

STE-AGATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating 100th Anniversary of the Hebert Farm

Cross Lake, Maine

Family of Adelard & Yvonne Lagasse Hebert
2009



Center: Youngest - Sandra Hebert Dumais & Oldest - Clifford Hebert

*2nd Row: Verna Hebert Levesque, Mildred Hebert Rioux, Evelyn Hebert Jean,
Marcella Hebert (plaid shirt), Bernadette Hebert Posnick,
Albertine Hebert Poisson, Marcel Hebert.*

*Back: Janet Hebert Barron, Odellie Hebert Lessard, Madeline Hebert Bowie,
Cecile Hebert Levesque, Lorina Hebert Sedgeley, Roger Hebert, Lucille Hebert Gilbert,
Robert Hebert, Reginald Hebert.*

Not in Photo: Ronald Hebert d. 2004

STE-AGATHE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EST. MARCH 23, 1978
P.O. Box 237
534 Main Street
St. Agatha, ME 04772

Preservation Center

Open:
mid June to mid September
1:00 to 4:00 daily
Tues. - Sun.

Email:
Staghs77@yahoo.com

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www.steagathehistorical.com

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TOTAL STAHS LIFETIME
MEMBERSHIP- 392
REGISTERED VISITORS FOR 2012 - 625
LOGGED VOLUNTEER HOURS -376

This article was written and presented at the 2009 celebrations honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Hebert Farm in Cross Lake, Maine. Author and presenter was the 17th child of Adelard & Yvonne Lagasse Hebert - Bernadette Hebert Posnick.

NOTE: In February of 1909, Frank & Agnes Gagnon Hebert bought some 50 acres of land in Guerrette, Maine. The farm was sold to his son Aurele & Jeanne Hebert in 1942. Adelard & Yvonne Hebert bought the farm from his brother, Aurele, in 1952. Reginald and Claudette Ouellette Hebert bought the farm from his father in 1968. With each generation land was added and a fourth generation is ready to take over.

On July 14, 1905, a baby girl was born to George and Matte Lagasse. Her height and weight was anybody's guess but I hear tell she was very pretty. This had to be true because some of her offspring turned out to be gorgeous. They named this baby girl Yvonne. She was born and brought up in Guerrette. She had 9 brothers and three sisters. This was a large family, but not large enough for Yvonne. In time, she was to have a family of her own which would far surpass this. Her brothers and sisters names were:



Yvonne & Adelard Hebert

- Thaddie** – born July 21, 1893
- Verna** – born August 8, 1896
- Fred** – born February 10, 1897
- Donat** – born May 10, 1898
- Leona** – born may 4, 1900
- Albert** – born August 21, 1903
- Wilfred** – born March 15, 1907
- Edmond** – born March 23, 1910
- Romeo** – born February 17, 1914
- Estelle** – born April 14, 1915
- Hector** – born October 29, 1916
- Leo** – born December 10, 1919

It is very unfortunate that I have not learned much about her early childhood. This could have proved to be quite interesting. I did manage to get a few tidbits here and there, so I will relate them as I have heard them.

Yvonne had a normal childhood. She went to school in a little one room schoolhouse in Guerrette. She used to walk to and from school with her young friends. Some of these little people could be very mischievous. On their way to and from school, they would pass a barn. This barn had a large smokestack next to it. The kids would jump into one end of this smokestack and come out at the other end. All the kids would do this except Yvonne. Poor Yvonne, fearing she was too big, she put off jumping through this smokestack. Finally, one day she had to try it. The other kids had teased her long enough. She was going to do it. Unfortunately, she tried it. She got stuck in it. Her dress was up in the air with her feet dangling at the other end. The other kids were having a ball slapping her pretty Robin Hood panties. Yvonne had nowhere to go. She couldn't get back up, and she certainly couldn't get down. Finally, someone managed to push her back out of the same opening she had come in. She did learn a very valuable lesson in all this though. She learned that mirrors don't lie.

Yvonne went to school until she was twelve years old. At twelve years of age she got typhoid fever. She was bedridden for many weeks. The only thing she could eat or drink at this time was warm milk. She lost a lot of weight during this time – so much in fact that she had no fear of any smokestack for a long time to come. She had missed so much schooling that she never went back.

From this time on, Yvonne stayed at home and helped with the chores and the work that the woman of the house did in those days. One of these chores was knitting woolen underwear for the men in the family. Now, from what I have seen these were not ordinary men. These people were tall, so tall that it must have taken at least one week to knit one undershirt that would reach their belly button with one person knitting the front and the other person knitting the back.

Around this time, Yvonne was getting very unsure of life around her. Should she still believe in Santa Claus or shouldn't she. "I'll find out the truth once and for all," said Yvonne. So one Christmas Eve, she crept down the stairs to look and listen if she could hear or see Santa come in. Lo and behold, what did she see? There were two people putting little bags of candy everywhere. But wait, these people didn't have a red suit on. She crept down one more stair to get a better look. As she got to the next stair, two pair of eyes were looking straight at her. They certainly weren't Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. They were her mom and dad. Needless to say, one little bag of candy was removed and Yvonne had a very sour Christmas Day.

Now, Yvonne was becoming quite a young lady. She was also starting to cast her eyes down the hill to a certain member of the Hebert family that lived there. His name was Adelard, he seemed to have everything she was interested in. She decided she had to have him make her life complete. What a terrific choice she made.

They fell in love and decided to get married. But again poor Yvonne, nothing ever came easy for her. They spent months planning their wedding right down to the last detail. Finally the day had arrived. Adelard wrapped her up snugly and lifted her up into their little horse drawn buggy and off to church. They saw the priest shaking his head. Something was not right. Apparently, the special dispensation they needed to get married had not arrived. They couldn't get married today. "Dear Lord, what do we do now Yvonne?" said Adelard. There were all kinds of festivities waiting for them back at the house. "What shall we tell these people?" asked Adelard. "They have gone through so much trouble for us that I can't bring myself to tell them that we're not married yet." But Yvonne still had enough cunning and wit in her to solve this very little problem. "Have no fear dear," she said. "We will just tell them that we were married today. When the dispensation comes in, we will just go off quietly and get married and no one will be the wiser. Of course we will have to tell our parents because after the party, we shall have to go our separate ways. But no one needs to know." They then went back home and had a grand old time. After everyone left, Yvonne and Adelard had to go their separate ways once more. At least that is what I was told. I questioned Yvonne to see if there might have been a little hanky panky going on after everyone left, and she gave me a very emphatic "ABSOLUTELY NOT." I guess we must accept this fact. Yvonne could finally breathe a sigh of relief. Everything had gone off without a hitch so off to bed she went with nothing but her dreams to occupy the empty space beside her.

The next morning, Yvonne awoke to a banging on her door. Alas, her sigh of relief was short lived. Once again, one of her schemes had gone awry. Their friends were all outside the door waiting to greet the married couple on their first morning together. The truth finally had to come out. Everything worked out fine. Instead of a big problem, it became a precious memory that their family can relate for many years to come. A week later, on April 24, 1922, Yvonne Lagasse became Mrs. Adelard Hebert.

This young bride then moved in with Adelard's family. Their first child, Clifford, was born on February 13, 1923. What a marvelous little person this was. At least they thought so until one of the last of their children came along. He had ten little perfect fingers and ten little perfect toes in just the right places. Only one thing was wrong. He was born bald. To this day I don't think he ever had any hair. I have known this man for 39 years now, and I can't ever remember any hair on his head. His sisters told me they had found quite a few newspaper clippings on hair tonics while they were cleaning his room. If he ever sent away for them, he wasted his money because apparently none of them ever worked. Someone finally made him aware that God only made a few perfect heads, the rest He covered up with hair. The very next day, Clifford made a donation to the poor. Since then, a stranger has been walking around with Clifford's hat on his head.



Meanwhile Adelard and Yvonne moved to Washburn. Once there, Adelard went to work to provide a living for his new family and Yvonne learned to wash diapers. Not like the modern day housewife, Yvonne always had her husband's dinner on the table when he got home from work. The days passed. One was much the same as the other. The family was getting closer and closer together. On

Annual Newsletters 2012

April 9, 1924, their second child was born – Verna. Verna proved to be a lot of added work for her poor mother. It wasn't that she cried an awful lot. She could also lie in her crib very contentedly while her mother washed the diapers, warmed up her milk and attended to Clifford's needs. It was just that it would take her hours to drink her bottle of milk naturally. Her mother had to hold her while she did this, so she lost much valuable daylight hours to do the rest of her chores. Right from the first bottle of milk, Verna set up the pace for the rest of her life.

Adelard, Yvonne and their family returned to Guerrette. Together they built their first home. Thirteen months after Verna was born, along came another baby girl. She was born on July 7, 1925 and they named her Mildred. Milly was born before her time. She should have been born in the space age. Right from the start, you could tell she was to be their first Pioneer into space. Her mother would lay her in her crib next to the window, and Milly seemed to be staring into space constantly. Nobody understood why until much later in life when she was the first person to ever step foot on the moon. She never dreamed that the moon had such deep craters. It took awhile for her to step foot on solid ground again. With three children to feed and discipline, Adelard worked harder and Yvonne's faith and patience grew. There were no modern conveniences such as indoor plumbing, washing machines or electricity in those days. The woman worked long and hard to accomplish half of what should have been each day.

Eighteen months later another child was born. Albertine came into the world on January 14, 1927. This girl was to become a very thrifty person. As a young child, she was always looking to save money even if it was someone else's money she was saving. That became very obvious when she was left to make a meal for her brothers and sisters. The recipe for the dish she made was as follows:

1 quart water
2 slices of turnip
1 quart water
2 more slices of turnip
Top off with 2 more quarts of water
Season to taste

In this instance, she was saving for her mother and father. It is no wonder that she is a banker today. By the time the fifth child was born, Adelard had started losing his hair and Yvonne's corsets had to be tightened. Her waistline was getting just a little larger. Cecile was born on February 14, 1928. She was to become the hairdresser in the family. She had the job of combing her younger siblings' hair. We can tell the ones she had to comb, all their nice curly hair is poker straight today. Maybe the boys should question her to see if she combed their hair because they don't have much left. By this time Adelard had become a lumberjack. He use to cut wood and sell it. Whenever Yvonne had a chance, she would help him with this. The kids were coming too fast though, so between bearing children and taking care of them, she had little time for anything else. Then along came Robert. He was born on March 10, 1929. As a young child, he use to love trucks and tractors. It is no wonder that a good part of his adult life revolved around these. When he became old enough to drive them, he would practice so much, he got so he could turn on a dime then take off like a jet. He showed me how he did this one day when I was helping him plant potatoes. He was driving the tractor and dad and I were standing on the back of the planter making sure the potatoes went down right. Robert made a turn and took off so fast, he left his father 100 feet behind. The laughter didn't show on Robert's face, but I could see his shoulders shaking uncontrollably from behind. If I thought he had turned around fast the first time, I was mistaken. Fast was when he turned around to pick him back up.

Two years later, on January 10, 1931, Roger was born. I guess he was the smart one in the family. I am sure he was not perfect, but whatever his faults, it seems that he practiced them in private. I asked quite a few members of his family if they could remember any of his bad habits, but no one would talk. He must have quite a list to hold over his brothers and sisters to keep them silent. He could not be reached for an interview. Yvonne often told me about her severe headaches. Apparently they did not affect her at the right time of the day or night, or was it that Adelard knew how to make the headaches disappear for a little while. Whichever it was, the kids kept coming. She had just had one of her most severe headaches when Lorina was conceived, or was it after she was born. I can't really remember now. Anyway on March 4, 1932, Lorina was born. Unlike Roger, I could have had enough scoops on this one to write a book about her and her alone. Everyone had something to say. This child loved to have her picture taken. There is nothing wrong with that in itself, but I was told she went a little overboard when, as an adult, she had a room built in her house especially for her pictures. Apparently, each picture on her wall had one of her fantasies written under it. For example Jane Russell, Betty Grable, Jane Mansfield ETC,ETC ETC. Gordon was very wise when he built a campground out in the woods. This way she has a slim chance of being discovered by some big motion picture producer. If you are ever approached by them Lorina, please say no. Hollywood could turn you into something you're not ready to become. Besides, your family still wants you just the way you are. Why? I have no idea.

Madeline, born on March 17, 1934, was the one left in charge of the other kids most often. Her brothers and sisters tell me she was the best baby sitter of them all. She was the type of person that could get her point across very quickly. All she had to do to achieve that was to touch the broom handle or a pail of water. There was immediate obedience in the house. The kids respected her so much that one Christmas, they decided to pool all their money together and buy her a beautiful fox fur. To this day she can't thank them enough for their generosity.

At this time Yvonne was up to her neck in diapers. The kids were so mischievous that Adelard and Yvonne would often set off early in the morning for a few hours of peace and quiet on Square Lake. Besides the peace and quiet that they sought, they attempted to catch fish to feed all those hungry mouths. They were successful at this. After awhile, fishing became their favorite pastime.

On April 21, 1935, their 10th child was born. They named this child Evelyn. Now Evelyn was a pretty baby, but after looking at her for a very long time, Adelard and Yvonne felt that even though they had done a good job, they knew they could do better. They would have to try again. Right from the start Evelyn was a very undecided child. She couldn't make up her mind on anything. Should she sleep with her head at the head of the crib or should she cry until her mother turned her around. She would take so long thinking about this, that by the time she had made up her mind, she was almost asleep. She also used to go through a lot of diapers in a day. To this day she has great difficulty making up her mind, and great difficulty staying dry in public. In fact, one Christmas she received a pair of rubber pants from the Knights of Columbus as an attempt to keep their chairs dry when she played beano. Evelyn proved to be a lot of work for her father since he had to give the cow a bath before he drew Evelyn's milk from it.

Reginald came along on July 11, 1936. This child developed a passion for hunting and fishing. He was so involved with this that he never took the time to learn how to read. It is therefore very understandable that today he can't tell when hunting season starts and ends, or how many hours are allowed for hunting each day. He can't read a sign that says "*NO FISHING*," and when he does go fishing, he can't calculate the weight or length of his fish so sometimes he exceeds his limit a little bit. Since he has recently started ice fishing, I think it is the responsibility of his family to teach him to read two simple words – Thin Ice. He is in water over his head far too often as it is. The children were growing fast. Every fall the Hebert family would pack a few things and move to a farmhouse outside of Guerrette to pick potatoes for a month. Everyone that was tall enough to reach the rim of a barrel would go out to the fields to pick. Yvonne always had very young ones around her, so after their naps she would pack a lunch and carry her young ones to the fields with her. Once there, she would help her youngsters with their picking.

Ronald was born July 10, 1937. He was quite a good kid. As he got to his teen years, everything started to change. By the time he was 18, you may as well say he had two homes. He would come home from his dates so late that many times the door handle would not turn when he tried to open it. He would turn around and start off down the hill to his brother Robert's house. He slept there more often than he did in his own bed. To this day he doesn't understand why that door would jam like that, since it never jammed at any other times. The house was getting much too small now. Adelard and Yvonne were making plans to build a new one. They figured their family was not done yet. After all, Yvonne was still looking marvelous and it was one way to relieve her headaches. Adelard had a perpetual grin from ear to ear – it was not a surprise when another child was born.

On December 19, 1938, Odellie was born. She soon developed the habit of amusing herself for hours. Her mother did not have to spend much time entertaining her. She was content with her own company. As she grew older, this proved to be a problem. She would go in stores and forget that she was in a public place. She would stand in front of a mirror at these stores and carry on conversations with herself for 15 minutes before she would realize that people were staring. If there were no mirrors in the store, she would start talking to the mannequins. Odellie does not like to lose an argument, and this way she made sure she didn't. The house was coming along just fine now. Adelard, Yvonne, and Clifford were working very hard to get it ready to move in before the new baby arrived. Yes, another one was on its way. A short while after they moved in their new house, their 14th child was born. Lucille was born on December 2, 1939. At the age of two, she stopped walking. Her parents became very worried about this. They took her to a doctor and he suggested they bring her to a hospital in Portland. The doctors at the hospital found that her legs were all messed up. Upon further examination, they found that she had many serious problems. I've heard people say she was even a little demented, but I for one refuse to believe this. I think she is the way she is today, solely because she was in the hospital too long and the loneliness affected her so badly that she may never totally recover. I will continue praying for her. After all I have always believed in miracles.

On January 3, 1941, Marcel was born. Unlike Albertine, this kid was not a vegetarian. He used to kill mice and snakes and frighten the girls with them. After he was done playing with them, he would offer them to the kitchen help to spice up the soup.

Annual Newsletters 2012

When Madeline happened to be in the kitchen, he would have to run for his life. He had his arm in a cast quite often. With his mischievous thoughts, it's a wonder he never ended up in a body cast. Around this time, Adelard became very ill with bleeding ulcers. It was very frightening for Yvonne to see him vomit blood like he did. The doctor put him on a controlled diet which helped keep his ulcers in check.

Marcella was born on December 7, 1942. This little person knew about the nice things that money could buy, and she set her sights on getting them. She started very young saving pennies with strands of wheat on the back. She loved jewelry and she knew that someday she was going to have some. One day not very long ago, she had about ten dollars in wheat pennies saved up. She had been wanting some nice pearl earrings so she went to Penny's to see what she could find. She saw some real nice ones in the showcase. She asked the saleslady what the price was. When the salesgirl replied some are 3 and some are 4, Marcella immediately ordered one pair of each. The sales clerk handed her the bill, Marcella was a little short on cash. The earrings were \$300.00 and \$400.00. Marcella then asked the salesclerk to hold them for her while she went back home to get the money needed to purchase them.

Much to her surprise, when the 17th child was born on February 13, 1946, she (Bernadette) proved to be a very fussy child. She never wanted to eat which caused her parents a great deal of concern. Dad was afraid she would dwindle down to nothing. (Boy did she prove him wrong). He started giving her a nickel a day to go to the store. Pretty soon the nickel wasn't enough and she started asking for a dime, then a quarter (her appetite was apparently improving). This is where she must have acquired her love for shopping. She was fashion conscious until her many trips to the candy store started to physically show. Finding appropriate clothing started to be a problem until the day she went to Porteous. She went into the fitting room to try on a pair of slacks and to her amazement they fit. She quickly took them off to go purchase them. While standing at the register she could feel a cool breeze. She looked down to see if there was a fan close by. Low and behold in her haste to purchase her new outfit she had forgotten to put on her other pants. If any of you are ever shopping at Porteous and you see a display of undergarment you may want to look twice. It may or may not be a dummy.

On March 13, 1947, Janet was born. Now this was a lucky kid. No hand me downs for this one. The child that was born before her had popped them all out at the seams. It wasn't that the clothes were too small. It was just that by now they were really ripe. Janet ended up with brand new clothes. As a child she loved to play games, especially hide and seek. One day she decided to play this at a neighbor's house where she wasn't supposed to be. As she was counting "99, 100 ready or not I'm coming," she turned around and was staring right into her father's face. She was the first in the family to do the 5 minute mile in a half minute. She was back home and in bed before they had opened the car door.



T17R4, Aroostock County - Guerrette School The rural school where the children of Yvonne and Adelard Hebert attended

Yvonne thought that this would be the end of her family now. She had eighteen children and she felt she had lived up well to the sacrament of marriage. To her surprise, after a rest of 5 years, another child came along. Sandra was born May 13, 1952. This child was to be a musician. When Yvonne first saw her, she knew this right away. She was tan and this with long fingers and legs. A sure sign of a pianist but this was not quite so. She became a lyricist and composer instead. The rest of her family only learned this when she went to try out for glee club in high school. She tried out with a song she had composed herself entitled, "Up The Hill," I am sure if someone requested it, she would be glad to do that number for you.

After the 19th child, Yvonne felt enough was enough. She didn't want any more surprises. She decided to have her tubes tied. By now Adelard had decided to buy a small farm. He still kept his wood business going, but he decided in order to feed all those hungry mouths, he had better plant a few crops. Much of this land he turned into pasture for his grazing animals. He had all the farm hands he needed right in his own household.

As years passed, he acquired more land. He enjoyed every piece of dirt that he overturned. Yvonne was doing as much in the fields as her husband did. Their children were becoming adults now and many of them had left home to find jobs in the big cities.

Adelard and Yvonne had a hard but good life. Their faith sustained them through very lean years. They had the heartache losing a few of their grandchildren. They had to deal with sickness, and through it all, they came out of it stronger and wiser. Adelard decided to sell his farm at the age of 60. He sold it to one of his sons. His farm belonged to someone else now but his heart was still in it. You could see him walk through the potato fields every morning, yearning for the good old days when he was still strong, young and capable of taking care of it.

On February 21, 1969, tragedy struck the Hebert family. God had lent us one of his sons for a brief span of 64 years and now he was coming to reclaim him. Adelard's work was finished on earth, and he had done his work well. He loved his family, loved them enough to let them grow. Even though some of his family left home very young, he was not afraid to let them go. He knew he had given them a good foundation to build on. He let his children make mistakes, but he made sure they learned from their mistakes. He loved the land he lived on and the land responded generously. He commanded respect and he got respect. He gave everything but never asked for anything in return. Many a friend and many a stranger knew the generosity of this man.

His death cast a shadow on his family's lives. A shadow that is consistently with them to make sure they still practice the lessons they learned so well. His presence is still felt and seen in his wife and children. Many of his habits became their habits and his values became their values. His face and body are sadly missed, but his heart remains with them until one day, they again will reunite.

Never has his presence been felt more so then it is today. So again today, we, your children are asking something of you dad. We ask that you intercede for us, and ask God to shower His love and blessings on this precious lady before us. Your loving wife and our beloved mother, Yvonne.

Yvonne had many painful decisions to make in the following year, she had one daughter left at home. Her daughter would be graduating the following year and leaving home also. Yvonne decided to put her house up for sale and moved to Lewiston where quite a few of her children were now living. Some of her children introduced her to the game of Beano - this has become a great pastime for her.

At the age of 79, she had a terrible accident. She fell down a flight of stairs and ended up with a broken pelvis, a broken rib, and many cuts and bruises. Her doctor was very surprised when she mended faster than a 20 year old. Every year, Yvonne makes sure she keeps some of her precious memories alive by visiting her friends, her home, and her land.

Today mom, we are celebrating your 80th birthday, and we have already started making plans to celebrate your 100th. God willing the rest of us will be around to join in the celebration too. Thank you mom for giving us such a good life. I for one would not change anything if I had it to live over. God was good to us when He chose you for our mother.

50th Wedding Anniversary

**Reginald & Claudette Ouellette Hebert
Married at the St. Joseph Church -
Sinclair, April 4, 1959**



Parents of Paul, Alan, Joyce and Claude



Wooden Table & Quilt Rack (58" - 122")

Donated by Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois

July 22, 2012



St. Agatha Plans for the World Acadian Congress 2014

By *RICHARD LYNESS*

Assistant coordinator, Maine, World Acadian Congress 2014

The northern Aroostook County crossroads community of St. Agatha, at the head of Long Lake, will play host to six Acadian family reunions during the World Acadian Congress in August 2014.

The celebration of Acadian history and culture, held every five years, will take place Aug. 8 through Aug. 24, 2014, across the international territory comprising communities in northwest New Brunswick, northern Maine and the Témiscouata region of Quebec Province.

Long Lake in northern Maine's St. John Valley is a 12-mile recreational magnet for St. John Valley residents and visitors alike, year-round. St. Agatha, on its northern end, was incorporated as a town in 1899. Long Lake is the northernmost and deepest of the Fish River Chain of Lakes. An Ice Fishing Derby is held on the lake in January, and in 2014 the St. Agatha Summer Fest will include a lighted boat regatta.

The St. Agatha Celebration during the World Acadian Congress will be held Aug. 10, 2014. The celebration will include the Summer Fest. The town, along with the St. Agatha Volunteer Fire Department, will host a chicken barbecue in the afternoon. That evening, there will be a lighted boat parade on Long Lake, followed by a fireworks display.

The 2014 World Acadian Congress will bring together people of Acadian descent, their family members and friends, to the international territory. Many of the territory's communities were founded by Acadian settlers less than a half century following the Grand Dérangement of 1755.

As part of the St. Agatha Celebration, a St. John Valley ATV Ride will be held. The all-terrain-vehicle clubs from St. Agatha, Sinclair, Frenchville, Madawaska, New Canada, Wallagrass and Van Buren are hosting the ride. The poker ride will raise money to publish an ATV trail map for the St. John Valley. The poker ride will leave the Lakeview Restaurant and Campground in St. Agatha and circle the St. John Valley, returning to Long Lake's Cyr Cove in time for the lighted boat parade and fireworks display.

In 1755, British troops forced Acadian farm and fishing families from their villages in the French colony of Acadie, the villages of which were mostly in present-day Nova Scotia. Great Britain and France were fighting for domination of North America's lucrative fur trade and access to the continent's other natural resources. Most Acadian settlers were deported by ship; other refugees escaped deportation in small boats or on foot. Some refugees crossed the Baye Française (Bay of Fundy) to Saint-Jean (St. John, New Brunswick) and ascended the St. John River to Pointe Sainte-Anne-des-Pays-Bas, in present-day Fredericton, New Brunswick. In 1779, British forces burned the Acadian church at Pointe Sainte-Anne, thus forcing the Acadians further up the St. John River, to its confluence with the Madawaska River in northwest New Brunswick (Edmundston, New Brunswick). The Madawaska River is part of the portage from Rivière-du-Loup, Quebec, on the St. Lawrence River, to the St. John River, by way of Lac Témiscouata.



Courtesy of the Maurice Tardif Family

Annual Newsletters 2012

In 1785, the Acadians landed at St. David, on the southern (Maine) side of the river. In 1792, the Paroisse de Saint-Basile, "Le Berceau de Madawaska," was founded on the river's north shore.

During the World Acadian Congress, St. Agatha, known to St. John Valley residents as Sainte-Agathe, will host the reunions of the Ayotte, Guerette, Michaud, Morneault, Picard and Talbot-Gervais families. Reunion plans are progressing, and volunteers wishing to contribute to the success of their family's reunion should contact the office of the World Acadian Congress 2014's Maine coordinator (207-316-1148).

Menon Ouellette, one of St. Agatha's first settlers, arrived from Quebec on the Reginald Tardiff farm in 1847 to cut lumber. The Maine-New Brunswick border had been settled only five years earlier, in 1842, with the signing of the Webster-Ashburton Treaty by representatives of Great Britain and the United States. The treaty fixed the border between Maine and New Brunswick.

By 1865, there were 30 families living on the northern end of Lac à Menon, as Long Lake was known. In 1889, the parish of Sainte-Agathe was founded by James A. Healy, the Catholic bishop of Portland, Maine, 10 years before the town's incorporation. The first road built in St. Agatha connected the town with Dickeyville (Frenchville).

Les Filles de la Sagesse, a French order of women religious, arrived in St. Agatha in October 1904. The main convent building, 100 feet long and four stories above the basement, was nearly complete by the end of 1904. In addition to being a convent, the building functioned as a day school, boarding school and hospital. An addition containing a music room, auditorium, elementary-school grades and a new chapel, was built in 1912. In 1940, a new convent was constructed, which later became Montfort Heights apartments. The earlier convent served as St. Agatha High School until the building was demolished in 1968 to build the Wisdom High School.

Long Lake is the 6,000-acre magnet that draws tourists and St. John Valley residents alike up mountain roads and across potato fields, to swim, golf, fish and eat. St. Agatha is the hub of a wheel whose spokes include Frenchville, Madawaska, St. David, Grand Isle, Sinclair, Guerette/ Cross Lake, and Fort Kent in Maine's St. John Valley. World Acadian Congress visitors, properly directed, will follow "Long Lake" signs to St. Agatha, the little jewel on the lake, to partake in the 2014 St. Agatha Celebration, which will be held on and alongside the lake. From St. Agatha, serious canoe and kayak enthusiasts can paddle the entire Fish River Chain of Lakes, a seven-lake waterway that traverses about 40 miles of pristine nature and scenery. From the north, the chain includes Long, Mud, Cross, Square, Eagle, St. Froid and Portage lakes. Long Lake, at up to 163 feet deep, is the deepest of the Fish River lakes.

The Société Historique de Ste-Agathe is helping plan the 2014 St. Agatha Celebration. The 2014 World Acadian Congress will include 16 days of festivities celebrating the history and culture of Acadians from across the world. The event will include three pillar events: an opening ceremony and concert in Edmundston, New Brunswick, on Aug. 8; a celebration Aug. 15, the feast day of Our Lady of the Assumption, in St. David, Maine, at the Acadian landing site, which will include a Catholic Mass, a traditional Tintamarre parade nearby in Madawaska, and an evening concert at the landing with Louisiana Cajun singer Zachary Richard; and the closing ceremonies, which will be held on the shore of Lake Témiscouata in Quebec Province. The closing ceremony will include musicians and other artists in performance that will highlight and celebrate Acadie of the world, including the contribution of Acadians to Quebec.

Roch Voisine, who grew up in Saint-Basile, New Brunswick, and Notre-Dame-du-Lac, Quebec, is the 2014 World Acadian Congress spokesman. The singer-songwriter will perform on Aug. 8 as part of the opening ceremony in Edmundston, and may perform at the Aug. 15 concert featuring Zachary Richard, in St. David, Maine. International recording artist Natasha St-Pier, who also has northwest and northern New Brunswick ties, may perform, as well. Le Cirque Éloize, founded by Acadian artists of the Magdalen Islands of Quebec, is slated to perform Aug. 24 at Témiscouata-sur-le-Lac (Cabano) as part of the closing ceremonies.

In addition, the 2014 World Acadian Congress will include the reunions of 120 families who will unite to celebrate Acadian history and culture, and family histories. The reunions, of Acadian and non-Acadian families, will be held across the three regions comprising the territory of Acadia: Lands and Forests. Activities held in communities across the three regions will

celebrate Acadian heritage and traditions, including Acadian and local food, music and art. The congress will promote business and industry in the two-nation international territory. An educational component will include symposiums held at various institutions of higher learning, including the University of Maine-Fort Kent, the Université de Moncton-Edmundston Campus, and the University de Québec à Rimouski.

Besides the major concerts being held on Aug. 8, Aug. 15 and Aug. 24, concerts will be held on Saturdays during the Congress. In addition, smaller, more intimate acoustical music performances, "petits spectacles," will be held at various venues in all three regions. The World Acadian Congress will announce the schedule of programming in early summer 2013, and program organizers are envisioning concert venues in Madawaska, Fort Kent and Lille. World Acadian Congress events will be incorporated as part of the Festival Western in Saint-Quentin, New Brunswick.

Seniors, youth and women's conferences are scheduled during the Congress. The youth conference will be held at Pohé-négamook, Quebec. In addition, the Congress will highlight various entities and groups on designated theme days during the Congress, including New Brunswick, Québec, Maine, France, Louisiana-Cajun, Atlantic Acadia, scouts and guides, and kids.

Activities are being planned in every municipality in the three regions throughout the duration of the 2014 World Acadian Congress.



Thank you to the Trail Guides and Volunteers

Thank you to the Trail Guides and Volunteers who worked at the Ste-Agathe Historical Site for Summer of 2012



*Doris Staples, Florine Michaud, Trail Guide Sylvia Belanger, Trail Guide Donna Boucher, Doreen Daigle and Dr. Paul Buck.
Pis toujours - La femme Acadienne*

Not in photo: Julie Cyr and National Park Service Youth Guide Holly Dionne

Acquisitions from January 1 - December 1, 2012

Lester Michaud	2 Saint Andrew Bible Missal, Saint Joseph Daily Missal, Paroissien Romain
Ross & Judy Ayotte Paradis	Embroidery of The Last Supper
Sandy Chamberland Adcock	Collection of Sheaffer & Others - Fountain Pens
Roger Bosse	Reel to Reel Projector
Gaetan & Therese Chasse Rossignol	Crible - Screening Machine
Camille Morin	Neck Ties & Missals
Therese Chasse Albert	Chair Cushions
Philip Morin	Electric Mixer, Book Stand, Measuring Cups, Wooden Hammer, Pamphlets, Wooden Clothes Pins, Plant, Plant Holders, Adze, Children's Book's, Metal Lunch Box, Metal Cups, Wooden John Collins Case
Gerard Morin	Collection of Books on Textiles, Polaroid Camera
Shirley Morin Chasse	2005, 2006, 2007 Paper Talks
Stan Albert	Loom, Nativity Scene, Twinning Frame, Sled, Mug, Bowls, Wash Basin, Basket, Elite Pin Cushion, Ice Pick, Potato Barrel Hoist, Lamp Holder, Bureau Cover, Wooden Butter Paddles, Silverware, Typewriter, Fish Spear, Dehumidifier, Anchor, Miniature Native American Village, Cow Bells, Hoof Knife
Roberta Daigle Guerrette	High School Religion Book
Reminisce, Phyllis Levesque	Religious Items, The Last Supper, Toaster
John Picard	Dinner Plate
Bernadette Sinclair Thibeault	Book - Pratical Zoology, Patrick Theriault School Ledger, Pictures, Newspaper Articles
Julie Cyr	History of Frenchville by Hal & Emma Martin Hill
Gerard & Diane Castonguay	Selected Barber Tools
Arlene Voisine	Rosaries
Bill & Helen Melvin	Spinning Wheel
Walter Fournier Estate	Photographs, Military Clothing, Blazer, Fireman Suit, Religious Items, History, History Notes
Gordon Soucy	Barber Paper Roll
Lise Sirois	Imperial Carnival Glass Directory, Spinning Wheel
Sylvia Caron Belanger	Knitted Blanket, material to Make Aprons
Estate of Dorothy Marquis	Meat Grinder, Handle, Spatula, Salt-Pepper Shaker Set
Mason & Wyatt Sirois	Laundry Wood Stove
Keith & Bern Lord	Dividoir
Francoise & Carole Plourde	Rosette Quilt
Metal Lawn Chairs	Justin Guerrette
Tammy Sirois	Tote & Basket Weaving Supplies

Sybil & Carroll Deschaine	Parts for Spinnig Wheel or Yarn Winder
Charles & Etta Closser	Antique Clocks, 2 Sets of Antique Chairs, Lamp, Spinning Wheel, Tables, Pictures, Frames, Phonograph, Collection of Records
Kim McGlinn	Statuer & Religious Picture Frames
Regina Guerrette Anderson	Collection of Family Photos
Jeanne Gagnon Chamberland	Chez-Nous: St. John Valley by Guy Dubay
Claudette Boucher	Printer, nativity Set, Christmas Village, Santa Claus
Florine Morin michaud	Wooden Bench
Berce Farms	Bag of Buckwheat Hulls
Mary Ann Chamberlain	Rene Lizotte's Barber Tolls
Karen Bosse Chasse	Barrel Pump
Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois	Wooden Table, Quilt Rack
Bernard & Judy Michaud	Mother Goose Shoe Box, pamphlet, Tools, Harnesses
Mary Michaud	Fire Dept. Photo Albums, S.A.H.S. Yearbooks
Lewis & Rinette Michaud	Acadian Apron, Book - Courtepointe
Candide Desrosiers	Crocheted Collars, Caollages
Purchases by the Society	Blanket Rack, Collection of Game Boards, Yearbooks, Four Days-Kennedy, Children's Book, Bible, Wooden Box & Potato barrel Tickets
Bernie Roy	Promotion Cards, American & German Military Items, Roy Family Reunion Cap, Gold star Mother Flag
Jean Chamberlain	Map of Madawaska (c1890's), Starch Factory Fondation Plan
John Charles Michaud	1940's Newspaper Clippings
John & Francine lagasse	91st Legislature Photo, A.S.N.S Class of 1935 Photo
Roger Plourde	Collection of Rosairie, Religious Items, Household Items, Baby Clothing, Magazines, Various Items of Cloting, Wall Plaque, Souvenirs, Books, Decorations, Lumbermen Folk Art, Electric Frying Pan, Crutches
Muriel Castonguay Guerrette	Collection of Odituary Cards, Newspaper Clippings
Gloria Gervais	Talbot dit Gervais Genealogy Books
Donald & Rache Daigle	Religious Books, Household Items, Souvenirs, Kennedy, Poster, Kimono, Japanese Chime, Military Uniform
Roger Gendreau	Two Gendreau Genealogy Books
Nellie Frenette	Apron
Charlene Cyr Coulombe	Painting of Jeanne & Henry Cyr
John & Sylvia Bouchard	Vietman Wall Album
Gedeon & Aline Corriveau	Book of Illustrated Science, THE LITTLE & IVRES, Dictionary
UMFK Archives	Miniature S.S. Normandie build by Harry Brown

STE-AGATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

November 14, 2011 - November 30, 2012

In memory of Mrs. Therese Bosse Cyr, by Joseph & Ida Pelletier Morin Family

In Memory of Mr. Roger Lizotte, by Ken & Arlene Lerman

In Memory of Mrs. Blanche Guerrette, by Clifford & Therese Guerrette, Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois

In Memory of Mr. Cyril Beaulieu, by Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois

In Memory of Mrs. Gladys Bouchard, by Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois

In Memory of Mr. Alphonse & Mrs. Rose Gagnon Charette, by Philip Morin, Stan Albert

In Memory of Mr. Richard (Dick) Derosier, by Donna Levesque, Terry Ouellette, Pat Bourgoin, James & Pat Morin, Jeanne Chamberland, Marie Bosse & Jerry Coulter,

In Memory of Mrs. Emilia Dufour, by Bob & Pat Bourgoin, Ken & Arlene Lerman

In Memory of Mr. Richard Gagnon, by Bob & Pat Bourgoin

In Memory of Mr. Camille Ouellette, by Terry M. Ouellette, James & Pat Morin, Patricia J. Morin

In Memory of Mrs. Robertine Morneault Hewitt, by Roberta Guerrette, Patricia J. Morin, Jackie Daigle

In Memory of Ms. Dorothy "Dot" Marquis, by Philip Morin, Ken & Arlene Lerman, Tom & Jackie Chasse, Leo Goulette, Bob & Pat Bourgoin

In Memory of Mr. Gerard Plourde, by Gerard R. Morin, Philip Morin, Stan Albert, Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois, Terry M. Ouellette, Lise Sirois, Donna & Gary Boucher, Florine M. Michaud, Francis & Claudia Morin, Patricia J. Morin, James & Patricia Morin, Bob & Pat Bourgoin, Camille Morin

In Memory of Mr. Joseph Gervais, by Gerald & Rose Marie Dubois

In Memory of Mrs. Evelyn "Evy" Lerman Freed, by Lise Sirois

In Memory of Mrs. Anita Chasse, by James & Patricia Morin

In Memory of Mrs. Geralda Plourde, by Pat & Bob Bourgoin

In Memory of Mr. Andre Ouellette, by Terry M. Ouellette, Jackie & Lionel Daigle

In Memory of Mr. Joel Cannon, by Francis & Claudia Morin

*In Memory of **Mr. Norman C. & Mrs. Estelle H. Albert**, by Stan Albert*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Louise Chamberland Cyr**, by Lise Sirois, Terry M. Ouellette, Maynard & Claudette Martin, Philip Morin, Tom & Jackie Chasse, Clifford & Theresa Guerrette, Harold Chamberland, Lorraine Zimmerman, Ken & Arlene Lerman, Florine Michaud Gervais*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Anna Gervais**, by Terry M. Ouellette, Don & Rachel Daigle, James & Patricia Morin*

*In Memory of **Mr. Alan Albert**, Lorraine Zimmerman, Stan Albert*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Alvine Bosse Sinclair**, by Philip Morin, Stan Albert, Lise Sirois, Bob & Pat Bourgoin, Terry Ouellette*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Normande Cote Morin**, by Reginald Cote*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Leonie Marin Lagasse**, by Philip Morin, Stan Albert, Alan & Denyse Michaud, Don & Rachel Daigle, Richard & Lorraine Mullins, Roberta Guerrette, Darryl & Mary Jane Marin Lyon, Paul & Avril Marin, Ronald & Sylvia Belanger, Ken & Arlene Lerman, Cheryl Dionne, Gloria Gervais, Florence Mullins, Mike Daigle, Lise Sirois,*

*In Memory of **Mr. Philippe & Mrs. Edith Chasse Morin**, by Philip Morin*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Susan Nadeau**, by Jackie Daigle*

*In Memory of **Mrs. Gisele Martin Boucher**, by Terry M. Ouellette*

*In Memory of **Mr. Bernie "Boo" Roy**, by Terry M. Ouellette*

*In Memory of **Mr. Maurice Pelletier**, by Bob & Pat Bourgoin*



What is the Tintamarre?

Tintamarre is an Acadian tradition of marching through one's community marking noise-whit improvised instruments and other noisemakers, usually in celebration of National Acadian day - August 15th. The term originates from acadian French work meaning "clangour" or "din". The practice is intended to demonstrate the vitality and solidarity of Acadian society, and to remind others of the presence of Acadians. The participants in the weekly "Textile Thursdays" prepared des grosses têtes for the August 15 Tintamarre Parade held in Edmundston and madawaska. A visiting Connecticut couple, Bob and Gloria Sirois, and Jacques Blais from St. Agatha transported the "Gros poisson" and "La belle madame" during the event.

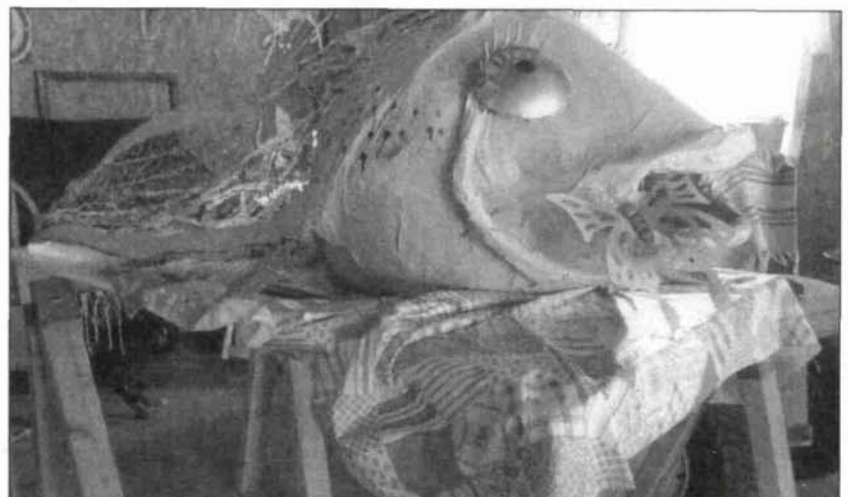


Attending the Tintamarre Workshops in St. Agatha on August 2 and 9, 2012

L-R: Sally Gagnon, Jakie Daigle, Bernadette Thibeault, Project Coordinator Lise Sirois, Geraldine "Nune" Michaud, Gloria Sirois, Jeannine Daigle and Jackie Rossignol.



La belle madame



Gros poisson

Behind the scene for the 34th Annual Breakfast



Stan Albert, Gloria Gervais, Sylvia Belanger, Claudia Morin, Philip Morin, Alfreda Chamberland, Harold Chamberd and Donna Boucher



At the coffee table: Richard Rossignol, Florine Michaud and Ben Michaud

Annual Newsletters 2012

KEEPSAKES

The following items can be ordered from the Ste-Agathe Historical Society:

Voici the Valley Culture way - CD & Booklet.....	\$15.00
*Evangeline, The Novel by Richard F. Mullins.....	\$14.95 (Paperback).....\$24.95 (Hardcover)
Land In Between by Beatrice Craig.....	\$30.00
Destination Madawaska by J.R.T. Theriault.....	\$19.95
Fusion of the Acadian and Canadian Races In Madawaska-English Translation by J. Blesso.....	\$ 5.00
Les Filles de la Sagesse Ste-Agathe, Maine 1904 - 2004.....	\$30.00
Les Belles Histoire du Couvent de Ste-Agathe.....	\$25.00
Le Centenaire de St. Agatha Maine.....	\$25.00
History of Ste. Agathe Parish 1889 - 1989.....	\$10.00
Ste-Agathe Cemetery Records 1889 - 1989.....	\$10.00
Ste-Agathe Cemetery Records Part II 1990 - 2006.....	\$10.00
Marriages of Ste-Agathe 1889 - 1989.....	\$10.00
St. John Valley Souvenir Postcard Book.....	\$12.00
Acadian Flags (3' x 5').....	\$29.95
Heritage Sites of the St. John Valley by Louise M. Martin.....	\$ 5.00
Year 2013 Calendars.....	\$10.00

*New Items

To place an order by mail, circle each item that you would like, specifying how many. Please include \$4.95 for the first item and \$1.00 for each additional item to cover mailing costs, and mail to:

The Ste-Agathe Historical Society
PO Box 237
St. Agatha, Maine 04772

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Dear Friends of the Ste-Agathe Historical Society,

The summer of 2012 had many visitors come through the doors of the Preservation Center and the Pelletier/Marquis House. Two youth groups, the St. Agatha Rec. Dept. and the Wallagrass Rec. Dept., visited the center during the month of July. The youngsters had the opportunity to learn about buckwheat and how it is used to make "ploys." Nick Berce was on hand to explain the process and "ploys" were served to the visitors by Youth Guide Holly Dionne.

Two directors left the board this past year - we thank Anne Chamberland and Vincent Morneault for having served on the board and generously donated their time and dedication in keeping with the goals of the Ste-Agathe Historical Society. In September the board welcomed Diane Castonguay and in January Gary Boucher became the newest board member.



*Front: Carole Plourde, Jackie Michaud, Diane Castonguay,
Back: Harold Chamberland, Judy Chamberland, Philip Morin, Alan
Michaud, Gloria Gervais and Terry Ouellette.*

The collection of artifacts keeps growing since this year we have received most valuable and precious donations as you can see from the acquisition list. Each donated item is cataloged into the system and we have now reached over 600 individual donors.

As mentioned earlier, Holly Dionne, was on hand to welcome visitors and help at the historical site. She and three other youth guides, Samantha Michaud, Sara Gendreau and Carissa Pelletier, were part of a National Park Service and Maine Acadian Heritage Council grant, who worked at the museums throughout the St. John Valley to help prepare each site to host the large number of visitors anticipated during the 2014 World Acadian Congress.

The Maine Acadian Heritage Council Preservation Grant (matching funds) awarded to the Ste-Agathe Historical Society was used to solve the water drainage problem at the historical site. Bert Albert and his son, Marc, headed the project and all of the work was completed before the Center opened on Father's Day.

Textile Thursdays, under the direction of artisan Lise Sirois, were a special attraction to many who participated. Those involved were at the ready making plans for the 2013 Textile Thursdays. We have just seen the beginning of "les grosse têtes" for the Acadian Day Parade.

We look forward to our next season at the Center and we hope you will be able to come and spend some time with us.

Sincerely,

Terry Ouellette

Terry Ouellette, President

—  —

New Lifetime Members

*Norma Plourde
Murielle Deschaine*

*Bertha Morin
Gerard & Diane Belanger Castonguay
Alan & Denyse Lavoie Michaud*



Ste-Agathe Historical Society
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