

NEWSLETTER

Published by the
Madawaska Historical Society
Library Building
Main Street
Madawaska, Maine 04756

Vol. II, No. V January, 1984

OFFICIALS

President - Bertrand Cyr
V. President - Bernette Albert
Treasurer - Msgr. Gilman Chaloult
Secretary - Geraldine Chasse

1 Year - Marie M. Caron
Donald Cyr
2 Years - Claude Cyr
Guy Dubay
3 Years - Aril Dube
Jeannine Daigle
Cecil Pozzuto

"An Acadian Experience"



Dufour

The Dufour name came to Northern America with a military man named Robert-Gabriel Dufour, a native of Lisieux, Normandy, France, around 1690. The Dufour family's early history unfolds in coastal areas along the St. Lawrence River. In the late 1700's the Dufour name came to the St. John Valley with the arrival of two brothers, David and Joseph. They were the sons of Joseph Dufour (1740-1784) the mail carrier assassinated by Indians on the St. John River not far from the site of the Dufour Family Reunion.

The true genealogical characteristics of Valley Dufours is typical of most other valley families, a blend of two cultures. The Dufour roots originate in the province of Quebec, while most maternal ancestry can be traced to Old Acadia. In June 1799, at St. Basile, N.B., David and Joseph Dufour married, on the same day, into Acadian families. Both had prolific families from whom all the Dufours with roots in the Valley and elsewhere descend. Today, Dufours can be found in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

TOWN OF MADAWASKA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS Gabriel-Robert Dufour left his homeland in the parish of St. Jacques, Lisieux, in the province of Normandie, France and established the DUFOUR name upon the Continent of North America in the year of our Lord circa 1694, and

WHEREAS his descendants have established themselves over the entire North American Continent, and

WHEREAS the Dufours are slated to gather in Madawaska, Maine in the summer of 1983 to honor Joseph Dufour II (1740-1783), mail carrier between the provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia, and

WHEREAS said Joseph Dufour's two sons, David and Joseph III settled in the beautiful St. John Valley and propagated prolific families, and

WHEREAS their heirs, in association with their Acadian heirs from the Founding Families of Madawaska (1785), will gather to do homage to their forebears, and

WHEREAS many of the Dufours have distinguished themselves in public service not only in this municipality but throughout the entire United States and Canada, and

WHEREAS this celebration will be held in Madawaska during the Sixth Annual Acadian Festival in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred Eighty-three,

BE IT THEREFORE resolved that we, the selectmen of Madawaska, in recognition of the service of the many descendants of Joseph Dufour II derived from his two sons David and Joseph III and their posterity in the development of this community, do declare the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of July to be known as DUFOUR REUNION DAYS.

WE THEREFORE have caused this document to be duly signed in our presence and proclaim the DUFOUR REUNION throughout the land, and resolve that it be incumbent upon future generations to do likewise.

WE HAVE this 29th day of March
in the year of our Lord 1983
affixed our hand and seal.

Joseph Madore
Roger E. Daigle
Richard Plaiston
Elmer Albert
Ernest Chasse

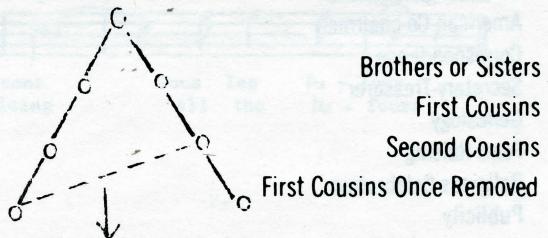


Dufour Reunion

Dear Dufour Family Members and Friends,

A Family Reunion is a joyous occasion, a chance to renew acquaintances, an opportunity to discover relatives you never ever thought you had. While our modern life tends to fracture us into highly mobile small nuclear family units, a Grand Reunion opens the door to discover the fact of mobile importance that beyond the nuclear family there lies an extending family, one that includes the uncles, cousins and the aunts - yes, even the long lost "kissing cousins" and the relatives we call "cousins once removed."

What is the difference between a cousin, a cousin once removed, and a second cousin? Cousins are children of brothers and sisters. Second cousins are grandchildren of brothers and sisters, but the relationship of a child of one brother or sister to the grandchild of the other brother or sister is not second cousins but first cousins once removed.



The Historical Society congratulates the Dufour Family in bringing distant relatives together in a reunion which is guaranteed to help renew the spirit of family that was so crucial an element in the minds of our forebearers. He who renders hommage to his forefathers brings honor unto himself.

God be with you.
Madawaska Historical Society

Guy Dubay
President

THE DUFOUR REUNION COMMITTEE



CHAIRMANSHIP:

General Chairpersons

Canadian Co-chairman

American Co-chairman

Correspondence

Secretary-Treasurer

Genealogy

Fund Raising

Religious Celebration

Publicity

Photography

Telephone Committee

Registration

Hospitality

Social Evening

Decorations

Buffet

Memorial Tree

Dufour Float

Arts and Crafts

Scrapbook

Reunion Booklet

Adrien, Therese Dufour

Maurice, Leopold Dufour

Cecile Dufour Pozzuto

Martha, Francis Dufour

Martha Guerrette

Rose Dumond

Gerald, Bea Dufour

Patrick, Patsy Ayotte

Joel Dufour

Therese Dufour Albert, American

Regina Dufour Rossignol, Canadian

Joel Dufour

Louis, Gilberte Dufour

Majella, Valmon Dufour

Antoine, Martha Guerrette

Lorraine Dufour Cox

Roger, Rejeanne Dufour

Patricia Dufour

Leonard, Bertha Dufour Pelletier

Arnold, Patricia Dufour

Gertrude Dufour, Blanche Dufour Guerrette

Lynne Dufour

Cecile Dufour Pozzuto

Chanson DUFOUR Song

Mouvement de Marche

Sur l'air de "La Cantiniere"

-2-

Nous sommes ici aujourd'hui (bis)
 Pour saluer le monde présent (bis)
 Le monde présent savent l'héritage
 Vous êtes ici d'un grand voyage.

We are assembled here today (bis)
 To greet all the people present (bis)
 We people know our heritage
 You have come from far and near

-3-

Nous sommes ici aujourd'hui (bis)
 Pour saluer tous nos petits (bis)
 Tous nos petits seront gardé
 Les traditions sont de s'aimer.

We are assembled here today (bis)
 To greet all our little children (bis)
 Our little children will be cherished
 "Tis our tradition to love

Composed by: Carol Dufour Baker
 Cecile Collin Dufour

The year 1983-84 marked another busy year for the Madawaska Historical Society with the summer bringing the usual high point in activity in the society's sponsorship of a family reunion during the Acadian Festival. Queries are often received at the Madawaska Historical Society why a quasi-municipal society such as ours engages in the sponsorship of family reunions. The answer is simple. We can think of no better way to emphasize the role of families in our Acadian heritage and the Valley's past.

According to our bi-laws the purpose of our historical society is "to bring together those people interested in history, especially the history of the St. John Valley." Family reunions tend to personalize that history, and brings to Madawaska people from all over the country when they are made to realize that their roots and their heritage are part of the package that can be had during a summer trip to the St. John Valley.

The next query we are most often asked relates to how the society goes about selecting families to be invited to a reunion under historical society sponsorship. Here again the answer is simple. There are two principle guidelines used in making the selection. These are that the family must be "Une Grande Famille Acadienne" and that somehow that family must have long historical involvement in the affairs of the St. John Valley. Families whose heritage harkens back to the days of the founding of Madawaska nearly two hundred years back have been, in the past reunions been the recipient of the invitation. In the past year the Dufour Family whose valley roots seep back back to the revolutionary War period gathered some two thousand strong to add flourish and camaraderie to the Acadian Festival. This summer the Thibodeau family has been invited to join us in returning to our sources.

1984-85 will also be a year of planning for the Madawaska Bicentennial. The coming year hopefully will see the ground work laid out, for the raising of the permanent Acadian Cross on the historic Acadian Landing site of 1785 - a site behind our Tante Blanche Museum which has been registered in the National Register of Historic Places.

With community wide support already received and further assistance from the Town of Madawaska, its civic organizations, churches and public spirited cooperations the permanent marble Acadian Cross will soon grace the shores of the historic St. John River.

To meet this goal in the anticipation of the Madawaska Bicentennial which will bring thousands of people to our town, a request of \$5,000.00 is put forth by the society for the furtherance of this project and the activities of the Society which include the maintenance of the Tante Blanche Museum and Acadian Landing Site in St. David.

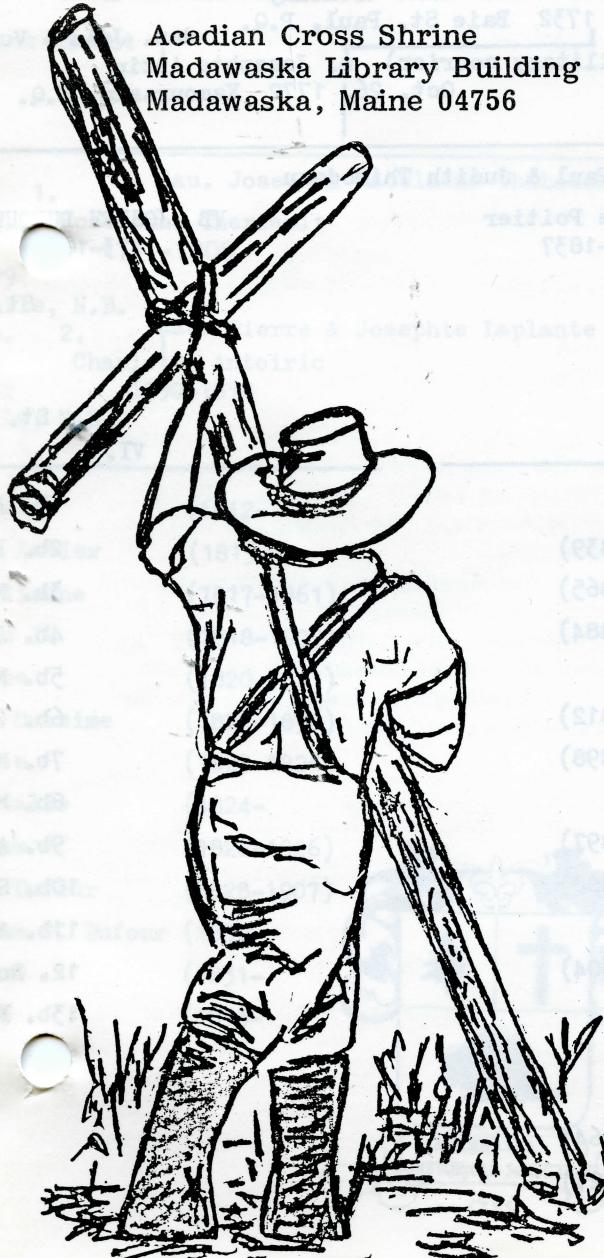
Sincerely yours,

Bertrand Cyr
President

We wish to thank all who have contributed to the SHRINE FUND in the past. However, if the Historic Shrine is to be completed for 1985, more funds for the foundation are needed. Won't you please HELP?

Mail donations to:

Acadian Cross Shrine
Madawaska Library Building
Madawaska, Maine 04756



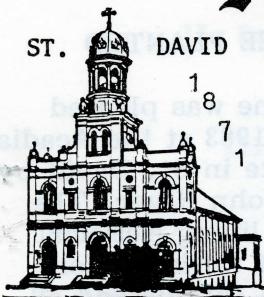
1983

ACADAIN SHRINE DONATIONS

Diane Cyr Poole
Raymond, Washington
Mrs. Joseph Berube
Edmundston, N.B. Canada
Mr. & Mrs. Darious Levesque
Madawaska, Maine
Bertha Cyr Dambroise
Fort Kent, Maine
Marion Sirvio
Minneapolis, Minn.
Clair Zimmer
New Carrollton, Md.
Eldon E. Lizotte
Augusta, Me.
Mr. & Mrs Claude Hebert
Rochester, N.H. (Memorial to Luc H.)
Rose Hebert
Madawaska, Me.
Virginia Pinkham
Ashland, Me. (em. to Tom Pinkham)
Francis Doucette
Derry, N.H.
Sheila MacDonald
Augusta, Me.
Leona Parent
Madawaska, Me.
Dr. Levesque E. School
Frenchville, Me.
Ursula Marceaux
Frenchville, Me.
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Hebert
Shirley, Mass.
Marie Vollman
Madawaska, Maine
Ruth M. Eaton
Belfast, Me
Ste Agathe Historical Society
La Société Historique du Madawaska
Ste David Parish
Ste Thomas Parish

Acadian Festival

Madawaska, Maine



Traditional Acadian French Mass St. David Church
Recitation of Angelus at Acadian Cross Site
Followed by Chicken Stew in Church Basement

Historical society names

Thibodeau family 1984 "grande famille Acadienne"

The Board of Directors of the Madawaska Historical Society has voted to invite the Thibodeau Family to be the "Grande Famille Acadienne" slated to reunite at the Family Reunion on Acadian Day 1984.

The Thibodeau Family of the St. John Valley, as do Thibodeau's from many parts of the United States and Canada, trace their origins to Pierre Thibodeau (1631-1704), the Seigneur of Chipoudy, who emigrated from France to Acadia (Nova Scotia) in

1654.

The family founder, who married at Port Royal, Acadia (now Annapolis, N.S.) about 1660, fathered 16 children, among them seven sons who gave the Thibodeau family the numerous posterity to whom the invitation has been extended.

All the Acadian descendants of Pierre Thibodeau, the old miller of Pre-Ronde, are being invited by the Acadians of Madawaska to join them in celebrating the traditional Acadian holidays at Madawaska in 1984.

COMMITTEES

Membership: Rolande Levesque
Museum: Bernette Albert
Publications: Geraldine Chasse
Photos: Cecile Pozzuto
Newsletter: G.P. Chasse
Genealogy
Shrine: Bernette Albert

ADVISORY BOARD

Jacqueline Savoie	Milton Cyr
Gaetan Hebert	Normand Plourde
Norman Cyr	Harold Violette
Fernand Dubay	Martin Cyr

FAMILY REUNION ASSOCIATION

Daigle:
Cyr:
Hebert:
Dufour: Alva Dufour, Roger Dufour

AN EXHIBIT
at
MUSÉE ACADIEN
Moncton, N.B.,
July to September
and
MUSÉE DU MADAWASKA
Edmundston, N.B.,
October to November
1983



STATE OF MAINE



BUREAU OF
TAXATION
MAINE SALES TAX
PERMANENT EXEMPTION

chez-Nous The St. John Valley

"The Chez-Nous, St. John Valley Book" written by Guy Dubay and published by the Maine State Museum in 1983 is available from all Valley Historical Societies.

We hosted the Valley Societies at an Expansion Arts Program, with officials from the National Endowments for the Arts and the Maine State Museum.

The Madawaska Historical Society Advisory Board and the Madawaska Historical Society Family Reunion Association were formed in 1983 to assist in decision making.



Community Lecture Series

THURS., OCT. 27 • 7:30 P.M. • FORT KENT TOWN HALL

*Northern Maine during the Federal Era:
Beginnings of the Madawaska and Aroostook Settlements*
BEATRICE CRAIG

MON., NOV. 14 • 7:30 P.M. • MADAWASKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

*The Frustrated Dream of Joseph Plumb Martin:
The Unfulfilled Promise of the Maine Frontier*
ALAN TAYLOR

WEDS., DEC. 7 • 7:30 P.M. • MADAWASKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Everyday Life on the Farm and in the Woods:
The District of Maine, 1780-1820*
DAVID SMITH

THURS., DEC. 15 • 7:30 P.M. • FORT KENT TOWN HALL

Parishes & Sects: Religion on the Maine Frontier
STEPHEN MARINI

sponsored by

Fort Kent Historical Society
Fort Kent Public Library
M.S.A.D. #27

University of Maine at Fort Kent

Madawaska Historical Society
Madawaska Public Library
Madawaska High School

MADAWASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 FINANCIAL STATEMENT
 NOVEMBER 13, 1983

<u>EXPENSES:</u>	Insurance	- 120.00
	Publications	- 919.83
	Utilities	- 14.60
	B & A	- 50.00
	Postage	- 71.93
	Printing	- 183.75
	Road Repair & Grounds	- 895.75
	Photo Project	- 642.01
	Debit & Service Charge	- 30.69
	Miscellaneous	- 104.60
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>3033.16</u>

<u>INCOME:</u>	General Fund	- 286.43
	Publications	- 610.72
	Interest	- 323.88
	Membership	- 458.00
	Shrine Fund	- 4499.87
	Photo Project	- 500.00
	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>6678.90</u>

Fraser donated \$500.00 to Photo Project.

Town of Madawaska donated \$2700.00 to Shrine Fund.

Anonymous donation of \$650.00 to Shrine Fund.

OPENING BALANCE	10-31-82	4194.10
INCOME	1983	6678.90
		<u>10,873.00</u>
LESS EXPENSES		<u>3033.16</u>
		<u>7839.84</u>
ON HAND CHECKING	10-14-83	8305.50
LESS OUTSTANDING CHECKS		<u>465.66</u>
		<u>7839.84</u>

The following donations are gratefully acknowledged:

Fraser Companies	- 500.00
Town of Madawaska	- 2700.00
Anonymous	- 650.00

MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS 1983

I. ARTIFACTS

1. 1 Large Iron Wheel for Woolen Mill
2. Carved Wood Dividers (by George Beaulieu)
3. Wooden Corn Shredder
4. Framed Print of "La Dispersion des Acadiens" (by Henri Beau)
5. Framed Picture of Father Pierre Paul Dufour
6. Early Wooden Dough Box
7. (2) Woolen Woven Blankets
8. Wooden Loom

DONORS

Herman Picard
Ronald Thibodeau
Jordan B. Hillard
Mrs. Agnes Roy
Hartford, Conn.
Cecil Pozzuto
Bernette Albert
Mrs. Irene Albert
Lester Dumont

II. PAPERS, BOOKS & DOCUMENTS

1. Repertoire des mariages de Ste. Luce
2. "Histoires des Acadiens" (Robert Rumilly 3 vols)
3. Copy of Morneau Store Ledger
4. Mortuary Card Scrap Book
5. "L'Histoire du Madawaska" by Thomas Albert, 1920
6. Book One "Cyr Reader 1891-92"
7. The Descendants of Chas. LeMarquis
A Genealogy
8. Dufour Family Reunion Donations
 - a. Dufour Reunion Souvenir Booklet
 - b. Photo Album of Dufour Ancestor Pictures
 - c. Dufour Reunion Photo Album (1983).
 - d. Dufour Lineage St. John Valley (genealogy).
 - e. Dufour Family Group Record Sheets Volume 1.
 - f. Dufour Descendants Family Group Record Sheets Volume II.
 - g. The Bride's Register, Vols. I & II. Dufour, les creoles des Avoyelles, Louisiana. Author, Jeraldine Dufour LaCour from Bunkie, Louisiana.

Guy Dubay
Robert Perreault
Mrs Norma Beaupre
Mrs Richard Martin
Mrs Maxime Bouchard
(M.Rose Sirois)
Wm A. Cyr, Berkely Ca.
Wm H. Marquis, Plattsburg, N.Y.

III. MISCELLANEOUS & OTHERS

1. Wooden Glass Case for Dufour Ledger
2. Scythe Blade

Dufour Family Reunion
Saul Gervais

IV. PHOTOS

1. 38 pictures of the Acadian Festival and Dufour Reunion
2. 70 Antique Photos

St. John Valley Times
Dufour Family

The Society also wishes to express its Sincere gratitude to the generous donors of articles for the auction held during Acadian Week.

Membership

NEW MEMBERS

Willie E. Cyr	Waterbury, Ct.
Jane M. Dugal	Caribou, Maine
Charlene Dufour	Oakdale, Ct.
Claude & Gilberte Hebert	Rochester, N.H.
John A. Hebert	Shirley, Mass.
Linda A. Levesque	Weymouth, Ma.
Marion Sirvio	Minneapolis, Minn.
Clair Cyr Zimmer	New Carrollton, Md.
Blanche Dufour	Riviere du Loup, Que.
Linda Dube	Madawaska, Me.

LIFE MEMBERS

Anne Marie Cote	Hartford, Ct.
Gerald & Verna Cyr	Madawaska, Me.
Norman A. Daigle	Lille, Me.
Francis G. Doucette	Derry, N.H.
Adrien E. & Therese Dufour	Madawaska, Me.
Ronald & Rolande Gervais	Madawaska, Me.
Antoine & Martha Guerette	St. David, Me.
Neal & Bernice Martin	Fitchburgh, Mass
Odile Cyr Mower	Brooklin, Me.
Pierre & Jackie Savoie	Madawaska, Me.
Conrad L. Vaillancourt	San Bernadino, Ca.

ANNUAL DUES

THE MADAWASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 198

Name _____

Address _____

\$3.00 _____ \$5.00 _____ \$10.00 _____ Life _____ (\$50.00)

Please renew my membership for 198 _____

Please mail dues to Membership Chairman: Rolande Levesque,
Library Building, Madawaska, Maine 04756

NEW MEMBERS

WILLIS B. LESTER

Jean M. Dugay

Isabelle Dufour

Caroline & Roberta Hebert

CHARLES FREDERIC JUNIOR & A. L. JUNIOR

LIBERTY LEVETTE

RAYMOND L'HERTIE

CHARLES L'HERTIE

THE RED CROSS FLAG



General

Guillaume Henri

Dufour

Famous Swiss Hero

CREATED the RED CROSS

He reversed the Swiss Flag

(White Cross on Red Field)

Which he had designed for his country 33 yrs. before

MADAWASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Library Building

Madawaska, Maine 04756