

chez nous

Newsletter of

La société canadienne-française

no.3 vol.3

MARS 1982

LE TEMPS DES SUCRES

"Quand vient la fonte des neiges,-
Chez tous les bons habitants,
Les gens s'en vont en cortège,
C'est l'temps des suc'r's,
C'est là bon temps!"

(Le temps des sucres, C.E.Gadbois)

One of the greatest symbols of Québec, the maple tree, brings much joy to everyone during the spring season. Its sap provides ample reason for a great round of parties for "sugaring off" time. Les "cabanes à sucre", sugar shanties welcome relatives, friends and visitors for a "partie de sucre."

The maple syrup bubbles merrily. Part of it will be pulled as taffy, swirled hot on spatulas or thrown on beds of snow to cool before eating, while eggs will be broken into the other part emerging half boiled, half poached and very sweet. (My

mouth waters just thinking about it.) Maple-smoked ham, crêpes with maple syrup and maple sugar spread on crusty bread and covered into thick country cream are part of the menu.

As the eating, sipping and sapping continues, the "cabane à sucre" will know much laughter, many songs and eventually as the fiddle strikes up, the dancing will begin while the fires roar and the happiness and love abound.

Maxine

TARTE AU SUCRE

1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 cups pure maple syrup
1 cup flour

1 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup butter
Favorite pie crust

Prepare pie crust and line a 9 in. pie tin. Mix baking soda and maple syrup and stir until soda is dissolved. Pour into pie shell. Mix together with fingers, flour, brown sugar, and butter to obtain a granulated consistency. Pour over syrup. Bake 30 min. at 350°. Line oven with foil as mixture tends to boil over.

Le président parle

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On Wednesday, March 10th, at 7:30p.m., we will have the honor and privilege to entertain and hear M. Gérard Vézina, who is the director of the Délégation du Gouvernement du Québec à Chicago. He is making a special trip to St. Paul to visit us. I hope that every member of La Société will be present to greet us.

I would like to remind all our members to please renew their annual membership. YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO US. YOU ARE LA SOCIÉTÉ.

Our next big project will be a French Canadian week this fall. The ball has already started to roll! It is a big enterprise and we need each and everyone of you. If you can in any way help us, please contact Francine C. Roche at 755-5936.

I will try to organize a trip to Montréal and Québec this summer, July 10-17, just one week. We will fly to Montréal and return. We will employ a bus in Canada. I will have particulars soon. Plan on coming with us.

En avant, mes amis!

John T. Rivard, Pres.

Rapports du comité

HISTORICAL - George LaBrosse

TOUR - FRONTENAC Mark your calendar for an all day tour to Frontenac and Red Wing, Minn. on Sat, April 17th. A chartered bus trip is planned. Bus capacity will be 30 to 41 persons. Reservation, by check, can be made prior to the tour. Deadline set for April 10th. The tentative itinerary is:
Leave St. Paul at 9 a.m. (central meeting place to be decided). Coffee break in Frontenac, Villa Maria, Tour historic Frontenac; lunch in Red Wing; return to St. Paul by around 4:30 p.m. For further information call Helen Peltier before March 8th or after March 19th. Her number is: 7892214.

MEMBERSHIP - Evelyn Lund

La Société is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Robert and Joyce Branchaud
Chandler and Carmelle Wahi
Donald and Abby Marier
Reverend Henri Dulac
LoAnn Crepeau J.H. Johnson
Victoria D'Amour Dan Prideaux
Phyllis G. Smith

WELCOME !

PUBLICITY - Francine Roche

While in Chicago Francine recently visited the Québec government representative, M. Vézina. She very much enjoyed speaking with him and has returned quite fired-up. LOOK OUT!

During the festivities of the St. Paul Winter Carnival, three of our members were interviewed by Radio-Canada CEWFT, the French television station in St. Boniface, Manitoba, and also by CKSB, their radio station. Francine Roche, Lucille Ingram and Ralph Germain took part in these interviews, along with some filming of Our Lady of Lourdes, the French church.



Bouquets de fleurs

Bouquet de fleurs this month to a very special person, our Membership committee chairman, Evelyn Lund. What a terrific job she does and always with a smile. For all your work, Evelyn, merci. Définitivement "Dans les petits pots, les meilleurs onguents".

L'histoire



THE ENGLISH REGIME (1763-1867)

- 1763 Treaty of Paris: all of eastern North America becomes British.
- 1774 The Québec Act which reinstates French civil law.
- 1776 Declaration of Independence by the American colonies.
- 1783 Treaty of Versailles: the end of the war between England and France.
- 1791 Constitutional Act passed in London. The Province of Québec is divided in two: Lower and Upper Canada.
- 1792 First elections to the Legislative Assembly of Lower Canada.

Culture in Québec -

The source of the culture of a people, whether it be French, English, American or Québécois, is found in the way in which people speak, think and live. This in turn reflects their language, beliefs and institutions.

At first glance, it is not easy to identify the original, unique culture that could be described as Québec culture. In fact, our heritages are many: from France come our language and civil law; from the Amerindians, our many ways of taming nature; from Britain, our political institutions and criminal law; from Catholicism, our churches and religious thinking; from North America, our economic and industrial system and the technology that goes with it. Marked by those various influences, the Quebecer of today is the heir and the continuator of an everlasting struggle to preserve his identity in an ocean of English realities. A rough courageous history has endowed him with a practical, dynamic, daring character, an epidermal sense of freedom marked by a strong independence which is the trademark of a rich, young personality bent on expressing its own values by its own means.

Its language of course is French, but a kind of French marked by the "short-cut" habits of the Americans, the British sense of humour...and sometimes by a sense of ambiguity which betrays its Norman origins. The Québec language might not have the polish of Parisian French but certainly has more vitality. The various Québec accents, and there are several - do not have a European consonance for here we have a nation which is deeply rooted in North American soil.

Promesses de Mars (Auguste Angellier)

Quand Mars sème ses giboulées
Dont la grêle folle étincelle,
Quand, de ses blanches aiguillées,
Le givre brode de dentelles
Les noires branches des allées,



Dans les herbes renouvelées
Déjà prêtes pour l'asphodèle,
D'exquises senteurs exhalées
Annoncent le retour fidèle
Des douces brises exilées:



Et des collines aux vallées,
Le petit rouge-gorge appelle,
Secouant ses ailes mouillées,
Les jours où le bois entremêle,
Pour cacher les nids, les feuilles.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Madeleine Roche

REVENUE

Membership	\$ 289.93
Tee Shirt Sales	717.70
Donations	13.00
Refund (state)	30.54
Fund Raising	2,237.42
Special Events	225.35
	<u>\$ 3,513.94</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Postage	\$ 124.04
Office supplies	5.50
Training and Conferences	151.91
Tee Shirt Purchases	439.86
Equipment/inventory	76.08
Printings: publ. & p.r.	132.15
Checks & service charges	18.16
Special events	65.00
Concert expenses	<u>1,242.22</u>

CASH ON HAND June 1st, 1981	\$ 203.67	
REVENUE	<u>3,513.94</u>	↓ 3,717.61
DISBURSEMENTS	<u>2,254.92</u>	
error in disbursement entries	7.30	2,262.22

BALANCE December 31st;.....\$ 1,469.99

CONCERT NET: \$ 995.20

TEE SHIRT NET \$ 227.84

Le calendrier 4

MARCH

- 10 -Membership meeting
Guest: M. Gérard Végina
de la Délégation du Québec
- 15 -Board meeting at Evelyn
Lund's home. 7:30p.m.
- 18 -Canadian Brass
Orchestra Hall 8:00p.m.
- 22 -Historical Committee mtg
7:00p.m. Little Canada
Council Chambers

APRIL

- 7 -Membership meeting
7:30 p.m. St Louis Church
- 17 -Trip to Frontenac, Minn.
Call Helene Peltier.

Ralph & Diane Gernain
603 Hillside Lane
Stillwater, MN.
55082

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Le président parle

mai 1982

With the approach of the elections in June, I thought it appropriate to review a few of the guidelines governing our organization. Our constitution and by-laws are the policy makers of our organization. They tell us what are our responsibilities and duties in order to reach the goals and purposes of our specialized group. I can state that our officers and board members have done their duties very well since the beginning of our Société. I congratulate them and we are proud of their accomplishments.

There is always room for improvement within our various committees, which are the working cells of our beehive. If the worker bees do not place food (honey) in the cells, the bees will have no nourishment and will starve. I urge the committee chairpersons to be up and doing. He/she must see to it that the committee have regular meetings. The members, under the leadership of these chairpersons will generate ideas and projects relevant to their job. If a chairperson feels unequal to the task or has no time to fulfill the duties, then he/she should resign gracefully so that the Board of Directors may appoint another chairperson.

Some of our chairpersons and their committees have done great work, hence our success in several of our projects. Board members have been diligent and regular in their assistance at meetings. At this point I would like to remind chairpersons and board members to attend regularly their respective meetings, for the constitution orders the board to remove persons who miss meetings without excuses. As I am writing these words, I can think of many people who have given unselfish dedication and love to our group. Isn't that what it's all about?

En avant, mes amis!

John T. Rivard, Pres.

NEWS FROM: Central Minnesota Chapter II - St. Cloud, MN

The Central Minnesota Chapter was affiliated with the State Board of La SCP in March 1982 with about 40 members enrolled. We welcome them with open arms! They have held several board and general meetings at the Whitney Senior Center. The last meeting was held April 21. The St. Cloud Genealogical Society gave a presentation of "Finding Family Roots". A film, "Faces of Québec" was shown.

The Chapter is making plans to participate in the 75th Anniversary of the death of Sartell, June 26 & 27. They will be in the parade and conduct a procession. Members will serve French Crêpes and will sell souvenirs. The Twin Cities Chapter invites the Central Chapter to the Annual Meeting June 2 for elections, and to the big picnic on June 19th. Officers of the St. Cloud Chapter are: George LaDouceur, Pres., Jerry LaVoie, V.P., Judy Antil, Sec., and Floyd Desmarais, Treas.

L'afa/mid-ouest nous parle

L'ANNEE ACADEMIQUE 1982-1983 au QUEBEC (see Rapport n° 12 - Décembre 1981)

I have received several inquiries on this topic, all from Michigan. This is what I said in reply:

1. Write to one of the four universities mentioned below that are participating in the program and ask to be enrolled in one or several courses. The course in cultural geography is offered only at the Université Laval.
2. When you receive notification of acceptance, write to Mr. Gérard Vézina (Québec Government Office, 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 2052, Chicago, Illinois 60601). He will then communicate on your behalf with the university to settle the tuition fees, which are covered by an agreement between the Québec Government and AFA/Mid-Ouest. Please note that this agreement does not cover the summer months, only the academic year.

If you intend to send someone, arrangements should be made now. These courses, for which one can get credit, are not only for young people in college or planning to go to college, but also for those who have finished high school and do not plan to pursue their studies. Why not make a break in your life before looking for a job. An experience of this character is sure to be beneficial to whatever course your life may take. Do not miss the opportunity.

Université Laval
Programme spécial de français
Pavillon De Koninck (3252)
Sainte-Foy, Québec G1K 7P4

Université de Montréal
Ecole française
3333, Chemin de la Reine-Marie
Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7

Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
Ecole de langue française et de
culture québécoise
930 est, rue Jacques-Cartier
Chicoutimi, Québec G7H 2B1

Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
Ecole Internationale de Français
3351, Boulevard des Forges
C.P. 500
Trois-Rivières, Québec G9A 5H7

Marie-Reine Mikesell

potpourri

Evelyn Lund reports that the following are new members of La SCF. Welcome all!

Mary L. Busnière Olivia Kriha
James W. Sicard Janet Kelly
Patrick Jacoby Tonja A. Drake
Elizabeth Carpentier
Theodore & Pauline Drake
Mr. & Mrs. E.W. Fisk
Alfred & Diana Lutz
Daniel & Roxanne Patenaude

Francine Roche has been elected official representative for La Société at the Rencontre des Francophones workshops
Québec City

VOYAGE À NOS RACINES (A Trip to our Roots)

On July 10, 1982, a group of enthusiastic people will fly to Montreal to begin an experience in French-Canadian heritage. John and Jeanne Rivard will lead the tour to French Canada. After three days in Montréal, the second largest French city in the world, a trip down the St. Lawrence will take the group to the charming capitol of Québec, where four days of touring and visiting the walled city, narrow streets and Ste Anne de Beaupré will imbed a love of the ancestral land of many French-Canadians. The trip will end July 17, but you may stay on if you wish for a few days. The cost is \$780.00 double occupancy. Contact John T. Rivard, R. 2, St. Cloud, MN 56301 (253-2199). Registration must be completed by May 20.

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ELECTIONS '82

According to the rules of our constitution, this year, 5 new board members will be elected, while the other 6 go on for a second term. As of now, those serving a second term are: John Rivard, Francine Roche, Evelyn Lund, and John England.

The following names have been submitted by the nominating committee for positions on the Board of Directors:

John R. Bridell, 52, born in Marshall, MN. Attended William Mitchell School of Law; has practiced law in Minneapolis for nine years. He was in the U.S. Navy from 1947 to 1950. John is unmarried.

Dorothy Landry has served on the Board in the past. Now retired, she would like to contribute once more. Dorothy has three children and six grandchildren. She has interests in anything French, which includes singing, talking, and now learning to speak French all over again.

Dick Bernard lives in Falcon Heights, St Paul. He is currently attending the U of M and is studying Industrial Relations. Dick has an 18 yr. old son living with him. Dick was a teacher, a few moons ago, and also is Executive Director of the Anoka Hennepin Education Association. His outside interests include perpetuating his partial French heritage.

Howard Bissonette is married to Carwyn (née St Onge), a psychologist. They have three children, two of whom are college graduates. He is a professor of plant pathology at the U of M, and is internationally recognized for his research. Howard is also a fourth degree Knight of Columbus.

Philip LaPorte is a Professor in Labor Relations at the U of M. His family is of French-Canadian heritage, his grandparents being from Québec. His family settled in New England. As a student he spent one summer in France studying the language, culture, and architecture. He is eager to serve on the Board.

The President will invite nominations from the floor. Persons nominated should have been approached beforehand as to willingness to serve.

CÉLÉBRATION de la ST JEAN BAPTISTE

Come and celebrate our annual picnic, the year on Keller Island.

The event will take place on June 19. Keller Island is located 1/4 mile south of Hwy. 36 across from Keller Golf Course.

Bring your picnic basket - but save room... for French-Canadian pea soup will be available for a small fee. There is also a possibility of having roasted pig.

There will be songs, dances, games for all! Mark your calendars!

Bring your families and friends. It will be a great day!

PEA SOUP & JOHNNY CAKE

"Pea Soup and Johnny Cake" by Mary Agnes Starr. Red Mountain Publishing House, Box 3425, Madison, WI 53703 \$7.95. 1981

Every French-Canadian in America should have this fine book for quick consultation. Mary Agnes Starr, born and raised in a heavily populated French-Canadian settlement in Wisconsin, has collected songs, stories, anecdotes, recipes, customs and traditions of the people who have roots from La Belle Province de Québec. She has traveled extensively in the United States and Canada to fill her book with many tidbits of folklore and history.

Mary Agnes, now living near Madison, WI, has been a lecturer, singer, and ambassador of French-Canadian lore since her childhood. She recounts her adventures, her recollections and her visits with outstanding people who have contributed to French-Canadian heritage.

Her book contains a wealth of traditions like La Guignolée, Le Jour de L'An, Le Réveillon, La Fête des Rois, and Mardi Gras. She has made a fantastic collection of songs, children's nursery rhymes, tall tales, food recipes and dances. She has traveled the states to tape French-Canadian songs from persons long gone, and has organized the Wisconsin Federation of Music Clubs Archive, where tapes are to be forever preserved for posterity. She even

has tapes of some of my relatives and friends from Somerset. We should get this fine lady to visit us in Minnesota and share with us her enthusiasm and vast store of folklore.

Why old songs and folklore? She answers by quoting an Indian: "You have to have new springs to make the grass grow, but grass grows out of the old earth. You have to have old things for new things to have roots in. That's why some people have to keep old things going and some people have to push the new things along. It's right for both of them."

John T. Rivard, Pres.

Bouquets de fleurs

A special thanks to a St Cloud member of La SCF, Gaston Rhéaume for designing the new logo of La Société Canadienne-Française. It was officially adopted at the last meeting of the Board of Directors.

À toi, Gaston, Chapeau Bas!



Le calendrier ⁹

MAY

- 5 Membership Meeting
- 19 Board Meeting at the home of Dorothy Landry.

JUNE

- 2 Membership Meeting
Annual election of Board of Directors and officers.
- 19 Annual Picnic celebrating La St Jean Baptiste. More info about this will be given at the June 2 meeting.

To honor Mother's Day, we include this poem:

"Maman, tu es la plus belle du monde
Aucune autre à la ronde n'est plus jolie
Tu as pour moi, avoue que c'est étrange
Le visage d'un ange du paradis.

Dans tous mes voyages
J'ai vu des paysages
Mais rien ne vaut l'image
De tes beaux cheveux gris.

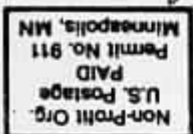
Maman, tu es la plus belle du monde
Et ma joie est profonde
Lorsque à mon bras
Maman, toi, tu es là."

To all the mothers of the world:
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

La Société Canadienne-Française meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the hall of St. Louis Parish, 506 Cedar Avenue, downtown St. Paul (near the State Capitol). Everyone is welcome. There is nothing that together we cannot undertake. We need your ideas. We need your talents. We need you!

*There will be no membership meetings during July and August.

*The Ray & Germain Family
603. Hillside Lane
St. Louis Park, Mn. 55082*



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LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE
2140 102nd Ave. N.W.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

chez nous

Newsletter of

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no. 5 vol. 3

note de l'éditeur

juillet 1982

Summertime and the living is easy!
Our long wished-for summer is finally here. For most of us it means trips, lake cabins, fishing etc...

For me, summer always means going back to my roots, going home to my beloved Québec. As I am writing this letter, I am anxiously getting ready for my annual trip. At the thought of returning to my French Canadian culture, at seeing relatives and friends, my heart beats much faster. I cannot wait to experience again the irresistible and totally infectious "joie de vivre" of the Québécois (and their charming good looks too)!

While in Québec I will participate in La Rencontre des Peuples Francophones on your behalf. I will take time to meet with the performers who have accepted to participate at our second annual "Evening in Old Montreal" this fall.

To each and everyone of you have a great summer and see you all again this September.

Francine



Tout en suivant l'étoile
Je reviendrai d'où je suis partie
Vous, mes amis, mes frères,
Vous, ma campagne et vous, mon pays.
Tout en suivant l'étoile
L'étoile bleue qui ne brillait plus
Tout en suivant l'étoile
L'Etoile d'or que j'avais perdue.

Le président parle

Our Annual Meeting of La Société on June 2, 1982 was very successful. The new Board of Directors was elected and the new officers were then elected at the meeting of the Board directly following the membership meeting.

The new Board of Directors is as follows:

John Rivard, President	Brian Belisle
Francine Roche, 1st V. President	Dick Bernard
Justa Cardinal, 2nd V. President	Howard Bissonette
Dorothy Landry, Corporate Sec.	Philip LaPorte
John Bridell, Recording Sec.	John England
Evelyn Lund, Assistant Treas.	

The Treasurer's position has yet to be filled. I wish to thank the members and the Board for their renewed confidence in me as President. I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve you, and an opportunity to give added thrust to our goals of upholding our Grand Heritage. We will forge ahead with vigor to promote new projects. I urge the Committee Chairpersons to select their committee members and to hold regular meetings. It is through the committees that the real work is accomplished.

In my name and the name of the Société, I wish to thank the outgoing Directors: Madeleine Roche, Sister Ella Germain, George LaBrosse and Lee Collatz. They have done a fine job for us and we are very grateful. I would like to welcome the new directors. I know they will contribute new ideas to our organization. To the Board members staying on - THANK YOU for the continued dedication to our cause.

John Rivard, Pres.

Rapports du comité

MEMBERSHIP - Evelyn Lund

It's been a good year. Approximately 60 new members have joined our Société. Welcome all!

HISTORICAL - John England

John England is now our new chairman. We wish to thank George LaBrosse for a job well done.

CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL - Francine Roche

Francine has recently replaced Brian Belisle as chairman of this committee. Plans now in progress are for a French-Canadian week and the second annual "Evening in Old Montreal" scheduled for this fall.

SOCIAL -

Thanks to Justa Cardinal for two years of service. Also, many thanks to all the ladies who assisted her. We are in need of a new chairman for this committee. Please call Francine (755-5936) if you wish to volunteer.

NEWS FROM ST. CLOUD -

The St. Cloud chapter of La SCF will have a concession stand at Sartell's 75th Anniversary celebration. They will be serving French-Canadian crêpes. The 75th Jubilee is June 26th and 27th. French-Canadians from the metropolitan area are specially invited to attend.



To honor Father's Day, I would like to share with you a treasure, a biography of my father written by my sister Madeleine Roche.

Francine



Dad



He was a man with a happy heart. He loved people, song and a raised glass of wine. Quick to burst into song and a bit of soft shoe, he could turn the heaviest moment into a joyful one. He wove stories like a weaver weaves a tapestry. People loved him.

A man of good taste, he dressed elegantly though he owned only one suit. He had a flair with hats. In the summer he wore a jaunty panama straw; in the winter he wore an imported grey felt, tilted to one side.

Material goods were not important to him. Other than a few personal possessions he owned nothing: neither a home nor a car. Money received from small inheritances were quickly given away to help children and grandchildren. Hard times did not affect his happy heart; only discord and illness in his family had that power.

The forest was his life. When he and his four brothers became young men, their father gave them three choices: a university education, a farm, or a start in business. Dad refused all three. With an elementary school education he became a wood scaler. He was the best! As swift on snowshoes as he was in dancing shoes, he spent many a winter in the woods, training lumberjacks in the ways of the forest. He knew the species of every tree grown in Québec. With reverence, he would mark the trees to be felled; measuring and scaling each felled tree for its ultimate purpose.

In the summer he would fly in bushplanes, scanning the forest for destructive bush fires. He spent many nights and days digging trenches to stop the path of a fire. The forest was all he knew and all he wanted to know.

Children loved him and he loved them back. I never knew him to raise a hand to a child. He expected good manners, courtesy and honesty. He was not a disciplinarian by any stretch of the imagination; to the contrary, he believed in "letting the free spirits grow". He not only delighted in children's antics; he often helped children carry them through.

A sentimental man, he could not restrain a tear. I see him still, a tear trickling down his cheek, saying goodbye as I left for a long time. I hear him tell me: "Always say I'll see you next year, it seems shorter that way."

He had shortcomings to be sure; but as I recall them, he is doing a soft shoe and bursting into song.

eleine Courtemanche Roche



La Societe wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the family of Evelyn Mitsch (nee Gaudreau) who passed away in May. She was 72. She is survived by her husband, Raymond, four sons, and five grandchildren.

Evelyn was a very active woman with many talents. A commercial artist, she was involved in the St. Paul Nagasaki Club, the Twin City Diabetic Assoc., the Eastside Writers' Club, and the Societe Canadienne-Francaise. She taught art classes at the YWCA in St. Paul and demonstrated her art of paper cutting at various spots in the Twin Cities including the Festival of Nations. We very much enjoyed her presentation at one of our membership meetings last year. She will be missed by many.

The SCF is a member of AFA, Association of Franco-Americans. However, if you wish to join as an individual, please send \$1.00 dues to:

Marie-Reine Mikesell
Mid-West Regional V.P.
1115 East 56th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60637

There will be no membership meetings during July and August. See you again on Wed. Sept. 8. Normally we meet the first Wed. of every month but because of Labor Day, the meeting will be held the following week.

Canada is progressively adopting the metric system. For all of you who will be travelling to Québec this summer, here are a few tables of conversion to facilitate your stay:

<u>When you have</u>	<u>multiply by</u>	<u>to obtain</u>	<u>symbol</u>
ounces	28	grams	g
pounds	0.45	kilograms	kg
tons	0.9	tons	t
inches	2.5	centimeters	cm
feet	0.3	meters	m
yards	0.9	meters	m
mile	1.6	kilometer	km
Fahrenheit temperature:	$F - 32 \times 5/9 =$	Celsius	C°

Newsletter by:
Francine Roche
and
Lucille Ingram

Ralph & Diane Germain
603 Hillside Lane
Stillwater, MN 55082

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NO. 1 VOL. 4.

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Le président parle

septembre 1982



We began on September 8th our third full year of La Société Canadienne-Française du Minnesota. We have traveled a far way in the past three years, and we expect to journey much further this year than ever before. We have great plans, and we hope that you will help us make the journey. We need your ideas, your cooperation and your readiness to pitch in and work.

On October 18-23 we will hold a Heritage Week. During that week several projects are "in the works" concluding with the Big Concert at St. Thomas College October 23rd. The plans will be revealed to you as we go along. Come to every meeting to get on the ground floor of our programs.

The chairpersons of each committee are urged to fill their committee with full membership of at least five members, and you are to hold regular meetings to accomplish your goals. The president will call for reports from time to time from your committees.

We hope to have a good time this year. A good French-Canadian detests boring meetings; he likes fun and laughter. We will gear our meetings to the old spirit of "bonne humeur".

The president and the full membership wishes to thank all the persons who made the Picnic at Keller Island on June 19 such a great success. Special thanks are due Mel Therrien, Ray Bennett, Chelle Stone and others on the committee who made a mighty effort to make a delightful day. The roast pig was delicious, the pea soup succulent, the social atmosphere was conducive to a fine day in spite of a rainy ending.

OCTOBER

Where are you going, my children?
Down autumn's leaf-strewn lanes
To find Jack Frost who tiptoed by
and touched our windowpanes.
I see storm windows that must be hung,
You see frost tracings in early sun.
I see leaves to be raked in a mound,
You see tumbling mats on the ground.

Where are you going, my children?
Just down the road a way
To see the tree where the hoot owl sits
And a field where rabbits play.
I see small boots to be marked and mated,
You see a world newly decorated.
Oh, let me come with you down that lane
And see October as a child again.

Rapports du comité

CULTURAL-EDUCATIONAL

Through our work, we have found a book store that does sell French-Canadian books. The store is Books Abroad, at 25 University Avenue Southeast in Minneapolis, does carry some French-Canadian authors.

Below is a list of authors and titles currently on hand at Books Abroad:

by Jacques Benoit:

Jos Carbone
Les Princes

by Yves Thériault:

L'Héritage d'Agaguk

by Marie-Claire Elais:

Le Loup
Un Joualonnais sa Joualonie
Le Jour est noir suivi de L'Insoumise
Les Apparences
Vivre! Vivre!
Manuscrits de Pauline Archange

by André Major:

L'épidémie (Histoire de déserteurs)
L'épouvantail (Histoire de déserteurs)

by Claude Jasmin

Delivrez-nous du mal

by Gabrielle Roy

Alexandre Chenevert
La Montagne Secrète
Rue Deschambault
La Petite Poule d'Eau
Cet été qui chantait
La rivière sans repos

For more information you may call Books Abroad, 612-378-0961.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The historical committee is hunting for genealogies, parish histories, books and articles dealing with French-Canadian history. Your donations to our collection are most welcome. Remember, you are helping preserve the history of a great people.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

We now have a new chairperson in Mrs. Daniel Belair. Many thanks to Justa Cardinal who has done a great job for the past two years.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

Warm welcome to our new treasurer, Mrs. Maggie Charbonneau.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Société welcomes:



Francois Lord Hayes
Bernard N. Beck
Lee & Diane Heiges
Edward & Rosalie LaPointe
Louise Markus
Jon Trombly
Raymond & Edna L'Allier
Grace M. Klinker
Omer & Cora Richards

All correspondence concerning new members, renewals, or change of address should be directed to:

Evelyn Lund
1813 Jackson Street NE
Minneapolis MN 55418
789-7051

Have you renewed your membership for 1982?

Singles	\$4.00
Family	7.00
Senior Singles	2.00
Senior Families	3.00

Checks must be made out to LaSociété.

CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER

The Central Chapter, based in St. Cloud, will hold its first fall event with a picnic for the membership on Sept. 23rd. The first full meeting will be October 21st at the Whitney Center at 7:30 PM according to George LaDouceur, president. La Société, Chapter 2, participated in the Sartell 75th this summer in June. The group took part in the parade and conducted a booth that served French crêpes to the hungry crowds. Several members of Chapter 2 attended the St. Jean Baptiste picnic held by Chapter 1 at Keller Island in June. Gaston Rheaume of St. Cloud served an excellent pot of pea soup at the picnic. It is hoped that Chapter 1 and 2 will get together more often to hold joint events and help each other to increase the number of chapters in the state.



"Salut à Québec"

"Il y a aussi la musique,
 Qui a marqué ma vie,
 Le violon de mon père,
 Les chansons de ma mère,
 Les mélodies de la terre,
 Où j'ai grandi."

(Tiré de la chanson "J'ai vécu bien des années" d'Angèle Arsenault)



Music has always held a place of honor in the life of the francophone population. To the various songs brought over from France centuries ago, the French Canadians have added their own music, created around the fiddle which is still the national instrument. To the fiddle we added the famous "spoons" and the "jig". Through our music we have expressed all throughout the centuries the love of Life, the love of Love, the nostalgia and the hopes of our French Canadian nation.

Again this fall, La Société Canadienne-Française du Minnesota, under the patronage of the Canadian Consulate of Minneapolis and La Délégation du Québec à Chicago, will present an evening of French-Canadian music. Our "spectacle" will take place on Saturday, October 23rd, at 8:30 p.m. at Murray Hall 3rd Floor lounge, St. Thomas College, St. Paul.

The evening promises to be an evening of total delight in company of Martin Lavoie, well known chansonnier from Québec, Bob Vaillancourt, fiddler par excellence du Québec, et Francine Courtemanche Roche, well known singer in Québec and Minnesota.

To heighten the evening, Monsieur Gérard Vézina, delegate of the Quebec Government, and his wife, will be among us. Among us too will be the President of the national organization Assemblée des Franco-Américains (AFA), Monsieur Henri St. Laurent and his wife from Union, New Jersey, and Madame Marie-Reine Mikesell de Chicago, vice-president of the same organization.

What an honor it is for us to be able to share with our community our French-Canadian culture. This year the whole Mid-West will echo "la joie de vivre" Canadienne-Française for the performers will also appear in Madison, Milwaukee, Detroit, Grand Forks and Red Lake Falls.

TICKETS? Please contact Evelyn Lund (789-7051) or Justa Cardinal (776-5087). Tickets are \$5.00 each (tax deductible). Wine, tourtière, cheese and bread will be sold during the evening.

See you all at St. Thomas on October 23rd! Tell your friends too!

PARLEZ - VOUS FRANÇAIS?

Words such as - bonjour, salut, très bien, merci, et toi ? comment va-t-elle? qui, ils vont bien, etc. were just the beginning for a small but eager class in conversational French taught by our own Sister Ella Germain.

The last series ended with a French dinner consisting of:

Hors d'oeuvre aux Crevettes
Soupe à L'oignon
Pain beurré
Tourtière
Salade de fruits
Fromage
Flanc
Mousse au chocolat
Vin Rouge

The series is again offered by Sister Ella Germain. For registration or further information please contact her at 690-3695.

Le calendrier 17

- Sept. 19th - Somerset Pea Soup Day
- Sept. 21st - Board of Directors meet home of Allan & Maggie Charbonneau in Burnsville
- Oct. 6th - MEMBERSHIP MEETING St. Louis Church St Paul 7:30
- Oct. 9th - Tour of St Jean Baptiste Church at Hugo, Minnesota. Meet at 11:30 a.m. For details: John England 699-5178.
- Oct. 23rd - French-Canadian Concert (see article elsewhere in this issue) Murray Hall, 3rd Floor Lounge, St. Thomas College, 2115 Summit, St. Paul, Minnesota. 8:30 p.m.

La Société Canadienne-Française meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the hall of St. Louis Parish, 506 Cedar Avenue, downtown St. Paul (near the State Capitol). Everyone is welcome. There is nothing that together we cannot undertake. We need your ideas. We need your talents. We need you!

* Newsletter by Francine Roche, Lucille Ingram and Dick Bernard.

Germain, Ralph & Diane
603 Hillside Lane
Stillwater, MN 55082

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LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE
2140 102nd Ave. N.W.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433



chez nous


Newsletter of

Dec. 1982 ¹⁸

La société canadienne-française

NO. 1 VOL. 4.

The Christmas Story



And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:1-7

SAINTE NUIT

O nuit de paix! Sainte nuit!
Dans le ciel l'astre luit;
Dans les champs tout repose en paix,
Mais soudain, dans l'air pur et frais,
Le brillant chœur des anges
Aux bergers apparaît.

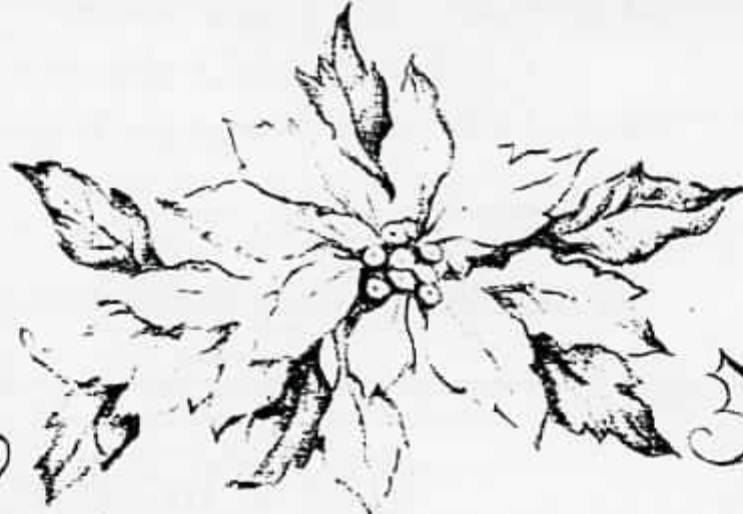
O nuit de foi! Sainte nuit!
Les bergers sont instruits:
Confiants dans la voix des cieux,
Ils s'en vont adorer leur Dieu;
Et Jésus en échange
Leur sourit radieux.

O nuit d'amour! Sainte nuit!
Dans l'étable, aucun bruit:
Le Sauveur de la terre est né;
C'est à nous que Dieu l'a donné,
Célébrons ses louanges:
Gloire au Verbe Incarné!

O nuit d'espoir! Sainte nuit!
L'espérance a relui:
Le Sauveur de la terre est né;
C'est à nous que Dieu l'a donné.
Célébrons ses louanges:
Gloire au verbe Incarné!



Paroles: M. l'abbé Armand Bail,
Musique: M. Franz Schubert
69



note de l'éditeur

"Que la paix soit sur le monde
Donnez-nous mille colombes!"

Words from my song of peace, the song that has been sung all through the Midwest during the tour in late October and early November.

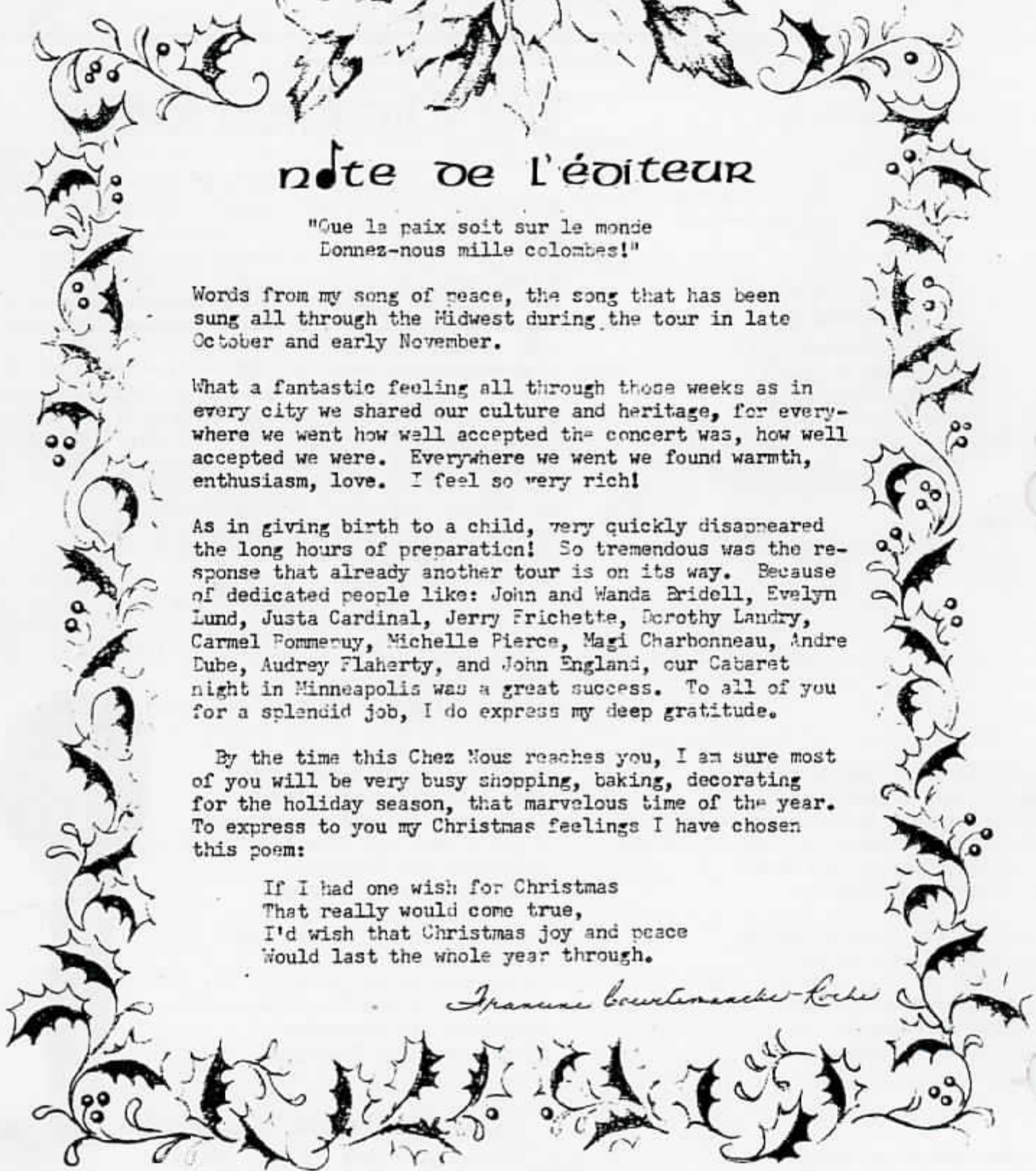
What a fantastic feeling all through those weeks as in every city we shared our culture and heritage, for everywhere we went how well accepted the concert was, how well accepted we were. Everywhere we went we found warmth, enthusiasm, love. I feel so very rich!

As in giving birth to a child, very quickly disappeared the long hours of preparation! So tremendous was the response that already another tour is on its way. Because of dedicated people like: John and Wanda Bridell, Evelyn Lund, Justa Cardinal, Jerry Frichette, Dorothy Landry, Carmel Pommeruy, Michelle Pierce, Magi Charbonneau, Andre Dube, Audrey Flaherty, and John England, our Cabaret night in Minneapolis was a great success. To all of you for a splendid job, I do express my deep gratitude.

By the time this Chez Nous reaches you, I am sure most of you will be very busy shopping, baking, decorating for the holiday season, that marvelous time of the year. To express to you my Christmas feelings I have chosen this poem:

If I had one wish for Christmas
That really would come true,
I'd wish that Christmas joy and peace
Would last the whole year through.

Francine Couvtenacker-Lake



"ME AND THE OTHER" A BIG SUCCESS

Societe's DJ's Francine Roche and Carmel Pommepuy are "knockin' 'em dead" on KFAI-FM.

Their program, "Me and the Other" is one of the most popular on the station according to officials of the station (90.3 FM in south Minneapolis).

The show consists of French music and commentary about French Canadian culture. LaSociete gets lots of publicity. The program airs Tuesday mornings from 9-11 a.m.

The Board of LaSociete recently donated \$50 to KFAI in thanks for the free air time.

Carmel and Francine are always looking for ideas and French music. Your ideas are solicited.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Several events are upcoming at Minneapolis' "French Church" Our Lady of Lourdes (Hennepin at University Ave).

* On December 7 at 7:30 p.m. the combined chorales of St. Thomas and St. Catherine's College will sing before and during Mass for Immaculate Conception.

* On Christmas Eve, at midnight Mass, parts of the Mass readings and songs at Lourdes will be in French.

* The annual Lourdes Tourtiere dinner is set for February 6. This is a big event for the Church. The meal is outstanding. Tickets will be available at the January LaSociete meeting or through Dick Bernard, Evelyn Lund or Dorothy Landry.

* Tourtiere is for sale after all Masses at Lourdes from now through February. They are outstanding for holiday meals. .00 each.

LaSociete Welcomes:

- Francis L. Atrim
- Bertrand Y. Auger
- Virgil Benoit
(Red Lake Falls)
- Patricia Baribeau
- Alice Marie Bernard
- Carol Dupre
- John Perra
- Anita Stolp



MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION
FOR 1983 STARTS NOW.

WHY SEEK NEW MEMBERS?

WE NEED A RESERVOIR OF EXPERIENCE AND TALENT FROM WHICH NEW LEADERS MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR THE SUCCESS IN ACCOMPLISHING OUR GOALS AND FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF LASOCIETE.

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REMEMBER: YOU AS AN INTERESTED AND DEDICATED MEMBER HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO SPREAD THE WORD - WHICH IS LASOCIETE CANADIENNE-FRANCAIS.

OUR GOAL: AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER FROM EVERY CURRENT MEMBER.

RENEWALS/NEW MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP RATES:

FAMILY.....	\$10.00
SINGLE.....	7.00
SENIOR (62 +).....	5.00
SENIOR FAMILY.....	6.00

FROM JAN 1, 1983 TO DEC 31, 1983. MAKE CHECKS TO THE SOCIETE. RENEWALS ACCEPTED AT UPCOMING MEETINGS AND BY MAIL TO:

EVELYN LUND
1813 JACKSON ST NE
MINNEAPOLIS 55418
789-7051



The French-Minnesota Connection: A Living Legacy

To Minnesotans who have studied their state history, the names of Marquette, Joliet and Hennepin are very familiar. But what about Beaulieu or Rivière des Canots, Racine or Orleans? No, you aren't in a course on French geography. You don't even have to leave the state of Minnesota to find these places.

The French explorers and settlers of the 18th and 19th Century left us with a lot more than the fur trade and passages to Canada. By naming cities, towns and bodies of water after themselves or after place names in France, they left us a legacy of French influence which has remained even today.

The origins of some of the French place names in Minnesota are sketchy. But thanks to good records, most of the origins are identifiable. Here are only a few examples of cities and towns in Minnesota named by the French:

- Beaudette*: named for a local fur trader.
- Bejou*: Originally "Bonjour" (Hello in French), and changed by an Ojibway Indian.
- Belle Plaine*: For Beautiful Plain.

Cannon Falls: The French named it "Rivière des Canots" (River of the Canoes); it was anglicized by new settlers.

Duluth: Named for Daniel Gregalson du Luth, a companion of Father Louis Hennepin.

Frontenac: Named for Louis de Buade de Frontenac, a French Colonial Governor of Canada.

Gentilly: Named after a suburb of Paris.

Grand Marais: Originally a description of the marshy bay area around Lake Superior.

Lac Qui Parle: "The Lake That Talks". Missionaries named this town after the Indian superstition that there were spirits in the waters. The echoes from the lake sounds appeared to be voices.

Le Sueur: Named for a Canadian fur trader and explorer.

Orleans: Named for the city in France of the same name.

Racine: Means "root" in French.

St. Cloud: Named for a Paris suburb.

Terrebonne: "Good Earth" in French, it was named after a town in Quebec.

Le calendrier 21

DECEMBER

3 Christmas dinner

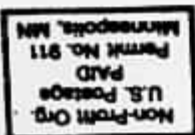
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS

JANUARY

1 Happy New Year

5 Membership meeting

17 Board of directors meeting.



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LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE
2140 102nd Ave. N.W.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433



chez nous

Newsletter of

La société canadienne-française

NO. 2. VOL. 4.

Le président parle John Rivard

JANVIER 1983

Je vous souhaite une Bonne Année, et le paradis à la fin de vos jours! This time-honored French-Canadian greeting launches us into a new year of achievements for 1983. 1982 was our greatest year since our beginning.

The Société's report for 1982:

Paid members for 1982 - 222 (in '81, 134; in '80, 105)

State Board meetings - 10

Membership meetings - 10

Participated in 3 parades

Two special tours

Festival of Nations

Governor signs Heritage Day

Radio Program KPAI 90.3 PM

Christmas parties - Mpls. & St. Cloud

6 Standing committees

6 Editions of Chez Nous

St Jean-Baptiste picnic

Pea Soup Days in Somerset, WI

Central MN Chapter at St. Cloud

Sartell 75th celebration

LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE is a cultural, educational, historical and social organization dedicated to the preservation and celebration of the French-Canadian heritage of Minnesota. We do a little business, enjoy entertainment and refreshments, and learn a lot about ourselves and about each other. If you are of French-Canadian descent, or if you are interested in our culture, history or language, come to a membership meeting. They occur monthly, on the first Wed. at 7:30 p.m. at St. Louis Church, 506 Cedar Ave., downtown St. Paul (near the Capitol).

Representative to Québec

Representative to Lafayette AFA

Festival du Voyageur, Winnipeg

Concert at St. Thomas

4 special committees

Ethnic Festival in Chisholm, MN

I propose and suggest the following events and programs take place in '83:

Winter Carnival Jan. 29

Festival of Nations (May)

Picnic in June

National Conference AFA (Aug.)

Heritage Day & Concert (Oct.)

Make a permanent float for parades

Establish a costume for the ladies
(Men wear voyageur costume)

French lessons increased

Sale of authentic articles

Establish new chapters

Historical & cultural tours

A Fr.-Can. dance team

Publish 6 newsletters

Obtain more publicity

Obtain grant for oral history

Obtain grant for research

Slide history

Find a permanent meeting
place with meeting room
and library

Société manual

~ BONNE ET HEUREUSE ANNÉE! ~



Je me souviens

23

Let me share with you my attendance at the CYR and CYR ROOT FAMILY REUNION held in Madawaska, Maine, July 24, 25, and 26, '81. I am a Cyr and have long wished to locate my ancestors back past my great grandfather, David Cyr. It was really quite by accident or Providence that I did get there too. My friend, Mary Dicks and I had already been accepted at an Elderhostel at University of New Brunswick in Fredricton, N.B. where I wanted to go to use their archives in search of my ancestors. We also were registered at another week of Elderhostel program July 26th at Fort Kent, Maine which is only twenty miles from Madawaska. It was after these plans were made that I was informed about the reunion, so of course this was to be included in our plans.

Our trip started off with a three-day stay in Montréal, then on to Fredricton where I did find my ancestors back to Pierre Cyr who came from France to Acadia (Nova Scotia) in about 1650. We rented a car and traveled in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for a week, then on to Madawaska for the reunion.

What a thrill to arrive in the small town of Madawaska with banners and placards welcoming the "CYR'S". The reunion which started Friday, included signing a family register (which 2600 people signed), viewing genealogy exhibits and crafts and sales, and meeting "cousins". Receptionists dressed in traditional Acadian costumes were hosts to the visitors throughout the weekend and if they were not a Cyr they were members of Madawaska Historical Society who sponsored the event with an estimated 4000 in attendance. CYRS came from all over the world. One from South America, and one whole family from Germany.

Saturday evening started out with a buffet dinner in the high school cafeteria and a "grande soirée" held in the larger building until the small hours of the morning. A skit was presented on Jean Baptiste Cyr's nine sons who were the pioneers of this area. There were also singers, dancers and musicians to entertain us.

Attendance at the French Mass on Sunday was held outdoors at the Acadian Crossing Site by the St. John River and was a very moving experience. The Mass was concelebrated by three priests but in all there were six "CYR" priests on the altar assisting. After Mass came the dedication of the CYR "Living Memorial", a live spruce tree planted at the site. The inscription of the plaque was unveiled and reads: "This living memorial is dedicated to Jean Baptiste Cyr, father of all Acadian CYRS. The CYR FAMILY REUNION - 1981". This was followed by the re-enactment of the landing of the Acadians as they came up the St. John River in canoes and landed here in 1785.

While I was in Fort Kent the following week I was able to visit Van Buren, Maine, where my grandfather, Solomon J. Cyr was born and I found the grave sites of my great grandfather and great grandmother.

This whole trip had much more meaning than I had anticipated because I did find my CYR ancestors and how they did fit into the Acadian story. I am very proud to be of this ancestry and hope to pass this heritage on to my children.

Marion Cyr Sirvio

24

note de l'éditeur

January! Once again the time for renewal. How many of you have already broken your New Year's resolution? Why not forget about losing weight, quitting smoking, adopting a rigid exercise program you know you won't maintain. Instead, try something really constructive as did Nicole Morin-Scribner, from Maine. Her story appeared in Le F.A.R.O.G. Forum, November, '82. It is in a condensed form for our CHEZ NOUS.

"January rolled around and it was time again to make a New Year's resolution. I wanted to be serious and really do something constructive. An idea struck me. I really enjoyed speaking French but rarely had the opportunity to do so except when I visited my parents. Why not find a nice little old French lady who didn't have much company and visit her on a regular basis? I spoke with the Administrator of the... nursing home. She thought it was a wonderful idea and selected two women she thought might particularly enjoy having someone else to visit them who spoke French.

The day came when arrangements had been made for me to meet them. They put me in the conference room and brought in Mme. Philomène Fortier and Mme. Aurore Duquette. Both were in their 80's and in wheelchairs. I started asking them all kinds of questions.

Venez-vous du Canada? Quelle partie? Moi aussi, je viens de la Beauce! Quel âge aviez-vous quand vous êtes venus aux États-Unis?

Je n'oublierai jamais Mme. Duquette. Après une petite secousse elle m'a regardé et dit: "On est-y à confesse?" Elle m'a prit par surprise. Je ne savais pas trop quoi dire. Après tout, voici une parfaite étrangère qui venait les questionner sur leur vie privée et ça faisait du bon sens qu'elles ne soient pas prêtes à tout ouvrir leurs vies à moi! Je lui ai expliqué que je voulais seulement les mieux connaître et essayer de leur faire parler. Je leur ai demandé la permission de continuer à les visiter. Je me promets d'aller les voir à toutes les deux semaines. Après un couple de mois elles découvrent que je suis sérieuse et on devient de plus en plus amies. Elles commencent à me parler de leurs vies, de leurs expériences, de leurs mémoires.....

Il y avait des semaines que ça ne me tentait pas d'y aller. Mais je me disais, "Suis ta promesse! Vas-y les voir!" Et quelque chose inattendu arrivait. J'avais vraiment du "fun". Chaque fois que j'entrais dans leur chambre, c'était comme si je leur faisais un grand cadeau!.....

I used to go in there from work all depressed and find myself walking out all cheered up like a new person. Who was pepping up whom?...."

To summarize all of this, nursing homes and older people in particular, aren't always given the credit they deserve. Consider adopting an older buddy at a nursing home. You may find that as little as one to two hours per month can result in some surprising rewards.

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LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE FRANÇAISE
TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT
1982

Balance January 1, 1982 \$1,460.99

INCOME

Chapter Fees	\$ 35.00	
Donations	144.52	
Membership Dues	585.50	
Fund Raising, Heritage Day	2,483.15	
Picnic	768.64	
Sales - Non-Taxable	539.85	
- Taxable	68.50	
TOTAL INCOME		4,625.16
		6,095.15

EXPENSE

Association Dues	\$ 115.00	
Donation	50.00	
Fund Raiser, Heritage Day	1,836.31	
Historical Committee	125.00	
Library	104.90	
Meetings (hall rental, etc.)	376.10	
Merchandise	189.30	
Office	268.39	
Picnic	524.30	
Postage & Printing	480.49	
Special Events	140.00	
Sponsorship, Concert Tour	300.00	
Travel-Meals (conferences)	459.50	
Miscellaneous	124.70	
TOTAL EXPENSE		5,093.99

Balance December 31, 1982 \$1,001.16

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Charbonneau, Treasurer

Additional Sales after Oct.1,1982:

Non-Taxable: \$132.20	Misc. Exp.: \$25.70
Taxable: 104.45	Purchases: 131.83

Submitted by Pat Jacoby, in charge of Sales Sub-Committee

Rapports du comité

MEMBERSHIP - Evelyn Lund

The Société welcomes:

- a Lokensgard Scott Votel II
- a M. Nerburn Paula Callies
- Jean-Pierre Turgeon Barbara Yerick
- Emmett and Mrs. Bouley
- Roger and Mrs. Pepin
- Ray and Gloria St. Hilaire
- Serge and Françoise Ballini

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EVELYN LUND
1813 JACKSON ST NE
MINNEAPOLIS 55418
789-7051

***** HISTORICAL - John England

We have applied for a grant-in-aid from the MN Hist. Soc. in order to conduct an oral history project. Our purpose is to record the vivid memories of Fr.-Can. descendents. S'il vous plait, dites une prière pour

notre succès. Contact us if you would like to participate in this worthy project. 699-5178
MERCİ BEAUCOUP to all who have contributed materials to our archives. Your generosity is very much appreciated.
Our next tour - in the spring - will include a visit to Notre Dame Church at Chippewa Falls. We will keep you posted on the final details.

CULTURAL/EDUCATIONAL - Francine

Francine Roche, who is temporarily on a leave of absence in Québec, will be replaced in the meantime by Carmelle Pommeputy.
One thing that this committee is interested in doing is forming a subgroup of the SCF that would include only French-speaking members. It would not take anything away from the membership we have now, but would give an opportunity to those who wish to speak French to do so. It would be an incentive for those of you who are becoming a bit rusty with the language to work on it, and for those who wish to learn it, to do so. Several newcomers have made the comment "but you don't speak French!" That could even be your New Year's Resolution. Interested? Call 379-4068. By the way, French lessons are being given by:

- Carmelle Pommeputy - 379-4068
- Sister Ella Germain - 690-3695

SOCIAL - David & Jeanne Belair

Are doing a fine job in the kitchen making sure that everyone's needs are met. It's so nice to see a husband/wife team taking over that responsibility. You did a fantastic job at the Xmas Party as did the group of adults and children who presented the Xmas Pageant. Francine and Carmelle deserve the credit for organizing that. BOUQUETS DE FLEURS to you all!

Carmelle Pommeputy has been appointed by the Board of Directors as Program Coordinator for our monthly meetings.

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Francine

Dick Bernard and Lucille Ingram will handle responsibilities till Francine's return.

KFAI FRESH AIR RADIO 90.3 F.M. continues to receive positive feed-back from its listeners. DJ's are Carmelle Pommeuy and Lucille Ingram (filling in for Francine). The program airs on Tues. a.m. at 9. We have a limited supply of resources so enlist your help. If you have French records you would like to lend us say, one week at a time, we would be most appreciative.

potpourri

A new Book of the month Club has sprouted in the Twin Cities recently. French books would come right to your door with no obligation to buy. For info write:

Liaison Littéraire
P.O. Box 2066
N. St. Paul 55109

LE FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR in St Boniface, Manitoba runs from Feb. 13 - 20. It is an experience you should not miss. For French food, entertainment, fiddlin' & jiggin' it's the place to go - only 450 mi. away (one hour by plane). Don't worry about the cold - you'll never feel it!

LES JOYEUX BALADINS are recruiting interested individuals. All that is re-

-Newsletter by Lucille Ingram

quired is that you love to sing, & that you can get along fairly well when it comes to singing in French. Call 533-0890 if interested.

A professional group of Fr.Can. dancers will be passing through Mpls. during the first week in April. They number about ten. If the SCF can supply them with host families for 2 or 3 days, they will be willing to give an 1 1/2 hr. performance FREE in return. What an opportunity! If this can be worked out, our April mtg. would take place on a Fri. or Sat. depending on which night they could perform. More details later.

Three exciting pieces of info from AFA (Assemblée des Franco-Américains)

1. 6th National Fr-Am Conference on the island of Mackinac, Aug 3 - 7. The SCF is planning a bus trip to the conference.
2. A national contest to select the song that best reflects our heritage and culture today.
3. A national contest to select the best design for a flag that is truly symbolic of Franco-Americans. So, all poets, musicians and artists, start the juices flowing!

Information will be given at monthly meetings.

Two "grandes dames" of the Fr.-Can. community passed away recently: Alice Collette Sell, & Rachel Bernard Gaudette. To the families of both of these fine ladies, our most sincere condolences.

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