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# The River Round Up

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## Familiar Faces



*Fabian, Francois and Lionel Pottie*

Fabian, Francois and Lionel are the three youngest sons of Cornelius and Irene (Beaver) Pottie of Cannes. The others were William who passed away in 1989, Wilfred who passed away in 1992. Their sister, Rita LeBlanc, resides in RB and brothers, Joseph and Walter both died in infancy.

Fabian Patrick was born October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1930 and as a young man went to work with his father who was the chief cook on the boat *Foundation*. After taking ill with epileptic seizures, Fabian returned home to RB. Fabian lives in his great grandfather, Charlie Fougere's original home, which was converted to a wood shed for many years and then altered again to become his homestead.

Francois Xavier was born October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1934 and unlike his brothers chose to remain in RB. In 1959, Francois's life almost ended during a snowstorm when he was hit by a car driven by Father John Jewel. The accident shattered his legs, several ribs and he had severe head injuries. After he received some thirty-five units of blood, a metal plate in his head, his legs put together by nuts and bolts, he was placed in a body cast for several months. The doctors told his parents he would never walk again but after a couple of years in a wheelchair followed by the use of canes, Francois proved them all wrong. Several

years later he lost a kidney and has had three operations on his knees, which are now artificial. Recently, he returned to Halifax to have his esophagus stretched for a second time.

Lionel Richard was born August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1939 and at the tender age of seventeen also went to work with his father on the *Foundation* for four years. After two years working with the Dept. of Highways, Lionel worked as a waiter on a Dept. of Fisheries boat sailing to the United States, PEI and Newfoundland for the next four years. Lionel returned home to take care of the household and his parents. Their dad passed away in 1973 and their mom in 1992.

In 2000, Lionel and Francois moved to the seniors building but Fabian chose to remain in his home. They love their new home and enjoy helping the neighbours. They can be seen daily walking up the road to visit their brother Fabian and sister Rita. All three brothers attend every function at our community centre. They all love music and Francois can sing almost any song he has heard on the radio. Their love of music is second only to their strong religious faith. Their friend and neighbour, Guy Heudes, takes them to church regularly and also to run their errands. In August, Gerarda & Eddie Pettipas held a party for Lionel in honour of his sixty-fifth birthday and Francois is looking forward to his seventieth birthday party this month also at Gerarda & Eddie's. Francois and Lionel pass the time away by helping Peter LeBlanc in the garden and carrying in his wood. "Emily is such a great cook," they claim and they also add "Peter is not a bad cook either".

Fabian, Francois and Lionel may you always continue to be part of our community and all of us in River Bourgeois wish you many more years of health and happiness. *Sharon Chilvers*

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## 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival Notes

This was one of our most successful festivals to date. Our hats go to chairpersons; Mike Fougere and his sister Cathy Aitken who not only organized but

cooked hamburgers/hotdogs and ran the canteen non stop for the weekend. Special thanks to all event coordinators and grant staff; Heidi Stone, Holly Stone, Lisa Martens & Mark Collett. We must thank Carol, daughter of Cathy and Brian Aitken. She came home from Botswana, South Africa to spend some quality time with her family and ended up working nonstop for the festival. We always forget to thank the invisible RBCSS treasurer, Monica McPhee who spends every summer writing checks to pay our bills, giving us our floats and counting money.

**Car Show:** 25 antique cars arrived for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual show organized by Carl Grimes but since he has gone away for a couple of weeks, we will not have the winners till next month.

**Official Opening:** "Reflections" was a show organized by Ann Clow and Elaine Burke depicting wedding dresses worn over the past 70 years. The large crowd enjoyed seeing the wedding gowns worn by their families. Congratulations to Mary Emma and Mary Barb for a job well done.



Front row left to right are: Stephanie MacNeil modeling a dress worn in 1933 by her great-grandmother Lillian (Daigle) Owens; Kelsey Burke wearing the dress worn in 1945 by her great-grand aunt May (Burns) McPhee; Julia Burke modeling the dress worn in 1950 by her grand aunt Theresa (Burke) Landry; Doris Brown modeling a dress worn in 1954 by her mother Lenova (Boucher) Sampson; Kelsey Sampson modeling a dress worn in 1959 by her grandmother Ann (Penticost) Sampson; Tiffany Boudreau modeling a dress worn in 1966 by Audrey (Pottie) MacNeil; Angela Landry modeling a dress worn in 1966 by Judy (Pottie) MacNeil; Leah Campbell modeling a dress worn in 1972 by Anita (Bouchard) Wynands. Back row from left to right are: Alicia Burke modeling a dress worn in 1979 by her mother Maureen (Cosman) Burke; Tina Scott modeling a dress worn in 1979 by Janice (Rowntree) Touesnard; Rebecca Landry modeling a dress worn in 1980 by her mom Debbie (Boucher) Landry; Sally Burke modeling a dress worn in 1984 by her mother Linda (MacNeil) Burke; Sara Landry modeling a dress worn in 1988 by her aunt Gerarda (Landry) Pettipas; Tiffany Stone modeling a dress worn in

1989 by her mother Colleen (Briand) Stone; Robyn Merrick modeling a dress worn in 1993 by her aunt Patricia (Boudreau) MacLeod; and Robin (LeVesconte) MacIntosh modeling the dress she wore in 2004 for her wedding. Escort for all the brides was TJ (Tyler) Burke. Edna Casey played the bagpipes.

**Princess Pageant:** 7 lovely young ladies ranging in age of 8 to 11 vied for the title 'R.B. Festival Princess'. The princesses in the competition were: Kayla Hosein, Nicole Landry, Haley Sampson, Shania Boucher, Melanie Poaps, Donna Marie DeWolfe, & Kelsey Sampson. Each Princess did a short introductory speech, then a talent (which was a mixture of singing, dance, piano & fiddle) and ended off the show by answering an impromptu question. All the Princesses did an amazing job.



Left to right: Nicole Landry, Melaine Poaps, Kelsey Sampson, Haley Sampson, Kayla Hosein, Donna Marie DeWolfe, Shania Boucher & Julia Burke, last year's princess.

The winners were: **Miss Friendship**-Kayla Hosein, **1st Runner Up**-Haley Sampson, **2nd Runner Up**-Melanie Poaps & the "**2004 R.B. Festival Princess**" is Kelsey Sampson. *Tanya Burke (event organizer).*

**Men's Breakfast, Canteen and Pot Luck Supper:** Everyone enjoys good food so it is not surprising that we ran out at each event. Thanks to Joe MacPhee who organized the breakfast; Mike Fougere who looked after the hamburgers, etc. and Ann Clow, Leona Campbell & Carol Aitken for organizing the pot luck supper. Also thanks to all who contributed and helped to serve. Over \$3600 was raised.

**Tickets Sales:** Greg Samson was in charge of ticket sales and we made a profit of approx \$1400. Winners were: \$500-Audrey Pottie/MacNeil, \$300-Juleen McEwan; \$200- George J Landry. Kathleen Bona won the even split of \$321.

**Dance:** Joan Burke chaired the Saturday night dance, which saw a capacity crowd dance to Sam Moon and SCOTT FREE. The band also played to a good size crowd on Saturday afternoon.

**Ball Games:** We were hoping for a note from Brian Bona who has been coordinator of the lob ball tournament for many years. Brian has been hard to

reach as he is away on business. This year there were 28 teams competing on the two RB ball field and in St. Peters. They raised over \$3200 for the festival. Winner of the Open Division was once again, Apple Auto Glass. Congratulations to MVP Darren Stone. In the family division The Drippers (LeBlanc's) won over the RBCSS team.

**Merchandize Bingo:** Anne Sampson once again took charge of the always successful bingo.

**Children's Day & Teddy Bear Picnic:** Lots of activities were available to the children during the week such as games, Bounce-a-Rama, Trampoline, movies and a Teddy Bear picnic.



Young and old (including Michael Forbrigger) enjoyed Smoky the Bear. Rose Merrick and Paula LaFantasie were coordinators for these events.

**Heritage Walk and Merchandize Sales:** This year Therese & Donnie Pottie spent numerous hours sorting out historical sights from Lavalee to Boyd's Lane. A number of RB souvenirs (shirts, mugs, booklets etc.) are still left at the CAP site and remember there is only a short time for Christmas shopping. The rivalry that existed between the upper and lower end schools was very obvious. We promise we will have Cannes School on the shirts next year.

**Boat Parade:** The boat parade and blessing of the fleet hit a few snags this year. The original date had to be pushed ahead because of high winds. As a result many of the fishing vessels had been put to winter rest and then we had complications from the Parks Canada strike. However, event organizer Gerald LeBlanc gathered about 10 boats on Sept 5<sup>th</sup> to sail down to the Government wharf to be blessed by Fr. Reg Currie. Harold Landry won first place with his boat the *Ken & Chris*; Gerald LeBlanc won 2<sup>nd</sup> with his boat *Lisa & Daphne*, Peter & Sherry Baccardax won 3<sup>rd</sup> with their "no name" boat. The boat *Nakita* received the booby prize. Its crew was a bunch of clowns and was driven by Captain Crunch

**Variety Concert:** For the past number of years Eddie Pottie has been in charge of organizing our festival closing. This year as usual, local and invited musicians played to a packed house.

**Cathy, Mike & the various event coordinators send a thank you to all who volunteered to help them. Crowd support was tremendous. Receipts show a net total of \$16,000 after expenses, which includes a \$3000 grant from Enterprise Cape Breton.**

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## Births

**Boucher:** Breanne Alexandra, 10lbs, 1oz was born on Sept 18<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to Lisa & Billy and brother Brandon, grandparents Gilbert & Colleen Boucher, Alice & Hughie MacDonald, West Bay and great grandma Susan Stone.

**Burke:** Brendan Richard was born Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>, weighing 7lbs 7oz to Blair & Shauna of Halifax. Congratulations to mom, dad, sisters Olivia & Bhreagh, grandparents Roderick & Margaret Burke and great grandmother Helen Owens.

**Burke:** Aidan Patrick Joseph, was born Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> weighing 8lbs 11oz to Calvin & Ramona. A second grandson in as many days for Margaret & Roderick.

**Ferguson:** Grey Ainsley born Aug 30<sup>th</sup> weighing 5lbs 1 oz to Jennifer & James of Sampsonville. Congratulations to grandparents Joe MacPhee & Marlene MacPhee.

**LeVesconte:** Vaughn Kevin (6lbs) was born Sept 4<sup>th</sup> to Amy & Kevin. Congratulations to mom, dad, sister Evany and grandparents Marlene & Roy LeVesconte, St. Peters and Florence & Edward Touesnard, RB, great grandmothers Ada LeVesconte and Theresa Cash of Irish Cove.

**MacDonald:** Carson Kenzie was born Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> weighing 6 lbs 10 oz. Congratulations to big brothers, Christian & Cameron, Lisette (mom) and Kenzie (dad), grandparents Elaine Burke of St. Peters and Colleen & Bill Mac Donald, Whiteside.

**Roberts:** Evan Vincent was born Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> weighing 8lbs 3oz to Holly & Sean of Ladysmith, B.C. Brother to Linaya. Congratulations to grandparents Doug & Delores Roberts.

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## Early Vessel Owners at RB

In 1811, only 20 years after first being settled, River Bourgeois already had several vessel owners<sup>i</sup>. Of the 19 heads of family listed in the 1811 Census, 6 were vessel owners. Vessel ownership had begun much earlier, however, when in 1796 John Samson along with his brothers Lewis (Louis) and Marshall (Martin) registered the 20 ton shallop<sup>ii</sup> *Margarite*. This vessel it appears was named after John's wife. Two years later in 1798 Andrew, Cyprian and Martial DuGats (Dugas) registered the 26 ton shallop *La Trompeuse*. The same year Belony, Peter and Thomas Landry registered *L'Effrontée* a 31 ton pink

stern shallop. As the records in the early years of the Sydney Shipping Registry are not complete, little is known about what became of these vessels. In 1801 Martial Dugats registered the 34 ton shallop *Nancy*. In the same year Lewis (Louis) Boucher registered his first vessel *Shark* a 33 ton shallop. This vessel was sold and removed to Shelburne sometime later but it is not known when it passed out of the hands of Louis Boucher. The first schooner owned at River Bourgeois, a 57 ton square stern schooner named *Mary*, was registered by John and Lewis Sampson in 1804. In the same year Simon Fougere Sr. registered his first vessel, a 47 ton square stern schooner named *Susan*. At this point 5 of the 6 founding families (Landry, Sampson, Dugas, Fougere and Boucher) all owned vessels. The first to replace a vessel was Louis Boucher who registered the *Morning Star* a 31 ton pink stern and schooner rigged shallop in 1805. He later sold this vessel in 1809 at Halifax and replaced it the next year with a larger vessel. This vessel, also named *Morning Star*, was a 62 ton square stern schooner which he later sold to an owner in Newfoundland in 1815. In the same year, 1810, the Fougere (Simon Sr. and Jr.) registered a second vessel the 65 ton square stern schooner *Daylight* which they later sold to owners in Europe in 1816. It is possible, although not recorded on the Census of 1811, that the Fougere, Simon Sr. and Jr. each owned a vessel for a time since Simon Jr. was listed as the master of the *Daylight*. In 1814 the first vessel was registered by Burkes, Joseph and Peter, that being the *Nancy*, a 26 ton pink stern shallop. The year 1814 was a busy one with four additional small shallows registered. The 21 ton *Morning Star*, by Anselm Landrie; the 26 ton *Three Sisters* by Andrew Dugat; the 28 ton *Gertrude* by Belony Landrie Sr. and Jr.; and the 22 ton *Daylight* by Lewis and Honore Boucher (his son).

Although information on the Sydney Shipping Register is sparse for this period one could conclude that ownership of vessels at River Bourgeois was persistent over the first 25 years of its settlement. Most of the founding families acquired vessels soon after arrival and continued to own vessels over time replacing them as needed or when opportunities for sale presented themselves. It was a sign of things to come.

<sup>1</sup> The information in this article is taken from the Sydney Shipping Register.

<sup>1</sup> A shallop was a small open decked vessel used mainly for fishing or short voyages usually within sight of land.

*We thank Paul Touesnard, son of Gladys and the late Davy Touesnard for this article. Paul works for the National Archives in Ottawa We welcome and appreciate all articles.*

## Bits and Bites:

- **Seniors meeting** Oct 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30.
- **CAP site meeting** Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- The Tara Lynne Touesnard Assoc. presents “**Solstice Productions**”, produced by Krista Touesnard, featuring both traditional and contemporary Celtic music and song. There will also be a performance by the Richmond Co. Youth Fiddlers on Sunday, Oct 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the Tara Lynne Center. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. All proceeds to the Tara Lynne Touesnard Bursary fund.
- **CWL meeting** Oct 12<sup>th</sup> 7pm.in the Vestry.
- **Seniors Mini Bingo** Wed., Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30.
- **RBCSS** meeting on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at TLC at 7pm.
- **Children’s Halloween Party** at Tara Lynne Center on Oct 30 from 12-2pm.Lunch games etc.Admission-\$2.00.
- **Birthdays greetings** to: Leona Campbell, Ernest Burke, Mary Cecilia Burke, Gerard Touesnard, Catherine Touesnard, Georgie Bourque, Beverley Sampson, Margaret Pottie, and Joe Bouchard who was 92 on Sept 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Congratulations** to Victor & Evelyn Burke who celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> and to Jane & Gervase Landry who celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.  
**Congratulations** to Dorothy Barnard (owner of Fred Grimes house) who won the Award of Distinction at the IWK Hospital Annual Meeting on Sept 16<sup>th</sup>.
- The **CAP Site hours** are Mon. to Thurs. 2-4 & 6-8 pm and Friday 2-4 pm. We have lots of used books and souvenirs. This is Lisa Marten’s last week, she has been working in the Capsite since last March. We want to say a great big thank you to her and let her know that she will be missed by all.
- A reminder that anyone wishing to book the Tara Lynne Center should call Ann Clow at 535-2726. People requiring use of the Funeral Home should call Monica McPhee at 535-2743 until further notice. Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 2939 to open the church.
- The Round Up is available at Bucky’s Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$12.00 locally, \$18.50 within Canada and \$20.00 internationally per year.

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