas. He had two brothers, John and Noël, and eight sisters: Marguerite Lutz, Marie Martel, Delvina Ethier, Julie Carpentier, Rose Lauzon, Lilly Lutz, Mathilda Parenteau and Celina Levasseur.



Ajibe & Emma Boisvert's wedding, August 23, 1897

Emma Nadeau was the third child of Louis Nadeau and Elizabeth Forcier. She had five brothers: Jos, Edmond, Hector, Albert, Raymond, and six sisters: Angèle Lavallée, Louise Handrahan, Lina, Philomène, Delia, Rick and Elizabeth Mercier.

Jib and Emma (and their four eldest daughters) settled west of Legal in 1907, but unfortunately, many of their own brothers and sisters had already established roots in the United States and remained there, resulting in the partial separation of both families. Jib's efforts were

directed towards lumbering rather than agriculture and he operated sawmills in the Tawatinaw area. He was a shrewd businessman and opportunist and he would best be described today as an "entrepreneur". He was an outdoor man, enjoying fishing and hunting.

Jib and Emma raised six daughters (two sons died in infancy) and they were: EMMA (Emile Letourneau) children: Albert, Raymond, Cécile, Hector and Delia; ELISE (Joseph Bougie) children: George, Léo, Roger and Edmond; MARIE (Joseph Préfontaine) children: Henri, Rita, Marcel, Jeannette and Louise; STELLA (Armand Chalifoux) children: Arthur, Louis, Norman, Henry and Paul; DELIA (Octave Préfontaine) children: Norman, Robert and Lorraine; AGNES (Roméo Vézina) daughter: Pauline.

Jib died in Legal December 13, 1938 at the young age of 61. In November 1943, Emma married James Flynn. She died in Morinville on November 6, 1951. Both Jib and Emma are buried in Legal.



Stella Chalifoux, Marie Préfontaine, Elise Bougie & Emma Letourneau, Delia Préfontaine, Ajibe Boisvert, Emma Nadeau-Boisvert & Agnes Vézina

Antoine et Emma se sont mariés le 23 août 1897. Ils déménagèrent à l'ouest de Legal en 1907. Cependant, plusieurs de leurs frères et soeurs demeurèrent aux Etats Unis et la famille se trouvait divisée. Jib entreprit une carrière dans l'industrie du bois. Il opérait un moulin à scie dans la région de Tawatinaw. Il était habile en affaires, un véritable entrepreneur!

Jib et Emma eurent six filles: Emma(Emile Létourneau), Elise (Joseph Bougie), Marie (Joseph

Préfontaine), Stella (Armand Chalifoux), Délia (Octave Préfontaine) et Agnes (Roméo Vézina).

Jib est décédé en décembre 1938 à l'âge de 61 ans. Emma se remaria en 1943 à James Flynn. En 1951, Emma est décédée à son tour et les deux, Jib et Emma, sont enterrés à Legal.

(Traduction par la famille. BIBLIOGRAPHIE: "Les Canadiens-français de la Nouvelle Angleterre", E. Hamon s.j.; "Paroisse St-Emile de Legal, 50e anniversaire", Abbé Normandeau; "Private Papers", Stella Boisvert Chalifoux)

BOISVERT, John & Phélanise (Labelle)

John was born in 1890 in Yugo, a small town near St. Paul, Minnesota. He came to the area to farm in 1913. This farm was five miles east and two miles north of Legal, in the Diligence district. Mrs. Boisvert (nee Phélanise Labelle) was born in Hawkesbury, Ontario, and came to the area in 1913. They were married on May 26/1913 in St. Emile's Catholic Church by Rev. Father Guertin. They lived on the farm in Diligence for a few years and later bought a farm close to the elevators. They lived there till retirement. They had a family of four sons: Robert, Roland, Roger, Raoul. Raoul is the only survivor of this family and lives in the village of Legal.



Ajibe Boisvert's Sawmill

John est venu prendre une terre à Legal en 1913, en provenance des Etats Unis. Phélanise, arrivée en 1913 aussi, est originaire de l'Ontario. Mariés à Legal en 1913, ils ont été fermiers à Diligence, puis près des élevateurs. Ils ont eu quatre fils.

BOISVERT, Laurier (Larry) J.

by Normand Letourneau

Laurier J. Boisvert, born August 30, 1943 to Cléophas and Annette (Demers) Boisvert of Legal, was from a family of six children. He attended Legal School from grades one to 12. During his later years of schooling, he was a devoted Air

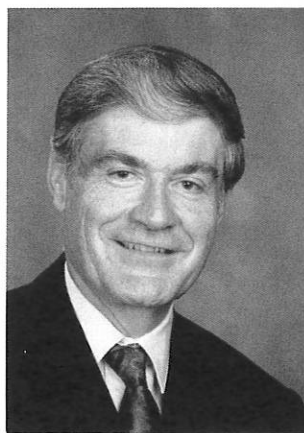
Cadet under the watchful supervision of Thomas Fink, who was an air force officer and teacher.

In 1962, following his school years, Laurier joined the air force where he specialized in electronics. However, after 18 months, he decided to leave the force to find work with Bell Telephone in electronics, thus furthering his working experiences in that field. Laurier then became a technical-operation manager for this company.

In 1972, Laurier applied for and landed a position with Telestat Canada as an operator-technician, and in 1973 he became a technical-operation director. Telestat is a national telecommunications carrier providing Canadians with an expanding range of satellite-based business communications and broadcast distribution services. The company also reaches the United States of America via its fifth generation Anik E satellites.

April 1, 1988, Laurier was appointed Vice President of Network Services. Then effective January 15, 1993, he was appointed to the position of President and chief operating officer; he was also appointed to the Board of Directors. November 17, 1993, Laurier was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Telestat Canada.

Laurier holds an honours degree in commerce from Carleton University.



Laurier Boisvert

Laurier J. Boisvert est né le 30 août 1943, d'une famille de six enfants. Il fit ses études à l'école de Legal et durant ses dernières années scolaires, il devint Cadet de l'Air sous l'égide de Monsieur Thomas Fink.

En 1962, Laurier entrait dans l'aviation militaire, se spécialisant en électronique. Après 18 mois, il laissa l'aviation et obtint un emploi avec Bell Telephone. En 1972, il obtint une position avec Telestat Canada et le 1 avril, 1988 il fut nommé vice-président du réseau. Plus tard, en janvier 1993, il devint officier-chef des opérations et le 17

novembre 1993, Laurier fut nommé ingénieur en chef et président de la compagnie Telesat Canada. Laurier détient un degré en commerce de l'Université de Carleton.

BOISVERT, Noé & Marie (Rousseau) & Philomène (Duchesneau)

Noé Boisvert was born November 21/1906 in Legal. He was the fourth child and first son born of Noël and Emma Boisvert. He married Marie Rousseau December 27/1932. They lived in Legal until they moved on a quarter section near Egg Lake. The house they lived in was built of logs by his father, Noel, on the family farm in Legal. Then he moved and re-built at the farm near Egg Lake.



Marie & Noé Boisvert's wedding, December 27, 1932

They had seven children: Marcel, Annette, Louise, Lorraine, Pauline, Denise, Richard. Noé worked at Egg Lake coal mine for many years. In 1948, he almost lost his arm in a mining accident. After he left the mine, he worked as a carpenter. One of his achievements was helping build the

grotto situated behind the church in St. Albert. Noé married a second time to Philomène Duchesneau July 23/1977 and lived at the Château Sturgeon in Legal for a couple of years, then moved to Edmonton. He died February 19/1987.



Lorraine, Pauline, Marcel, Louise, Annette & Denise

Noé et Marie ont vécu à Legal après leur mariage en 1932, puis ils ont pris une terre à Egg Lake. Ils ont eu 7 enfants. Noé a failli perdre un bras en travaillant dans les mines à Egg Lake, puis il a été menuisier. Il s'est remarié en 1977 à Philomène Duchesneau et ils allèrent vivre au Château Sturgeon à Legal pendant quelques années, puis à Edmonton. Noé est mort en 1987.

BOISVERT, Noël & Emma (Jalbert)

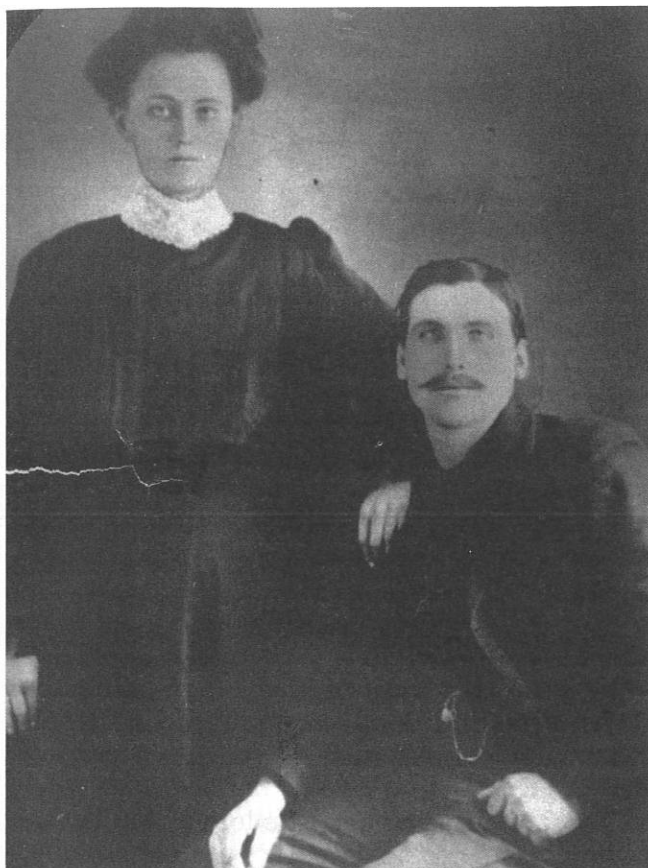
Noël Boisvert and his wife, Emma Jalbert, came to Legal from Hugo, Minnesota, in 1902, with a daughter Marguerite, aged eight months. They stayed with Mr. Morin, father of Arthur. Later, they took a homestead east of Legal, built a house and lived there. Ten years later, they bought a farm 2½ miles east of Legal. Noël and Emma had 6 more children: Marie, Emma, Noé, Aimé, Adeline, Pierre. He was a farmer and also a



Noël & Emma Boisvert family

carpenter in Legal. He built his own buildings and also several others in the Legal area, such as Diligence School which his children attended. Weekends were special times to be together with family, friends, and neighbours to enjoy music, dancing, food and worship in church.

Marguerite (Willie Demers), Emma (Alfred Garneau), Marie (Herbert Anctil), Noël (Marie Rousseau), Adeline (Jules Lavoie), Aimé (Delia Demers), Pierre (Denise Ouellette). The couple stayed on the farm. Noël and Emma remained there until their death.



Emma & Noël Boisvert

Noël & Emma sont arrivés à Legal en 1902, de Hugo (Minnesota), avec une enfant de 8 mois. Ils ont vécu sur des fermes près de Legal et ils ont eu six autres enfants. Ils aimaient beaucoup la danse et la musique.

BOISVERT, Normand & Annette (Pelletier)

Normand Boisvert was born May 24/1924, son of William and Ida (Bachand). In 1933, the family relocated to farmland in Thorhild. At 18, Normand joined the Canadian Armed Forces and served with the Montgomery Eighth Army (Cape

Breton Highlanders Regiment). Enlistment took him to England, North Africa, Italy, France, Holland and Germany. He was wounded while in Germany and returned to Canada in October 1945. He then started a business, the Legal Pool Hall and Barbershop.

In 1947, Normand married Annette Pelletier, daughter of Adrien and Aline (Bergevin). Annette was born in Legal March 11/1930. She was raised on a farm two miles south of Legal corner and attended Pontiac School.

They had five children: Denise (July 23/1948), Ancaster, (Ontario). Marcel (July 9/1949), Sherwood Park. Lorraine (Jan. 17/1955) Murray, Edmonton. Richard (Jan. 17/1960), died August 1988. Laurent (October 21/1962), Calgary. Normand and Annette have resided in Edmonton since 1957. On November 4/1992, they celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary.

Normand habitait à Thorhild quand il s'enrôla dans l'armée à 18 ans. Il a été blessé au combat en Allemagne. Il a épousé Annette Pelletier, originaire de Legal et ils ont eu cinq enfants. Normand a commencé le commerce de la Salle de Billards et du Salon de Barbier à Legal en 1945.

BOISVERT, Pierre & Denise (Ouellette)

Pierre, seventh child of Noël and Emma Boisvert, was born July 13/1915. He received his schooling at the Diligence School, in the Legal District. He left home and family at the age of 18, to work in Morinville as a mechanic helper at his brother-in-law Hubert Anctil's shop. He followed Hubert to Vancouver to work another three years in the same capacity. When his father took ill, Pierre returned to Legal to take over the family farm and care for his parents. After Noël deceased October 30/1940, at the age of 66, Pierre stayed with his mother. Emma died in 1960 at the age of 76.

Pierre married Denise Ouellette, daughter of Joseph and Graziella, June 27/1944. His hobbies were playing the violin and fishing. He did a lot of volunteer work, building Legal Center and helping with the arena. They were blessed with 4 sons and 2 daughters: Léo (Leonora Wilzen), 2 girls: Laura, Lisa. Irène (Guy Van Brabant, Legal Church), 4 children: Réal, Normand, Denise, Diane. Maurice (Yvonne Vaillant), 2 children: Denis, Rachelle. Rémi (Eileen Synth), 3 children: Sheri, Michelle, Mark. George (Joanne Boisvert), 2 children: Kevin, Jennifer. Yvette (Michael Ritter). Pierre and Denise lived in Legal until 1968, when they made their home in Edmonton.



Pierre & Denise Boisvert's wedding, June 27, 1944



George, Léo, Leonora, Guy, Michael, Rémi, Eileen & Maurice, Joanne, Denise, Irene, Yvette, Pierre & Yvonne

Pierre est né en 1915. A 18 ans, il est allé travailler comme mécanicien à Morinville, puis à Vancouver. La mort de son père l'a fait revenir à Legal pour prendre soin de la famille. Denise Ouellette est devenue son épouse en 1944; ils ont eu six enfants. Ils aimaient la musique (il jouait du violon), les loisirs et la pêche. Ils ont aussi fait beaucoup de bénévolat communautaire. Pierre & Denise ont vécu à Legal jusqu'en 1968, puis ils se sont établis à Edmonton.

BOISVERT, Rodolphe & Yvonne (Dauphinois)

par Thérèse Boisvert-Regimbald

La famille Rodolphe Boisvert est arrivée à Legal le 1 juillet 1951, de Willow-Bunch, Saskatchewan. Rodolphe, le père, est né à St-Gabriel de Brandon (Québec) le 1 juillet 1903. Il était le deuxième enfant de Cléophas Boisvert et Pamela Roy. Là, il vivait sur une petite terre et aidait avec tous les travaux. En 1920, la famille Boisvert se dirigea vers Providence, Rhode Island, Etats-Unis, afin de trouver du travail dans les usines de textile. Le jeune Rodolphe s'y rendit avec sa famille. En 1924, la famille est retournée à St-Gabriel. Durant l'été, Rodolphe et son père se rendirent à la vallée de Willow-Bunch pour y faire les moissons. Il y avait là plusieurs gens de St-Gabriel qui étaient venus s'y établir à l'invitation du traiteur de fourrure, Jean Louis Légaré. Rodolphe s'y est bien plu et en 1927, il est venu s'y établir pour de bon. Durant son séjour là, Rodolphe a travaillé dans des mines de charbon et de glaise. Il a travaillé pour un grand nombre de fermiers. En 1933, il rencontra la jeune Yvonne Dauphinois et le 3 avril 1934 fut leur heureux jour de mariage.

Après leur mariage, Rodolphe et Yvonne obtinrent leur propre terre. De leur union sont nés six enfants: Thérèse, Lilianne, Denise, Léo, Aline, Bernadette. La ferme Boisvert était à six milles du village de Willow-Bunch. Cette paroisse n'avait pas été favorisée d'autobus scolaire encore, alors les enfants devaient être pensionnaires au couvent pour aller à l'école. Cela laissait Rodolphe toujours tout seul pour faire le "train" et travailler une terre un peu pauvre. Rodolphe savait bien qu'il y aurait des places plus favorables pour élever sa famille. Etant un homme assez aventurier, au printemps 1951, il vendit sa terre, fit encan et se dirigea vers le nord de l'Alberta. Il était accompagné de son beau-frère, Marcel Dauphinois, qui venait de vendre son commerce à Coderre, Saskatchewan. Ils ont commencé à Edmonton et ont visité



Mariage de Rodolphe et Yvonne Boisvert, le 3 avril 1934

plusieurs petits villages autour. C'était important pour Rodolphe que ce soit un village canadien-français. Ils se sont arrêtés à Legal. Le commerce de machines agricoles de Lucien Provost était à vendre. Ils n'ont pas perdu de temps à l'acheter et ont formé la compagnie Dauphinois-Boisvert, agents Massey Harris. Alors, c'est à la fin de l'année scolaire que Rodolphe engagea Ladislav Messier, Paul Mahé et leurs deux camions pour déménager la famille Boisvert à Legal, y arrivant le 1er juillet 1951.

Cet automne-là, nous étions tous à l'école à Legal, sauf Bernadette qui n'avait que trois ans. Nous vivions comme les autres de l'endroit, entre l'école, la maison et l'église. Nous avons nos coutumes du Québec et des Canadiens-Français de la Saskatchewan. Nous tâchions de dire la prière en famille, surtout durant le carême. Nous étions fidèles à la messe du dimanche. Nous fêtions Noël



Aline Blackburn, Lilianne Trithart, Thérèse Régimbald, Bernadette Cochlin et Denise Bergevin, Léo & Rodolphe Boisvert

avec nos tourtières, nos bûches de Noël et nos ragoûts de pattes de cochons. Rodolphe aimait beaucoup les gens, jeunes ou vieux, et notre petite maison tout près de la Confiserie d'Edouard Mercier était toujours pleine de jeunes. Nos fêtes étaient couronnées de musique vive, nous aimions jouer des cuillères et taper du pied.

Notre maman Yvonne n'avait pas été douée d'une santé robuste, alors elle ne sortait pas beaucoup mais était le pivot du foyer. Elle possédait toutes sortes de talents dans la couture, le petit point, la broderie, le tricot. Elle aimait faire la cuisine et préparait beaucoup de mets à la fois succulents et économiques. Elle prenait aussi beaucoup de plaisir à visiter avec les jeunes qui se rendaient chez-elle pour passer du temps avec ses enfants.

Après quelque temps, l'agence Massey-Harris n'était plus rentable et Rodolphe dut trouver un autre emploi. Il a eu soin de la patinoire et il a travaillé longtemps à l'atelier de Normand Létourneau. Bien que Rodolphe s'était acheté une petite terre il travaillait souvent pour d'autres fermiers comme Léon Préfontaine et Paul Chauvet. Rodolphe et Yvonne sont déménagés de Legal en octobre 1966 pour se rendre à St-Albert où Rodolphe à 63 ans, avait trouvé un emploi comme concierge au Foyer Youville. La maison où nous avons passé notre jeunesse et où il y avait eu plusieurs veillées de plaisir, fut achetée par Pete Préfontaine, célibataire.

M. Boisvert a travaillé au Foyer Youville jusqu'en 1973, quand il a pris sa retraite à 70 ans. Rodolphe et Yvonne sont ensuite venus vivre au

Château Sturgeon où il leur reste de bons amis encore aujourd'hui. Madame Boisvert est morte au Foyer Youville le 17 mars 1981. Rodolphe est mort à Edmonton le 21 octobre 1989. Le seul descendant de M. et Mme Boisvert encore à Legal est Lyle Trithart et sa famille. Bien que les autres membres n'y habitent plus, ils ont tous des liens très forts à cause des familles de leurs conjoints à Legal et y retournent plusieurs fois chaque année.

Thérèse Boisvert et Laurier Regimbald font depuis plusieurs années leur demeure à St-Albert. Lilianne Trithart travaille et vit à Edmonton. Denise et Marcel Bergevin vivent maintenant à Kelowna (Colombie Britannique). Léo Boisvert s'est joint à la Gendarmerie Royale du Canada en mai 1964. Il a été placé à Valleyfield, Québec, Montreal, Winnipeg et Brandon, (Manitoba). Léo, son épouse Hélène Demers et leur famille vivent maintenant à Regina (Saskatchewan), où Léo est Sergeant d'Etat Major. Aline et Remi Blackburn habitent à St-Albert, de même que Bernadette Cochlin. La famille Rodolphe Boisvert est très fière de faire partie du livre historique de Legal!

Rodolphe came to Legal from Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan, where his family had moved after a stay in the States. He took different jobs, mainly in mines, and in 1933, he met Yvonne Dauphinais. They married and had six children. But the land in Willow Bunch was not the best, so they decided to come to Alberta. In Legal, they formed Dauphinais-Boisvert, Massey Harris agents. Yvonne is remembered for her numerous talents. Rodolphe worked at the Youville Home in St. Albert from 1966 to 1973 then retired at Château Sturgeon in Legal. Yvonne passed away at Youville Home in 1981, and Rodolphe passed away in Edmonton in 1989.

BOISVERT, Roland & Marie Anne (Pelletier)

Roland was born in Legal June 18/1915, the son of John and Phélanise Boisvert, second eldest of four children. He was raised on a farm and worked the land along with his father, for several years. Later, he took up mechanics and worked for Garneau Motors and Mercier & Sons. He also trucked for a few years and went as far as Fort St. John, B.C. and also as far as the United States. May 21/1940, Roland married Marie Anne Pelletier, also of Legal, born January 8/1916 to Ernest and Rosalie. She attended elementary and high school in Legal. After finishing school, she worked as assistant with her mother in the Post Office.

On May 7/1941, they became the proud parents of a baby boy, Roland. The family moved to St. Paul in 1953. Roland was a mechanic and George attended school and Marie Anne took care of the household. Three years later, she was assistant to the Post Master in St-Paul. July 7/1952, they were blessed with a second son, Marcel (deceased September 1955) and on February 5/1955, they had a daughter, Lorraine. Roland continued as mechanic for many years, but due to allergies, he was forced to pursue a new career as mail contractor; he had the mail route from St. Paul to Two Hills. After 15 years of service, he retired in June 1986, at which time the contract was taken over by his son George.

They had the pleasure of being grandparents to five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Marie Anne retired from her postal duties in 1980, after 25 years of service. From time to time, she accompanied Roland on his postal route. On September 22/1986, only four months after his retirement, Roland deceased. Marie Anne still resides in St. Paul along with her two children, George and Lorraine.



Rosalie Pelletier (Lavergne), Marie-Anne (Pelletier) Boisvert

Roland Boisvert, fils de John et Phélanise Boisvert, est né le 18 juin 1915 à Legal, le 2ième de quatre enfants. Pendant plusieurs années, il demeura sur la ferme et fit les récoltes avec son père. Plus tard, il se trouvait mécanicien et travaillait pour Garneau Garage et aussi chez Mercier & Sons. Il camionnait aussi jusqu'à Fort St. John et aux Etats Unis. Le 21 mai 1940, il maria Marie Anne Pelletier, aussi de Legal, née le 8 janvier 1916, fille de Ernest et Rosalie. Elle a fait ses études

élémentaires et secondaires à Legal. Elle a ensuite commencé à travailler avec sa mère comme assistante au bureau de poste. Le 7 mai 1941, ils sont devenus fiers parents d'un fils, George. Roland et famille sont déménagés à St-Paul en 1953, Roland comme mécanicien, George comme étudiant, et Marie Anne s'occupait de la maison. Trois ans plus tard, elle est employée comme assistante au maître de poste à St-Paul. Le 7 juillet 1952, ils ont eu un autre fils, Marcel (décédé septembre 1955). Le 5 février 1955, ils ont eu une petite fille, Lorraine. Roland continua comme mécanicien pendant plusieurs années mais à cause d'allergies, il lui a fallu prendre une autre carrière comme courrier de poste entre St-Paul et Two Hills. Après 15 ans de service, il se retira en juin 1986, et le contrat fut pris par son fils, George. Ils ont eu le plaisir d'être grand-parents de cinq petits-enfants et deux arrière-petits-enfants. Marie Anne se retira des postes en 1980, après 25 ans de service. De temps en temps elle accompagnait Roland sur sa route. Le 22 septembre 1986, seulement quatre mois après sa retraite, Roland est décédé. Marie Anne habite encore à St-Paul, ainsi que ses deux enfants, George et Lorraine.

(Traduit par la famille)

BOISVERT, William & Ida (Bachand)

by Edna Mercier

Jean Boisvert and Josephine Lavallée, a family of Franco-American descent, migrated to Legal from St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A., with their large family in 1905. They had 9 sons and 3 daughters. They settled in the district of Diligence when Willie was 13 years old. He proudly served in World War I, and in 1918, he married Ida Bachand, daughter of Louis and Julie (Garneau). They raised a family of nine living children.

In 1933, Willie sold his property in Legal and purchased a parcel of land from Romeo Tousignant in Thorhild. They moved all their belongings by horse and wagon along with their Model-T Ford. With his family, he operated a mixed farm. In 1937, he built a new home. With determination and hard work, they lived quite well, for there was always plenty to eat although cash was very scarce. Willie was a handy carpenter and an excellent hunter and fisherman. In winter, he would easily rake in \$500 from his traplines. Ida sewed and knitted, and her kitchen was always busy with so many to feed. Bread was baked twice a week.

Julie the youngest child, was born in Thorhild in 1935. Times were tough in the Depression and



Willie & Ida Boisvert's wedding, April 23, 1918

many tribulations were faced along with the good times. In 1936, Willie had his leg caught in the bailer. He underwent many operations to correct his injuries. He was able to receive a monthly \$5 relief from the government. That same year, in the fall, Edna was kicked on the head by a horse. She was unconscious for 62 days in the Radway hospital, but miraculously recovered completely. In 1939, Ida purchased her first muskrat coat. It took 42 turkeys to pay for this \$135 coat. The winters were very cold and she really appreciated her warm coat. The family grew and ventured out on their own. Many good times were had with the neighbors, the Bianics, Labelles, St-Jeans, Martels, Rileys and the Hawreliuks. Norman joined the army in 1941 and served during World War II. In 1947, Raymond joined the R.C.M.P. and served for over 25 years.

In 1944, Willie sold his land to Dave Kortach and returned to Legal. He started the International Harvester Dealership. In 1947, a fire destroyed his



Olive, Albert, Annette, Marie, Norman, Léo, Raymond, Edna & Julie

shop along with the St. Emile Catholic church and Art Boisvert's general store. It was quite the fire! Willie was able to rebuild the dealership. In 1953, he sold his business to Norman Letourneau. He then purchased land with cabins in Slave Lake. Ida ran the cabins while Willie did a bit of farming along with lots of fishing. He enjoyed these years tremendously. In 1955, they relocated in Edmonton to retire. In 1965, they lived in the Château Sturgeon Home in Legal for nearly a year. Ida died at the age of 72 in July 1966. Willie died at 77, in November 1970.

Their children are: Olive (born 1919) married Eugene Vaudan, 5 children. Albert (1921) married Olive Nadeau, 2 children. Annette (1922) married Bill Greer, 2 children; and with second husband, Stan Hooker, 2 children. Norman (1924) married Annette Pelletier, 5 children. Marie (1925) married Wilfred Doyle, 3 children. Léo (1928) remains single. Raymond (1929) married Louise Johnson, 2 children. Edna (1931) married Robert Mercier, 4 children. Julie (1935) married Peter Lawrence, 4 children. Annette had a fatal car accident in 1985, and her husband, Stan Hooker, suffered a fatal heart attack one month later. Both are buried in Hay River, N.W.T. Olive resides in Egremont; Albert and Raymond in B.C. Norman, Léo and Julie in Edmonton, while Marie lives in Whitefish Lake and Edna in Legal.

Willie avait 13 ans quand sa famille a quitté les Etats Unis pour s'établir à Legal. Il a servi durant la Première Guerre puis il a épousé Ida Bachand en 1918. Ils sont allés vivre à Thorhild où ils ont travaillé très fort sur leur terre. Ils ont eu neuf enfants. Ils sont revenus à Legal en 1944, où Willie est devenu concessionnaire IH. En 1953, ils ont gardé des chalets d'été à Slave Lake.

BOLLE, August & Mary (Runtjiens) by Darlene Provencal

Just before leaving Kortemart, Belgium, August Bolle became too ill to travel. This proved to be good luck because the ship he was scheduled to take was the ill-fated Titanic. August arrived in Canada on the Majestic in 1914, with his brother Harry. Two other brothers, Constant and Honoré, arrived later. August went to work on a farm in Villeneuve. Two years earlier, in 1912, Marie Runtjiens, an orphan aged 14, arrived from Zeebrugge, Belgium, with the Louis D'Hoedt family. She found work as a farm hand for Joe Defeils. August and Mary met at a house dance and married in April 1920. They farmed in the Morinville area, renting until they could buy their own farm, 2½ miles west of Legal, in 1936. This farm was close to her sister who had married Camiel Cornelis. August did mixed farming and was known in the area as "the vet", because he was very knowledgeable and good with animals. Neighbors were always calling him and his brother-in-law, Camiel, for help. He did all his farming with horses, until his son, Camiel, introduced him to the modern tractor. His first tractor was a John-Deere D with steel wheels.



August & Mary Bolle with Camiel & Mary

Mary was known around Legal for selling raspberries and for her lovely flowers. She had a "green thumb" and every summer her huge garden and lawn became alive with color and beauty. You never left her place without your arms full. About three times a year, Mary would make a large batch of the evergood and never forgotten "Lucky's", a cookie made in a special iron brought from Belgium. It's a flour, butter and sugar mix that has to be cooked individually in the iron over an open fire. Today, Camiel still makes these cookies for special occasions and no one refuses them. A treat we'll always remember! August and Mary's close neighbors and friends were John Wynnychuk, Art Leguerrier, Frank Rivard and Jules Baert. They had three children: Camiel, Mary, Irene. Camiel married Yvonne Lesberghe (daughter of Edward & Maria), they farm in the Legal area. Mary married Bruce Campbell and settled in B.C. Bruce deceased but Mary still lives in B.C. Irene married Paul Champagne (son of Harvey & Stella), also settled in the Legal area.

August and Mary celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in Legal, April 3/1970. August deceased suddenly a few months later, in June. Mary deceased in March 1976. They have 12 grandchildren: Remi & Darlene (Provencal), Gary, David & Kevin Bolle; Brian, Kevin & Candace (Provencal) Campbell; Doreen (Provencal), Robert, Cheryl (Huot) & Allan Champagne. All the grandchildren are either living in Legal or in the close surrounding area. We're glad they started "roots" in Legal because friendships they started have endured through to our generation.



Mary & August Bolle with first grandchild, Sherry-Lynn Provencal

August est tombé malade juste avant leur départ de Belgique pour le Canada, et fort heureusement car il aurait embarqué sur le "Titanic". Il est finalement arrivé au Canada avec ses deux frères en 1914. Marie était une orpheline belge, arrivée au Canada avec la famille D'Hoedt en 1912. Ils se sont mariés en 1920. Auguste est devenu le "vet" local à cause de ses talents naturels avec les animaux. Il a toujours cultivé avec des chevaux, jusqu'à ce que son fils Camiel l'introduise à la machinerie moderne, comme leur premier tracteur, un John-Deere D avec des roues de fer. Marie entretenait de grands jardins et tous se souviennent de ses biscuits belges "Lucky's". Ils ont eu trois enfants.

BOLLE, Camiel & Yvonne (Lesburg)

by Darlene Provencal

Camiel Bolle, son of August and Mary, came to a farm in the Legal area in 1936, when he was 16 years old. He quickly became good friends with a neighbor, Andy Wynnychuk, and that friendship still remains to this day. Camiel worked on the farm with his dad until his marriage to Yvonne Lesburg in June 1945. They started their married life together on a farm 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Legal, which they rented from Louis Proulx. Remi and Darlene were born here July 1947 and September 1948. In 1950, they moved to a farm one mile south of Legal and rented from Achille Claeys. In December 1952, Gary was born and in January 1958, David came along. Their neighbors were Gabriel Tieulié, the Ostapowich's, Walter Van de Walle and Maurice Dhont. During this time, as well as farming, Camiel looked after the oil wells in the area. He did this for 10 years,



Yvonne & Camiel Bolle

working for companies such as Sinclair Oil, Mic Mac Oil and Saturn Petroleum. While at this location, Camiel helped build the first curling rink in Legal. It was natural ice and Camiel and Albert Pelletier were the ice-makers for many, many years. Bonspiels always saw the women making soup and bringing pies. When the weather would turn warm, curling took place overnight somewhere around 2-3 A.M. Camiel and Yvonne are still active curlers with the Old Timer's League in Legal.

In 1959, a chance came for them to buy a half section from Julian Plaisant, 5 miles west of Legal. They still live at this location and are still actively farming. Over the years, Camiel had Ed Leguerrier clear 40 acres and Rock Regimbald the other 40 acres. Across the road, neighbors were Omer Maurier and Camille Deslauriers. Kevin was born here in October 1966.

As well as mixed-grain farming, they had about 40 heads of cattle and over 2,000 chickens. Each day, baskets and baskets of eggs would be picked, washed, graded and candled before being put in cartons and shipped twice a week to Woodward's in Edmonton. In 1963, a tornado ripped through the area, causing a lot of damage to the farm as

well as Camille Deslaurier's farm. Camiel lost a machine shed, the garage moved off its foundation, granaries were scattered, with one landing on a cultivator, trees were uprooted and the windows blown out of the house. No insurance covered this loss. In 1964, lightning struck the house and the "crack" was heard in Legal. However, good grounding saved it from burning. In 1971, they sold all the chickens and cattle and then helped their son, Rémi, invest in buying Busby Hotel. For the next several years, they worked at the hotel until Remi was able to become sole owner. In 1976, Camiel and Yvonne built a new home on their farm and they rented out the other house on the same yard. Camiel served on the Legal Credit Union Board for three years and was a member of the Knights of Columbus for many years.

Remi married Rose Neitch, lives in Busby, children: Tina, Trevor, Steven. Darlene married Léo Provençal, lives in Vimy, children: Sherri-Lynn, Larry, Denny, Kelly-Dawn. Gary married Louise Landry and lives on an acreage on family farm, children: Shane, Jason, Stephanie. David married Agnes Rivard, lives on another acreage



Camiel & Yvonne Bolle family, 1991

on the farm, children: Kurtis, Brandon, Corissa. Kevin will get married to Shelly Murphy in July 1992.

Camiel est arrivé à Legal en 1936, il avait 16 ans. Il a travaillé sur la ferme paternelle jusqu'à son mariage avec Yvonne Lesburg en 1945. Ils ont cultivé des terres louées et ils ont eu quatre enfants. Camiel a fait l'entretien des puits d'huile locaux pendant 10 ans. Il a contribué au développement du club de curling; en plus d'aider à la construction du "Rink"; c'est lui qui a fait la glace pendant des années. Yvonne et d'autres femmes s'occupaient de la soupe et des tartes pendant les Bonspiels. Ils curlent toujours avec le club des Old Timer's. En 1959, ils ont acheté une terre où ils ont fait l'élevage du boeuf et du poulet. Ils se souviennent de la tornade de 1963, et de l'éclair de 1964.

BOLLE, David & Agnes (Rivard)

by David Bolle

I am David, the second youngest of five children born to Camiel and Yvonne Bolle. I was raised on the farm in the Legal area. My schooling was done in Legal and I graduated in 1976. I have been employed as a journeyman partsman at R. Angus for the past eight years. Agnes, the youngest of five children born to Eddy and Aline who also lived on a farm in the Legal area. She attended school in Legal and graduated in 1977. Agnes then moved to Edmonton and took up work at ITT Grinell, Wheels & Equipment and Philips Electronics.

We were married July 14/1979 and moved into a mobile home we set up west of Legal, until we built our present house in 1984. We both commuted to work in Edmonton until 1985 when we started our family. Agnes is now at home with our three children: Kurtis (January 2/1985), Brandon (May 23/1987), Corissa (August



David & Agnes Bolle family: David, Corissa, Kurtis, Brandon, & Agnes

13/1988). We both enjoy camping, baseball and curling.

David est né et a grandi sur une ferme à Legal. Agnes vient aussi de Legal, où elle a terminé son secondaire en 1977, tout comme David en 1976. Mariés en 1979, ils habitent toujours ici, voyageant à Edmonton pour leur travail jusqu'en 1985. Ils ont trois enfants.

BONNIE, James & Mary Helena (Rooney)

by Helen Casher & Lucile Derrien

In 1923, James Bonnie, born in Collingwood (Ont.), was married to Mary Helena Rooney in Edmonton. The Rooneys had moved a large family from a predominantly Irish community in Farrelton, Québec, to Minnesota, where they lived for many years. Two daughters were born of this union, Lucile and Helen, and the family moved to a farm 6 miles south of Legal in the early 1930s. The parents left the rough-and-tumble atmosphere of a mining town in the foothills near Edson, determined to raise their children in a more wholesome rural environment.

James Bonnie was in his 50s when this decision was made, and it was no easy task for him and his wife (a former legal secretary to leading politicians of the time) to make this venture a success. The original quarter was cleared of trees and stumps with labour-intensive methods and planted to wheat, oats, barley and alfalfa. We girls remember our father guiding his hand-held plough behind dusty horses and the sequence with disc harrow and seed drill which subdued the glistening black furrows, transforming them eventually into fields of waving grain. Although our first days on the farm were spent in a tent, our father soon built a house with lumber hauled from Edmonton, and a chicken house and barn were erected for poultry and cattle.

On our farm, we recall downy chickens hatched in incubators in the kitchen as well as aggressive geese and silly turkeys chased in the rain. Our animals provided us with daily chores, a varied menu and many well-loved pets. We recall that our parents ordered shrubs and young trees from an experimental farm, which they planted around half the perimeter of a large and bountiful garden. The tasks of weeding and helping with the harvesting invest that space with many memories as does the wealth of vegetables and berries it produced. A slough in the middle of our farm was bordered with cattails alive with red-winged blackbirds and home to wild fowl and muskrats. In the autumn,

hunters regularly appeared for the duck-shooting. In the surrounding bush, partridges, prairie-chickens, owls, rabbits and coyotes were among the occupants but subsequent clearing of the trees reduced their numbers and the slough itself. The derricks of oil wells later punctuated the landscape. It would seem that although the area was in the throes of an economic depression, we children did not recognize that fact and felt well provided for and happy in our little world.

We attended Bruyère School where grades one to nine were taught in one room. Spelling bees, Friday afternoon "Lits" and annual Christmas concerts offered variety to the regular classroom activities. In the winter, we often walked our quarter-mile over crusted drifts and envied our peers who came from greater distances in heated cabooses. Their horses were stabled in a small barn behind the school. Both of our parents took an active and continuing interest in our education, with our father serving terms as trustee of the local school board.

As Roman Catholics, we were parishioners of St. Emile's Church in Legal where we received First Communion and Confirmation. We distinctly remember the adventure of getting to Midnight Mass with heated rocks warming us under blankets, as our steaming horses crunched their way through the snow. All was not hard work in this farming community, for in the winter months "socials" were held in the school, attended by children and adults alike. Desks were pushed aside as piano, fiddle and guitar supplied music for waltzes, polkas and square dances. Babies and toddlers slept on coats throughout the merriment which ended with refreshments and for us, a walk home under a star-studded sky.

Eventually the farm was sold in 1945 and the family moved first to Edmonton and then to Vancouver. James Bonnie died in 1957 and Mary, in 1975. Helen worked for Alberta Government



Pupils - Bruyère School

Telephones while in Edmonton and continued working as an operator after moving to Vancouver where she married Tom Casher in 1957. They moved to Maple Ridge where they raised two sons, Tom and Bill, who now live and work in the area. Lucile became a career teacher, residing for many years in Toronto and later moving to Vancouver in 1966. She married Harvey Darrien in 1968 and now lives in the Champlain Heights area of the city, having retired from teaching for some years.

James est né en Ontario et Mary au Québec, dans une communauté irlandaise. Elle a été secrétaire de politiciens de l'époque. Ils se sont mariés en 1923 et ils ont eu deux filles. Ils ont quitté les mines près d'Edson pour devenir agriculteurs à Legal jusqu'en 1945. Ils ont traversé la Dépression sans trop s'en apercevoir car la ferme leur procurait le nécessaire. Ils ont ensuite déménagé à Edmonton, puis à Vancouver. L'un de leurs plus beaux souvenirs est celui du bruit des chevaux sur la neige quand ils allaient à la Messe de Minuit. Ils aimaient aussi les concerts de Noël à l'école.

BORDUZAK, Donald & Louise (Parrent)

Bill and Helen Borduzak's son, Donald, married Louise Parrent of Clyde in October 1969. They farmed together with his parents until Michelle was born in 1971. Don and Louise took over the responsibilities of the farm, which has grown to be a successful grain and poultry operation. In 1980, their son Marcus was born. In 1992, Michelle married Darrell Flatla from Saskatoon and settled north of Don and Louise. Aside from farming, Don and Louise enjoy



Marcus, Michelle & husband Darrell, Louise & Don Borduzak

travelling and participating on various boards and committees. They continue to farm with the help of their children.

Donald a épousé Louise Parrent de Clyde en 1969; ils ont eu deux enfants. Ils ont pris charge de la ferme des Borduzak qui est devenue une entreprise prospère de grain et de volailles. Ils aiment voyager et s'impliquer dans la communauté.

BORDUZAK, Nick & Victoria (Elniski)

by Henriette Borduzak

Nick was born June 20/1925, in Waugh, the youngest of five children born to Peter and Sophie Borduzak. He attended Half Moon Lake School. Residing only 100 steps from the school, he was hired as the school janitor at the age of 14. His duties included making a fire in the furnace early in the morning before the students arrived, as well as sweeping and cleaning after classes. During the cold winter months, it was not unusual to see Nick getting up at midnight to walk to the school and stoke the fire making sure the students arrived to a warm classroom in the morning. He continued this job until he left school at age of 16. In addition to helping out on the farm as a young boy, Nick trapped and skinned small animals to earn extra money. His father took the hides to Edmonton for sale. Coyotes would bring \$10 to \$20 per pelt, weasels \$3 and squirrels a mere 35¢. In 1947, the Borduzak family moved to Edmonton. With a fervent desire to return to the farm and own his own land, Nick found employment first at Edmonton Motors, as a maintenance person and later at Molson Brewery. After saving and working at several other jobs, Nick was able to purchase land in the Legal area. This parcel of land was bought from Peter Bociak and had been originally owned by Art Boisvert.

St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Edmonton was the scene of a joyous occasion when Nick married Victoria Elniski, November 27/1948. Born June 1/1928, she was the daughter of Andrew and Tillie. After the nuptials, a large celebration was held at the Elniski homestead. Nick and Victoria resided in Edmonton until the spring of 1949, when they moved to the farmland purchased earlier in the Legal area. With much hard work and determination, the couple established a profitable farming operation.

The Borduzak's were blessed with two children: Jim (May 27/1950) and Diane (March 30/1954). They were active members of the Waugh Church and held several positions on the executive. They continued mixed farming, which included grain,

hay, a farrow to finish hog operation, cattle and chickens. In 1970, they acquired two quarters from neighbour Arthur Morin. The spring of 1958 saw the construction of a well deserved new home. The Borduzak residence was always the setting for warm hospitality and fine food.

Diane married Bill Rae October 28/1972, children: Christine (July 27/1974), Ronald (February 12/1978). Jim married Henriette Auger November 1972, sons: Trevor (June 30/1978), David (March 1/1980), Randy (September 18/1983). Nick and Victoria semi-retired in the fall of 1976, moving to Edmonton but continuing to farm for several more years. Jim and his family now reside on the family farm where they continue in the tradition of agriculture and love of the land.



Nick & Victoria Borduzak family

Nick est né en 1925, près de l'école de Waugh; il en a été concierge jusqu'à 16 ans. Jeune, il trappait aussi pour se gagner de l'argent. Sa famille déménagea à Edmonton en 1947, mais il travailla avec le désir de revenir sur une ferme. En 1928, Victoria l'épousait et ils venaient vivre à Legal l'année suivante. Ils ont eu deux enfants et ont toujours été impliqué dans la paroisse de Waugh.

BORDUZAK, Peter & Sophie (Zawalykut)

Peter Borduzak was born in 1886 in the village of Zaphlepi, Western Ukraine. He had one brother Fred (Mary Stefaniuk) two sisters, Katie (Bill Popowich), and Pearl (Peter Machtetuk). With the news of freedom of religion and ample land available in Canada, many people from the village were leaving their homeland with hopes of a brighter future. His older sister Katie and her husband Bill had already left for Canada. At the age of 22, he yearned to join them for a better way of life. Along with his brother Fred and sister

Pearl, he arrived by ship to New York, U.S.A. in 1911. Their plans were to sail to Halifax but somehow the ship they took was destined for United States. He and Fred worked in the coal mines in Pennsylvania for about one year. With further news on the abundance of land available in western Canada at a cost of \$10 for 160 acres, he decided to head for Alberta. He worked his way across Canada and was successful in obtaining land upon his arrival in Alberta. His brother Fred and sister Pearl came a year later. He purchased a parcel of land in the Hillpoint area, where some people from his homeland had already settled. It was a slow and tedious process for them to get started, as they had to clear the bush, and slowly cultivate the land.

In 1911, Peter married Sophie Zawalykut, daughter of Metro and Anne, born in the village of Hadykowitz, also in Western Ukraine. Sophie had two sisters, Nancy (John Gerla), Magda (William Dowhaniuk) and one brother Jacob (Xenda Shawronik). She arrived in Canada with her family in 1907, and settled in the Waugh area, not far from Hillpoint. They commenced their farming operation with great determination and courage. The land that they farmed was located in a low area, producing poor crops that were often damaged by frosts. To supplement their income, Peter worked at the Drumheller coal mines for several years. He then returned and purchased two quarters in the Waugh area, adjacent to Half Moon School. The house they built was of a more modern style. Lumber was used for construction and it had an extra feature, an attached veranda. In the 1930's, for \$240 per year, Peter hauled mail to the areas of Bon Accord, Waybrook and Waugh twice a week. The older children helped him with the deliveries. During the winter months, Peter hauled loads of hay as far away as Edmonton and hauled wheat to the elevator in Opal.

Peter and Sophie were members of St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church located in Waugh, on the old Athabasca Landing Trail. Memorable times were shared with the family and friends at various church functions. Peter and Sophie shared the work on the land with horse-drawn equipment, primitive to today's standards. Peter helped his friend, Anton Dwornuk, with his sawmill operation to supply the lumber required for the farm buildings. God blessed Peter and Sophie with six children. Their first children all received their education at Half Moon School (adjacent to the farm yard). At first, it only accommodated children up to the grade nine level, but in 1929,

another school was built for students up to grade 12. The older children did not attend school during the busy seasons, as help was required on the farm. Peter later acquired several quarters for \$1200 each in the Vimy and Legal area. The operation of this land was eventually taken over by his three sons. He was always willing to give a helping hand, lending money to others so that they could purchase land for themselves. At times, he did not receive all the money that was owing.

During the following years, their children got married and pursued their own lives in the farming business: Annie (Julian Bilicki), Olga (Steve Zilinski), Bill (Helen Elniski), Peter Jr. (Mary Kordyban), Nick (Victoria Elniski). In 1948, Peter sold the farm and moved to Edmonton. He traded the farm for a rooming house. The auction sale which was held brought a total of \$10,000. Items such as the threshing machine sold for \$1,275. For \$1, someone else took over the pleasure of owning the old squeaky rocking chair. A sow and piglets sold for a price of \$116. Because they enjoyed living in the area, they later bought another house in the nearby district, which had a couple of suites in the basement, to supplement their income during their pension years. Peter worked in the maintenance department at the McGavin's Bakery for a short period. Their lives overflowed with the joy of their family and numerous friends. Peter took great pride in his family and grandchildren. He would travel regularly to the children's farms helping them whenever required. He is remembered for singing kolomaya songs at weddings of family and friends.



Peter & Sophie Borduzak

Peter and Sophie enjoyed reasonably good health for many years. Peter passed away December 8, 1961 at the age of 75. Sophie continued to live in the house and later, lived with her daughter Annie, until her health required that she move into St. Elia's Senior's Lodge. She passed away at the age of 88, July 17, 1983.

BORDUZAK, Peter & Mary (Kordyban)

Pete and Mary Borduzak were married July 12, 1946, in the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Clearbrook, just west of Thorhild. Peter was the fourth child born to the late Peter and Sophia Borduzak of Waugh, and Mary, the only daughter of Mike and Stephania Kordyban of Thorhild. Their wedding was a seven-day affair! July 12, they were married at the Clearbrook Church, and celebrated on the Kordyban farm under a large tent set up outside, with a wooden dance floor. One week later, they celebrated at the Borduzak farm, also under a huge tent and a dance was held in the barn. After that week's events, Peter and Mary moved to a farm Peter had already purchased, three miles east and one and a half miles south of Vimy. There, they began their life together with the second quarter quickly purchased. Pete, however, had to work out during the first winters at the Kordyban sawmills in Thorhild, leaving his young bride at home to cope with the chores that had accumulated.

They brought four sons into their lives: Ernest Matoddy (June 1948), Dennis (July 1950), Michael Kenneth (May 1957) and Peter Carl Junior (March 1960). In 1957, they also built a beautiful three-bedroom home with a white picket fence, running water and indoor washroom facilities; a blessing for the whole family. Pete's first line of equipment consisted of a Massey 26 combine, bought in 1952, a Super M tractor, a 1946 Chevrolet one-ton truck, and many of the brand names he carried on with throughout his farming years. They also ran a mixed grain-livestock operation, from milking cows, to raising chickens, pigs, horses, turkeys, and selling eggs. They bought their third quarter in 1956, from Jeanne St. Arnaud, the fourth quarter in 1960 from Frank Aptshon, the fifth from Mr. Jones, the sixth from Mr. and Mrs. Huot in 1968 and finally helped their second eldest son buy the seventh quarter from Henry Kowalchuk in 1971, which Dennis and his family still farm today. As you can see, Pete and Mary worked very hard together; working as a team, as they progressed through the years. Mary, however, did suffer one tragedy, when she was severely burned during an



Mary & Pete Borduzak's 25th wedding anniversary, July 12, 1971

explosion in the pumphouse early in 1962, leaving her legs and stomach burned very badly. She did manage to recover after several months in the Westlock Immaculata Hospital, and with the help of a wonderful family, friends and sisters-in-law, who helped take care of the family in her absence. As I recall, one aunt remembers sorting socks, and wondering just how many people lived there.

After 27 years of farming, Pete and Mary semi-retired, after the marriage of their son Dennis to Patricia Smerychynski in 1973, and they moved to Westlock. They did not sit still too long, before Pete started driving a propane truck for Les Hodge Propane and Mary went to work in the new Westlock Inn. They still kept plenty of time to plant the crops and a huge garden in the spring, and help out with the harvest in the fall. Their two youngest sons moved to Westlock as well, but before long, Mike married Shelley Rice in 1980 and began to farm as well. Peter Junior married Diane Hoffman in 1981, and lived in Edmonton. Peter still continued to help his sons with the farming, while Mary advanced in her jobs to the Co-op cafeteria, and later became the matron of the Pembina Lodge for 10 years. In June 1989, they lost their twin grandson Dennis Junior, and November 1, 1989, Peter passed away after a five-year struggle with colon and lung cancer. August 1990, Peter Junior also passed away from lung cancer and January 31, 1991, Mary Borduzak passed away from stress-related liver disease and a broken heart. All this occurred in 30 months, leaving this family devastated and broken-hearted.

Todd (Jo-anne MacLean), run the "Westlock Heating and Eavestroughing" business, located on a farm near Westlock. They have three children:



Peter & Mary Borduzak family

Marci (married Darcy Zadunayski, son of Wilfred and Eleanor), Roddy and Nicole, still at home. Dennis (Pat), now own and live on the family homestead, children: Stacy, Curtis, Jaime, Kevin, Dennis Junior (deceased). All are still at home or in school. Mike (Shelley), living east and north of Vimy on another quarter, two sons: Graham and Greg, still at home. Peter (Diane), lived in Edmonton, where they purchased their first home. Peter deceased August 1990 after a two-year battle with lung cancer. Diane, registered nurse, now working in the St. Albert Sturgeon General Hospital.

Pete and Mary were a very well-liked couple in the Vimy area; always involved in community events and helping friends and neighbors out when they could. Their wonderful personalities and warm hospitality led them make many good friends throughout their travels and lives together. They ventured on many holidays, went from Hawaii to Russia, to the Ukraine. They always welcomed friends, family and relatives into their homes and always had plenty of good food and drink set aside to enjoy. Peter was president of St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church for several years and Mary was secretary for Ladies' Group as well. They were two very warm-hearted and wonderful people. They will always be sadly missed by everyone who had the opportunity to know and love them.

Peter et Mary s'épousèrent en 1946 dans l'église catholique ukrainienne de Clearbrook, à l'ouest de Thorhild. Après sept jours de célébration, les jeunes époux s'établirent sur une ferme dans la région de Vimy. Quatre fils y sont nés: Ernest Matoddy, Dennis, Michael Kenneth et Peter Carl.

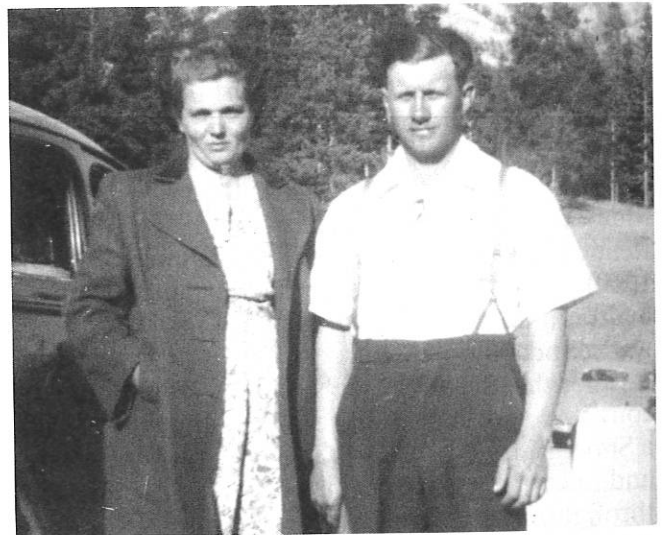
En 1957, les Borduzak se construisirent une belle résidence. De nombreuses machines contribuaient au bon fonctionnement d'une ferme importante qui comprenait une section et demie.

Après 27 années de gros travaux, Peter et Mary prirent leur semi-retraite et se retirèrent à Westlock où ils s'adonnèrent encore à la culture, soit au jardinage, soit en aidant sur la ferme au temps des récoltes.

En 1989, Peter est décédé, suivi de Mary qui décéda deux ans et demi plus tard.

BORDUZAK, William (Bill) & Helen (Elniski)

Bill was born November 15, 1919. He grew up on his father's farm and attended Half Moon Lake school. At the age of 19, he married Helen Elniski, and bought his first farm northeast of Legal from Oswald Carrière. There, they raised their family on a mixed-farm where they both enjoyed hard work and good times. They had two children. Olga, born in 1941, married Wesley Selesky in July 1962. They now farm in Thorhild. The youngest, Donald, was born March 6, 1948. In October 1969, he married Louise Parrent of Clyde. In 1972, Bill and Helen moved to Westlock and semi-retired, leaving their son to continue operating the family farm.



William & Helen Borduzak



William & Helen Borduzak family

While in Westlock, they enjoyed returning to help on the farm. They cherished the company of old and new friends, and did a lot of travelling.

Bill est né le 15 novembre 1919. Il fut élevé sur la ferme et alla à l'école à Half Moon Lake. A 19 ans, il épousa Helen Elniski, et ils achetèrent une ferme au nord-est de Legal, où ils élevèrent leurs deux enfants, Olga et Donald. En 1972, Bill et Helen déménagèrent à Westlock, laissant la responsabilité de la ferme à leur fils. A présent, ils aiment toujours aider aux travaux de la ferme et voyagent beaucoup.

BORM, Rudolph & Florentine (Schmode)

Mr. Borm homesteaded on the NE-14-58-26-W4 in around 1908. He worked at the Cardiff coal mine for the first few years, while proving up his homestead. The first year, he had no land broken because the soil was very wet and boggy. He built a big raft of logs and piled it high with dirt. This is where he planted his first garden. It was doing fine until a heavy rain came, which lasted for several days. After the rain stopped, he went to look at his garden but it was gone. It had floated about a quarter mile away. He found the raft and the garden was still alright!

Rudolph had a friend in Edmonton who introduced him to a widow named Florentine Schmode. Their friendship grew and they married in 1916 or 1917. She had four children: Sally, Dan, Sam and Bill. She and Rudolph had two more: Hazel and Albert. The stepchildren thought the world of Mr. Borm, and he adored them. In fact, they went by the name of Borm until they married and had to take their legal names.

Sally married George Nichol, Dan married Olive Finstead, Bill married Caroline Pistowka, Sam married Irene O'Brien, Hazel married George Selfridge and Albert married a girl from Germany, Katie, whom he met while serving in World War II.

Mr. Borm was a hard-working man and was always willing to help someone who was in difficulty. He also had a great sense of humor. Mrs. Borm, also a hard worker, spun all her own wool and knitted all the socks and sweaters for the family. She taught quite a few ladies how to spin wool. Rudolph Borm passed away in July 1935, and Florentine, in March 1940. Four of their children have also died: Bill (1954), Dan (1965), Sally (1987), Sam (1988).

M. Borm prit un homestead vers 1908 et travailla à la mine de charbon à Cardiff pendant les premières années. Il rencontra Florentine Schmode, veuve, et ils se marièrent en 1916 ou 1917.

Elle avait quatre enfants: Sally, Dan, Sam et Bill et en eut deux autres avec Rudolph: Hazel et Albert. Les enfants se sont tous mariés. Les Borm furent toujours de bons travailleurs. Rudolph décéda en juillet 1935 et Florentine, en mars 1940. Bill, Dan, Sally et Sam, aussi, sont tous décédés.

BOUCHARD, Joseph & Emilie (Tremblay)

En 1898, l'Abbé Samuel Bouchard, prêtre missionnaire à Villeneuve, fit venir ses parents, Onésime Bouchard et Suzanne Côté, de Québec. A l'automne, son seul frère, Joseph, et sa femme Emilie (Tremblay) arrivèrent de St-Anne de Chicoutimi (Québec), avec leurs 9 enfants: Benjamin, Elizabeth, Cécile, Isola, Onésime, Alphéda, Samuel, Delphis, Marcel. Quand l'abbé Bouchard devint curé de Legal, il bâtit une église et une maison où il vécut avec ses parents.

Joseph et sa famille prirent un homestead à



Emilie & Joseph Bouchard

l'est de Legal. Trois autres enfants y sont nés: Emile, Léon, Eugène. Joseph construisit une petite maison sur la rive du ruisseau appelé "Fairydell Creek". Plus tard, il construisit une plus grande maison au coin des quatre chemins. A part de résidence, elle servit comme magasin et bureau de poste. Comme Joseph savait arpenter, il fut employé pour faire les chemins des alentours. L'école de Diligence servit à l'éducation des enfants de la région jusqu'à environ 1947.



Marcel, Eugène, Emile, Samuel, Isola & Alphéda



Marcel, Lorraine, Yolande, Jean Charles, Marie-Paule & Liliane

En 1920, quand Marcel revint de la guerre, il épousa Liliane Massie. Ils demeurèrent sur une ferme à Diligence où ils élevèrent leur famille. Ils eurent cinq enfants. Claire est morte en enfance. Marie Paule maria Léo Rivet et vécut à Morinville. Après la mort de Léo, elle se maria à Roland Ricard. Marie Paule a eu sept enfants. Jean Charles s'est joint à l'armée Canadienne. Après sa décharge, il devint policier dans la Gendarmerie Royale du Canada. Il épousa Constance Marzitelli et il eut deux enfants, Robert et Lynn. Il demeure maintenant à Morinville. Lorraine (Ernest de

Champlain) éleva cinq enfants et enseigna à l'école de Legal jusqu'à sa mort en 1964. En 1952, Yolande et son mari, Harvey St-Onge, ont acheté la ferme de Marcel Bouchard. Ils demeurèrent à Legal pendant 30 ans. Yolande enseigna l'école pendant plusieurs années et Harvey fut membre de la commission scolaire. Ils élevèrent 5 enfants: Marcel, Lynn, Roland, Raymond, Liliane.



Liliane, Harvey, Yolande, Lynn, Raymond, Marcel & Roland St. Onge

Lynn (Bob Found) demeure à Edmonton et elle a deux enfants: Christine, Robbie. Roland décéda d'un accident d'auto en 1982, laissant sa femme Lynda Yeske et un fils, Richard. Liliane est célibataire et demeure à Edmonton.

Raymond, sa femme Elizabeth Lusson et ses 4 filles, Mélanie, Josée, Ariane et Karine, demeurent sur un terrain au nord de Legal. Marcel et son épouse, Rachelle Pelletier, ont deux fils, Marc et Denis. Le terrain anciennement défriché par le pionnier Joseph Bouchard, appartient maintenant à Marcel St-Onge, son arrière petit-fils.

In 1898, Father Samuel Bouchard, missionary priest in Alberta, sent for his parents, Onésime and Suzanne. They went to Villeneuve which was Father Bouchard's parish at the time. He convinced his only brother, Joseph and his wife Emilie, who were still in St-Anne de Chicoutimi (Québec), to come out west. They arrived in the fall of 1898 with their nine children: Benjamin, Elizabeth, Cécile, Isola, Onésime, Alphéda, Samuel, Delphis, Marcel. When Father Bouchard was transferred to Legal, he built a log church beside the creek and lived nearby with his parents. Joseph and his family purchased a homestead 3½ miles east of Legal Hamlet for \$10. Three more children were born in Legal: Emile, Léon, Eugène.

On the farm, east of Legal, Joseph built a log cabin for his family. It was built beside the creek

now called Fairydell Creek. To help support his family, Joseph and his sons freighted goods by horse and sleigh from Edmonton to Athabasca. They worked for the Hudson's Bay Company, bringing goods to the North and bringing back furs. These trips were as distant as 300 miles. In 1909, Joseph rented out his farm in Legal and moved his family to Slave Lake. There, they operated a sawmill. After three years, as they realized things had not improved, they went back to Legal.

Joseph had been a chain man for Price Brothers in Québec. He knew how to survey land, so when roads needed to be built in Legal, he was hired. He was well known in the area as a man who built straight and well-drained roads which lasted for many years. By then, a school was erected near their land. Joseph built a larger house and used the front room as a store and post office. In 1916, when World War I was in progress, Marcel, now 20 years of age, enlisted. When Armistice was declared, he was in Aldershot, England. In 1918, an influenza epidemic broke out. Joseph and his wife lost three children: Onésime, Delphis, Cécile. Emilie deceased in 1924 and Joseph in 1929. His brother, Father Samuel, who was residing in the United States, died at the same time. The only land that remained in the family belongs to Marcel. It was sold to his daughter Yolande and husband Harvey St. Onge. It now belongs to Marcel St. Onge, great-grandson of the courageous pioneer, Joseph Bouchard.

(Translated by family)

BOUCLIN Family - Famille

The Bouclin family, Joseph, Théophile and their mother Angélique, arrived in Legal in 1898. They settled in the area where was the Diligence Post Office. Later, Louis, Joseph and Théophile's brother came to join them. The Bouclins purchased a section of land in the Diligence District, but had no experience in farming at the time. However, Théophile was a man known to try anything and make a go of it. He had quite a time finding means of threshing grain, and finally resorted to a treadmill driven by horses. He then bought a steam engine and a sawmill and installed them by the creek across from where the St. Emile Church is now situated. Later, Demers and Co. and Théophile bought a threshing machine which kept them very busy. Théophile contributed to the establishment of the Diligence School, situated four miles east of the village of Legal on his property.

May 17, 1905, at the age of 65, Angélique



Théophile Bouclin & Marie Chauvet avec leurs fils René et Edouard Bouclin

Bouclin passed away. Théophile then married Marie Chauvet and they had six children. The two oldest children, Edouard (Monique Lebrecque of Rosetown, Saskatchewan) and René were born in Legal. In 1910, Joseph, Théophile and his family moved to Mondou, Saskatchewan where four more children were born: Raymond (Yvonne Champagne of Morinville), Germaine (Wilfing of Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan), Paul (Shirley Bell) and Johnny (Margaret Walker). In 1931, Joseph passed away in Elrose, Saskatchewan. Louis passed away in the United States and Théophile, in 1936 in Elrose.

In 1976, Théophile Junior, son of Edouard, moved to Vimy with his wife Doreen and their two daughters, Nicole and Michelle. In the summer of 1976, Théophile passed away in a tragic farm accident, leaving his wife who was expecting their third child. Doreen moved to the village of Legal after her son Théo was born.



Théophile & Marie Bouclin

La famille Bouclin, dont Joseph, Théophile et leur mère Angélique, est arrivée à Legal en 1898. Ils se sont installés à l'est de Legal en un milieu où il y avait le bureau de poste de Diligence. Louis est venu plus tard rejoindre ses frères Joseph et Théophile. Les Bouclin sont devenus propriétaires d'une section de terrain. Nul d'entre eux n'avait vécu sur une ferme, mais selon Edouard, son père Théophile pouvait faire avec succès ce qu'il entreprenait. Au défi de trouver un moyen plus facile de battre le grain, il décida d'essayer un "treadmill" (trépigneuse) mené par des chevaux. Ensuite, il décida d'acheter un engin à vapeur et un moulin à scie qu'il installa près de l'autre côté du ruisseau où est maintenant l'église St-Emile. Puis, associés avec Demers et Cie, ils ont acheté un moulin à battre, et de là, il y avait toujours de quoi à faire.

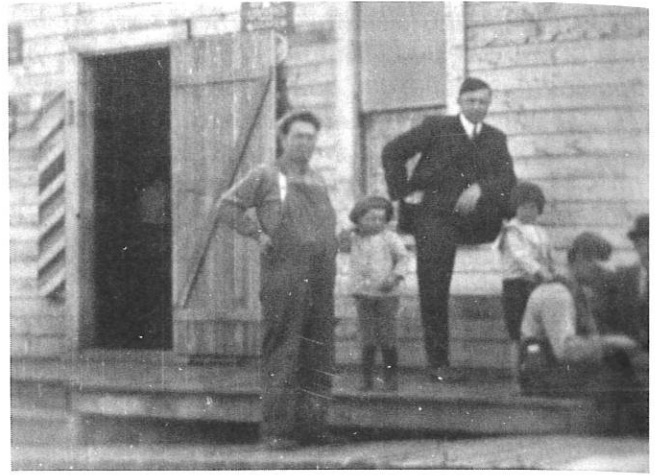
Théophile contribua à l'établissement de l'école de Diligence située à quatre milles à l'est de Legal sur un coin de la propriété de Joe Bouclin.

Le 17 mai 1905, Angélique Bouclin est décédée à l'âge de 65 ans. Théophile épousa Marie Chauvet. Ils ont eu six enfants dont deux sont nés à Legal (Edouard et René). En 1910, Joseph, Théophile et sa famille ont déménagé à Mondou (Saskatchewan). En 1976, Théophile Junior, fils d'Edouard, a déménagé à Vimy avec son épouse Doreen et ses deux filles, Nicole et Michelle. Pendant l'été 1976, Théophile est décédé d'un accident de ferme laissant sa femme enceinte avec leur troisième enfant. Doreen déménagea à Legal après la naissance de son fils Théo.

BOUGIE, Donat & Joséphine

by Thérèse Tétrault

My grandfather, Donat Bougie and wife Joséphine, arrived in Legal around 1910. They were from St-Louis de Gonzagues, (Québec). They had



Donat Bougie, owner of the first pool room in Legal, 1915

a family of six, all born in Legal: Léon, Paul, Anacit, Médard, Bernard, Marie, Eugène.

Eugène was overseas four years or more during the Second World War. None of the Bougie family lives in Alberta. One uncle who remembers the St-Jean Baptiste celebrations, also has good memories of living in Legal.

Donat et Joséphine sont arrivés à Legal vers 1910, en provenance du Québec. Ils ont eu 6 enfants dont l'un est allé à la Deuxième Grande Guerre.

BOUGIE, Joseph & Elisa (Boisvert)

by Elisa Boisvert

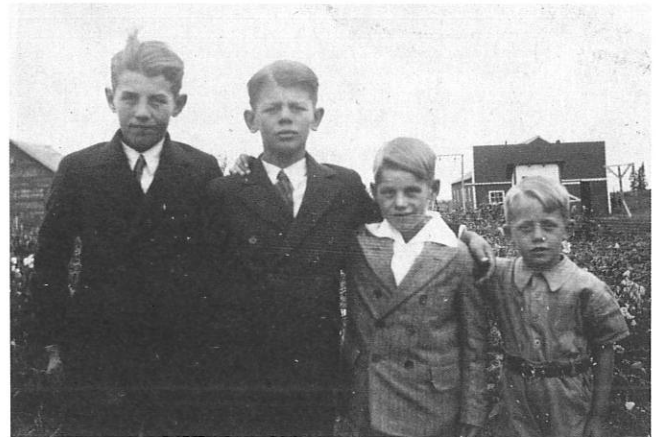
Ajibe and Emma (nee Nadeau) Boisvert left St. Paul, Minnesota, to settle in Legal with a small family, in the early 1900s, where they had a homestead between Legal and Vimy. Logging also played an important part in their lives. "Jib" was a very avid sportsman and supplemented the dinner plate with fresh caught fish, wild game and birds. They were blessed with six girls who were also taught to help with chores and were very capable in handling jobs which could be said to be "boy's work". The girls were; Emma, Elise, Marie, Delia, Stella, Agnes; they are now all deceased. When the family moved to Legal, they operated the first telephone exchange there. They later married and went their own way to raise their families. Ajibe deceased December 13/1938. Emma deceased November 6/1951. They were both buried in the Legal Cemetery.

Speaking for Elisa's side of the family, the second oldest daughter born in St. Paul, Minnesota, came to Legal as a very young girl. In June 1919, she married Joseph Bougie who had come to Legal from Valleyfield (Québec), in 1917. They owned and operated a butcher shop, while raising their own small family of four boys. Joseph



Joseph & Elise Bougie's wedding, June 1919

also had the Singer sewing machine agency as well as the Massey Harris and Ford car franchise. As if this wasn't enough to take up his time, he was very sports-minded and built the first skating rink in Legal, helped form a baseball team in summer, and coached the hockey team in winter, taking the teams to surrounding towns, thereby introducing his own boys into sports. They were George, Léo, Roger and Edmond. George has been honored by being inducted into the Edmonton Boxing Hall of Fame. Roger, following in his grandfather's steps, loves to hunt and fish; while Edmond likes the quieter sports and likes to golf and fish. While he lived, Leo loved all forms of sport and excelled in several. He deceased September 18/1965. All 4 boys served in the Armed Forces during the last war. George (R.C.A.F.), Léo (Army) served time overseas, Roger (R.C.A.F.) and Edmond (Army Reserve). They also married and raised families of their own. George (Delrose), children: Jacqueline, Ronald. Leo (Delia, a war bride), children: Gloria, David, Sherry. Roger (Muriel), five girls: Rita, Gail, Theresa, Paulette, Adell. Joseph deceased July 24/1980 and Elise March 1/1968. None of their descendants live in Legal.



George, Léo, Roger, Edmond

Ajibe & Emma sont arrivés à Legal au début du siècle. Ils ont eu six filles qui ont appris à travailler sur la terre. L'une d'elle, Elise, a épousé Joseph Bougie en 1917; ils ont géré une boucherie et ils ont été concessionnaires Singer et Ford. Ils ont eu quatre garçons qui ont tous fait leur service militaire. Ils ont toujours été impliqué dans les sports, surtout la boxe. Joseph est mort en 1980; Elise est morte en 1968. Aucun de leurs descendants habite à Legal.

BOURASSA, Roger & Annette (Cyr)

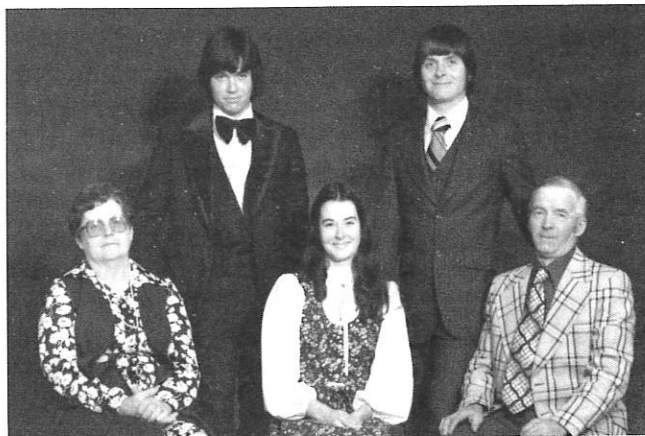
Roger Bourassa was born March 7/1919, in Souris Valley, Saskatchewan; he was the son of Charles Bourassa and Marie Fradette. He married Annette Cyr from Legal, youngest daughter of Samuel Cyr and Léonie Desjardins, May 23/1949. They farmed the Bourassa homestead in Saskatchewan for many years. Later, they sold the farm and moved to Radville, Sask. and purchased a backhoe to install water and sewer systems for farmers in the district.

Because both Roger and Annette are deaf-mute, it has been a little difficult to communicate with others. They have three children: Aureline, Marcel, Robert, who are all married. There are now seven grandchildren, all living in Kamloops, B.C. In 1973, Roger and Annette decided to move to Legal. He did some backhoe work in basements, sewer and water lines, while she worked at the Château Sturgeon in Legal. Later, Roger sold his backhoe and in 1981, became the church caretaker in Legal. He took great pride in keeping the grounds and cemetery clean. They are now both retired and enjoyed travelling, visiting their children, brothers, sisters and relatives.

Roger, originaire de la Saskatchewan, a épousé Annette Cyr de Legal en 1949. Ils sont tous deux sourds et muets; ils ont eu trois enfants. Ils ont



Annette & Roger Bourassa



Robert, Marcel, Annette, Aureline, Roger Bourassa

d'abord cultivé des terres à Souris Valley et Radville (Saskatchewan) et ils sont arrivés à Legal en 1973. Annette a travaillé au Château Sturgeon et Roger creusait pour des systèmes d'eau. Après avoir vendu son backhoe, il est devenu concierge de la paroisse et il a toujours été fier de l'entretien du cimetière. Roger & Annette sont maintenant retirés et ils en profitent pour visiter les parents et amis.

BOYER, Joseph & Bertha (Malhiot)

by Georgina Hume

Bertha Georgina Boyer was born December 11, 1890 in Wolseley, Saskatchewan. She married Joseph Boyer and they operated a store in Entwistle until his death two years later. She came as a widow to establish a store in Vimy in 1922. She sent for her sister, Mary Ann Malhiot, to come and work in the store with her. Their parents, Wilfred and Georgina Malhiot, lived on a farm in Odessa, Saskatchewan. Their friendly rivals were Albéric and François Landry, who were also operating a store in the same town.



Mary Anne Malhiot, François & Albéric Landry, Bertha Boyer, in front of Vimy Store in 1924

Bertha had the post office in her store, and she possessed a black dog called Rover. This dog was trained to pick up the mail-bag from the train station and deliver it to the store as part of his duties. This period of time was a happy and merry time for Bertha and her sister, Mary. Other members of the Malhiot family came to visit and spend extended time in the area. They were the parents of Wilfred and Georgina, and the sisters of Yvonne, Beatrice, Agnes and Freda. The brother Eli came as well. They attended hockey games and dances, and had many friends in the area.

Unfortunately, the Vimy Store burnt down in 1924, but Bertha had it immediately rebuilt. She lived in the living quarters of the new store until 1926, when she left to find other employment in North Dakota, United States. From there, she returned to Canada in 1951 to care for her widowed father. She owned and operated several restaurants in Edmonton, until she retired in Victoria, British

Columbia. She passed away shortly after, July 21, 1966, at 76 years of age.

Bertha Georgina Malhiot est née le 11 décembre 1890 à Wolseley (Saskatchewan). Elle épousa Joseph Boyer et ils gèrent un magasin à Entwistle jusqu'au décès de Joseph deux ans plus tard. Bertha vint à Vimy établir un magasin en 1922; sa soeur, Mary Ann Malhiot, vint l'aider. Bertha avait le bureau de poste dans son magasin. Elle vécut dans le logis du magasin jusqu'en 1926 quand elle partit pour le Dakota du Nord. Elle revint en 1951 prendre soin de son père, devenu veuf. Elle géra plusieurs restaurants à Edmonton avant de prendre sa retraite à Victoria. Elle est décédée le 21 juillet 1966.

BRENNEIS, Roy & Lucy (Iseke)

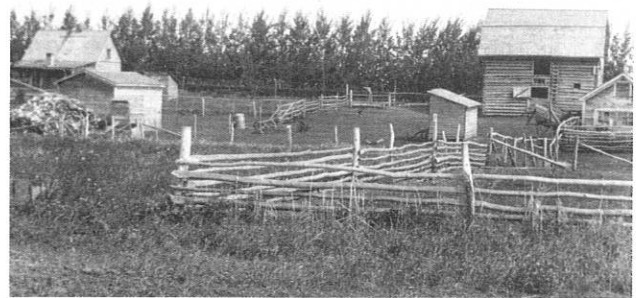
Roy and Lucy Brenneis moved to Legal from a farm south of Morinville, in the spring of 1929. They had three young sons: Leo, Andrew, Clarence. In October of that year, their daughter Irene was born. The farm they bought was 4 miles east and 1½ miles south of Legal. It had a small log house to which they added a kitchen. Their closest neighbours were Lucy and Dominique Montpetit. There are many memories of these two families growing up together and remaining friends for many years. The land was fertile and Lucy had a big garden. Roy planted trees and raspberries, so although there wasn't much money, there was a lot to eat.

The children attended Diligence school, 2 miles away, where they walked each day carrying their lunch in syrup pails. The Brenneis family is of German descent but during the years, in Diligence school, they learned to speak and write French, an education for which they are very grateful.



Lucy, Leo, Andrew, Clarence, Roy & Irene Brenneis

Other out-buildings and an ice-house were added to the farm site. In 1943 they sold the farm to Steve Zilinski and moved 2 miles south of Rivière-Qui-Barre where they farmed until 1949, when Roy deceased very suddenly. Lucy went to work at the Youville home in St. Albert. After retiring, she lived in Rivière-Qui-Barre and then to a small house in Irene's yard. Then the time came when she wanted to have more care, so she moved to the Château Sturgeon in Legal and remained there until Heritage Lodge opened in Morinville. Andrew deceased March 22/1982, and Leo, March 14/1986. Lucy was moved to Youville home where she deceased in Sturgeon Hospital August 4/1987. She left one daughter, Irene, one son, Clarence, 12 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.



Lucy & Roy Brenneis' farm site

We have gone back to that little log house several times, the trees have become old but there are still many memories. For grandmother's 80th birthday, her granddaughter took her back in her home. We have many pictures to remind us of those days in Legal.

Roy & Lucy sont arrivés à Legal de Morinville en 1929. Ils avaient déjà trois fils et une fille s'est ajoutée à la famille après leur arrivée. D'origine allemande, les enfants ont appris le français à l'école Diligence. Après la mort de Roy, Lucy a travaillé au centre Youville à St-Albert, puis elle est venu habiter au Château Sturgeon de Legal, jusqu'à l'ouverture du Heritage Lodge à Morinville. Roy est mort en 1949 et Lucy en 1987.

BRILLIANT, Frank & Maria (Broschak) by Suzanne (Brilliant) Anderson

Our father, Frank Brilliant, was born François-Xavier Brilliant, in 1877, in Grande River, Gaspé, PQ. Following his education in Québec, he came West, spending his early years in the Yukon, Alaska and British Columbia. He experienced an adventurous life of prospecting, working in lumber

Frank Brilliant, 1916



camps and surveying. Following this, he was a soldier in World War I. After his discharge, he came to Alberta and bought land. In 1922, he purchased the farm that we called "Home", from Dominique Montpetit, 7 miles east and 1 mile north of Legal.

Our mother came from Poland, as part of the immigration program that followed World War I. She was the first member of her family to come to this new world. After working for some time in Edmonton, she chose to become a Canadian farmer's wife. For doing so, there were many challenges for her. Learning the English language would be difficult enough. She persevered, never was discouraged and mastered it very well. Also, the three of us children (Wilfred, John, Suzanne) were nurtured, loved and have many fond memories of our mother. We have good as well as bad memories of our growing up in the Depression years. Farmers then, like today's farmers, were concerned about their crops in the dry years, low prices for their produce and large farm payments. Happily, we can look back to bountiful crops of fruits, vegetables and all the other foods we produced. We ate well and no one was ever hungry. Other memories are of the area ladies and their "Feather plucking bees" in winter. The feathers were used to make the warm feather quilts that kept us warm all winter. On many winter evenings, our Dad would entertain us by playing his violin.

In 1929, our parents applied to bring Mom's brother, Michael Broschak and his wife Anna, from Poland. They lived with us for a short time before moving on and starting a farm of their own. This was a welcomed event for Mom as she now had family close to her and it was wonderful for us kids as we would also have cousins. The neighborhood we lived in had a farm yard at every half mile and everyone was so friendly and helpful. It was a good feeling to know that there were so many good people around, when we did not have much family.



John, Wilfred, Maria & Suzanne (in front), 1938

We all attended Fedorah School, and Suzanne being the youngest, finished her high school in Legal. In 1942, Wilfred joined the Canadian Army and served overseas as part of the D-day invasion in Normandy, France. He was injured in 1945. Wilfred and his wife, Pearl, live in Edmonton and are both retired. They have a son and two daughters, all married. There are now two grandchildren which give them much pleasure.

Suzanne took nurses' training at the Edmonton General Hospital and has practised her profession for many years. She lives in Calgary with her husband, Lorne Anderson. Both are retired. Our parents are now both deceased; our father in 1967 and mother in 1970.

Frank, originaire de Gaspé (Québec) est d'abord venu travailler au Yukon, en Alaska et en Colombie. A sa sortie de l'armée, après la Première Grande Guerre, il s'est acheté une terre à Legal. Maria, d'origine polonaise, est la première de cette famille à émigrer au Canada. Elle a travaillé à Edmonton avant d'épouser Frank; ils ont eu trois enfants qui sont tous allés à l'école Fedorah. Wilfrid a été blessé au combat durant la Deuxième Grande Guerre. Ils se souviennent des récoltes abondantes, du plumage des poulets en hiver, des soirées quand Frank jouait du violon.

BRISSON, Azarie & Ida (Casavant)
BRISSON, Rock & Fleuriette (Comeau)

by Fleuriette Brisson

Azarie was born in St-Esprit, Comté. Montcalm (Québec). His parents, Mr. & Mrs. George Brisson, decided to move to Alberta with their four sons and one daughter. At that time, Azarie was already a young adult. Ida Casavant came from Salix, Iowa, U.S.A. with her parents, Odilon and Celina (Miette) Casavant. This was the year 1900, Ida was 11 years old. These two families settled in Legal. Azarie and Ida were married in December 1912. They lived on a farm two m. north of Legal Corner near Highway #2. They were blessed with four children: Alix, Céline, Pierre, Rock. All four attended St. Emile School.



Pierre, Céline, Rock, Azarie, Ida, Alix, Wilfred

Alix married Wilfred Labelle of Thorhild, one son, George. Céline married Gustave Meunier of Morinville in 1939, two sons: Normand, Guy. Pierre married Léa Mercier in 1943, four children: Paul, Rachelle, Laurier, Lillian.

Rock married Fleuriette Comeau in 1938. Rock and I had five children: Colette (Belley), Daniel, Ernest, Lorraine (Rivard) and Darcy. We resided on a farm one mile north of Legal Corner. This farm had been purchased in 1934 from Ludger Seguin. Rock enjoyed working on the farm with his Dad. He loved horses. In winter he would go to work with his horses at a lumber camp in Flatbush. In 1945, he purchased a second hand truck and began general hauling of grain for farmers. He was a trucker for 40 years. In 1944, he built a new house. With two children then, we were happy to give up our little log shack. Our children all attended the Legal School.

Colette, our oldest, married Rock Belley in 1956. They live in St Albert and raised four children: Marlene, George, Louise, Nicole. Daniel



Rock & Fleuriette Brisson

married Annette Prestige in 1965 and took residence in St. Albert, three children: Michael, Rayden, Dion. He is now married to Terry Clarkson and they live in Edmonton.

Ernest married Colleen Campbell in 1965 with residency in Morinville, three daughters: Linda, Suzanne, Carol. Ernest was a truck driver for a few years. In June 1979, a tragic truck accident ended his life. A year after, Colleen moved to Campbell River. Lorraine married Normand Rivard in 1972. They live on a farm in Legal, four children: Marc, Darcy, Gizelle, Suzette. Darcy married Kathy Dalberg in 1980. Kathy had two children from previous marriage: Shannon and Christopher.

We enjoy 16 grandchildren and 13 great-



Rock & Fleuriette Brisson family

grandchildren. In April 1988, we celebrated our Golden wedding anniversary; what a memorable family gathering! Shortly after our 50th, we started building our new home in the town of Legal where we moved in January 1989. Remembering the years gone by, we are happy and had a good life on the farm.

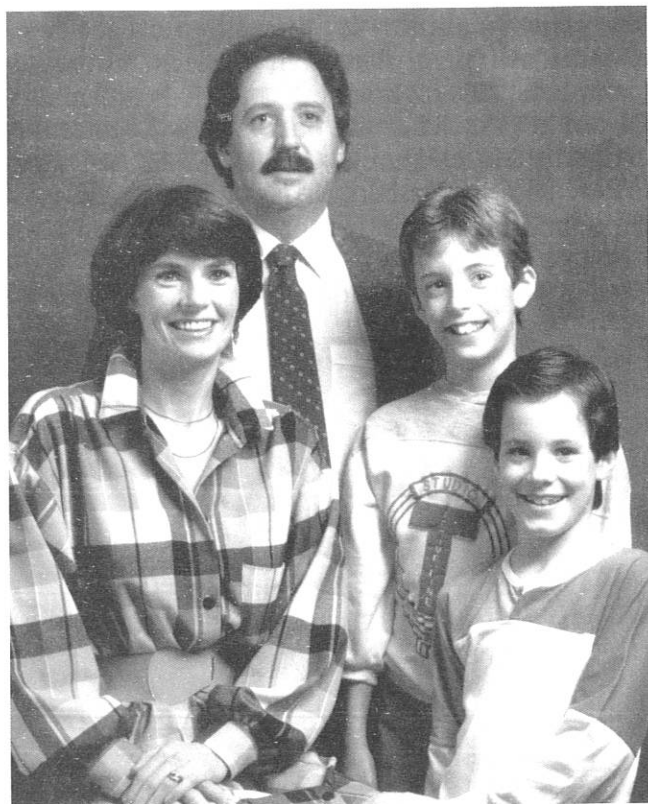
Azarie, originaire de St-Esprit (Québec) était jeune adulte quand il est arrivé dans l'Ouest avec sa famille. Ida avait 11 ans quand sa famille quitta les Etats Unis pour Legal, au début du siècle. Après leur mariage, ils se sont installés au Coin de Legal et ils ont eu quatre enfants.

Leur fils Rock a épousé Fleuriette Comeau en 1938 et ils ont eu cinq enfants. Rock a fait du transport général une bonne partie de sa vie. Ils ont célébré leur 50e anniversaire de mariage en 1988 et peu de temps après, ils ont commencé la construction d'une nouvelle maison à Legal où ils ont déménagé l'année suivante.

BRISSON, Laurier & Corrine (Bergevin)

by Laurier & Corrine Brisson

On February 9/1974, a formal R.C.M.P. wedding united Corrine (daughter of Lucien and Lucille Bergevin) and Laurier (son of Léa and Pierre Brisson). Laurier was first posted in Prince George, B.C. March 3/1975 was very tragic for



Corrine, Laurier, Richard & René

them. While returning to Prince George with their mothers who decided to take a short holiday with them, Lucille Bergevin and Léa Brisson were involved in a serious motor vehicle accident. Léa died along with five other people in the other vehicle. The R.C.M.P. made Legal home for Laurier and Corrine, while recovering from their injuries. November 12/1975, their first child, Richard, was born in Legal. January 8/1978, while stationed in Red Deer, their second child, René, was born.

Corrine and Laurier will always be grateful to the wonderful people of Legal for their support, love and care during their recovery of the accident as well as during their upbringing. Legal and its people are special to us.

Laurier & Corrine se sont mariés quand il était membre de la G.R.C. Ils ont d'abord été affecté à Prince George (C.B.) mais il a perdu sa mère dans un accident de voiture. Laurier a ensuite été affecté à Legal où ils ont eu un premier fils, puis à Red Deer où ils ont eu un deuxième fils.

BRISSON, Pierre & Léa (Mercier)

On December 28/1942, Léa Mercier, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Mercier, and Pierre Brisson, son of Azarie and Ida Brisson, married in Legal. Their first home was located on the Brisson homestead 2 miles west and 2 miles north of the Montpetit store in Legal. Their first born was Paul, December 4/1945. They then moved to town and purchased the Morin house, across the street from the North Western Utilities pump house, just west of the now Citadel Park Baseball Grounds. Rachelle was then born (July 27/1949), Laurier (January 16/1953) and Lillian (December 16/1955). Pierre worked for over 25 years as book-keeper and partsman for P. Mercier and Sons, one of the local car dealers at the time. Pierre was an asset to the community and is remembered for his volunteering in assisting to build Citadel Park, coaching hockey teams and organizing the Fête au Village Baseball Tournaments for many years. Léa is also remembered for her vast amount of help at community functions and fund raisers. Léa prepared the meals for weddings, funerals and special occasions at the local community hall for many years. Over her lifetime, she worked at the Sacred Heart Convent in Legal, at the Château Sturgeon (Legal Senior Citizen Home) and at the Legal Corner Cafe Restaurant. She passed away in March 1975 in a motor vehicle accident that shook the community. The accident took the lives of six people near the town of Wabamun.



Pierre & Léa Brisson's wedding, December 28, 1942

Paul left home after grade 12 and went to work in the St. Paul area as a Recreation Director and then moved to Falher, where he married Edith Lavoie. In 1974, he joined the R.C.M.P. and was posted in Alberta and is now stationed in Ottawa; they have two children, Natalie and Eric.

Rachelle stayed a true blue "Legallian", marrying Denis Pelletier and raising a family of three: Denise, Diane and Mario. Rachelle shares in numerous volunteer groups and has been receptionist at the local doctor's office for numerous years.

Laurier left Legal in 1972, to join the R.C.M.P. with postings in Prince George, B.C. and locations in Alberta. In 1974, Laurier married Corrine Bergevin also of Legal, and they are presently residing in Beaumont. Laurier and Corrine have 2 children: Richard and Rene.

Lillian, upon finishing school, worked at the Bank of Nova Scotia until she married Patrick

Boissoneault and they moved to Lars, Germany, where Patrick was sent to serve in the Armed Forces and then he was posted in Québec where they are now living with two children: Phillip and Charles.



Pierre & Léa Brisson family

Members of this family cherish the closeness they have with the people of Legal. This community is unique with its people having extreme love, warmth, hospitality and togetherness. Some say "Home is where your heart is" and this family's heart will always be in Legal.

Léa & Pierre se sont mariés en 1942. Ils ont d'abord habité sur le homestead Brisson et après la naissance de Paul, ils ont déménagé au village où ils ont eu trois autres enfants. Pierre a travaillé 25 ans pour Mercier & Fils. Il a été impliqué dans la construction du Park Citadel, comme entraîneur de hockey, comme organisateur des tournois de balle à la Fête au Village. Léa a préparé des repas pour les noces, banquets, funérailles, etc. . . . Elle a travaillé au Château Sturgeon, au Couvent Sacré Coeur et au Café du Legal Corner. Elle est décédée dans un accident de voiture en 1975.

BRISSON, Théodule & Clerilda (Casavant)

BRISSON, Henri & Anna (Mercier)

The year was 1903, when a youthful 24 year-old named Théodule Brisson, left his lifelong home of St-Esprit, Quebec. He crossed Canada to a province known as Alberta, with only the knowledge, based on information from his relatives, that a French settlement known as Legal was being established and cheap homestead land was available. His adventure began. Upon his arrival, an elated Théodule purchased 320 acres

of homestead bushland, located five miles east and two miles south of Legal, for the going price of \$20. In 1905, he married a local 19 year-old girl, Clerilda Casavant. On this homestead, they began their family which consisted of 6 children: Hélène, Marie Anne, Mérilda, Amédée, Henri, and Marguerite.



Théodule, Mérilda, Clérilda Hélène, Marie Anne & Amédée

The Christmas of 1919 came to be a sad one as hardship fell upon their family. While they attended midnight mass, Théodule was told that the home he had built two years previously, was on fire. With no fire-fighting equipment and horse drawn sleighs being the norm, they arrived home only in time to witness the remains of their home burning to the ground. Changes came rapidly after this tragedy. Within a year, the homestead was sold and the Brisson family moved to their new home, only a ½ mile north of Legal. Their last child, Alexina, was born on the new homestead in 1921. After only two years, crops had taken a drastic downturn, and economics dictated a move into Edmonton, where Théodule worked for CN for five years. During this period, their Legal home was rented to the Charrois family and later taken over by the oldest daughter, Helen, who began to raise her family there.

The sudden death of Helen at the age of 22, leaving behind two boys, Léo, Roland, and her husband George Caouette; left no option to Théodule and Clerilda, but to pull up stakes and move the family back to their Legal homestead. This would be their final move. From 1928 onward, Théodule farmed the homestead until his retirement at the age of 71, with the help of his youngest son, Henri, who then took over 9 years later, in 1959. Théodule Brisson passed away at 80 years of age. His wife, Clerilda, passed away in 1971, at the age of 85.

Henri J. Brisson, born October 15/1914, married Anna Mercier April 18/1944. Together they raised their family of six on the same homestead: Raymond, Jeannette, Marcel, Yvonne and Denis still living in the vicinity of Legal. Leonard presently makes his home in Meadow Lake, Sask., where he and his wife, Julie, are raising their family of three. Shortly after his father's death, Henri purchased more land to the north of Legal, and much like his father, experienced two years of crop failures, forcing him to find employment in Edmonton with Con-Force Structures. While commuting to and from work he continued to farm the land and raise animals, and along with Anna managing a houseful of children, made a lifetime of wonderful memories. In 1976, the quarter was sub-divided, leaving a 3-acre parcel of land, with the house and grounds being retained by Henri. The rest of the quarter was sold to city speculators, but Henri continued to farm the land. However, in 1982, he once again found himself in possession of the homestead.

In 1984, the homestead was purchased by the



Henri and Anna Brisson – 40th Wedding Anniversary 1984

oldest son, Raymond, who still farms the land. Henri and Anna lived comfortably on the acreage, in the same house built over 70 years ago by his father; enjoying part-time farming, quiet retirement, and the sometimes not so quiet 19 grandchildren. Henri passed away Oct. 9/1992.



Denis, Leonard, Yvonne, Marcel, Jeannette, Raymond Anna, Henri Brisson

Théodule avait 24 ans quand il a laissé le Québec pour venir s'installer à Legal, en 1903. Il s'acheta une terre et deux ans plus tard il épousa Clerilda Casavant, une jeune fille de 19 ans de Legal; ils ont eu six enfants. La nuit de Noël 1919, leur maison fut détruite par un incendie. Ils quittèrent donc le homestead pour se rapprocher du village. Ils déménagèrent ensuite à Edmonton pour revenir à Legal après le décès de leur fille, Hélène, qui laissait deux enfants orphelins. Leur terre est aujourd'hui cultivée par le fils aîné de Henri et Anna, Raymond. Clerilda est morte en 1971. Théodule s'est retiré de l'agriculture en 1978 et il est mort en 1983.

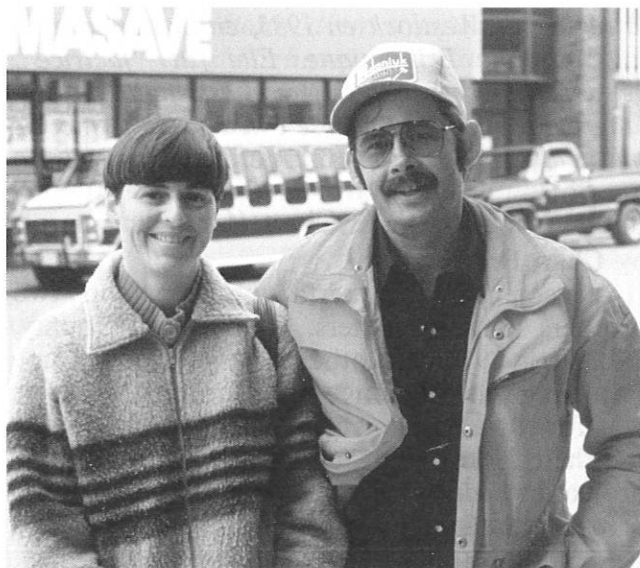
BROWN, Lyle & Joyanne (Martin)

Lyle was born and raised in the Legal-Vimy area. He attended Pickardville and Westlock schools and was involved in 4-H as member of the Echo Hill Beef Club and also as assistant-leader of the Legal Multi 4-H club, teaching woodwork. Lyle also served on the board of directors of the Barrhead and District Co-op for eight years and was the president of the Westlock Rural Crime Watch (is still on the executive board). He is also serving as a director on the local board of United Grain Growers.

Lyle bought his first quarter in 1978 and has been actively farming with his parents, Earl and Esther, since graduating from high school. He currently is running a weener to finish hog operation, marketing over 700 hogs per year, and runs a small beef operation as well as a few dairy cows. Lyle and his parents crop around 500 acres

of cereal grains and bale 300 to 500 acres of forage for their own use and for sale.

In 1987, Lyle married Joyanne Martin of Courtenay, British Columbia. Joyanne moved to the Westlock area in 1985. She has had an assortment of jobs ranging from a letter carrier to a Royal Canadian Mounted Police constable, to waitress, to labourer of the Westlock seed cleaning plant, to dairy helper on a local dairy. Jo helps Lyle on the farm. She has a few laying hens and has started to raise Anglo-Arabs.



Lyle & Joyanne Brown, 1990



Spencer & Nicolas Brown, 1992