

## Who are the Juneaus?

The North American legacy of Juneaus began with Clement Jouineau. The *Juneau International Family Reunion* is a celebration of his descendants. Clement was the forefather of all North American Juneaus! He married Catherine Vergneau about 1597. Their son, Jean Jouineau(b.1599), first married Marie Billard in 1625. They resided near La Rochelle, France with their three sons, Pierre, Jean, and Andre. It is important to note that La Rochelle was a principal stronghold for the Huguenots in the second half of the 16th century. The Rochellians finally surrendered to Cardinal Richelieu in 1628. The area suffered from the anguish of the Reformation, the destruction during the Religious Wars, and the pillage from the sieges by the royal power of King Louis XIII. Trade with the Antilles and especially New France(Canada) became irresistibly attractive with a promise of new hope. So Jean, Marie then deceased, set sail for New France accompanied by Pierre and Jean(b.1632) with his wife, SuzAnne Rousseau. They arrived in 1653 and settled near Quebec.

Pierre then married Magdeleine Duval in 1654, but he was killed by the Iroquois in 1655 before his son, Jean-Pierre, was born. After his brother's death, it is believed that Jean(b.1632) took-on his brother's name, Pierre the younger, so as not to be confused with their father, Jean(b.1599). Jean(b.1632) and his wife SuzAnne had received a land grant in Cap de la Madeleine which he sold in 1664. Then in 1665 he was conceded a land grant in Champlain on the St. Laurent River. SuzAnne was taken prematurely in 1681, leaving Jean with Marie and Augustin, ages 11 and 6. SuzAnne was the first person inscribed in the death records of Champlain.

Jean(b.1599) continued the family by marrying in 1664 Anne Vuideau, who was 21 years of age. He was 43 years her elder. Eight years and three daughters later, Jean died, leaving Anne a widow. Then in 1676 Anne was remarried at Quebec to Etienne Blanchon, resulting in the birth of five children. One of whom was daughter Elisabeth Blanchon, who in 1698 married Augustin Jouineau, son of Jean(b.1632) and SuzAnne. Etienne was discouraged by successive misfortunes culminated by the Great Fire of Quebec in 1682 which razed their residence. He left for France, never to return. Anne, left with debts and tied-up real estate, opened a cabaret to earn a living for her family. She obtained a house on the corner of St. Anne and Tresor which is the present wax museum of Quebec.

From the union of Augustin Jouineau and Elisabeth Blanchon was born five sons. One of which was Claude Junau who seems to have been responsible for extension of most, if not all, Juneaus into the Louisiana area. He was hired to travel to the Fort Pontchartrain fur post at Detroit. Though having lost trace of him for several years, Claude, being a voyageur and a trader, seems to have lived in the Illinois Territory for a number of years. Then we found him again at Pointe Coupee, LA where he married Marie-Francoise Le Moine in 1755. She was 16 and Claude was around 48. Next Claude and Francoise declared themselves residents of the nearby Avoyelles Post, having resided there since 1780. Although Claude's surname was condensed, records indicate that around 1750, particularly in Louisiana, the spelling evolved to its current form of Juneau. This is evidenced by the records of Claude's children and also in the branches at Repentigny, Canada. Since 1900 the definitive North American form is Juneau.

From early on, Juneaus have been cultivators of the land, craftsmen, hunters and traders of furs and other goods, adventurers and explorers. They have been

industrious and instrumental in the exploration of our continent and the development of governments, businesses, medicine, education, the Catholic Church, the railroads, the lumber industry, law enforcement and our population. They have done much for the growth of the U.S. and Canada.

Salomon Juneau (1793-1856) settled in what was to become Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1818. He was the founder of Milwaukee, the builder of the first steamboat to navigate Lake Michigan, the first mayor, being elected in 1846, and the donator of land for the St. John Cathedral in Milwaukee. He was called "Juneau the noble and the good". Salomon Juneau with a park, a boulevard, and a monument to commemorate his devotion. The city of Juneau in Dodge County, Wisconsin was named in his honor, as was Juneau County. His daughter, Therese, went on to marry Henry Kirk White, the first District Attorney of Milwaukee. Salomon also founded "The Milwaukee Sentinel" which later said "No man on the American continent won more respect and affection from the Indians than Salomon Juneau."

Felix-Emanuel Juneau (1816-1886) of Quebec formed the first Teachers' Association around 1840. In 1859 he was named Superintendent of Schools.

Joe Juneau (1833-1899) was attracted by the successes of his cousin Salomon. Joe left home about the age of 17 on a fantastic voyage that more resembles fiction than reality. During the gold rush Joe was seen successfully prospecting on the Pacific Coast, in Idaho and Montana. Joe was then sent by George Pilz in 1879 to explore for gold in the Silver Bow Basin in Alaska. The news of his discovery of gold caused an invasion of prospectors and adventurers. The miners met in 1882 and named the city, Juneau. Tradition tells us that to celebrate, Joe Juneau bought drinks for all residents of "his" city for two weeks. He sold his mining rights for a large sum of money. At one time he was a millionaire, then he went completely broke, as had his cousin Salomon. Joe left no heirs, yet his memory and name continues in the capital of Alaska and Mount Juneau overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

William Joseph Juneau (1879-1940) was one of the best known coaches in the U.S. in the era of 1912 to 1930. He began an impressive career in athletics as coach of football, baseball, and track at the University of Colorado in 1904. From 1908 to 1911 he was head coach of all athletics at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. From 1912 to 1916, Coach Juneau was the head football and basketball coach at the University of Wisconsin where in 1912 his football team won the Western Championship, a first since 1901. Then under his direction, the University of Texas won the Southwest Championship in 1918 and 1919. He later became head coach at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. William was well known for bringing out the best in people.

Paul Juneau (1902- ), a notable farmer, possesses ancestral land at Ste-Anne-de-la-Perade which has belonged to the Juneau family for 210 years. He was School Commissioner from 1939 to 1942 and President of the Academic Commission in 1942. Paul was Mayor of Ste-Anne Parish for 16 years, 1941 to 1957.

Leon Juneau (1903- ) was a native of St.-Felicien(Lac St-Jean, Canada). He was a city Alderman, School Commissioner and President of the Academic Commission for 16 years, Grand Knight and then District Deputy of the Knights of Columbus of Council 2862, and local Director of the Canadian Cancer Association. Also Ste-Marie School, at Isle-Maligne, Alma, is today the LEON JUNEAU School for the services he rendered in the cause of education.

Patrick Alton Juneau (1906-1962) married Louise Jane Johnson, grand-daughter of the former Governor of Louisiana, Henry Johnson. Patrick was once a Grand Knight

of the Knights of Columbus. He was elected Senator from the 15th District of Louisiana in 1940 and 1944. He was the first president of the Airport Commission of Lafayette, Louisiana. He has one grandson who is a neurosurgeon in Boston and another grandson who is an attorney in Lafayette.

Pierre Leon Juneau (1922- ) now of Montreal, Canada. He was the eldest of the five children of Edmond Laurent Juneau. Pierre was born in Verdun, Quebec, where he learned English at an early age though French is still his dominant language. He earned his B.A. from Montreal University. In 1947 he married Fernande Martin. They moved to Paris for two years where he received an M.A. in Philosophy. Returning to Canada, he served on the Canadian National Film Board in charge of French film production from 1949 to 1966. He was appointed to the position of Vice-Chairman of the Board of Broadcast Governors from 1966 to 1975 where he became the founding Chairman of the Canadian Radio and Television Council. Pierre was drafted back into public service where he finally became the Deputy Minister of Communication and Cultural Affairs in 1978. He obtained the position of President of the Canadian Broadcasting Company in 1982 and completed that term in 1989. He presently holds the status of Visiting Professor at Montreal University. Pierre is a member of the Royal Society of Canada. He and his wife have two sons and a daughter who are a public servant, a cardiologist, and a lawyer. Pierre has been instrumental as a liaison to the Canadian Juneau branches for the Juneau International Family Reunion.

On July 31, 1960 the Rallye of Juneau Families came together in a historical fashion with a monstrous attendance of over 600 persons. The family amassed at the Marian Shrine of Notre-Dame-du-Cap and then unfolded at the ancestral home in Champlain. In Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Canada there was standing room only in the hotels. Juneaus poured through the streets, returning to their ancestral origins. They had come to erect a souvenir monument where in 1665 their ancestor Jean, Pierre the younger, had cleared a piece of land. It was a magnificent celebration.