

Published by the Madawaska Historical Society  
Library Building, Madawaska, Maine

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* The Madawaska Historical Society can now boast that it has a museum. The \*  
 \* centennial log cabin purchased last year was moved to its permanent historical \*  
 \* setting, in St. David, overlooking the Acadian Cross honoring the site where the \*  
 \* Acadians first set foot on U.S. soil in the valley. Score of the opera "Evange- \*  
 \* line" was presented to the Society in person by its composer, Dr. Otto Luening, \*  
 \* professor emeritus, from Columbia University. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

The third annual meeting of the Madawaska Historical Society was called to order by President Geraldine Chasse, October 28 at 7:30 P.M. at the Madawaska Public Library.

Board of Directors:

A new board of Directors was elected by secret ballot and is comprised of the following members: Msgr. A. Long, Mrs. Geraldine Chasse and Mrs. Agnes Beaulieu for three years; Mrs. Lillian Marquis and Miss Bernette Albert for two years; Mrs. Frances Levasseur and Mr. Guy Dubay for one year.

Officers Elected:

President: Mr. A.J. Michaud  
 Vice President: Mrs. Agnes Beaulieu  
 Secretary: Mrs. Geraldine Chasse  
 Treasurer: Msgr. Albert Long

Committee Chairmen Appointed:

Museum	Bernette Albert	Publications	Normand Dube
Folklore & Folkmusic	A.J. Michaud	Historian	A.J. Michaud
Folkdance	Lillian Marquis	Sr. Citizens	Geraldine Chasse
Historic Sites	Martine Pelletier	Membership	Bernette Albert
Old Building	Roger Paradis	Education & Youth	Guy Dubay
Librarian	Agnes Beaulieu	Antiques	Ann Michaud & Winnie Page
Bibliography	Gilman Hebert	Religion	Sr. Vivian Bond
Geneology	Guy Dubay	Fund Raising	Bernette Albert

## Meetings:

### 1. Board of Directors:

- a. Directors meeting was called by Mr. Roger Paradis on the 6th of April, 1971, to explore the possibility of developing an Acadian village and yearly festivals in the St. John Valley. Northern Maine Regional Development officials were present to furnish information on the possibilities of funding. Funding of the projects involved appears remote.
- b. A directors meeting was called by the President, Mr. A.J. Michaud, on the 4th of November, 1971, to discuss the plans and activities for the forthcoming year. An additional category for annual dues of \$2.00 was also approved.

### 2.. Special:

- a. A combined meeting of directors, officers and committee chairmen was called on the 14th of July 1971, to discuss and to reappraise the financial status of the Society as a result of the moving of the log cabin, since the bills exceeded the assets. It was unanimously voted to obtain a note from the Aroostook Trust Company for \$3,000.00. The sum of \$1,500.00 only was actually borrowed, although the Society could borrow more on an "if-needed" basis.

- b. A gala and spectacular meeting was held at the Wandlyn Motel in Edmundston, New Brunswick, on the 7th of August, 1971, in honor of Dr. Otto Luening, professor emeritus, of Columbia University. Dr. Luening explained his efforts and hard work in his composition of the opera "Evangeline" and presented the score of it to the Society. Tape recordings of the opera were also made available to the Society. Dr. and Mrs. Luening charmed everyone. Their kindness is deeply appreciated.

### 3. General:

- a. The winter meeting was held on the 17th of February, 1971, at the Public Library. The guest speaker was one of the foremost authorities on the Acadian ancestries of Valley residents, Monsignor Ernest Long of Saint Basile, New Brunswick. Msgr. Long is publishing the geneologies by alphabetical volumes and presented the first volume to the Society. All the volumes will be acquired by the Society as they are published.
- b. The Spring meeting was held on the 4th of May, 1971, at the Public Library. The guest speaker was Mr. Austin Wylie, who spoke on the Hill of Fame of Valley residents, in particular, Peter Charles Keegan, for whom the town of Keegan was named. Mr. Wylie also spoke on the early town meetings of Van Buren and Grand Isle from old records he researched in those areas. Mrs. Blanche Savoy was also given the most valuable member award for 1971.
- c. The Fall meeting was held on the 10th of October, 1971, at the Public Library. The members all enjoyed a delightful home movie of the 1969 Madawaska Centennial Pageant and related events. The film was loaned to the Society by Mr. David Cyr of Glendale, California, formerly of St. David. A duplicate of the film is to be made for the Society.

### NOTES OF INTEREST

The small museum the Society has established in St. David created interest beyond our initial expectations. Despite our limited capability, it was visited by over 1,500 people during the day of the St. David Parish Centennial on the 18th of July and by over 1,000 people during the following three weeks of operation. Much credit is due to the help rendered by the Rural Youth Corps workers assigned to the Society during the summer months.

A monumental rock, weighing approximately twenty tons, was also placed on the museum grounds through the efforts of Mr. Lucien Cyr of Madawaska. A bronze plaque, which was placed on the old Acadion Cross in 1939 in honor of the Acadians, was affixed to the rock. Another plaque, commemorating the St. David Centennial and donated to the Society by the St. David Centennial Committee, was also affixed to the rock underneath the first plaque. Both plaques were affixed by Roland and Charles Daigle of Madawaska, who donated their time and equipment.

It should be noted that the labor involved in the moving of both the cabin and rock was made by volunteer crews from St. David and Madawaska. The heavy equipment required was also donated. All the particular parties involved are fully identified in the reports of the Museum Committee in the Society files. Without their selfless aid, the Society would not have been able to afford moving the cabin this year, much less consider placing a monumental rock on the grounds of it. Their generosity is deeply appreciated.

The weekly column in the St. John Valley Times was continued with the help of Mr. A.J. Michaud, Mr. Guy Dubay, Mr. Austin Wylie, Mrs. Claude Cyr and Miss Bernette Albert.

### DONATIONS AND FUNDS

Funds were recieved from the town of Madawaska and Aroostook County from appropriations.

Fund-raising projects were an antique auction and food and candy sales. (Projects during early 1971 were indicated in the previous Newsletter.)

Donations in the form of labor, materials, equipment and time to all of our efforts are too numerous to cite herein. The generosity of all Valleyites, present and former, is most encouraging and sincerely appreciated.

ACQUISITIONS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Rug Frame   | Mrs. David Chappelle                          |
| 2. Grand Isle Town Reports (1948-1971)   | Mrs. A.J. Michaud, Grand Isle                 |
| 3. Madawaska Town Reports (1950-1971)  | Madawaska Town Council                        |
| 4. Molasses Jug  | Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Ducette                     |
| 5. Antique Crib  | " " " "                                       |
| 6. Grain Box   | " " " "                                       |
| 7. 2 Maps  | " " " "                                       |
| 8. The Province of Maine Reproduction<br>of a 1795 map   | Mrs. Darius Levesque, St. David               |
| 9. Reproduction of a Map of New England<br>and Nova Scotia   | " " "   |
| 10. January 28, 1943 paper clipping of<br>Raymond Hebert born 1849   | " " "   |
| 11. Photograph of Rev. Wilfred Ouellette<br>(1st pastor of St. Thomas of Madawaska-1929)   | Mr. & Mrs. Jim Cyr                            |
| 12. The Opera score of Evangeline &  | Dr. Otto Luenning, Composer,                  |
| 13. Tapes of the Opera Evangeline  | Columbia University, N.Y.                     |
| 14. Braided Rug  | Mrs. Wilfred Dube, St. David                  |
| 15. Wool Divider   | Mr. & Mrs. Albert Bouchard Jr.<br>St. David   |
| 16. Loom & Spinning Wheel  | Mr. & Mrs. Joyime Cyr, St. David              |
| 17. Photo of Rev. Pere Sweron  | Sisters of the Holy Rosery,<br>Frenchville    |
| 18. Photo of Madawaska's oldest citizen  | Mrs. Dan Cyr                                  |
| 19. Maine Catholic Historical Magazine 5/28  | Rev. Gilman Chalout                           |
| 20. American Legion Girl State Program 1947-1970   | Mrs. Darius Levesque                          |
| 21. Butter Churn   | Mr. Rudy Pelletier                            |
| 22. Wrought Iron Cross   | Miss Bernette Albert                          |
| 23. Hand made cedar paddles used for the<br>reenactment of the arrival of the Acadians to<br>St. David, during the Centennial Celebration. | Mr. & Mrs. Rene Theriault,<br>St. Basil, N.B. |
| 24. First church bell on the St. Basil Church  | Srs. of Van Buren Convent (loaned)            |
| 25. Black cast iron pot (Marmite) for fireplace  | Mr. Alfred Parent, Lille                      |
| 26. Cedar Fence  | Ernest Chasse                                 |
| 27. 20-ton rock monument   | Madawaska Highway crew/July, 1971             |

ACQUISITIONS

28. Crosscut Saw	Emile Hebert
29. Wipple Tree	Ernest Chasse
30. Centennial Miniature House	Mrs. Joseph Cyr (Albina)
31. Madawaska Centennial Birthday Cake	Mr. Paul Roy & Mrs. Kaye Higgins
32. Butter Washer	A.J. Michaud, Grand Isle
33. Oxen Yoke	" "
34. Loom Spindle Holder	" "
35. Cash Register	Theo Michaud, Madawaska
36. Post Hole Digger	A.J. Michaud
37. Wooden Wood trimmer (Camille Beaulieu)	" "
38. Tools to make grooves in boards (to match)	Pat Michaud & A.J.
39. Tools to sharpen crosscut saws	" " "
40. "Navette" Tool wood working knife to round ax handles, and fancy wood work	" " "
41. Blacksmith tools to sharpen spokes of wagon wheels	Able Levesque
42. Item book	Father Long, Madawaska
43. Tools to make quarter rounds trimmings	A.J. Michaud
44. "Demi Boisseau" Grain Measure	" "
45. Butter Pounders	" "
46. Vire Brochain	" "
47. Missoula Mug	" "
48. Hair Curler	Pat Michaud, Grand Isle
49. Wood Carving "Deja Cent Ans"	Mr. George Beaulieu
50. Photo of "Nine Mile Bridge"	Rev. J. Marquis
51. Photo of "The Michaud Farm on the Allagash R.	" " "
52. Vol. A & B Geneology of the St. John Valley. (M. Lions)	Rev. Ernest Long
53. Maine, A Guide to Down East	Courrier Gazette, Rockland
54. Old Town Reports of all Valley Towns (91) (Town Managers)	Mr. Guy Dubay
55. Vol. C & D Geneology of the St. John Valley	Rev. Ernest Long
56. Old Ceramic Mug of St. Mary's Convent	Mrs. Gemma Lajoie, Van Buren

## ACQUISITIONS

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 57. Old Tin Type Photos   | Mrs. James Gerard, Madawaska    |
| 58. "Tournette Dividoir" and Spinning Wheel<br>(Personal items)   | Mrs. Dan Cyr, St. David         |
| 59. Official Seal used by Mr. Remi Daigle,<br>Post Legislator     | Mr. Reginald Bernier, St. David |
| 60. Photos of Luc Albert and Theodule Albert,<br>Post Legislators | Mrs. Annie Albert, St. David    |

## PUBLICATIONS

Publications added to archives - 1971

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. The St. David Centennial Booklet       | St. David Centennial Committee                 |
| 2. The Maine Government History           | Stetson Historical Society                     |
| 3. Maine History News 1968-71             | Maine League of Historical Societies           |
| 4. History News 1968-71                   | American Association of Local History          |
| 5. Prologue 1969-71                       | National Archives - Washington D.C.            |
| 6. Newsletter                             | New England Group - Acadian Historical Society |
| 7. Le Cahier                              | La Societe Historique Acadienne                |
| 8. Newsletter                             | Maine Old Cemetery Association                 |
| 9. Cyr Plantation Centennial Book         | Mrs. Francis Lavasseur                         |
| 10. Fort Kent Centennial Book             |  |
| 11. Official Museum Directory             | National Archives                              |
| 12. Historical Societies of U.S. & Canada | American Association for Local History         |
| 13. Title VII Publications:               | Omer Picard, Director of Title VII             |
| The River Route Acadian Trail             |  |
| L'Eglise: Les Acadiens: L'Ecole:          |  |
| La Famille: La Foret: Les Patates         |  |

## MEMBERSHIP

New Life Members:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Mr. Gerard Beaulieu, St. David, Me.          | Mrs. Robert Pelletier, Bakers Field, Calif. |
| Rev. Gilman Chaluet, Waterville, Me.         | Mr. Bernard Talbert, Madawaska, Me.         |
| Mr. & Mrs. Joyime Cyr, St. David, Me.        | Miss Bernice Cyr, Hartford, Conn.           |
| Mr. Louis Dufour, Ontario, California        | Rev. A.J. Marquis, Fort Kent, Me.           |
| Mr. Frederick Feck, Hacienda Heights, Calif. | Mr. Philip Dionne Sr., Grand Isle, Me.      |
| Miss Marie Ann Gauvin, Hartford, Conn.       | Mr. Clarence J. Albert, Madawaska, Me.      |
| Msgr. Albert Long, Madawaska, Me.            |   |

The total membership is 294. This total includes memberships of all categories and new members on record during the first three months of 1972. Please continue your membership -- the Society cannot survive without it.

## EDITORIAL NOTES:

1. Due to the length of this newsletter, most of the information had to be summarized. If by chance, some information was not included which you feel should have been published, please do not hesitate to let us know. It will be published in the next newsletter.
2. Your comments, recommendations and advice are needed and will be appreciated.
3. HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS NEWSLETTER!