

# PFO Report

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Piedmont Families Organization

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## Three Experiences with our Research Project

By Ron Malan

Researching our ancestral families in the notary records has involved our families intensively for many years. In light of the financial and other challenges we all have experienced the past few years and the fact that the last segment of a race is often the most difficult to complete, it seems appropriate to share three experiences. I do so not in the least to boast, but rather because some PFO members feel discouraged or worn out.

We began with a PFO “controlled extraction” project to submit all the names in the Mentoulles parish register. As the inhabitants in that valley, then under French control, fled at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes (which required them to Catholicize or die, specifically forbidding them from leaving the area), the Catholic priest took over the parish register. Centuries later, when it was placed in the State Archives in Torino, it was assigned to the Catholic collection, rather than to the Waldensian records. Therefore, when the Church microfilmed all the Waldensian parish registers, Mentoulles was not included in the agreement. But the Waldensian entries in that register had been printed by the Waldensian Historical Society, and PFO received approval to extract them.

That completed, we turned next to the book listing the names of the Waldensian Exiles in Switzerland during 1686-1690, giving birth years and places for most of them.

As I began extracting those details and submitting them, I occasionally received notes or calls from some who wished to help. In each case, however, I would soon receive another communication explaining that understanding the foreign languages was simply too difficult and the person would not be able to continue.

Soon after we contacted Brother Cena and he began sending his abstracts of the notary records, the extent of the work became so voluminous that I began praying fervently for assistance, expecting soon a letter or call.

I had been arising at 5:00 a.m. for years to permit scripture study and a little family history research before time to go to work. The morning after my most earnest prayer for help, I instead awoke at 4:30. My self-talk was that I’d complained to the Lord that I was exhausted and needed help, and yet now I’d awakened a half-hour earlier and thus would be even more tired and able to accomplish less.

The second morning I awoke at 4:30 with the same self-talk. The third morning at 4:30 I suddenly realized that the Lord’s answer was that if I wanted help, I was to get up and help myself!

Exactly three weeks to the day, I began waking at 4:00. Exactly three weeks later, it was 3:30. And exactly three weeks after that, it was 3:00. At that time, my wife, concerned about my health, quipped that if I kept up at that rate, I’d soon wake up before I went to sleep!

Still, it was not easy. After a few years and with the load increasing with ever more volumes of records and ever more surnames to research, I finally complained in earnest prayer, “This is killing me!”

Immediately, the voice of the Lord entered my mind, clearly and powerfully: “So?”

Properly chastened, I realized immediately that I wasn’t telling Him anything He didn’t already know.

The third experience occurred near the end of our second temple mission, which was in Ecuador. One Sunday morning I had a heart attack. After several tests, the US-trained cardiologist informed me firmly that I couldn't survive the day; my coronary enzyme count was so high, he said, that no human could survive for twenty-four hours—and my count was still increasing.

Soon, hands were laid on my hand and I was given to know immediately that thousands—thousands—in the spirit world were pleading that I be spared so their work could be done without additional delay, and I knew that the cardiologist's prognosis would not come to pass.

All of us involved in this project, whether in analyzing the records and submitting the names, making financial sacrifices so the work can proceed, or completing ordinances in the temples, have devoted many years and long hours in doing so. All of us are tired. Again, I share these experiences not to boast in the least, and I do so with trust that you will respect them as I intend them, being shared in this way among loving relatives.

Yet the work is of eternal significance. I recently received an email from Brother Cena's son Lorenzo telling me that his father continues to have many spiritual experiences as he abstracts the details from the records.

As noted in recent issues, we have begun the last series of records, Pinerolo. As explained previously, we had not thought of trying this series, as Pinerolo was a Catholic stronghold, the center of an abby, and therefore was likely to have been largely avoided by Waldensians. But as we completed the other series and still had gaps in all our pedigrees, it seemed wise to sample the Pinerolo records.

Many Waldensian surnames appear in the series, but so far most of those people appear to be cousins of our ancestral families. Of course, we began with 1712, hoping to fill gaps between the notary and parish records of the Waldensian towns, such as maiden surnames of wives who survived the Extermination order and Exile.

The Pinerolo series contains 114 volumes covering the years 1610-1712 (when the parish records begin). Unless the economy improves remarkably, it appears unreasonable to expect to research them all.

Based on questions raised by family researchers within PFO, therefore, we are asking Brother Cena to finish the volumes he has already begun extracting and then to sample volumes in significant time frames as we specify, such as the earliest records (1610-1615); the time frame of the Bubonic Plague epidemic (1630-1640, when all the Waldensian notaries died); the time frame around the major persecution of 1655 (1654-1659); just before the Extermination order (1684); and immediately following the Glorious Return (1690-1695). This would give us a fair sample from the time periods when Waldensians were most likely not to find notarial service at home. This sample would give us a total of 35 more volumes.

At any time in this process, if we find that our ancestral families simply are not named in the series and PFO members wish, we intend to ask Brother Cena to finish whatever volumes already begun but to begin no more.

“Though hard to you,” we sing, and “Gird up your loins.” Let us do that, and complete this challenging yet eternally significant project. We appreciate your support.

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## Tax Deductible!

**We owe Brother Cena \$7,400. *Your* TAX-EXEMPT donation is greatly needed. Please send your contribution to PFO, 987 W 2200 N, Pleasant Grove UT 84062. Thanks for your continued support!**

# The GAYDOU Ancestry of the Clapier Family (Lauralee Foote)

By Ron Malan

The Piedmont Project included **Marguerite GAYDOU**, born 6 Oct 1700 as the second wife of **Jean BLENAT**, born 1701, of San Germano; she died there on 24 Oct 1789, and they had 4 children. We present her ancestry here, based on the notary records.

Husband: **(Elder) Thomas GAYDOU** b 1669, Pomaretto Perosa; md abt 1593

Wife: **Junine or Giovannina BOUT** b abt 1673 (“Mrs. Thomas GAYDOU” in Piedmont Project)

Child:

1. **Marguerite (above)** b 6 Oct 1700; md (as 2<sup>nd</sup> wife) **Jean BLENAT**

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Husband: **Jacques or Giacomo GAYDOU**, b abt 1643, of Pomaretto Perosa; md abt 1667

Wife: **Gioanna PAGÉ**, b abt 1647 of Pomaretto Perosa

Children:

1. **(Elder) Thomas (above)** b 1669; md **Junine or Giovannina BOUT**

2. Pierre or Pietro b 1672; md abt 1692 Jeanne GONNETAS or GONNETON

3. Jean b 1673; md abt 1698 Maria GAYDOU [sic] b abt 1678, d 5 Mar 1757

4. Jacques b abt 1675; md abt 1699 Mrs. Marie – b abt 1679

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Husband: **Tomaso GAYDOU** b abt 1612 of Pomaretto Perosa; d aft 5 Jan 1673; md abt 1636

Wife: **Isabella ROCHE** b abt 1616 of Perosa

Children:

1. Valente [dau] b abt 1641; md abt 1661 Giovanni BARET b abt 1637, d bef 23 Mar 1685

2. **Jacques or Giacomo (above)** b abt 1643; md **Gioanna PAGÉ**

3. Pietro b abt 1645; md abt 1669 Maddalena GAY b abt 1649 of Perosa

4. Maria b abt 1651

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Husband: **Giacomo GAYDOU** b abt 1582 of Perosa; md abt 1606

Wife: **Mrs. Giacomo GAYDOU** b abt 1586 of Perosa

Children:

1. Giovanni b abt 1608 of Perosa

2. **Tomaso (above)** b abt 1612; md **Isabella ROCHE**

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Husband: **Gioanni GAYDOU** b abt 1554 of Perosa; d bef 1626; md abt 1578

Wife: **Mrs. Gioanni GAYDOU** b abt 1558 of Perosa

Children:

1. Tomaso b abt 1580 of Perosa

2. **Giacomo (above)** b abt 1582; md **Mrs. Giacomo GAYDOU**

3. Tomaso b abt 1599; md abt 1623 Maria GRILL; 5 children

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Husband: **Tomaso GAYDOU** b abt 1527 of Perosa; md abt 1551

Wife: **Mrs. Tomaso GAYDOU** b abt 1531

Child:

1. **Gioanni (above)** b abt 1554; md abt 1578 **Mrs. Gioanni GAYDOU**

Husband: **Pietro BOUT** b abt 1638 of Pomaretto Perosa; d bef 1699; md abt 1662

Wife: **Mrs. Pietro BOUT** b abt 1642

Child:

1. **Junine or Gioannina (above)** b abt 1673; md (**Elder**) **Thomas GAYDOU**

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Husband: **Gioanni BOUT** b abt 1596 of Perosa; md (1) abt 1620 Mrs. Gioanni; md (2) abt 1627

Wife: **Gioanna FOURENC** b abt 1607 of Perosa

Children:

1. Antonio b abt 1629 of Perosa

2. Allasina b abt 1635

3. **Pietro (above)** b abt 1638; md **Mrs. Pietro BOUT**

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Husband: **Antonio BOUT** b abt 1566 of Podio; d between 1615-1629; md (1) abt 1590

Wife: (1) **Mrs. Antonio BOUT** b abt 1570 of Perosa; d abt 1597

Children:

1. Margarita b abt 1592 of Perosa; md abt 1612 Giacomo PONS b abt 1588 of Perosa

2. Filippo b abt 1594 of Podio

3. **Gioanni (above)** b abt 1596; md (2) abt 1627 **Gioanna FOURENC**

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Husband: **Filippo BOUT** b abt 1541 of Podio; md abt 1565

Wife: **Mrs. Filippo BOUT** b abt 1545 of Podio

Children:

1. **Antonio (above)** b abt 1566; md (1) **Mrs. Antonio BOUT**; md (2) abt 1598 Mrs. Glaudia BOUT b abt 1580

2. Pietro b abt 1568 of Podio; d abt 2 Sep 1623; md abt 1592 Isabella MATTÉ b abt 1572

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Husband: **Gioanni PAGÉ** b abt 1618 of Perosa; d bef 29 Dec 1669; md abt 1642

Wife: **Mrs. Gioanni PAGÉ** b abt 1622 of Perosa

Children:

1. Gioanni b abt 1643 of Perosa; md abt 1667 Cattalina CARRÁ b abt 1647 of Perosa

2. **Gioanna PAGÉ (above)** b abt 1647; md Jacques or Giacomo GAYDOU

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Husband: **Gioanni PAGÉ** b abt 1582 of Perosa; md abt 1606

Wife: **Catterina MAURICE** b abt 1586 of Perosa

Children:

1. Martino b abt 1608 of Perosa

2. **Gioanni (above)** b abt 1618; md **Mrs. Gioanni**

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Husband: **Martino PAGÉ** b abt 1552 of Perosa; md abt 1576

Wife: **Mrs. Martino PAGÉ** b abt 1556 of Perosa

Children:

1. Giacomo b abt 1578 of Perosa; md abt 1602 Mrs. Giacomo

2. Pietro b abt 1580 of Perosa; md abt 1604 Mrs. Pietro

3. **Gioanni (above)** b abt 1582; md **Catterina MAURICE**

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Husband: **Gioanni MAURICE** b abt 1554 of Perosa; d abt 1614; md abt 1578

Wife: **Mrs. Gioanni MAURICE** b abt 1558 of Perosa; 10 children, including:

4. **Catterina (above)** b abt 1586 of Perosa; md abt 1606 **Gioanni PAGÉ**

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Husband: **Antonio MAURICE** b abt 1528 of Perosa; md abt 1552

Wife: **Mrs. Antonio MAURICE** b abt 1532 of Perosa

Children:

1. **Gioanni (above)** b abt 1554; md **Mrs. Gioanni**