CONSTITUTION
&
BY-LAWS
of the
CLUB LAFAYETTE
Revised 1968
Joseph E. Lamoureux, M.D.
Founder and First President
1912-1915
DIRECTORS OF 1968

President
Ronald E. Picard

Vice-president
Maurice W. Chateauneuf

Treasurer
André H. Bourgeois

Secretary
Paul H. Phaneuf

Rudolphe Ouellette
G. Paul Normandin

Omer R. Descheneaux
André H. Bertrand

Harry E. Moussette
PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE CLUB LAFAYETTE

Dr. Joseph E. Lamoureux 1913-14-15
Albert J. Blazon, Esquire 1916
Ernest J. Dupont 1917
Zepherin A. Normandin 1918-19
Dr. F. N. LaBelle 1920
Arthur J. Lambert 1921
George H. Boucher 1922
George H. Dozois 1923
Arthur J. Lambert 1924
Alphonse A. Couture 1925
Andre L. Bouthillette 1926
J. Zenon Chouinard 1927
Samuel T. Robitaille 1927-28-29
Emile Gagnon 1930
Elphege A. Phaneuf 1931-32
Alphonse A. Couture 1933-34
Dr. Leo F. King 1935
Albert L. Bourgeois, Esquire 1936-37
Dr. Raoul L. Drapeau 1938
Leo D. Gaumont ........................................... 1939-40
Paul R. Foisy ............................................. 1941
George W. Normandin ..................................... 1942
Dr. Joseph F. Montminy, Jr. ................................ 1943
André H. Bourgeois ........................................ 1944-45-46
Frank L. Monette .......................................... 1947-48
Paul A. Gagnon ............................................. 1949
Victor C. Tetreault ....................................... 1950
Leo H. Joyal ................................................ 1951-52
Paul H. Chevalier ......................................... 1953
Roland H. Paquette ........................................ 1954
Louis H. Landry ............................................ 1955
Omer R. Descheneaux ...................................... 1956-57
André H. Bertrand .......................................... 1958-59
Walter A. Bolduc ............................................ 1960-61
Gerald H. Bouvier, Esquire ................................ 1962
Paul H. Phaneuf ............................................. 1963
Rudolphe W. Ouellette .................................... 1964-65
G. Paul Normandin ........................................ 1966-67
HISTORY OF CLUB LAFAYETTE

In the year 1913 at the city of Lowell, Mass., where the French religious, cultural and linguistic traditions were and had been very strong, a group of prominent Franco-Americans met to discuss ways they might strengthen and preserve their heritage. They decided to organize a Franco-American Club and, most fittingly, to name it after the great General Lafayette, revered among Americans of all backgrounds as a champion of American independence.

Club Lafayette was formally incorporated on Dec. 4, 1913 with ninety eight charter members including the following officers:

Dr. Joseph E. Lamoureux .................................. President
Joseph A. Legare ............................................ Vice-President
Albert J. Blazon .............................................. Secretary
J. Calixte Manseau ............................................ Treasurer
Adolphe Delisle .............................................. Director
E. Ovide Ledoux .............................................. Director
Dr. Arthur J. Gagnon ........................................ Director
Louis P. Turcotte ............................................ Director
Dr. Rodrigue Migneault ................................... Director

The other charter members are listed below:

Henri Achin, Jr. .............................................. Adelard Berard
Joseph Albert ................................................. J. E. Bergeron
Amedee Archambault ..................................... Philiza Blain
John H. Beaulieu ............................................ Wilfrid Blouin
Ferdinand W. Bechard .................................. Pierre Bourgeois
Dr. David S. Bellehumeur ................................. Arthur G. Bourke
Dr. George E. Caisse
Wilfrid Caisse, Jr.
Eugene Cantin
William L. Chaloux
Henry V. Charbonneau, Esq.
Emery Cognac
Oscar P. Cognac
Wilfrid E. Cognac
Philip G. Cote
Joseph Coutu
Alphonse A. Couture
Charles A. Delaronde
Arthur Delisle
Elie Delisle
Xavier Delisle
Rene Delys
Louis J. Desrosiers
Frank X. Dostaler
George H. Dozois
Victor E. Dozois
William Drapeau
Arthur J. Dubois
Alfred Ducharme
Ernest Dupont
Lonce L. Fortin
George A. Gagnon
Victor Gelinas
Edmond G. Gill
Joseph H. Guillet, Esq.
Edward F. Houle
Ludger E. Hubert
Romeo Hubert
Roderick E. Jodoin
Dr. Ferdinand A. LaBelle
Eugene Lajoie
Arthur J. Lambert
Maurice J. Lambert
Adolphe Lamontagne
Octave Lamontagne

Frederick A. Lamoureux
Arthur E. Landry
Dr. G. Omer Lavallée
Rosario C. Lavallée
Arthur Lavoie
Telesphore Malo
D. D. Marleau
Gedeon Masse
Louis N. Mercier
Joseph H. Miller
Jean B. Morin
Ovila Morin
Albert E. O'Heir
Herve D. Parthenais
Arthur Pelletier
Jean B. Pedneault
Willis J. Peltier
J. Alfred Picard
J. Amedee Plourde
Oliva Poirier
Louis Poissant
P. A. Poissant
Joseph H. Proulx
Dr. N. O. Provencher
Albert Provost
Dr. J. E. Robillard
Dr. Louis V. Rochette
Stephen L. Rochette
Fred Rocheville
William Rousseau
Joseph Routhier
Victor C. Salois
Dr. L. E. Schiller
Omer J. Smith
Arthur L. Turcotte
Lucien F. L. Turcotte
Henry L. Turcotte
Homer L. P. Turcotte
The first location of Club Lafayette was 831 Merrimack St. and it was the scene of a Club gala celebrating New Year's Eve on Dec. 31, 1913. Members invited their ladies to this first of many successful occasions sponsored by the Club.

The next move of Club Lafayette was six years later in 1920 to the "Stone Castle" or "Bowers Castle" at 59 Wannalancit St. From here, in favor of a more central location, the members decided on Jan. 31, 1924 to move to 663 Merrimack St., corner of Cabot St. Here the upper three floors were comfortably occupied until April 28, 1939.

At this time, the present quarters of the Club (the old Fletcher Street Fire House at #465) were purchased. Clever renovations and tasteful accommodations make the Club rooms the attractive, modern facility we know today.

When the Club was first formed, bonds to the amount of thirty-five hundred ($3,500.00) dollars were subscribed voluntarily by the members without any great effort. This was an indication of the enthusiasm and spirit of the founders. Until the bonds were paid, only bond holders could be directors of the Club. Under the able leadership of Dr. Lamoureux and his first officers, the bonds were paid during his term of office or within two years.

Since its founding Club Lafayette has been most generous in contributing to many worthy
causes. The United Fund, the American Red Cross, the Saint Vincent de Paul, the several Franco-American churches and schools, the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the Saint Joseph's Hospital — all have benefited through gifts amounting to many thousands of dollars.

In 1936 our then president, State Representative Albert L. Bourgeois initiated a bill in the Legislature to have a proclamation by the Governor marking the anniversary of the death of Marquis de Lafayette to be known as "Lafayette Day." This legislative bill was passed and each year the Governor of Mass. proclaims May 20th as "Lafayette Day." Since that day the Club Lafayette celebrates the proclamation with appropriate ceremonies at an annual Lafayette Day banquet.

The Golden Jubilee of Club Lafayette was celebrated on May 19, 1963 at a Lucullan banquet for members and their ladies at the Commodore Ballroom. Club President, Paul H. Phaneuf (Superintendent of Schools in Malden and formerly in Dracut), grandson of a founding Director, Louis P. Turcotte, presided and recalled illustrious members and outstanding events in the history of the Club since its founding.

In 1968, Club Lafayette proudly unveiled an oil portrait of the founder and its first President, Doctor Joseph E. Lamoureux, whose work for the Club shall always be remembered. This portrait
was accepted by his son, Paul, a member of the Club.

That the Club Lafayette is an on-going tradition among Franco-American families in Lowell is well illustrated by noting that Paul Normandin, President of the Club in 1966, is the son of George Normandin, President in 1942, and grandson of the late Zepherin Normandin, President in 1918-1919. With such strong father to son support, the Club Lafayette must thrive.

The Club enjoys a very high standing in the community. Among the members are many who have or have had prominent positions in political, financial, professional and business fields, all of whom have played a conspicuous part in the development of the City of Lowell.
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I
Name and Location

Section 1. Name
The name of the association is Club Lafayette.

Section 2. Location
It shall be located at Lowell, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE II
Purpose
The purposes for which this association is formed are as follows To promote and engage in civic, cultural, charitable, educational and social matters and affairs.

ARTICLE III
Officers and Directors

Section 1. Officers
The officers of the Club shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, who shall be ex-officio Secretary of the Board of Directors and a Board of Directors of nine members of the Club consisting of the four officers above named chosen from the Directors and five other Directors.
Section 2. Election of Directors and Eligibility

a. Election

There shall be a board of nine Directors elected from the floor at the annual meeting, 3 for a term of 3 years, 3 for a term of 2 years and 3 for a term of 1 year.

At every annual meeting thereafter the members shall elect from the Club membership three members of the Board of Directors to serve for a term of three years from the date of the annual meeting and thereafter until their successors shall have been chosen and qualified.

b. Eligibility

No member shall be eligible for membership to the Board of Directors unless he has been a member of the Club for three consecutive years prior to his election to that Board.

Section 3. Method of election of officers

As soon as convenient after the annual election of the Board of Directors, said Board shall meet and choose among their own number the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary above provided for, which officers shall serve in such capacity for one year beginning with the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the annual meeting, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Section 4. Vacancies

Any vacancy in the offices of the Club or the
Board of Directors may be filled by the Board of Directors, the term of such vacancy to last only until the next annual meeting.

Section 5. Substitute

If illness or service in the armed forces or conditions of a temporary nature prevents participation of a director, the Board of Directors may elect from the membership a qualified member to serve as a substitute director until said director is able to return as an active director, or until his term of office expires, whichever occurs first.

ARTICLE IV

Duties of Officers and Directors

Section 1. President

The President shall preside at all meeting of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He shall also be ex-officio, a member of all committees. All contracts, deeds, leases or other documents, after approval by the Board of Directors shall be signed on behalf of the Club by the President, who shall also affix the corporate seal, and countersigned by the Treasurer. The President shall appoint from the membership such committees as he deems advisable for the proper management of the Club.

Section 2. Vice-President

In case of the absence or disability of the
President, it shall be the duty of the Vice-President to act in his stead.

Section 3. Treasurer

a. Duties

The Treasurer shall be bonded. He shall be charged with the collection and custody of the funds of the Club and their disbursement under the direction of the Board of Directors. He shall deposit said funds in a bank or banks approved by said Board. He shall keep accurate financial records of the Club in books belonging to it which records shall be available for inspection at all times by the Board of Directors. He shall render to each member of the Club on the first of every quarter a statement of the amount then owing from such member. The Treasurer shall make a written report of the financial condition of the Club at its annual meeting.

b. Audit

The accounts of the Treasurer shall be audited annually prior to the annual meeting by a Certified Public Accountant selected by the Board of Directors, and approved by the Finance Committee.

Section 4. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a record of all the meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He shall notify all persons of their election to office or appointment to committees. He
shall have custody of all documents, periodicals and correspondence of the Club.

Section 5. Directors

The Directors shall have the management and control of all property, effects and assets of the Club, authorized contracts and purchases, and shall exercise a general superintendence of its interests and welfare. It shall set the wages of all employees and require that they be bonded. It shall make rules concerning the use of the rooms and all other property of the Club. It shall have no power to transfer or sell any property belonging to the Club unless authorized by a majority of the members. It shall have authority to suspend or expel members for reasons specified in the By-Laws. Five members shall constitute a quorum. The Board of Directors shall meet once a month or oftener at the call of the President. Any officer or director absent without just cause from three consecutive meetings may be replaced by the Board of Directors at its discretion. The compensation for the Treasurer and the Secretary will be set by the Board of Directors subject to approval by the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE V

Finance Committee

There shall be a Finance Committee of three members, not directors, to be elected from the
floor at the annual meeting — one for a term of 3 years, one for a term of 2 years and one for a term of 1 year. One member of the Finance Committee shall thereafter be elected annually for three years. Any and all non operational expenditures in excess of two hundred ($200.00) dollars must be approved by the Finance Committee. Any motion for the making of a gift or donation for one hundred ($100.00) dollars or over cannot be voted upon at the meeting at which such motion is made. It must be referred in writing on some following day to the Finance Committee for a recommendation and then submitted to the members for action at a subsequent special meeting. No such motion shall pass unless authorized by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting. Voting shall be by Australian ballot.

ARTICLE VI

Reserve Fund

There shall be a Reserve Fund under the control of the Finance Committee to which all net profits in excess of two thousand ($2,000.00) dollars as determined by the Treasurer's Annual Report shall be transferred.

In the event that the Treasurer's Annual Report shows an operating deficit, the Finance Committee will transfer from the Reserve Fund to the Operating Account an amount of money
not to exceed $5,000 to cover the amount of this operating deficit. If the deficit exceeds five thousand ($5,000.00), the balance of the deficit will be transferred from the Reserve Fund only if approved by a three-fourths vote of the membership present and voting at a meeting subsequent to a meeting at which a motion is made to transfer such an amount. If the motion to transfer the balance of the deficit is not approved, an assessment will be made on all of the members to provide the needed sum.

Any other proposed withdrawal will be presented to the members at the annual meeting or at a special meeting of the members called by the President. It will then be referred to a subsequent members' meeting for action. No such withdrawal will be authorized unless approved by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE VII
Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

Any male citizen of the United States of America twenty-one years of age or over and of French ancestry may become a member of the Club upon election by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Mode of Admission

Applications for membership must be made in writing, contain the name, address and occu-
pation of the applicant, bear the endorsement of two members and be presented to the Board of Directors. The initiation fee as determined by the Board of Directors and a quarterly payment of the yearly dues as determined by the membership, must accompany all applications. Such payment will be refunded in case of rejection. The Secretary must post the application on the Club bulletin board for at least one month before action is taken by the Board of Directors. No person who has been rejected can file a new application until six months after the date of rejection.

Section 3. Resignation

A member can tender his resignation at any meeting of the Board of Directors. His dues for the quarter in which his resignation is submitted shall be due and payable.

Section 4. Causes for expulsion

Any member may be suspended or expelled for any action inimical to the best interests of the Club. He shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Credit to members

No member or guest shall incur a bill for any merchandise at the Club.

Section 6. Guests

Members shall be responsible for the behavior of their guests at the Club.
Section 7. Damage to Club property

Destruction or damage to the property of the Club must be paid for by the member causing the same, the cost to be assessed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

Dues

Section 1. Dues

The dues will be $30.00 annually payable in advance in equal quarterly payments. The Directors may recommend to the annual meeting a change in the amount of dues.

Section 2. Non-payment of dues — penalty

If a member is two quarters in arrears in payment of his dues, he shall be notified of the same by the Treasurer. Fifteen days after the sending of such notice, if he has failed to make satisfactory adjustment of the same, his name shall be posted and if he is still delinquent thirty days after his name is posted he shall be expelled from the Club and notice of the same shall be sent him by the Secretary. No member who is expelled for non-payment of dues can again become a member unless he has paid up his back dues and is approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors.
ARTICLE IX
Meetings

Section 1. Annual meeting
The annual meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of January each year, the actual date to be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors. Fifteen percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Special meetings
A special meeting may be called by the President or upon the written request of 10% of the members. Notice of such meeting and the reasons for the same shall be given by the Secretary to all members at least five days before the meeting. No matters other than those set forth in the notice shall be transacted at such meeting.

Section 3. Subject matters at meeting
The Board of Directors may in their discretion bar the discussion of political or religious questions at the meetings.

ARTICLE X
Amendments
Any proposition to amend the Constitution or By-Laws must be made in writing, read at a regular meeting and left on the table until the following meeting. It is then read a second time
before being discussed, adopted or rejected. Two weeks before the date of this second meeting, the nature of the proposed amendment is to be sent to every member. A two-thirds vote of the members present and voting shall be necessary to authorize any amendment.

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all deliberations.

ARTICLE XI
Dissolution

The Club cannot be dissolved and its funds disposed of as long as ten members adhere to its Constitution and By-Laws. This article can only be amended by an unanimous vote of the members of the Club.
BIOGRAPHY OF LAFAYETTE

On Sept. 6, 1757 in the Chateau of Saint Roch de Chavagnac in Auvergne was born Marie Joseph Paul Roch Yves Gilbert Motier, Marquis de Lafayette. His family had been prominent in France for generations. At the age of sixteen he married Marie de Noailles, the daughter of the Duke of Ayen.

When the American colonies declared their independence of Great Britain in 1776, Lafayette wrote in his memoirs, "At the first news of this quarrel, my heart was enrolled in it."

On April 14, 1777 Lafayette arrived in America and volunteered his services, without pay, to the Continental Congress. While serving under General George Washington, he was wounded at the Battle of Brandywine on Sept. 11, 1777. On May 19, 1778 at the Battle of Barren Hill, he and 2,100 of his U.S. troops cut their way out of an enemy near-encirclement and returned to Valley Forge.

Later in 1778 when war broke out between France and England, Lafayette went home to France. He returned to America in 1780 and performed with great gallantry against Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. in October, 1781.
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Lafayette played a large role in the French revolution and as Commander-in-Chief of the Paris National Guard, he temporarily saved King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette from death.

In 1824-25, General Lafayette, on a joint Presidential and Congressional invitation, again visited the United States. He had a triumphal tour, and Congress voted him $200,000 and a whole township of land, to offset the heavy financial losses which France's revolution had dealt him.

Throughout his adult life, Lafayette was a man of the greatest courage, brilliance and loyalty to his friends and the two nations which he served with so much distinction. He is truly a man we can look up to for inspiration and we can only hope that, as members of the Club Lafayette, we can continue to follow this example of courage and loyalty which has been upheld by all those before us.