

VT-FCGS Fall Conference and Annual Meeting 2017

1) French Canadian Service during the American Revolution -

Most people think of impassioned, freedom seeking people from the original thirteen American colonies as the only ones who fought in the American Revolution. However, several other countries, particularly Spain and France, backed their efforts with money, supplies, and military. French-speaking Canadians from Lower Canada, as the area was known at the time, were enormously helpful to the American Cause, filling an entire Regiment and giving safe haven and supplies to American troops.

If you wondered if you might be eligible to join the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) or the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Jolene will give a brief introduction to the requirements needed. Military service, although the most widely known, is only one of four possible categories of service. Patriots were those who contributed to the Cause... children as young as 12, and men and women well into their nineties. Any woman, or man, 18 or older, who can document lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible. Many of DAR's requirements are similar to those of the SAR.

Jolene Mullen has been involved in genealogy research for thirty years. One of her favorite discoveries about her own family history is that the line she thought was English Loyalist during the American Revolution was French-Canadian. She lives in New Milford, Connecticut.

Jolene's book *Connecticut Town Meeting Records during the American Revolution* is frequently used as documentation by DAR for civil and patriotic service. Her next book, *Rhode Island Town Meeting Records During the Revolution*, will be published in Spring 2018.

Jolene has been active in the Daughters for the American Revolution, recently receiving her 25-year membership pin. She is the past National Chair of Lineage Research for DAR and is currently the State Curator. She is a member of the Connecticut Professional Genealogist Council.

2) The History of your Acadian Ancestors -

Mike Sevigny will outline the history of Acadian settlement from the days of 'winter over' fishing expeditions to the Expulsions of the 1760s. Our Cajun cousins arduous journeys and the flight from the American Colonies to Quebec will be discussed. He will touch on the main research tools used to trace Acadian ancestors and the major work done to fill in the blanks.

Mike's presentation will kick off a **new pin program** where an **Acadian pin** can be earned by showing your connection to an Acadian ancestor by documenting marriages.

Mike Sevigny has been a member of the VT-FCGS from the second year (1997), being member No. 59. He is a past-President of the Society and edited LINKS for over 16 years. He has been active in genealogical research for many years with three French-Canadian and one Irish ancestral line. Like many of the members of the VT-FCGS he has ancestors from several nationalities in addition to the lines above. He has traced his 'recent' heritage back to Native American, Scotch, Basque, Belgian, German, Swiss, American Colonial, and English ancestors. Mike has a BS in Chemistry from Bates College. He has been employed by BioTek Instruments in Winooski, Vermont for over 28 years and is presently the Director of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs there.

3) Montreal 375 years ago - Have you ever asked yourself how the first Montrealers survived the winters? What did they eat? How did they dress? Where did they live? How did they entertain themselves? What did they do in the daytime and the nighttime? We will try to answer those questions and many more and identify archival records accessible to help us

Denyse Beaugrand-Champagne is a historian and genealogy consultant who has done research for numerous European, Canadian and American families, different heirs search and probate research firms, attorneys, notaries and American and Canadian Public Trustees.

She is the genealogist behind the on-line databank of landowners and tenants of Montreal, for the period 1642 to 1805, of the Canadian Centre of Architecture, at <http://cca.qc.ca/adhemar/>

In her capacity as a historian, Denyse Beaugrand-Champagne has worked on the award-winning CBC broadcast 'Canada, a popular history' and on numerous publications:

The life and times of the French fur traders

The Great Peace Treaty of 1701

The French attack against Deerfield, Massachusetts, in 1704, now on-line at: 1704.deerfield.history.museum

And, the Canadian Rebellions of 1837-1838.

Denyse has done extensive research in notarial records and especially in the judicial archives in New France. Denyse is also a specialist in manuscript, iconographic, cartographic and sound archives research. She is a member of the researchers' advisory committee of the Quebec National Archives in Montreal.