

An International Historical Tour of the St. John Valley Madawaska Territory

Since its inception in August of 1968, the Madawaska Historical Society made several attempts at organizing an International Historical Tour of the Madawaska Territory. Through untiring efforts and determination, "the idea whose time had come" became a reality during the Pelletier Reunion on June 28, 1986. Approximately 150 interested visitors registered for and enjoyed the first official tour conducted in the name of the Society. Organizers were: Geraldine Chasse; Jeannine Cyr, St. Basile, N.-B.; Martine Pelletier, Van Buren; Claude Pelletier and Madawaska school bus drivers. It was called a huge success even though the time limit prevented the completion of the tour. It was agreed that future Acadian Festivals and Family Reunions make the Tour an annual tradition.

ITINERARY

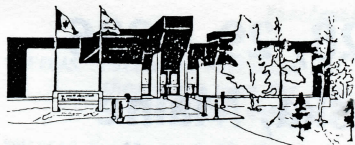
Start at the Historic Tante Blanche Museum, Acadian Landing Site, One Room School House, and Albert Homestead in St. David, Maine, U.S. Highway #1 and proceed to:

The Restored Acadian Cemetery at Mount Caramel	Grand Isle
Lille Cultural and Historical Center	Lille
Acadian Village	Van Buren
Cross the International Border	Van Buren & St. Leonard N.-B., Canada
Madawaska Weavers	St. Leonard, N.-B.
Pilgrimage Church at Ste. Anne du Madawaska	Ste. Anne, N.-B.
Chapelle-Musee, Cyr House, Oldest Cemetery in the area	St. Basile, N.-B.
The Sisters Chapel and Cemetery	St. Basile, N.-B.
Commemorative Monument "Fort Petit Sault"	Edmundston, N.-B.
The Madawaska Regional Museum	Edmundston, N.-B.
Nadeau Craft Shop	St. Francois, N.-B.
Historic Daigle House	Clair, N.-B.
Restored Anglican Church	Ledgus (St. Francois, N.-B.)
The Robert Connors Victorian Home, Church and Museum	Connors, N.-B.
Return to Clair and recross the boundary at	Fort Kent, Maine
Fort Kent Block House, Bangor & Aroostook R.R. Museum and U.M.F.K. Fort Kent, Maine	Allagash
The Allagash Museum	Allagash
Back-track to Fort Kent	
The Ste. Agathe Historic House	Ste. Agathe, Maine
A brown bag lunch or an Acadian meal served at the Acadian Village in Van Buren.	



MADAWASKA

MUSEUM



ACADIAN CROSS

1785

SITE PLACED IN NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, 1973.



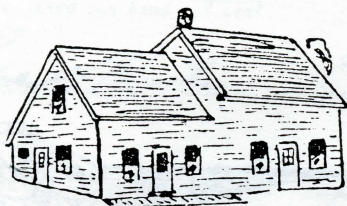
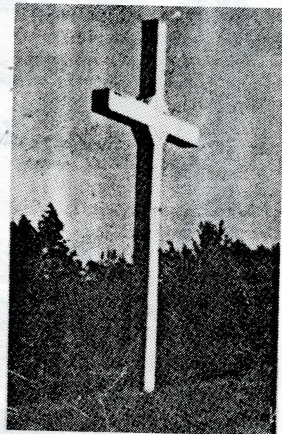
Visite de la chapelle-musée de Saint-Basile, N.-B.

TANTE BLANCHE



VILLAGE ACADIEN

Van Buren, Maine



St. Agatha Historical House

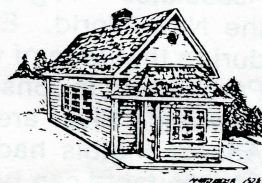
Acadian Village



Le drapeau de "La République" ...
The flag of "The Republic."

MADAWASKA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

a nineteenth century
one-room schoolhouse



1870 - 1930

HISTORIC MUSEUM

Madawaska Historical Society



PELLETIER FAMILY REUNION

June 27, 28, 29, 1986

Madawaska, Maine

Coat of Arms

Historiography



Pelletier

THE PELLETIER COAT OF ARMS HEREBY ILLUSTRATED IS OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED IN RIETSTAP ARMORIAL GENERAL. THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS (SHIELD) IS AS FOLLOWS:

"D'AZUR AU CHEV. D'OR. ACC. DE TROIS POMMES DE PIN DU MEME ET SURM. D'UNE ETOILE D'ARG."

WHEN TRANSLATED THE BLAZON ALSO DESCRIBES THE ORIGINAL COLOURS OF THE PELLETIER ARMS AS:

"BLUE AND CHARGED WITH A GOLD CHEVRON, ACCOMPANIED BY THREE GOLD PINECONES AND SURMOUNTED BY A SILVER STAR IN THE CENTER POINT OF THE CHIEF OF THE SHIELD."

- Blue — Azure depicted by horizontal lines — It represents loyalty and splendour
- Chevron — one of the principal ordinaries
- Silver — represents serenity and nobility
- Gold — denotes generosity, valour or perseverance
- Pinecones — represents the area (Forêt du Perche)
- Star — the mullet — mark of the third son

Approximately 2000 descendents of the Guillaume & Michelle (Mabile) Pelletier of Bresolette au Perch, France gathered for "Une Reunion de la Grande Famille Pelletier" in Madawaska, Maine in June, 1986. Our ancestors arrived in North America in 1641 as agents of the "Company of One Hundred Associates" - A group organized to establish a permanent French Colony in the New World. Eighteen Pelletier couples immigrated to North America during that time of which Guillaume & Michelle, parents to Jean Pelletier, "le Percheron", is considered the Patriarch of the Pelletiers of the St. John and St. Lawrence River area. Jean, sometimes called "Le Gobloteur" and his wife Anne Langlois had 10 children of which 7 saw adulthood. Today these descendants can be found in all 50 states and all Provinces of Canada.

Town of Madawaska

Proclamation

WHEREAS Guillaume Pelletier and Nicolas Pelletier established themselves upon the developing North American continent in the second quarter of the seventeenth century.

WHEREAS Guillaume Pelletier and Nicolas Pelletier, their families and heirs through their ventures and industry have firmly implanted their presence on this shore. And their descendents have established themselves over the entire North American continent.

WHEREAS these descendents have distinguished themselves as meritorious persons in their various stations across the continent.

WHEREAS these same descendents have organized in order to hold a reunion in homage of their descent at Madawaska in the State of Maine.

WHEREAS this celebration will be held in Madawaska on the twentyseventh (27th), twentyeighth (28th) and twenty-ninth (29th) days of June in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-six (1986).

BE IT THEREFORE resolved that we the selectmen of the township of Madawaska, recognizing these many descendents, do declare the twentyseventh (27th), twentyeighth (28th) and twentyninth (29th) days of June in this year to be known as the days of the Pelletier Reunion.

WE THEREFORE cause this document to be duly signed in our presence and proclaim the Pelletier Reunion throughout the land, and resolve that it be incumbent on future generations to do likewise.

WE HAVE this 25th day of March in the year of our Lord 1986 affixed our hand and seal.

Richard J. Masters

Elmo J. Albert

Renee E. Waigle

Richard J. Colon

Louise A. Madore





Pelletier Reunion Officers & Committees

Front Row: Terry Pelletier, Gisele Tie, Lorraine Pelletier, Verna Cyr, Greta Babin. Back Row: Dave Pelletier, Steve Pelletier, Joe Tie, Geraldine Chasse, Normand Pelletier, Muriel Pelletier, Claude Pelletier, Roland Pelletier.

PELLETIER FAMILY REUNION PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1986

- 9:30 A.M. - 9:45 A.M. Official Opening at Madawaska High School
 9:45 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Registration, Genealogical Research, visiting with cousins, Genealogical presentations. Ployes and goodies available on premises.
 10:00 A.M. Bernette Albert, Audio/Visual presentation: "Story of the Acadians", Part 1,
 11:00 A.M. Guy Dubay, Genealogy Lecture "Lives of our Ancestors", Room No. 217.
 1:30 P.M. Roland Pelletier, Ste. Foy, Que. (French) — "The Life and Times of Guillaume Pelletier".
 2:30 P.M. Bernette Albert, Audio/Visual "Story of the Acadians", Part 1, Room No. 216.
 4:00 P.M. Mass at St. Michael's Chapel, Birch Point in memory of the Pelletiers.
 7:30 P.M. Soiree (M.H.S. Cafetorium) Admission: Adults: \$1.00, Students: .50¢

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 1986

- 9:30 A.M. Historical Guided Bus Tour of the St. John Valley. Tickets sold at Registration Center. Admission: \$2.00. Bus will be in front of M.H.S. at 9:15 A.M. Lunch on road. Return: 2:30 P.M. U.S. & Canadian historical sites with U.S. & Canadian guides. More genealogy at center, visiting, souvenirs and sightseeing...
 10:30 A.M. Bernette Albert, Audio/Visual presentation, "Story of the Acadians", Part 1.
 2:00 P.M. St. Basil, N.-B. Cemetery Mem.
 4:00 P.M. Social Hour at M.H.S. Cafetorium
 5:00 P.M. Pelletier Reunion Banquet, M.H.S. Gymnasium. Tickets sold at Registration \$8.00.
 7:00 P.M. Recognition following Banquet.
 9:00 P.M. Dance, Multi-Purpose, Admission, 2 Bands: FAIREWAY - DEAN & MARIA

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 1986

- 9:30 A.M. St. David Cemetery Memorial Service for the Pelletiers.
 10:30 A.M. Pelletier Mass at Acadian Shrine overlooking St. John River. After Mass, Chicken Bar-B-Que at Fire Station.
 1:00 P.M. Acadian Festival Parade in Madawaska. Refer to their program for other activities.
 11:00 P.M. Conclusion - huge bonfire at Multi-Purpose grounds.

PELLETIER FAMILY SONG

English lyrics and music:
Greta Babin
French lyrics:
Jeannine Cyr

Ref. #1 Here we are now to-gether a-gain With
all of our family and friends years have gone by like the (stars in our
eyes) good times and bad times for you and I

Verse #1 Now we're here to-day Shar-ing dreams we have ma-de
Who could have sa-id some could come tr-ue
Before us were our pa-rents and their pa-rents be-fo-re them
We are the re-sults of some-bo-dy's dreams

Verse 2 Fils de Françoise et d'Eloi Pelletier
Intrépide, fier et travailleur
Du couer de douce France, le Globeteur
En Nouvelle France, il s'est installé

Verse 3 With the help of God we are what we are
When we want to wish he's our shining star
He's the reason we're here and we've
somebody dear
Without His great guidings we couldn't go far

Fr.Ref. Comme nos ancêtre aimant le bon temps
La bonne chair, la danse, la fête et les chants
Amusons-nous, profitons-en pour récréer
Comme tous ces peux qui nous ont précédés

Ref.2 So, here we are now together again
With all of our family and friends
Years have gone by like (a flash in the
sky)

Verse 4 Good times and bad times for you and I
Enfants de Guillaume et de Nicolas
Les Pelletiers sont venus, d'ici et de
Pour ce connaitre, fêter et remercier
Dieu tout-puissant, Qui donne le force
d'aimer

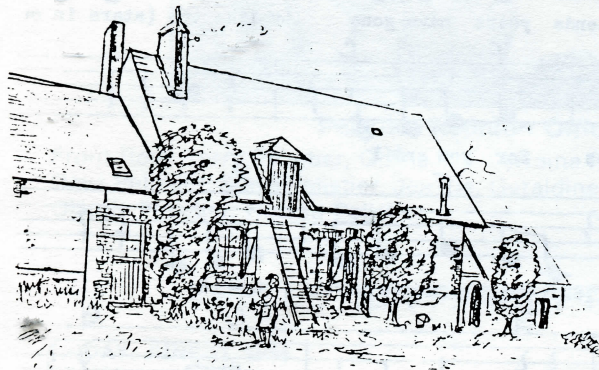
Ref. 3 And here we are now together again
With all of our family and friends
Years have gone by like (the rain from
the sky)

Good times and bad times for you and

Héritage

PELLETIER

Heritage

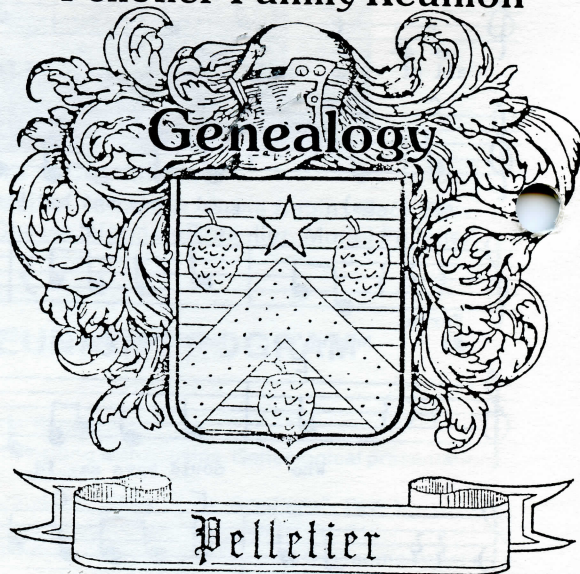


Pelletier Reunion Committee

*Compiled by
Geraldine Pelletier Chasse*

Héritage Pelletier Heritage Vol.II

Pelletier Family Reunion



*Compiled by
Steven A. Pelletier*

Heritage PELLETIER Heritage, the Family Reunion Book was intended to be one publication. Due to overwhelming contribution of photos and genealogy, we were compelled to publish it in two volumes: Volume 1, Text and Photos by Geraldine Pelletier Chasse and; Volume 2, The 1986 Pelletier Family Reunion Genealogy by Steven A. Pelletier. A third volume is being compiled by Martine Pelletier, still to be given a title. All contributors are asked to send their information to any of the three above mentioned. Madawaska Historical Society, Madawaska, Maine 04756.

Only a few of the first books are available and are being sold on a first-come first-served basis.

Madawaska Historical Society Happenings

Pelletiers to flock to Madawaska for June reunion



Family Ties

By Roxanne Saucier

If everyone with Pelletier ancestry shows up for the Pelletier Reunion in Madawaska June 27-29, the organizers will have to move back the boundaries of the town!

The reunion will be the seventh such gathering sponsored by the Madawaska Historical Society in honor of a particular family, and will involve Pelletier (and Pelkey) relatives from all over the United States and Canada.

Most Pelletiers are descended from Guillaume Pelletier (1589-1657) and his wife Michelle Mabile, or Nicolas Pelletier and wife Jeanne Roussy. My husband has no less than seven lines back to Guillaume. My unscientific guess is that thousands of Maine residents have Pelletier ancestry.

The Madawaska Historical Society

does an impressive job with its annual family reunions, and I will bring you further details of this one as I get them. You may also write the society at the Library Building, Main Street, Madawaska, Maine 04756.

Better yet, you can join the Madawaska Historical Society for \$5, and a life membership is just \$35. The society still has for sale Father Thomas Albert's History of Madawaska in its English translation for \$15 postpaid.

Father Albert's history was written more than 50 years ago, but is enjoying renewed interest.



PELLETIER DONATIONS — The Pelletier Family Reunion recently made two donations in the Madawaska area. A Miter copy machine was donated to the Madawaska Historical Society's resource center located in the Madawaska Public Library. Pictured above with the copy machine are Dave Pelletier, reunion treasurer; librarian Ann Daigle; Pelletier Family Reunion Chairman Claude Pelletier; Norman Cyr, Madawaska Historical Society president; Monsignor Gilman Chaloult; and Mel Labbe, Madawaska Public Library trustee. A \$1,000 donation to Madawaska's Handichildren's Center was also presented on the same day by the Pelletier Family Reunion.

—Bayly photo



Pelletier

1st Generation

Eloi Pelletier

spouse: Francoise Matte

de Bresollettes, Perche

Children:

1. Guillaume - married St Aubin de Tourouvre
born: Bresollettes, Perche - 1598
died: Quebec, PQ 28 Nov 1657
2. Antoine - married Quebec 19 Aug 1647
born: Perche, France
died: Quebec, PQ 3 Oct 1647

Michelle Mabile
born: La Gazerie 20 May, 1592
died: Quebec, PQ 21 Jan 1665

Francoise Morin
born: St. Jean du Perrot, La Rochelle
died: Quebec, PQ 24 Feb 1660

2nd Generation

(1) **Guillaume Pelletier**

born: Bresollettes, Perche - 1598
died: Quebec, PQ 28 Nov 1657
Married: St. Aubin de Tourouvre, Perche 12 Feb 1619

spouse: Michelle Mabile
born: La Gazerie, Perche 20 May 1592
died: Quebec, PQ 21 Jan 1665

(pg 1) father: Eloi Pelletier
mother: Francoise Matte

father: Guillaume Mabile
mother: Etiennette Monhay

Children:

1. Claude
born: St. Aubin de Tourouvre, Perche France 11 Feb 1622
died: before 1641 Tourouvre, Perche France
2. Guillaume
born: St. Aubin de Tourouvre, Perche France 26 Feb 1624
died: - 1646
3. Jean - married Quebec, PQ 9 Nov 1649
born: St. Aubin de Tourouvre 12 Jun 1627
died: Riviere Ouelle, PQ 25 Feb 1698

Anne Langlois
born: Quebec, PQ 2 Sep 1637
died: R. Ouelle 17 Mar 1704

3rd Generation

(3) **Jean Pelletier**

~~born: St. Aubin de Tourouvre 12 Jun 1627~~
died: Riviere Ouelle, PQ 25 Feb 1698
married: Quebec, Province of Quebec 9 Nov 1649

spouse: Anne Langlois
born: Quebec, PQ 2 Sep 1637
died: Riviere Ouelle 17 Mar 1704

(pg 1) father: Guillaume Pelletier
mother: Michelle Mabile

father: Noel Langlois
mother: Francoise Grenier

Children:

1. Noel - married Contrat Filion 20 Oct 1674
born: Quebec, PQ 3 May 1654
died: R. Ouelle 1 Sep 1712
2. Anna married Quebec, PQ 19 Jan 1670
born: Quebec, Que. 2 Oct 1656
3. Marie - married 1677
born: Quebec, Que. 2 Oct 1656
4. Rene - married St Pierre, I.O. 5 Nov 1691
born: Quebec, Que. 2 Mar 1659
died: St. Pierre, I.O. 13 Jan 1713
Rene - married St Laurent, Que 23 Jul 1703
5. Antoine
born: Quebec, Que. 21 Dec, 1661
died: Quebec, Que. 26 Dec, 1661
6. Jean - married Riviere Ouelle, PQ 8 Jan 1689
born: Quebec, Que. 22 Apr 1663
7. Marie Delphine
born: Quebec, Que. 7 Feb, 1666
died: Quebec, Que. 27 Feb 1666
8. Marie - married Cap St. Ignace, Que 5 May 1686
born: Ste Famille, I.O. 5 May 1667
died: Cap St. Ignace, PQ 6 Nov 1725
Marie - married Cap St. Ignace, Que 26 Nov 1700
9. Charles - married Riviere Ouelle 7 Jan 1698
born: Quebec, Que. 27 Sep 1671
died: S-Roch-A, PQ 30 Dec 1748
Charles - married St Laurent, Que 12 Jan 1711
10. Charolotte - married Riviere Ouelle 10 Nov 1693
born: Beauport, Que. 7 Oct 1674
died: Riviere Ouelle 3 Sep 1699

Madeleine Mignot
born: Quebec, PQ 22 Jul 1654

Guillaume Lizotte
born: Lizieux - 1645

Francois Beriau

1. Madeleine Leclerc
born: St. Famille 14 Jul 1672
died: St. Pierre 28 Oct 1702

2. Jeanne Godbout
born: Quebec, PQ 12 Aug, 1665
died: St. Laurent 8 Jul 1732

Ann St. Laurent
born: Chateau Richer 9 Jan 1666
died: S. Anne Poc. 25 Oct 1734

1. Jacques Jalbert

2. Mathieu Guillet

1. Therese Ouellet
born: -1679
died: Riviere Ouelle 26 Jul 1707

2. Barbe St. Pierre
born: Riviere Ouelle 17 Jan 1685
died: St. Roch-A, PQ 31 Aug 1752

Andre Mignier
born: Quebec 6 Oct 1669
died: S Anne Poc. 4 Feb 1729

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1986

February 9, 1987

Dear Members:

After fifteen years of dedication to establish a permanent historic shrine and the Acadian Cross Historic Shrine now a reality, the past year was one of a long-deserved break!

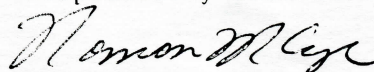
Nevertheless, the Society hosted the Pelletier Family Reunion, the Acadian supper, and participated in the parade during Acadian Week. Work was also started in the Albert Homestead, even if much more remains to be done before it is totally completed.

Thanks to Mrs. Jeannine Daigle, operations of the museum were continued throughout the summer. A survey of the Society property is to be continued by Mr. Don B. Cyr. Mrs. Rollande Levesque is also continuing her activities on the photo and scrapbook projects.

Still ahead for the future are landscaping plans for an entrance at the highway, as well as landscaping plans around the museum, shrine, and memorial tree markers.

The continued support by everyone is sincerely appreciated. Only by dedication can our future plans be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman M. Cyr, President
Madawaska Historical Society

MADAWASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YEAR END REPORT

NOVEMBER 30, 1986

INCOME:

Bi-Cent Comm.	\$ 1,836.54	
Thomas Albert Book	1,505.53	
Publications	2,303.99	
Membership	701.80	
Donation:		
Shrine	5.00	
Pelletier Family	293.00	
Dufour Family	293.00	
Dividend Income	571.58	
Acadian/Pelletier Supper	<u>10,047.24</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		\$17,557.68

EXPENSES:

Thomas Albert Book	\$ 36.72	
Bi-Cent Comm.	340.70	
Photo Project	79.73	
Publications	162.80	
Postage & Supplies	250.30	
Utilities	110.57	
Insurance	300.00	
Shrine Family Markers	1,758.00	
Newsletter	387.00	
Misc. Expenses	839.05	
Acadian/Pelletier Supper	9,176.50	
Labor Museum	<u>593.40</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$14,034.77
NET INCOME		<u>\$ 3,522.91</u>

Beg. Balance November 85.....	\$6,997.99
Income 1986.....	3,522.91
Cyr Family Reunion Transfer...	4,183.10
Bi-Cent. Comm Loan Repayment.	<u>1,437.46</u>
	\$16,141.46

Less RESERVES:

Thomas Albert Book	\$ 1,796.53
Photo Project	400.49
Balance after reserves	<u>\$13,944.44</u>

ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Now Acct: Arst.Ct. Fed Savings	\$ 2,614.46
Passbook Acct. Casco Northern	<u>13,500.00</u>
Total cash available.....	<u>\$16,141.46</u>

CANADIAN ACCOUNT:

Cyr Family Reunion Transfer	
Central Trust Depository	
Canadian Funds.....	<u>\$ 2,478.70</u>

ORPHAN TRAINS IN THE ST. JOHN VALLEY

During the very latter part of nineteenth and the very early part of the twentieth centuries, many orphanages were in existence in the metropolitan areas of the U.S., such as New York City and Boston. Due to disease, accidents and lack of sanitation, immigrant parents often died at early ages and left infants and small children homeless.

As orphanages became over-crowded, orphan trains were organized by which the children were sent largely to farm families to be cared for, since food was plentiful on farms and housing was usually quite ample. From New York City, the orphan trains were generally sent to the western states. From Boston, the orphans were generally dispersed throughout the northern areas of the New England States.

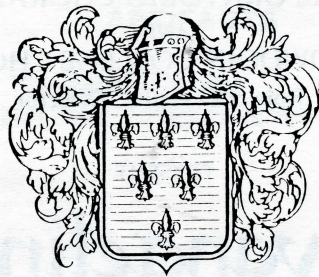
Orphan trains reached the St. John Valley about once, sometimes twice a year. Applications were processed by community leaders and the prospective parents, or foster parents, of the children were notified of the train arrivals. The children ranged in ages from two to twelve years old. Couples had a wide range of choices as to age and sex. In some cases, even infants were sent to applicants who had given a written desire to adopt a small infant. Almost all of the children were Irish descent and were sent to the valley because of their Catholic faith.

Words could not express the pitiful situation of fifty or sixty children by old timers who remembered the orphan trains as they stopped at various stations along the valley. Through tears only could the description be made of the ragged and dirty clothing, the frightened faces, the crying of the children, and the complete desolation as they were dispersed. To compound the problem, the children knew only the English language while the new parents or foster parents knew only the French language. However, gentle signs, small homemade toys and candy were always brought to soothe the children in the transition process to new homes and new lives.

It was only in very rare instances that a child was removed from the care of someone because of negligence. Most were brought up as part of the family and received equal care. As only small children can, most learned the French language in weeks even if the parents never managed much more than the words "yes and no" in English. One orphan train child in his advanced years related that the only words his prospective parents knew when they came to get him was "come John, come". With tears in his eyes, as he fondly remembered them, he admitted that he could not possibly have been better cared for anywhere else. His childhood was a happy one and his upbringing and education were of the best possible of those days. He also remarked, laughingly, that he had to learn French very fast in order to be able to fight with the other boys!

Since many of the children were eventually adopted, and/or remained, and spent their lives in the valley, they became an integral part of our history. The Madawaska Historical Society is attempting to gather as much information as possible from the descendants of the orphan train children. If you are a descendent, or know of a descendent, please contact Bernette Albert, Madawaska Historical Society, P.O. Box 258, Madawaska, Maine 04756. A short questionnaire will be sent.

Plourde & Plourde-Root Family Reunion



Norman M. Cyr
President, Madawaska Historical Society

Raymond Plourde
President, Family Reunion

Linda M. Cyr
Correspondence Chairperson

Mailing Address:

Linda M. Cyr
P.O. Box 120
St. David, Maine 04773

Sponsored by
Madawaska Historical Society

Dear cousins,

It is with pleasure and honor to invite you to the PLOURDE & PLOURDE (PLOURD) Root Family Reunion being sponsored by the Madawaska Historical Society, July 24, 25, and 26, 1987.

In the earliest records of Quebec where the PLOURDE family finds its North American roots, we find that Rene Plourde who had left Poitiers, France, was granted a concession of land fronting on the St. Lawrence River at Kamouraska, Quebec, in July 1695. We find that Rene Plourde married Marguerite-Jeanne Berube, a sixteen-year old bride, at Riviere-Ouelle, Quebec in 1697; and four of the Plourde children, three sons and a daughter, lived to adulthood and marriage. A common ancestor ten-twelve generations back is what we all share.

We wish to invite you to join us in this celebration. We seek your assistance in helping us locate all PLOURDE & PLOURDE (PLOURD) root family members by sending us a list of names and addresses of your brothers/sisters or of any relatives having Plourde (Plourd) descendants so we may be assured that all have been contacted and invited to our family reunion.

We hope you will find time in your busy schedule to join us in our family celebration. Let us all be proud of our culture and heritage. Come and meet many of your family members along with having an enjoyable time together.

Enclosed you will find the following: (1) "tentative" schedule of activities for the PLOURDE & PLOURDE (PLOURD) Root Family Reunion; (2) list of motel/hotel accommodations and camping areas available; (3) a questionnaire to help us with our genealogy records.

We will accept any donations to help defray cost of expenses. We would also appreciate if you would give us an idea if your attendance will be possible.

The PLOURDE'S of the St. John Valley extend a cordial invitation to one and all to attend this celebration with them.

Chers cousins,

Nous avons le plaisir et l'honneur de vous inviter à la réunion des familles PLOURDE et de leur parenté consanguine. C'est à dire que si votre mère était une demoiselle PLOURDE, vous êtes invités, même si vous portez un autre nom. Cette célébration, organisée par la société historique de Madawaska, aura lieu les 24, 25, et 26 juillet, 1987.

Ce sont dans les plus anciennes archives du Québec que la famille PLOURDE trouve ses souches nord-américaines. Nous lisons que René Plourde, qui avait quitté la ville de Poitiers en France, fut octroyé en juillet 1695 une concession de terre le long du fleuve Saint-Laurent à Kamouraska, Province de Québec. Deux ans plus tard, soit en 1697, René Plourde épousa Marguerite-Jeanne Berubé, âgée de seize ans, à la Rivière-Ouelle, Province de Québec. Quatre enfants, dont trois fils et une fille, parvinrent à leur maturité et se marièrent. Nous partageons cet ancêtre commun de dix à douze générations passées.

Nous désirons vous inviter à venir célébrer avec nous et nous vous demandons de nous aider à retrouver tous les PLOURDE, et tous les membres des familles consanguines aux PLOURDE, en nous faisant parvenir une liste des noms et adresses de vos frères/sœurs ou de tout parent de descendance PLOURDE, pour que nous soyons certains d'avoir réjoint tous ceux qui doivent être invités.

Nous espérons que vous pourrez trouver le temps de participer à cette fête de famille avec nous. Soyons fiers de notre culture et de notre héritage. Venez rencontrer un grand nombre de vos parents, tout en passant des journées agréables avec eux.

Ci-inclus, vous trouverez:

- (1) un programme provisoire des activités pour la réunion des familles PLOURDE et de leur parenté consanguine;
- (2) une liste des accommodations disponibles dans les hotels/motels et terrains de camping environnants.
- (3) un questionnaire en fin de nous aider à mettre à date nos records généalogiques.

Nous acceptons tout don qui nous aidera à défrayer les dépenses. Aussi, nous vous prions de nous laisser savoir si vous comptez venir.

Les PLOURDE de la vallée Saint-Jean lancent à tous une cordiale invitation à venir célébrer avec eux.

Sincerely yours,
PLOURDE & PLOURDE-ROOT FAMILY REUNION

Linda M. Cyr

Linda (Plourde-Gendreau) Cyr
Correspondence Chairperson

THE ORATORIO CHORALE
AND
THE BOWDOIN COLLEGE CHORALE
Robert Greenlee, Director

PRESENT

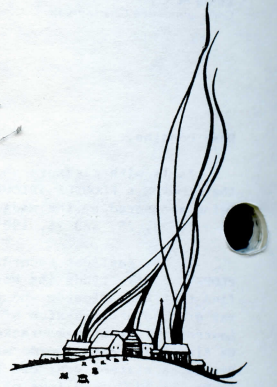
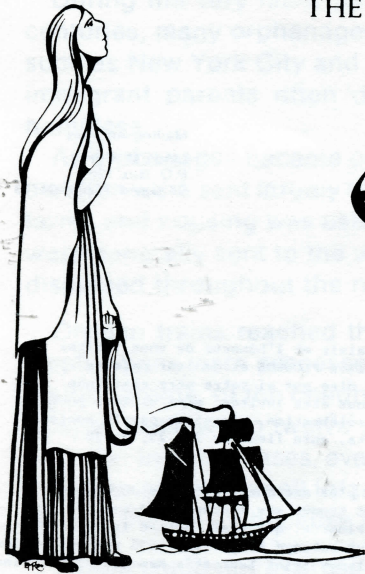
Evangeline

an opera
by

OTTO LUENING

STARRING

BONNIE SCARPELLI



**“EVANGELINE” Opera at Pickard Theater, Bowdoin College
Saturday, May 3, 1986 - 8:00 P.M.**

Members of the Maine Historical Society and the Madawaska Historical Society sponsored a performance of “Evangeline”, an opera composed by Otto Leuening.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s epic poem completed on his birthday, February 27, 1847, tells the story of the Acadian refugees cruelly dispersed by the British. From the village of Grand Pre in today’s Nova Scotia, to the sprawling prairies along the Mississippi, to 18th century Philadelphia, it is a story rich in romance and sentimentality.

“Evangeline” is the perfect capstone to the Society’s “Longfellow’s Portland” celebration. And Bowdoin is the best setting for this performance. Longfellow had a close affiliation with the College, first as a student and then as a Professor of Modern Languages. “Evangeline” is just one example of the influence Longfellow’s New England heritage played on his poetry.

As a special welcome to members of the Madawaska Historical Society, the Society will open the Wadsworth-Longfellow House to all “Evangeline” ticket holders on Sunday, May 4.

Otto Leuening, noted American composer, is Professor Emeritus of Columbia University. A Pulitzer Prize winner, he has also been associated with the Music Department of Bennington College and Princeton University. “Evangeline” is Leuening’s only opera. His autobiography, *Odyssey of an American Composer*, has been published by Charles Scribners & Sons.

ARTIFACTS

A Mita Photo Copier for Research Center	Pelletier Family
Pelletier Flag (Made by Nanette Pelletier & Aurore Michaud)	Pelletier Family
A Hauling Pulley	Gerald Raymond
Woolen Blanket (Loom woven)	M/M Adrien Guerrette
1 Pine Loom	Gerard Beaulieu

PHOTOS, DOCUMENTS, BOOKS & PAPERS

1 Photo Album (Jerome Albert Family)	Rita Gwyer
13 volumes of "Chant Populaire"	Claude Pelletier
U.S. Postal Service Zip Code Directory	Postmaster, Dick Deschenes
Daigle Genealogy	Albert Martin
Martin Genealogy	Albert Martin
Les Pelletier Percherons	J. Roland Pelletier
Heritage Pelletier Heritage, Vol. One	Pelletier Family
Heritage Pelletier Genealogy, Vol. Two	Pelletier Family
Pelletier Ancestor Sheets (2 Volumes)	Pelletier Family
Pelletier Guest Book	Pelletier Family
Le Val DeL'Avre, Bresollette au Perche et les Pelletier	Dawn Pelletier Martin
Memoires de la Societe Genealogique Vol. XXVI	Gerald Pelletier
Histoire et Genealogie, Une Branche des Pelletier	J. Roger Pelletier
Turtle Mountain 1910 Chippewa Census	Ruth Solomon
Pelletier Genealogy (Treffe Pelletier)	Norma Pelletier
Photos of Museum and St. David Church	John McInerney
1 case of Thibodeau Family Books	Thibodeau Family
Photo of Rev. Alexandre Doucette	Mariette Martin
Large Photo Reproductions of Madawaska Scenes	Shop & Save Market

MISCELLANEOUS

Five Dollars for Shrine	John Gagnon
Printing and Paper	Fraser Paper Limited
Services for Society Mail	Librarian & Staff
Workfare Helper	Town of Madawaska

1986 MEMBERSHIP

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Annual Dues

The Madawaska Historical Society - 198_____

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