

PFO Report & Malan Monitor

Piedmont Families Organization / John Daniel Malan Family Organization

No. 53, Oct 2011

My Dream

By Judy Melton, RIVOIRE Family Representative

An entry from my journal, March 2011:

I decided to try and tackle researching my VINAY line from Piedmont Italy. This line has not been extended any further back from the family group sheet prepared years ago by the Piedmont Project.

My direct-line ancestor, Judith VINAY, was born about 1687 and was of Villasecca. She married Thomas BERT, who was born about 1683. I have always felt bad that this line had gone no where.

I often feel like a very weak vessel for my ancestors, or for the spirit to have to work through when it comes to doing any research on these lines. Just trying to understand the process of researching the notarial records and placing families in their proper groupings has taken me many years. Trying to understand the Italian phrasing has also been very challenging. I still feel overwhelmed at times. [Assistance through] the Piedmont Families Organization has been a great help to me in this challenge. This has been the key to my finding many people who I know have been waiting for their temple work to be completed.

In the midst of my efforts to extend my Vinay line, I had a dream one night. I dreamed I was standing outside an old, stone building that was long and rectangular. This building was lined with cobblestone pathways, and in the center of the pathways was a lovely fountain. Despite how beautiful it might have been at one time, now it was lacking anything living or colorful. There was no water in the fountain, and no trees or grass or flowers to be seen anywhere.

I went inside the building with a goal to move from one end of the building to the other looking for more information on Judith VINAY. I hadn't gone very far, however, before the people in the building stopped me to reassure me that everyone in the building knew why I was there and they would help me in my efforts to find out more about Judith Vinay.

As a side note, I was named 'Judith' after my great grandmother, Judith Rivoire, who joined the Church and emigrated here to West Jordan, Utah. Many of my female Piedmont ancestry were named Judith, but everyone inside the building knew which Judith I was looking for – Judith Vinay.

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My Dream by Judy Melton [continued from page 1]

I don't remember speaking any words, but everyone knew what I wanted. If I ever see this building again, I will certainly recognize it! I hope that perhaps visiting it another time there will be water in the fountain, and that there will be colorful plants and shrubbery surrounding it.

As I began my search of notarial records to find my Judith, there she was, listed as "Guidit' BERT. I feel so blessed to have found her, then her father, and then several more generations back. The line now ends with Antoine Vinay, born about 1606 of Guillestre, Dauphiné, France. I am so grateful to have found these people, and I am proud of what they endured.

Addendum: July 2, 2011: I thought this was the end of the line, but more great news! [I just received] some marvelous information which I believe will extend my VINAY line even further back!! I am still working on sorting through all the information. It is from a book written by Rev. Jean Jalla. It is in French, but [a PFO helper] has sent me the gist of it all. I can't believe this line can now be extended back even further!! I truly feel that those on the other side of the veil have helped me with the desires of my heart.

A Pinerolo Pearl: Jacques BLANCHOT's Will

By Ron Malan

Jacques BLANCHOT was a 4th-great-grandfather of Jean (John) Daniel Malan, the convert and immigrant. He was also a 3rd-great-grandfather of Pauline Combe, 1st wife of that Jean (John) Daniel and thus also a convert and immigrant herself.

The Piedmont Project identified Jacques BLANCHOT as born about 1647; his wife and his parents were not named in the Piedmont Project, as they all had died before the surviving parish registers began. In one of his bogus genealogical reports, Brian Leese gave the wife as a Catherine BRUN, but the notary records have given no trace of such a person.

But some of the notary acts suggested that Jacques was the son of a Gioanni BLANCHOT and his wife Anne - .

The most recent Pinerolo volume of notary records received from Brother Cena, however, help us identify both his wife and his father. (It is anticipated that the name of his mother will be revealed in future reports.) Here is the English transliteration of that will:

Will of **Giacomo BLANCHOT son of deceased Tomaso**, naming his 1st wife **deceased Maria BLANCHOT**; their children **Anna (wife of Tomaso COMBE)**, **Gioanni ("emigrated")**, **Andrea**, **Francesco ("emigrated")**, and **Matteo ("emigrated")**; his current wife **Margarita COQUE**; and their infant daughter **Maria**. (Pinerolo vol 220 bk 1 pg 67, 4 Mar 1699)

Giacomo, of course, is the Italian version of the French name *Jacques*.

The "emigrated" sons match explicitly the list of Blanchot brothers in the Second Exile (1698), when the Duke of Savoy, under intense pressure from King Louis XIV of France (the "Sun King"); they had "emigrated" due to that edict banishing from the lands of Savoy anyone of French extraction—and those Upper Valleys has been in French control. On the list of those exiles at Heinsheim, Wurttemberg (Germany) on 20 Jul 1699, we find:

Jean BLANCHOT, his wife **Margarita**, their son **Jacques** age 5, a “daughter” [clearly an error for “sister”] Marie age 18, and brothers Francois age 20 and Mathie age 17. (*Bulletin de la Societe d’Histoire Vaudoise* vol 10, 1893, pg 50; FHL book 945 F25b vol 10)

When we compare that to the 1680 will of Gioanni BLANCHOT, which had led us to conclude that Jacques (or Giacomo) was son of this Gioanni, the matter is clearly resolved:

Will of **Gioanni BLANCHOT** son of deceased Giacomo, naming his wife Anna - ; and their children **Maria** (wife of **Giacomo BLANCHOT**), Madalena (wife of Tomaso BLANCHOT), Catterina, Giacomo, and Tomaso. (Abbadia vol 47 pg 350, 23 Feb 1680)

Thus, Giacomo’s 1699 will identifies his 1st wife (and mother of most of his children) as Maria BLANCHOT (dead by 1699), and she is identified further in her father Gioanni’s will of 1680. Their children received some inheritance from Gioanni and his wife Anna, but not because *he* was their son Giacomo (named in the will), but rather because *she*—the wife Maria—was their daughter.

And Jacques/Giacomo’s will clearly identifies his true father as Tomaso, dead by the 1699 date of the will. A careful review of the notary records in our possession so far from the entire area has identified several of this Jacques/Giacomo’s siblings and their spouses and children as well.

All of these new individuals, and corrections to the those already entered, are already entered in New FamilySearch. Please do NOT enter or submit them again. Such duplication merely bogs down the system. Many entries, in fact, have been submitted so many times that it is no longer possible to combine duplicates; attempting to do so results in an error message that it cannot be done, for it would result in an entry that would be “too large.” The NFS programmers are working to resolve that problem, but there is no need for anyone to be submitted more than once. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation!

FAMILY SUMMARIES:

Husband: **Giacomo BLANCHOT** b abt 1644 of Talucco, Torino, Piemonte, Italy; wd 4 Mar 1699
Wife: (1) **Maria BLANCHOT**, b abt 1649, of Talucco, md (1) abt 1669; dau of Gioanni & Anna -
Children: (a) Tomaso b abt 1671 of Talucco, d bef 4 Mar 1699; (b) **Jean** b 1673, of Talucco, d 9 Oct 1747, Angrogna, md (1) 4 Mar 1694, Angrogna, **Marguerite dau of Jean/Gioanni MALAN (1627) and (1) Maria JOUVE (Malan ancestors)**; (c) Andrea b abt 1675 of Talucco, md abt 1700 Catterina MEYNIER; Francois, b 1678 of Perosa, Torino, Piemonte, Italy; (d) **Anne**, b 1680 of Perosa, md abt 1699 **Thomas COMBE (Malan ancestors)**; and (e) Matteo or Mathie b 1681 of Pinasca, Torino, Piemonte, Ital.; md abt 1705 Maria MAITRE.

Husband: **Tomaso BLANCHOT**, b abt 1615, of Talucco; d 1661; md abt 1637
Wife: **Mrs. Tomaso BLANCHOT**, b abt 1617

Children: (all of Talucco) (a) Andrea b abt 1638, d bef 1646; (b) Gioanni b abt 1640; (c) Giovanna b abt 1642; (d) **Giacomo b abt 1644 (above)**; (e) Andrea b abt 1646; (f) Martha b abt 1648; and (g) Maria b abt 1650.

Husband: **Andrea BLANCHOT** b abt 1588 of Talucco; md abt 1612

Wife: **Mrs. Andrea BLANCHOT** b abt 1592

Children: (all of Talucco) (a) Michele b abt 1613, d bef 1668; (b) **Tomaso b abt 1615 (above)**; (c) Mattheo b abt 1617, md abt 1638 Catterina - .

Husband: **Michele BLANCHOT** b abt 1561 of Talucco, d bef 8 Mar 1613, md abt 1585

Wife: **Mrs. Maria BLANCHOT** b abt 1565 of Talucco

Children: (all of Talucco) (a) Marco b abt 1586, md abt 1620 Mrs Marco; (b) **Andrea b abt 1588 (above)**; (c) Anna b abt 1590; md abt 1610 Daniele GAYDOU.

Again, all of the above are now entered into New FamilySearch. Please do not resubmit/re-enter them.

Did You Know? by Ron Malan

The Cardons asked me to make a presentation at their August reunion about the status of our research. I decided to present also some other facts and figures as well, summarized here:

- If someone of my generation really had their research “all done”—all ancestors identified back to 1500 (current church policy)—they would have **1,048,576 names** on their pedigree charts. (There would not be that many separate *individuals*, as by then many of the individuals would appear more than once.)
- Having just **one** set of printed pedigree charts of that many ancestral names—no family group records at all—would fill **five, four-drawer office filing cabinets**. Printing them would use **five cartons** of paper! (This is another reason to be grateful for computers!)
- If you have just one descendant worthy and chosen to survive into the Millennium and that person has five children, with each of them having five children, and so on in each generation, by the end of 1,000 years your descendants could number **9,094,947,017,729,282,379,150,290,625** people! (9 octillion.... Of course, the number would not be that great, for after just three or four generations your descendants of necessity would have to begin to intermarry. Nevertheless, an idea of “as the sands of the seashore”!)
- For a perspective of what the Notary Records Project has done for our pedigrees, the Malans had a total of **35** Waldensian surnames from the Piedmont Project (the parish registers). We now have a total of **216** Waldensian surname lines—**181 additional surname lines!**
- The number of individual submitted for ordinances in 2011 through July only: 1,476, for a total of 5,405 ordinances. Total submitted since we began in 1987: 15,872 individuals, for 44,467 ordinances—so far!

We’re making consistent progress on our research project. We have several volumes yet to go and there remain many to identify and submit for ordinances, so let’s “endure to the end!”