

Annual Newsletter 2021

Ste-Agathe Historical Society



In early October Chairman of the cedar shingle mill shelter project, Gary Boucher, and other volunteers had completed the structure that proudly sits next to the Longfellow School House on the society's historical site at 534 Main Street in St. Agatha. A group of volunteers met once a week and constructed this handsome building to house the cedar shingle mill and other lumber related artifacts. Volunteers included Gary Boucher, Harold Chamberland, Jean Chamberland, Gaylen Thibeault, Stan Albert, Dana Michaud, Roland Guerrette, Roger Gervais and Mike Daigle logging a total of 563 volunteer hours. On October 15th, Gary, Harold, and Dana built and installed the sliding doors. Dana's grandson, Brently, was on hand to admire the process. *Not seen in photo is the refreshment committee for that Saturday, Donna Boucher and Claire Michaud.*

Ste-Agathe Historical Society
Incorporated March 23, 1978
P.O. Box 237, 534 Main Street, St. Agatha, ME 04772

Preservation Center Open: Last week in June to Labor Day weekend 1 to 4 p.m. Daily, Tues. ~ Sun.

Email: stagh77@gmail

Website: www.steagathehistoricalsociety.com

Visit us on Facebook

Registered Visitors 2021: 448

Board of Directors

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Terry Ouellette	Gloria Gervais	Diane Castonguay	Philip Morin
<hr/>			
<u>Directors</u>			
Harold Chamberland Jackie Michaud Carole Plourde	Judy Chamberland Gary Boucher	Gaylen Thibeault Roger Gervais Jean Paul Chamberland	
<hr/>			
<u>Trail Guides</u>			
Donna Boucher Doreen Daigle Jack Michaud	Owen Sirois Doris Staples Joyce Plourde	Stan Albert Dr. Paul Buck Roberta Guerrette	

Article for Ste. Agathe Historical Society Newsletter

September 26, 2021

Philius Charles Chassé

By Cecile Bossé Dechaine, his Great-Granddaughter

Philius Charles Chassé was born on Sunday, September 14, 1845, in Frenchville, Maine. He was the son of Jean Germain and Rebecca Ouellet Chassé. He was their tenth child, and he was baptized on his "birth day" by Rev. Henri Dionne who officiated the ceremony. (Rev. Dionne was the first pastor of St. Luce Church in Frenchville from 1843-1860.) Philius' godparents were Simeon Pelletier and Marie Chassé. At the time of his birth, his father, Germain (the name he favored), was 45 years old and his mother, Rebecca, was 34 years old.

My great-great-grandparents, Jean Germain and Rebecca Chassé, were early pioneers who crossed the St. John River expecting to improve their prospects of a better life for themselves and their growing family. Only eight years after the signing of the treaty marking the St. John River as the border, my ancestors were recorded on the 1850 U.S. Census report in June of that year, officially living on American soil. They were inhabitants of Madawaska Plantation in Aroostook County, Maine. The farm was located on Pleine Road area, one mile from Long Lake and running parallel to Route 162. Germain was listed as a farmer, and he had real estate property estimated at \$800.

According to the U.S. Census report, Germain (age 53) and his wife, Rebecca, had eleven children, ages six months to sixteen years: Marie-Eve, Suzanne, Methilde, Henry, Germain, Alexandre, Angelique, Domithilde, Philius, Hilaire, and Olivier. Philius was just a young boy of 4 years of age. A few years later, more siblings joined the family: Romain, Zephirin and Rebecca (a baby, Helene, died in 1832).

While researching my great-grandfather, Philius, I discovered that his name was spelled in a variety of ways: *Phileas*, *Philiase*, *Phil*, *Filiasse*, *Filius*, *Felix*, *Felian* and *Phillous*. Some of the Census takers were not French, so I also encountered varied spellings of *Chassé* along the way, including "*Shashe*."

My great-grandfather lived in the village that was incorporated officially as the town of St. Agatha. As an early settler, Philius witnessed the early beginnings of working the rich land and planting and growing food for himself and his family. By 1900, St. Agatha's population recorded in the U.S. Census was approximately 1,400 inhabitants.

Philius grew up on his father's farm and did what was expected of him, never pursuing anything else. Farming was the only life he knew, and he was focused and hardworking. He learned important skills from his father in how to successfully operate a farm. He also learned important values from his parents, who were religious people that devoted their energy and love towards raising their family.

During Philius' lifetime in northern Maine, most men who lived on the family farm planned their future as their fathers had done before them – either by inheriting the farm, working for other farmers, or saving enough money to ultimately get their own farm. Farming was all they knew, and it was very demanding, arduous work. Typically, a full day's work was more than twelve hours of labor for very little pay. Since many of the children and young adults had to help their parents support the family, many of them stopped attending school, so they could earn money that was then added to the family's income. Many children not only lacked an education, but they also received little medical attention. Doctors were not always available for sickly family members, so the health of these farming families was very grim.

On July 28, 1868, Philius purchased land from Honoré Chassé for \$150, which included a parcel of land situated northeast of Long Lake with the southern portion of the lot measuring 30 rods.

Philius made this purchase just months before his marriage to Marguerite Pelletier, whose family lived in the same Dickeyville neighborhood. Marguerite was the daughter of William Pelletier and Julie Dominique.

Philius Charles Chassé and Marguerite Pelletier were married on Monday, January 11, 1869, in St. Luce Church, Frenchville, Maine. Rev. Charles Sweron officiated their wedding. Philius was 24 years old, and Marguerite was 19 years old. The bride's father, William Pelletier, and the groom's brother, Alexandre Chassé, served as the couple's witnesses.

The 1870 U. S. Census recorded Marguerite's parents, William and Julie (Dominique) Pelletier, as living in Dickeyville, Maine. The Pelletier family was in Dwelling Number 194 and the Chassé family was in Dwelling Number 187.

Philius and Marguerite eventually settled on a property located in St. Agatha beside Long Lake. The exact location of their farm was known as, "Terre a La Pointe." The farm was located on Cleveland Road, approximately 2-1/2 miles from the village of St. Agatha, Maine. Back in the late 1800's, Philius' house was situated on the same spot as today's Cleveland Road and closer to Long Lake.

Philius received bad news in July of 1876, when he was served a "notice of foreclose" on his farm and property. He, along with 142 other settlers, faced eviction because of the bankruptcy of the European and North American Railroad. The Play, "With Justice for All," written by Guy Dubay in 1976 during the United States' 200th celebration, depicted my other great-grandfather, Cyprien Bossé, as a hero who fought for the land he loved so much. Cyprien was an enterprising businessman, who was also well spoken.

The farmers' legal team won their case when they convinced the court that Cyprien, along with the farmers in the Valley, were on public lots in Township 18, Range 5, namely in Madawaska by virtue of the Settlement Act of 1859. They were already established on the land prior to 1868, the year when the State granted the remaining public lots of 1,000,000 acres to the Railway Company. The settlers, with legal help from Mr. James Keegan, proved they had followed the law and were allowed to keep their land.

Philius was a hardworking and docile man, a farmer who was totally self-reliant and planted mainly potatoes, buckwheat, barley, wheat, and oats. He did not have the advantages of modern machinery, and all the field work was done by hand with a team of horses. Marguerite and Philius also planted a huge garden of fresh vegetables, much of which were preserved for the winter months. There was a grist mill not far from the farm where Philius brought the grain for grinding into flour for baking. He raised pigs, cows, sheep, and chickens. He was a prosperous man with several talents, especially in wood working and making furniture out of reusable wood.

Marguerite also worked diligently on the farm, performing many chores that were essential to raising a growing family. She completed several tasks including: cleaning, sewing, baking, gardening, soap making, butter churning, and clothes mending and laundering. She also probably had a spinning wheel (since they had sheep) and she would have completed all of the work related to that endeavor — shearing the wool from their sheep and carding/combing the wool. (I remember my father, Lawrence Bosse, telling me the sheep were taken to a Pus Blé field for grazing during the summer months.)

In addition to the chores mentioned above, there was also plenty of food preparation that had to be completed daily including: meal planning, washing and cooking vegetables, bread making, canning, and much more. Imagine cooking for a family of 17 people or more!

¹ "The State of Maine, in 1868, had deeded a million acres of land, which included the St. John Valley, to the European and North American Railroad. The French American farmers were at the mercy of lawyers and businessmen who accused Valley settlers of squatting. The dispute ended in the State's Supreme Court where these citizens' rights to their property was resolved."

After breakfast around 6 a.m., the men left the house to complete tasks necessary to run the farm. In the summer months, during the planting and harvesting seasons, they worked until 9 p.m. at night. There were many chores involved in farming, chores that had to be done every day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In the 1880's, farmers never thought about vacation, instead they focused on their diligent work ethic, which was essential for their farm's survival.

Young children also helped out on the farm by collecting eggs in the chicken coop, milking the cows, and helping the women. They could not go to school unless all of their chores were finished. Children also tilled the land, so their fathers were free to do heavier work. Education during that era was not a valued commodity. Young children matured early because of poverty and hard manual labor.

Between the years of 1871 and 1894, fifteen children were born to Philias and Marguerite: Elise, Edith, Fortunat, Flavie, Clara, Henri P., Simeon, Helene, Modeste, Willie, Eveline, and Adeline. Three died in infancy: Andre, Joseph Octave, and Joseph. All of their children were born on the Chassé farm, located in St. Agatha, Maine.

They raised their children to understand the importance of responsibility and taught them by example. Their children learned to be churchgoing, family-oriented caregivers of their neighborhood and community. Philias and Marguerite attended church every Sunday, paid their taxes, planted huge gardens growing their own food, raised their own animals, and worked diligently to be self-sufficient.

Marguerite became ill and passed away on January 3, 1916, one month before celebrating her 66th birthday. Deline, her youngest daughter, dedicated herself to her mother's care and comfort in the day's leading up to her death. Marguerite was buried in the St. Agatha Cemetery next to the church.

After transferring the farm over to his newly married daughter, Deline, Philias continued to love and support the family. He died six years after his wife on March 1, 1922, at the age of 76, in St. Agatha, Maine. He was buried in Saint Agatha Lower Cemetery.

Background

Our Chassé ancestors, who arrived in "New France" (Canada) explored new frontiers and blazed new trails in Quebec. These pioneers brought with them their French traditions and strong ambition for a better life. They were strong-spirited and not afraid of hard work, with a deep conviction in their faith. These families were determined to "make it" and they did! They brought with them a heritage that was rich in song, food, and customs, and they left us with a legacy of spirit that still lives on today.

The French Chassé pioneers who finally settled in Madawaska Plantation, Frenchville and along the shores of Long Lake (at that time known as "Lac A Menon") were prolific people, producing many offspring, harvesting the fertile virgin land resulting in abundant produce and food for their families. Just trying to survive the harsh long winters was a task in and of itself. Most of these settlers spoke French and many of the men were laborers, farmers, loggers for the sawmill industry, or tradesmen.

Throughout my research of my great-grandfather, Philias Chassé, I discovered it was difficult to find anyone who remembered him. When I asked my older relatives some questions like, "Is there anything you can tell me about our ancestor, Philias Chassé? Is there a photo of Philias? Are there any relatives or friends who know about his family?" Their replies went something like this, "Most of the older Chassé relatives who could have told you their family stories a few years ago have already gone to heaven."

I realized early on that researching my great-grandfather was not going to be an easy task. I explored "Ancestry" websites and located cemetery records, birth records, U.S. Census reports, and church records. The most exciting discovery I made during my research was finding out about his father, Jean Germain Chassé. On Ancestry.com, I found a family tree that had added the 1850 U.S. Census Report, and I was shocked to discover Germain Chassé's name was "Jeremiah Lauser" on the Census.

I also discovered that in the fall of 1889, a parish was formed at “Lac A Menon” and its first Pastor was Reverend Ernest Etenaud (assigned 1889 to 1899). “St. Agatha” was the name he chose for the town’s name, and it was formerly incorporated on March 17, 1899. From 1899, Philiass’ property and neighborhood location was documented as being in St. Agatha, in the Aroostook County, State of Maine. Philiass Chassé was among those recorded on the Tax Assessors List and Valuation Book for the year 1899 when Ste. Agathe was incorporated.

While compiling information about Philiass’ life, my main resources were formal church records and histories written about Frenchville and St. Agatha. It was interesting to learn about the land properties in the St. Agatha area because the town underwent so many name changes over the years. In fact, all of the documents referring to Jean Germain Chassé’s property location were recorded as being in Madawaska Plantation, Dionne Plantation, Dickeyville, Township 18, Range 5, Frenchville, and St. Agatha. This was really confusing. After 1899, when the town of Saint Agatha was organized on March 17, 1899, it became simpler for genealogists to understand property locations.

Philiass and Marguerite Chassé left twelve children who lived to adulthood, who in turn had 104 children. The Chasse legacy continues to this day, and it was so much fun learning about my great-grandfather and his family.

I welcome any stories and/or memories that anyone wants to share about Philiass and Marguerite (Pelletier) Chassé and family. You can contact me through my e-mail ceilann4136@gmail.com. Thank you!



When Cecile Bosse Dechaine visited the Ste-Agathe Historical Society’s Preservation Center in June of 2021, she was pleased to get Stan Albert’s help in finding information on her great grandfather, Philiass Chasse. The 1900 U.S. Census recorded St. Agatha’s population to be approximately 1,400 inhabitants. Among those inhabitants were Philiass Chasse parents, Germain and Rebecca Chasse, and their 11 children. Four more children were born after the 1990 Census.

THE LIFELINE HISTORICAL FACTS OF PHILIAS CHARLES CHASSÉ

Date	Residence
6/1850	1850 U.S. Census Madawaska Plantation, Aroostook, Maine Jean Germain and Rebecca (Ouellet) Chassé are settled on their land.
7/13/1860	1860 U.S. Census Dionne Plantation, Township 18, Range 5, Aroostook, Maine Philius is age 15. His neighbors are his Uncle Henry (Honoré) age 60, his wife, Marie LeClerc, age 23, and their children: Alexander, Romain, Henry, and Olivier.
7/28/1868	Dionne Plantation Philius pays Honoré Chassé \$150 for the parcel of land situated northeast of Long Lake with the southern part of the lot measuring 30 rods, and the easterly section by the cleave land near the lake.
9/22/1870	1870 U.S. Census Dickeyville, Maine Philius Charles Chassé and Marguerite Pelletier are married by Rev. Charles Sweron on January 11, 1869.
10/25/1875	Township 18, Range 5, Frenchville, Maine Philius, Marguerite, and family reside on Cleveland Road, St. Agatha, Maine.
6/14/1880	1880 U.S. Census Township 18, Range 5, District 200 in Frenchville, Maine. Philius 34, his wife, Marguerite 30. Neighbors: Augustus Chassé, Tellasfore Chassé and Letuce Chassé.
Fall 1889	St. Agatha Parish Reverend Ernest Etenaud, its first Pastor assigned 1889 to 1899.
3/17/1899	St. Agatha, Maine. Town of St. Agatha is incorporated. Rev. Henry Gory serves as pastor from 1899 to 1910.
6/12/1900	1900 U.S. Census St. Agatha, Maine, Cleveland Road Philius, age 54 and Marguerite, age 50. Neighbors: Olivier & Genevieve Chassé, Augustus Chassé, Pascal Lizotte, Telephone Chassé, Letuce Chassé.
3/1910	St. Agatha, Maine Rev. Raoule Bourbeau serves as pastor, St. Agatha parish from 1910 to 1919
1910	1910 U.S. Census St. Agatha, Maine, Cleveland Road Philius, age 64, Marguerite, age 60. Children: Henri, Willie and Deline. Neighbors: Olivier Chassé, Vital Cyr; Telesphore Chassé, Pea Chassé; Pierre Chassé, Alfred Chassé, Hilaire Marin.
1/3/1916	St. Agatha, Maine Marguerite dies at age 65 (1 month before her 66th birthday). She is buried in St. Agatha Cemetery next to the church.
3/1919	Rev. J.P. Chatagnon serves as pastor for St. Agatha parish from 1919 to 1921.
1920	1920 U.S. Census St. Agatha, Maine Philius, 74, his daughter, Deline, her husband, Joseph Bossé, and child, Armand. Neighbors: Pea Chassé & Agnes, Joseph Chassé & Alice, Fortunat Chassé & Elise, Olivier Chassé & Genevieve.
3/1922	St. Agatha, Maine Rev. Paul S. Buhrer serves the parish from 1922 to 1936.
3/1/1922	St. Agatha, Maine Philius dies at age 76. He is buried in St. Agatha Cemetery Lower.

June 23, 2021

A Return Visit to St. Agatha

Terry Ouellette drove me to the exact location where my great-grandfather, Philias Chassé, had his farm, dating back to late 1800s. On our way, we passed the sign below, Brisse Culotte & Cleveland Roads. The left photo shows Terry holding a 1994 "Ste-Agathe Historical Society Newsletter" featuring the article she wrote about Brisse Culotte Road showing her father, Fred Marin, 91, holding the road sign.

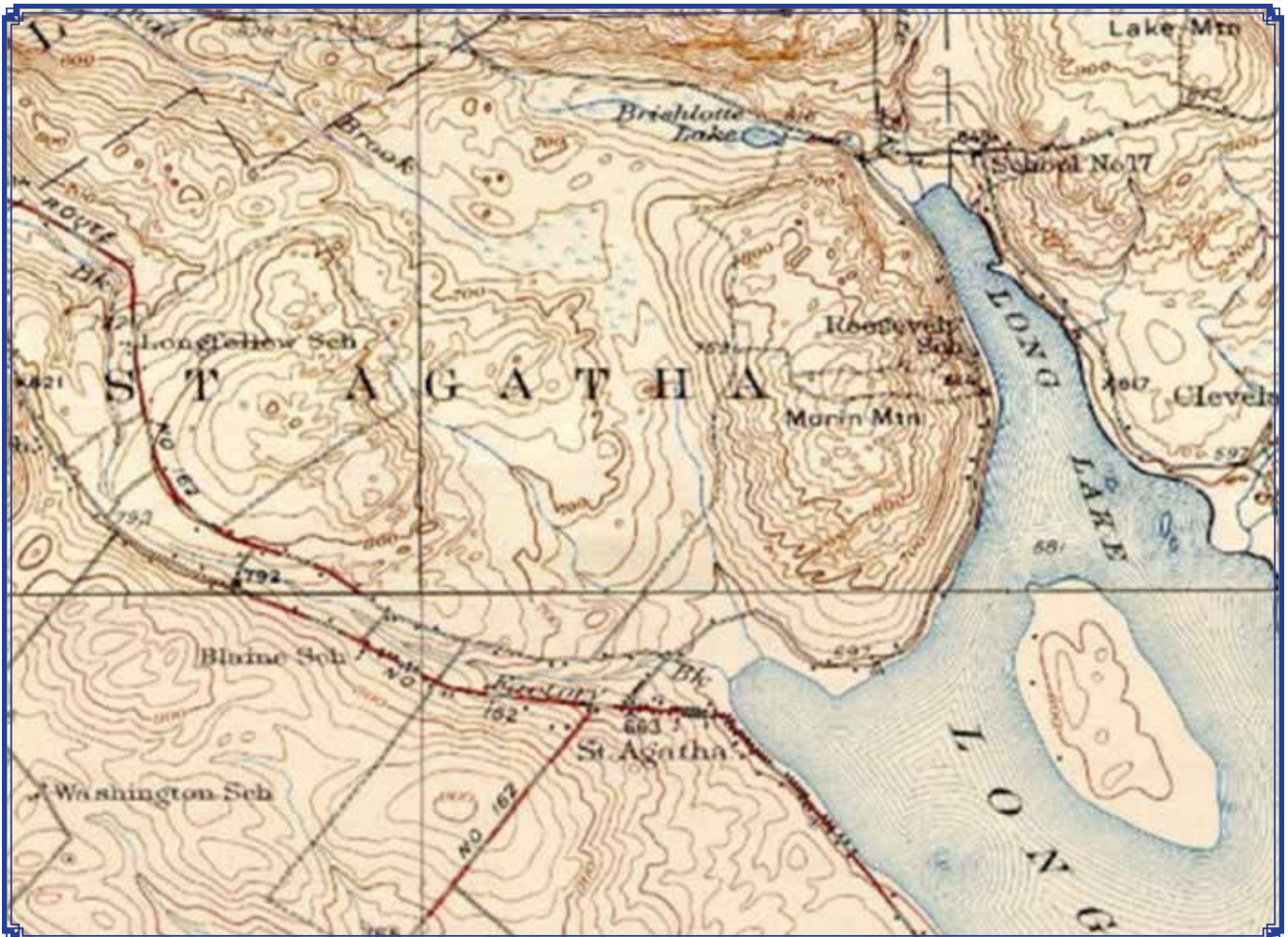


The site where my great-grandfather, Philias Chassé, owned property that was situated on Cleveland Road, St. Agatha, Maine in the late 1800s. His house has since been torn down and the road restructured on his property along beautiful Long Lake. Morin Mountain could be viewed from his backyard. My grandparents, Joseph C. and Deline Chassé Bossé, inherited the farm in 1916.





The view of beautiful Long Lake - a view seen from Philias Chassé's farm on Cleveland Road.



The above map shows the northeast area of Long Lake, which was the location of Philias Chassé's property with the backdrop of Morin Mountain.

S.W. Collins Co.

2021 Community Grant — 1st Quarter *Ste-Agathe Historical Society Receives \$400.00*



April 26, 2021

Accepting the check for the Longfellow School Project is Terry Ouellette from the Ste-Agathe Historical Society from S.W. Collins representative — Travis Levesque.

October 4, 2021

Ste-Agathe Historical Society – The societies' annual newsletters from 1979 to 2020 have been digitized and can now be downloaded from the Long Lake Public Library's Web page. Simply click on the More menu and the Ste-Agathe Historical Society Newsletters are there.

Also of interest is the fact that the St. Agatha High School Yearbooks (starting in 1953) and the Wisdom High School Yearbooks (starting in 1966) can also be viewed from the LLPL's Web Page. Now that the cooler season is upon us the historical society's collection of family albums, history of

the town albums, history of the parish albums, school albums, Daughters of Wisdom albums, soldier albums, plus more have all been moved to the Long lake Public Library. This way they can be assessable to you even though the historical site @ 534 Main Street is closed until June of 2022.

New Lifetime Members

*Ryan Desjardins
Emily Desjardins
Cecile Bosse Dechaine*

*Dana & Claire Sirois Michaud
Roland & Theresa Hebert Guerrette
Bernadette Doucette Meunier*



*July 4, 2021
– Visiting the
Pelletier/Marquis
Museum House
– Grandson to
the last residents
of the House,
Ligouri &
Annie (Chasse)
Marquis.
In photo:
Grandson David
Marquis and his
wife, Joan, from
Biddeford, Me.*



July 11, 2021

*Grandsons,
Donald and
Danny also
visit the
historical
site. In
Photo: Donald
Marquis,
Cecile &
Danny
Marquis.*

Ste-Agathe Historical Society Museum House

These are answers to frequently asked questions about the Pelletier/Marquis Museum House:

Built in 1854 by Andre Pelletier

December 1888 – Deeded to Andre's son, Leandre (Leon) Pelletier

1916 — Sold to Reverend Raoul Bourbeau
(retained side property for the cemetery)

? — Sold to Xavier Deschaine Jr.

? — Foreclosed back to Reverend Raoul Bourbeau

1927 — Sold to Jules Marquis

1936 — Deeded to Jule Marquis's son, Ligouri

1966 — Deeded to Ligouri's wife, Annie (Chasse) Marquis and son Clarence

1978 — Sold to the Ste-Agathe Historical Society for \$4500.00

August 20, 2021

Visitors at the Pelletier/Marquis House on August 20th included Jules Marquis' granddaughter, Eva Bourgoïn Chasse, and members of her family. It was Eva's special treat to come visit the Muse-

um House on her 94th birthday. In photo (left to right) is Eva Bourgoïn Chasse, daughter of Alvina Marquis Bourgoïn, her daughter Norma Chasse Provenzano, her granddaughter Ju-

lie Provenzano Powers, and her great grandson, Nicholas Powers. Eva, who lives in East Millinocket, Maine, wanted to come to St. Agatha to celebrate her 94th birthday on August 20, 2021.



L-R: Eva Chasse, Norma Provenzano, Julie Powers, and Nicholas Powers.

A Gift That Keeps Giving



A lifetime Membership to the Ste-Agathe Historical Society is what Grandparents, Frank and Fern Desjardins of St. Agatha, decided to purchase for their grandchildren, Emily and Ryan. When visiting St. Agatha this summer, Dave Desjardins took the opportunity to bring his children to visit the Preservation Center. His Lifetime Membership, purchased years ago, was also a gift from his parents. Standing with President Terry Ouellete (Center) are the youngest Lifetime Members, Emily and Ryan. In the back are Grandmother Fern Desjardins and son, Dave Desjardins of Oxford, Maine.



Youth Trail Guides for the 2021 summer were Owen Sirois (left) and Jack Michaud (right). They were responsible to welcome visitors on Saturdays. In photo they are in the back room where many lumber related artifacts are displayed. It was a learning experience for them to acquaint themselves with what was used in the old days.

*In Memory of
Deceased Lifetime Members
in 2021*

*Rolande Gervais Bilodeau
Jeanne (Gagnon) Chamberland
Robert "Bob" Chamberland
Gladys (Chamberland) Cloukey
Sr. Aurelie Michaud, D.W.*

*Lewis Michaud
Gerald Nadeau
Patricia Ouellette
Valier Thibeault*



Des Pates de Cochon avec Shirley Chasse July 8, 2021

Link to find recipe:
<https://youtu.be/1hTQgWNV2Z8>



*On hand
to help eat
'des pates
de cochon'
Sitting:
Francoise
Plourde*

*Standing
l-r: Terry
Ouellette,
Shirley
Chasse,
Donna
Boucher,
Riola
Morin, Gary
Boucher,
Carole
Plourde and
Father Dave
Raymond.*

*Videographer:
Don
Raymond.*

Shirley Chasse

June 11, 2021



The first visitors to view the Four Seasons Panel by Master Carver Tom Cote and his granddaughter, Kennedy Bencivenga, were l-r: Patricia Dow, Rachel Marquis of Fort Kent, Florence Michaud and Terry Ouellette of St. Agatha, and Jerry Wentland of Brooklyn, NY and Ellsworth, ME.

**Jean Paul Michaud of Brooklyn, NY and Ellsworth, ME is taking the photo.*

*While visiting
her parents,
Harold &
Joanne
Chamberland,
Angie
Chamberland,
of Washington,
D.C., helped
sort out
ancestry
documents
during the first
open Sunday
of 2021.*



Longfellow School Restoration Project



During August Gaylen Thibeault, Gary Boucher, Harold Chamberland, Stan Albert and Roland Guerrette installed the windows on the south side of the Longfellow School. Come September they installed the two front windows. The school certainly looks much better than a year ago. Work will continue next year.



Ste-Agathe Historical Society Gets Donation for Longfellow School Project

This most impressive donation of \$30,000.00 came from someone who only lived the first 10 years of his life in St. Agatha. His parents, Gerard & Eva (Albert) Albert, along with their six children, moved to Niagara Falls, New York in 1941. Sylvio Albert, the donor, is now 91 years old and lives in Oswego, New York. Sylvio and some of his siblings were here in St. Agatha when the town celebrated its 100th birthday (1999) and since that time Sylvio has stayed in touch with the Ste-Agathe Historical Society. Since the inception of the Long Lake Public Library 2007, Sylvio has also been a regular responder to the library's annual appeals. Many telephone calls to Sylvio's 2nd cousin, Terry Ouellette, has kept him in tune with the moving and restoration project of the Longfellow School. That project was of particular interest to him because he spent his life in education and is a retired Superintendent of Schools in the Oswego, NY area. Since 2019 Sylvio has been informed of the progress made to the one time dilapidated school. The

Longfellow School is now situated on a concrete slab at the historical site. Its frame has been repaired, impressive windows have been installed and the roof has been rebuilt. There is still much work to be done to the interior of this historic building before it is ready to serve as an interpretation center for future generations. Work on this project will continue as we enter the 2022 summer season.

The Centenaire de St. Agatha, Maine 1899-1999 shows

that his father, Gerard Albert, was one of the town's selectmen board members in 1934 and 1935. The 1934 selectmen, Gerard Albert, Philip L. Bossie and Simeon Chamberland had a budget of \$17,792.10. In 1935, the selectmen Philip L. Bossie Gerard Albert and Emile V. Michaud, had a budget of \$19,638.88. The Albert family has a long line of connections to this town. During some phone conversations Sylvio likes to mention some of his Albert relatives who are still

living here. One example is Roland and Arlene Albert who live on the former Maxime & Julie Gauvin Albert farm.

Stan Albert also has had the pleasure of reconnecting with Sylvio and talk of the relatives they both share. The Ste-Agathe Historical Society is indeed grateful for Sylvio's generosity and fondness for his home town. In photo is Gerard & Eva Albert's family in 2002. Front: Simone, Lorraine, Marie and Geraldine. Back: Sylvio and Gabriel.



*Photo is from the Ste-Agathe Historical Society Photo Collection –
Courtesy of Simone Albert Schultz.*

STE-AGATHE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

January 1, 2021 ~ December 31, 2021

In Memory of, Mr. Gerald Nadeau, by Stan Albert, Philip Morin.

***In Memory of, Sr. Aurelie Michaud, D. W.,
by Bob & Pat Bourgoin, Philip Morin, Stan Albert***

***In Memory of, Mr. Roland Morin,
by Patricia Morin, Philip Morin, James & Theresa Foster.***

***In Memory of, Eva, Gerard, Gerry, Gabe, & Lorraine Albert,
by Gunter & Simone Albert Schultz***

In Memory of, Mrs. Fernande Pelletier Lyons, by Patricia Stuart.

***In Memory of, Mr. Carl W. Ouellette,
by Donna M. Levesque, Gerard Morin, Terry M. Ouellette***

***In Memory of, Mr. Reginald Tardif, & Ms. Berna Tardif Audibert,
by Rev. John Audibert.***

In Memory of, Mrs. Carolyn Fortin Pelletier, by Phyllis Fortin Morin

In Memory of, Mrs. Louise Labrie Lagassey, by Philip Morin

In Memory of, Mr. James Montfort Chamberland, by Robert C. & Rita Babin

In Memory of, Mr. Roger Bosse, by Robert C. & Rita Babin

***In Memory of, Mrs. Jeanne Gagnon Chamberland,
by Rita Louise Chamberland, Donna & Gary Boucher, Carole Plourde.***

In Memory of, Mrs. Lorraine Cote Talbot, by Rita Morin Chamberland.

***In Memory of, Mrs. Florine Morin Michaud,
by Therese C. Albert, Harold & Joanne Chamberland. Janet Kane.***

In Memory of, Mr. Emile Levasseur, by Terry M. Ouellette,

In Memory of, Mr. Michael Virgona, by James & Sylvia Roy Virgona.

***In Memory of, Mr. Robert F. (Bob) Chamberland,
by Carole Plourde, Terry M. Ouellette, James & Patricia Morin, Gerard &
Diane Castonguay, Clifford & Theresa Guerrette, James & Angel Caron.***

In Memory of, Mr. Mark Edmond Dumond, by Terry M. Ouellette

Ste-Agathe Historical Society

December 31, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of the Ste-Agathe Historical Society,

The past year has been a very busy one even though we are not back to normal as experienced before covid-19. We opened to visitors during the summer months and counted 448 entries in the guest register. July

29 brought in a group of French Teachers headed by Cynthia Matthews, August 11 featured the St. Agatha Rep. Dept, August 21 attracted many visitors for the Tractor Display and Plow Day. Many families who had visit brought them to the historical site to reconnect with the past and view the society's collection of numerous artifacts. It was time to pass on the Most Senior Citizen Cane. The Society presented it to Mrs. Rita Collin on July 29th.

During the summer work continued on the restoration of the Longfellow One Room School House. This year's big project, made possible in part by the Maine Acadian Heritage Council, was to install the big windows and the two front windows. Very dedicated board members and volunteers, under the leadership of Gary Boucher, completed the building to house the steam operated cedar shingle mill, the 1888 planner, and other lumber related artifacts. We are grateful to board member, Gaylen Thibeault, who put in so many hours organizing the restoration for the school. Work will continue on the restoration of the Longfellow School with the help of Mr. Sylvio Albert's \$30,000.00 donation and a grant from the USDA Rural Development. Much needs to be done on the exterior before work begins on the interior. All expenses on the Longfellow School Restoration so far have been made possible from Preservation Grants from the Maine Acadian Heritage Council and the donations made to the society sponsored fundraiser held in 2020.

We look forward to 2022 and hopeful that the covid situation won't derail the 2022 Annual Historical Society Breakfast event usually held in the fall. We are always looking for volunteers to help welcome visitors. Don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you are interested. Again we thank you for your continued support and hope to see you at the historical site.

Sincerely,



Terry Ouellette, President



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Change Service Requested
