



La Choquetterie

Newsletter of the Association of the Choquet-tes of America Inc.

Choquet-te

Member : \$ 3 Non-member : \$ 4

Number 7

Fall 2004

A word from the president

Dear Cousins,

I am very happy and I consider it a great honour to be addressing you by way of the “Choquetterie Journal”.

May I confide in you that I love our Association, that is the Choquet-Choquette Association Inc., and that I am very proud of it? After having taken part in two reunions, one of which took place on August 7th, 2004 in Sherbrooke and where over one hundred cousins gathered, I feel a deeper satisfaction of being a member of this large family that is ours. To meet people from the same origin, who come from all over at those gatherings, made me understand that there is a link of cousinhood, a trace of blood “Choquet-Choquette” without a doubt, that brings us closer to one another, we, the descendants of Nicolas Choquet and Anne Jullien, and which also tends to create significant relationships.

These reunions have forced me to realise that they are in themselves very beneficial to the ACA because they allow it to grow by inciting a lot of people to support their family association and to become members of same. But most of all, such gatherings give the opportunity to those who participate to meet very interesting people and to make new friendship links. As a matter of fact, anecdotes from the past have been related to you but this strikes quite another chord when you live it yourself, as it personally happened to me last summer...

I hope to be able to meet you in 2005 in the Saint Jérôme region or in the Lower Laurentians on April 10th for a start, for a brunch at the sap house, and on August 6th, 2005 for the 3rd annual reunion in Lafontaine.

Christmas spirits are already in the air. I therefore wish you with warmth and sincerity an exceptional “**Year 2005**” but most of all in the best of **health** and with truly **happy** moments that will make every new day a better one for you.

I remind you of the ACA motto: “**Courage, Pride and Loyalty**”. And I add my own under the present circumstances: “**Peace, Love and Harmony**”.

Your President,
Lise Choquette, Saint Anne des Plaines.

Summary

A word from the president	1
Summary	2
2004 Reunion	3
Testimonies from members...	5
Acknowledgements	6
The Choquet Choquette Family...	7
Jerome Choquette	10
Happy birthday	13
Genealogical Chronic	14
Financial Report...	15
The marriage of Daniel Stephane...	16
Just as good Today as it was Yesterday	17
He was left us	18
New members	18
New Descendants	19
New Activities	20
Did you know ?	21
Genealogy at the ACA	24

Board of Directors

President

*Lise Choquette-Monette
(St-Anne-des-Plaines)*

Vice-President

Renée Choquette (Granby)

Secretary

Andrée Choquette (St-Jean-sur-Richelieu)

Treasurer

Claude Choquette (Montreal-North)

Administrators

André Choquette (St-Therese)

Urgel Choquette (St-Hyacinthe)

Jacques Choquette (Ange-Gardien)

Solange Choquette-Carrière (Verdun)

Mario Choquette (St-Louis-de-France)

Newsletter committee

Publisher : Jacques Choquette (Ange-Gardien)

Editors : Jean-Paul Choquette (Chambly)

Renée Choquette (Granby)

Editorial collaborators :

Claude Choquette (Montreal-Nord)

Ghislaine Choquette (Montreal)

Marthe Prevost-Gaudreau (Compton)

Translation:

Renée Choquette (Granby)

Collaborators to translation :

André Choquette (St-Therese)

Guy Choquette (Winnipeg)

Address : La Choquetterie

663 Rte 235

Ange-Gardien J0E 1E0

Quebec

Email : journal@choquet-te.org

The A.CA is a good-standing member of the Federation of the Founding Families in Quebec

2004 REUNION



Bromptonville High School

The 2004 Reunion of the Association of the Choquet-te of America took place on Saturday August 7th, 2004 at the Bromptonville High School located in the Brompton District of the City of Sherbrooke.

About a hundred persons attended the gathering. From the comments we have gathered, this assembly was successful in all its aspects even though rain joined in for the day. In the morning, people were greeted and offered coffee and doughnuts. But it was particularly the social interaction which was expressed by way of warm greetings and animated discussions between cousins. The second general annual meeting of the ACA was then held to conclude this half day.

The lunch buffet was the perfect occasion for people to get to know other cousins and afterwards, they all left by bus to go on a guided tour of the City of Sherbrooke. Even those from the neighbourhood found it interesting especially due to the fact that there was a contest which requested that each one meet two new persons during that trip. This game, which was the brilliantly thought-out idea of Solange and Ghislaine Choquette, was a great success and was the core of liveliness after supper, not to mention that it truly altered the group dynamics between cousins for the remainder of the day and it also had its share in the creation of several new links.

Those present enjoyed a lecture with the help of visual aids on the history of Sherbrooke, of the Eastern Townships and of certain areas where Choquette families had settled. The speaker, Mr. Jean-Pierre Kesteman, who is a well-known historian and a specialist in the history of the Townships, knew how to fascinate his audience. Before savouring a refined and gastronomic meal, the persons taking part sang heartily and whet their appetite thanks to a rosé wine which was generously sponsored by Mr. J.-Maurice Latendresse. After the meal, people were also privileged to hear a very moving presentation given by Michel and Danielle Choquette of their father, the “prince of poets”, Robert Choquette.

During this reunion, the persons attending had the opportunity to find their ancestry and to have a chart of their descendants thanks to the genealogical and technical expertise of Jeanne Choquette who was efficiently assisted by Jean and Claude Choquette. Furthermore, Ghislaine Choquette was in charge of an animated stall which aroused a lot of curiosity and brought about discoveries with respect to family stories and souvenirs. And finally, Michel and Danielle Choquette made known the Robert-Choquette Foundation by way of a slide show they had prepared. Many people acquired souvenirs of the coat of arms of the Choquet-te; the bookmarks relating the life stories of Nicolas Choquet and Anne Jullien as well as that of the parish priest Joseph-Eugène Choquette were very popular.

In conclusion to this report and as the saying goes that “a picture is worth a thousand words”, we hereby present to you several photographs of the 2004 Reunion in the hope that they shall incite you to join us for the 2005 Reunion.



*Evelyne Guay (Beauport)
at the
reception desk*



*Lise Choquette-Monette &
Claudette Johnson
(St-Anne-des-Plaines) at the
Association souvenir booths*



*People looking for the chart
of their ascendants*



*André Choquette (Laval)
asking for information
about the business
of his Association*



*On the right,
Serge Choquette
(Ottawa) enjoying the dinner
with his family*



*Danielle & Michel
Choquette talking to
the audience about their
father,
Robert Choquette*



*Jean-Paul Choquette
as the chairman of the 2nd
Annual General Meeting
assisted by the secretary
Andrée Choquette*



*The Choquettes enjoying
the guided tour of the city
of Sherbrooke*



*Facing the historical mural
paintings:
H.-Louis Choquette & Marie
Desmarais (Ange-Gardien),
Louise Robillard & Ernest
Choquette (Newport Ctr,
Vermont) and Jean-Paul
Choquette (Chambly)*

Testimonies from members who took part in the 2004 Reunion



*Jeanne Choquette
explaining how to
understand
her genealogical data*

“I would like to congratulate all members of the organising committee for the 2004 Reunion for a very well done job. My father and I truly appreciated that Saturday. As I was very busy at the genealogy stand, I was unable to attend the activities of the day but the accounts related to me by my father, members of my family and other people, were indeed favourable. I was told that the guided tour was the perfect opportunity for people to create new links. As for myself, with respect to the managerial aspect of this event, it granted me the opportunity to talk to a lot of people, in opposition as to what happened in 2002. The environment was exceptional and so was the support. It was easy to put up posters of the 2002 display and also charts of issue of all those present.” **Jeanne Choquette, Gatineau**

“One week after the reunion which we attended in Bromptonville, I must tell you that I am still under the charms of those wonderful moments I have spent there with you, your colleagues and all the other members of this beautiful and grand family who were present. I must add that I feel the effects of a great satisfaction and absolute pride. Further to this memorable experience, pride under different aspects became inborn to me and I shared same with a lot of my fellow members: the pride of what we have jointly prepared in a material manner; the pride of having had to deal with people who were not demanding but rather grateful; the pride for the behaviour, the attitude and the calm of the members of my great family who correctly managed the event and the site and who also left the location



*Pierre Choquette
b.s.c.
our host*

in perfect order; the pride for the programming you had prepared for the day with meeting activities, visits and lectures which appealed to intelligence and culture; the pride in having met other persons and having made new friends whom I will rejoice in seeing again at future reunions and under different circumstances. Truly, I must admit that I was overjoyed in many different ways and much more than what I could have imagined and I wished to share same with you. I sincerely felt that we were part of the same and great family.” **Pierre Choquette, b.s.c., Sherbrooke**



*From left to right : Fernande
& Jean-Paul Choquette,
Diane*

“We were very happy and proud to have taken part in the Choquette Reunion of August 7th, 2004.” **Guy Choquette, Granby**

“We wish to thank you for the warm welcome that was shown to us at the Choquette Reunion in Sherbrooke. We met a lot of Choquette people and brought back precious souvenirs.” **Fernande Choquette-Longtin, Saint Jean sur Richelieu**

Acknowledgements

The members of the **Board of Directors** of your Association **wish to thank** all those who contributed in one manner or another to the success of the 2004 Reunion. They particularly wish to emphasize the precious and efficient participation of the following persons:

Yolande Mongeau-Choquette from Chambly who prepared all the reunion documentation;

Marthe Prévost-Gaudreau from Compton who took care of the lunch buffet, the supper and the lecture;

Pierre Choquette, b.s.c., from Sherbrooke who gave us access to the site and who took care of the material aspects of the hall, as well as taking care of putting everything back in place thereafter;

André St-Germain, b.s.c., from Sherbrooke who made the access to and the use of the site in the Bromptonville High School so much easier;

Jocelyne Choquette from Sherbrooke who took care of the coffee, juices, doughnuts, punch and so much more;

Jeanne Choquette from Gatineau and also Jean Choquette from Anjou who managed the genealogy stand;

Ghislaine Choquette from Montreal who was in charge of the family souvenir stand and also of the media coverage;

Michel Choquette from Montreal and **Danielle Choquette** from Ottawa who accepted to be spokespersons for their father and to make the Robert-Choquette Foundation be known;

Jean-Pierre Kesteman from Sherbrooke for his acceptance to popularize and share his knowledge of history;

Marie-Claude Dubois from Sherbrooke Tourism for her professional support;

J.-Maurice Latendresse from Bromont for the cocktail sponsorship;

Vianney Choquette, President of Les Fromages La Chaudière Inc. from Lac Mégantic, who gave us the opportunity to taste their cheddar;

Claudette Johnson from Saint Anne des Plaines for having taken care of the sale of promotional articles and finally **Évelyne Guay** from Beauport for the welcoming committee.

Gratefulness towards our sponsor



*André Choquette
showing the photo
of the sponsor*

All those present at the 2004 Reunion in Sherbrooke were very pleased when the cocktail was served in the afternoon. Such a wonderful moment was due to the generosity of **Mr. J.-Maurice Latendresse** from Bromont. Born in La Patrie, he is the son of Angéline Choquette and Omer Latendresse. J.-Maurice Latendresse has many cousins amongst the ACA members. Let us simply mention Solange, Ghislaine, Carmen, Roch, Bertrand, Gaston and André Choquette as well as Isabelle, Lise, André and Jean-Charles Blais.

J.-Maurice, businessman, manages his company Ezefflow located in Granby. André Choquette is seen on the photograph; he is the cousin and employee of J.-Maurice. André was very pleased to represent his boss who could not attend the reunion. We wish to underline the fact that André and his wife Ghislaine Bélanger-Choquette joined our association just before the gathering took place. **Sincere thanks** to J.-Maurice Latendresse for the excellent rosé!

The Choquet Choquette Family of America

The year 2005 will commemorate the 340th anniversary of Nicolas Choquet's landing by the Saint Lawrence Riverside. The first reference made to Nicolas Choquet in our registers is a religious one. On Monday August 24th, 1665, 40 persons presented themselves before His Eminence Laval at the Notre-Dame of Quebec Church, to receive the sacrament of confirmation. Several of them are soldiers of the Regiment which has lately arrived. We are aware that in December 1664, the Carignan-Salière Regiment is preparing its expedition to New France. In the group, we find a soldier who answers to the name of



Nicolas Chouquet, who claims to be 20 years old. This young soldier was quite unaware that he would soon be planting a tree of life whose branches are presently spreading their refreshing shadow all over the American continent.

We must not be surprised by the < Chouquet > designation. The writers trusted their sense of hearing and wrote out names with a lot of imagination.

During the French Regime, two Choquet immigrants, Antoine and Nicolas, established themselves in the Saint Lawrence valley. Antoine died without any male issue, thus leaving Antoine with the honour of insuring the survival of the Choquet-Choquette patronymic on American land.

There is nothing less precise than the to-s and fro-s of the soldiers of the Carignan Regime. From the date of the confirmation of Nicolas Choquet in the summer of 1665 up until his marriage in November 1668, the public records in the archives are completely silent with respect to his real-life and to his activities. Since he settled down on the island of Saint Therese, we may assume that he

was stationed in the Montreal region. Having board and lodging with local people, at the King's expense, the soldier may thus familiarise himself with the customs of the country.

The Carignan Regiment was summoned back to France in the fall of 1668. King Louis XIV informs the authorities that it would be preferable that the highest possible number of men in the troops establish residence in Canada. Several officers and 400 soldiers responded to his call and accepted to live in the country. Nicolas Choquet will be amongst them. As he is now demobilised, he receives 100 pounds to help him settle down. They are also given clothing, bed covers and food for one year.

As early as 1667, the intendant Jean Talon gives permission to <Michel-Sidrac Dugre>, Master of Boisbriand, a Breton, to exploit Saint Therese Island near Pointe-aux-Trembles.

In order to enhance the island and deserve the title of lord, Mr. Dugre needed strong arms and Nicolas Choquet was one of the eligible persons whom he recruited. Like most of the immigrants who came from France, Nicolas was hardly prepared for the task at hand: cut, square-off and drag trees with inadequate tools and most often with a beef hitching-up, pickaxe through the roots, hurriedly remove

stumps, being constantly annoyed by a storm of mosquitoes Exhausting work that has to be done in part during the heat waves of the summer and in part during the cold days of winter which surprises these non-resistant organisms. We are unaware as to when he managed to pick up the axe and start clearing up for cultivation. It is however without a doubt that he did not have much time to spare in order to prepare the love nest for his future bride.

Anne Jullien

She who was to become Nicolas Choquet's bride bore the name of Anne Jullien. She was originating from the Parish of Saint-Germain de l'Auxerrois, City of Paris.



Les "Filles du Roi"

Anne Jullien, together with about twenty friends, left Paris in early spring 1668 intending to reach an Atlantic port. From stopover to stopover, the stagecoaches, after having travelled across several cities and hundreds of small villages, reached the boarding place. All these girls were leaving parents and friends knowing well that they would never see them again.

At embarkment, sailors quickly bustle about the King's vessel. Merchandise, fresh water and supplies are piled up in the stowage. The captain will truly have to determine the length of time of the crossing because if the trip should persist, the food provisions will run out and the rations will have to be diminished. During the course of this trip or within it, people are all squeezed up as in a barrel of sardines; how many died at sea, no one knows.

At the daughters' Congregation

Upon their arrival in the country, the <King's daughters> were accommodated in commendable families at the expense of the royal treasury. In Montreal, Marguerite Bourgeoys spontaneously offered to take them under her responsibility. In September 1668, Marguerite Bourgeoys bought a dwelling known as <La Providence> or <Saint Gabriel Farm> in Pointe Saint-Charles. This is where in the future, the <King's daughters> will be kept, housed, nourished and instructed until their marriage. We can evaluate to forty the number of girls who found room and board at the smallholding of the Pointe from the fall of 1668 to the fall of 1680.

Whoever would have looked under the cover of one of the linen chests which belonged to the <King's daughters>, all lined up in the cellar of the Saint Gabriel House, in the fall of 1668, would undoubtedly have been very deceived to see in the container such unfit clothing for our winters. A black pedlar's

clothing from Holland, a ratine négligé, a “fenandine” skirt, taffeta headdresses, breast supports, shoes, ribbons and a few additional old clothes summed up the girls’ few possessions.

In the fall of 1668, it was not long after hearing the lapping of the oars and the shouts coming from the river, that the few settlers residing thereby were drawn to the shores of Saint Therese Island. Before their eyes, not so far away, small boats paraded toward Montreal. Did Nicolas jump in his canoe to go meet them? In the affirmative, he was certainly flabbergasted. The sight of twenty-two young girls, whose diversity in getup and spoken dialect, clearly indicated that they came from the four corners of France. His decision was rapidly taken. He would present himself at the Saint-Gabriel Farm of Pointe Saint-Charles to pay court to one of them.

The contacts were short-lived. But Mother Mary of the Incarnation tells us that the first thing the girls would inform themselves of, in all wisdom, was in knowing whether the candidate was the owner of a farm. Does he have a house, animals? At what stage is the clearing of the land done? Let us assume that, upon such questioning from the young Parisian girl, Nicolas could answer in a positive manner.

Before winter came upon them, Anne and Nicolas made a decision, the consequences of which still endure to this day. Together, they shall set up home and start a family. Monday November 12th, 1668 was a memorable day. Nicolas Choquet and Anne Jullien unite their destiny before Sulpician Gilles Pérot, parish priest of Montreal. No matrimonial covenant seems to have been signed before a notary between Nicolas and Anne. That is why we are unaware of what goods each spouse brought into the community.

This is a résumé of the marriage certificate: <November 12th, 1668, marriage of Nicolas Choquet, son of Nicolas Choquet and of Claudine Groet, his father and mother d’Amien in Picardie, and of Anne Jullien, daughter of Pierre Jullien and of Marie de Pien, her father and mother from the Parish of Saint-Germain de l’Auxerrois in Paris>. Nicolas could not sign; he did not know how to write.

Nicolas and Anne’s union does not take long to be prosperous. On September 16th, 1669, is baptised in Quebec City Julien, son of Nicolas Choquet, resident of Montreal, and of Anne Jullien, his wife, child born on September 14th, 1669, godfather and godmother: Charles le Moine and Marie Bourguin.

We are aware that when giving birth, especially with regards to the first child, women wish for the assistance and security of their mother. Having no kinship in the country, would Anne Jullien have wanted and have reserved the companionship of a trustworthy person, a friend who was part of the group in 1668? Would Nicolas have had important business to settle in Quebec? These are futile questions as they entail impossible answers. What we do know is that nine other children shall be born on Saint-Therese Island.

The richest of wealth is life and its greatest privilege is the power to transmit same. Nicolas and Anne, both of strong and hardy health, have seen before their own eyes the mirror of their existence through the reflection of ten of themselves, each with its particular tint. Two boys and three girls shall remain.

...to page 19

Jerome Choquette

A life well filled!

Born in Montreal on January 25th, 1928, Jerome Choquette is the son of Pauline Geoffrion (died in 1990) and of Claude Choquette (died in 1957), who was the lawyer in charge of the legal department for the City of Montreal.

Jerome has two brothers, Gilbert and Romain. Gilbert, born in 1929, is a poet and a novel writer. In 1985, he won the Esso and the France-Quebec prizes for his novel: « *La Flamme et la Forge* », (The Flame and the Forge). Romain was born in 1932. He worked as a notary in Montreal and died in 1982.

Outstanding schooling in Quebec and abroad



*Jerome
Choquette*

Jerome Choquette went to high school at Stanislas College in Outremont, where he graduated in arts in 1945. In 1948, he obtained a law degree from McGill University.

He then attended the Paris University where he earned in 1951 a doctor's degree in economic sciences with a thesis entitled: « *Croissance et fluctuations de l'économie canadienne* », (Growth and fluctuation of the Canadian economy). He was awarded the Jean-Bertrand-Nogaro prize given to the best thesis of the year for his essay.

He next studied at the School of Business Administration of the Columbia University in New York where he specialised in public services. The Quebec Bar admitted him in January 1949.

Following brilliant studies in law and economic sciences, Jerome practised as a lawyer for 15 years in Montreal as an associate of M^e Guy Favreau in 1951 and then with M^e Jean Martineau. He was also a partner in the law firm of Desjardins, Ducharme, Choquette, Desjardins.

In 1956, he is elected President of the *Association du Jeune Barreau de Montréal* and becomes a Member of the *Conseil du Barreau de Montréal* in 1963. He is appointed a Queen's Councillor in 1963.

A noteworthy role in Provincial politics

Jerome Choquette was President of the *Commission politique de la Fédération libérale du Québec* and Vice-President of the Federation in 1958-1959.

He begins his political career in 1963 when he was elected as Member of Parliament for the riding of Outremont that he represented for 10 years as a Liberal Party Member. Re-elected in 1970, he is trusted with the Ministry of Justice and as the General Attorney for the Government of Robert Bourassa. He remained in charge of said ministry until 1975.



*See * 2 page 13*

At the Ministry of Justice, he introduced major legislative reforms:

- ❑ The legal aid service
- ❑ The Small Claims Court
- ❑ The Crime Victims' Compensation Act
- ❑ The reform to the chapters relating to insurance and lease in the Civil Code
- ❑ The Juvenile Protection Committee
- ❑ The Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms
- ❑ The Organised Crime Enquiry

He is still Minister of Justice during the October 1970 crisis, at which time he will be one of the main actors.

We can easily recall that it is by means of the request of the Minister of Justice that the Government of Quebec called upon reinforcements in order to calm down the population, to keep peace and to help the police force. It is therefore by virtue of an article of the National Defence Act that the army made its entrance in Quebec.

From the onset of the October crisis, he maintained it was impossible to agree to the demands of the abductors without compromising the leadership of the democratically elected government. Nevertheless, he was very aware of the human rights. In 1975, he introduced the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms to the National Assembly, which was then adopted. After the War Measures Act was applied during the crisis, he called upon the Ombudsman of Quebec and made sure that those, who had been treated unfairly, were adequately compensated.

During his tenure as the Ministry of Justice, not only was there the October crisis but he also had to deal with the controversial imprisonment of Union leaders Charbonneau, Laberge and P  pin, as well as with the Organised Crime Enquiry.

From this period of social upheaval, which is now and forever a part of the history of Quebec, Jerome Choquette nevertheless keeps a fond memory: "It goes without saying that, when one is Minister of Justice, very difficult decisions sometimes have to be made and which do not necessarily please everyone."

In 1975, he briefly runs the Ministry of Education before leaving the Liberal Party to join Fabien Roy at the *Parti national populaire* (National Popular Party). In October 1976, he becomes the leader of this party. However, at the next general election, he is beaten in the Outremont riding. In 1977, he resigns from the *Parti national populaire* and returns to the Liberal Party.

Municipal Politics

Jerome Choquette also left his stamp in municipal politics as Mayor of the Town of Outremont from 1983 to 1991 and as President of the *Conférence des maires de la banlieue* (Conference of the Neighbourhood Mayors), from 1990 to 1991.

In 1993, he decided not to run for the leadership of the *Parti Civique de Montréal*, (Civic Party of Montreal). He then founded and led the *Parti des Montréalais* (Party of the Montrealers) in 1993 and 1994. In 1994, he is defeated as candidate to becoming mayor of Montreal.

Still active and dynamic!

Jerome Choquette returns to the legal profession in Montreal in 1976. He is presently a major partner in the firm of Choquette Beaupré Rhéaume. He possesses an immense experience with respect to civil and criminal trials, both in first instance and in appeal. He has pleaded before all courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

He has four children: Danielle, Celine, Anita and Frederic. He is also grandfather to Maria, Catherine and Édouard. He presently resides in Laval.

Always on the go, Jerome Choquette still visits his office even on Sunday to catch up. This is precisely when I had the pleasure to get acquainted with this famous cousin whose talent, perseverance and good spirit are well known!



See *3
page 13

Ghislaine Choquette

Montréal

(Translation by André Choquette)

Many Choquettes were lawyers and judges. Some were quite active in politics. Such were both of Jerome's grandfathers. Ernest Choquette and Amédée Geoffrion both sat in the Legislative Assembly along with his uncle Philippe-Auguste Choquette.

Ernest Choquette was a doctor in Saint Hilaire. He was also an author and wrote in papers such as *La Presse*, *La Patrie* and *Le Canada*. He was Mayor of Saint Hilaire and was legal council for the Rougemont Division in 1910. He was a Liberal Party Member and sat in the House until his death in 1941.

As for his uncle **Philippe-Auguste Choquette**, to name a few, he was a Member of Parliament for the riding of Montmagny from 1887 to 1898. He was one of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's first lieutenants. Founder of the *La Sentinelle* and co-founder of the *Le Soir* newspapers in 1896, he was also appointed Senator from 1904 to 1919.

* 2

This photograph was taken on the 25th anniversary of the Charter of the Human Rights and Freedoms in 2000. He was Minister of Justice when the Charter became law. He had previously promised the coming into life of said Charter in one of his first official speeches. "I wished to make it into a document that would have a much greater influence than legislative reforms in other provinces."

* 3

Jerome Choquette truly enjoys going to France regularly and most of all in Grimauld with friends from Quebec who live there.

CHOQUET-TE PROMOTIONAL ITEMS : *We still have pins and laminated coats of arms for sale. We are also selling promotional items from the 2002 Reunion, like caps, T-shirts, quilted cotton and polar sweaters. Information trough e-mails or by phone (450) 658-6976*

Happy birthday! *We invite you to overview the list of all the members who will be celebrating their birthday in these four months.
See pages 29 and 30 of the French version*

GENEALOGICAL CHRONIC

Pursuant to the article written by Ghislaine Choquette in the present journal, we are pleased to inform you of the origins or of the ancestry of this renowned citizen who is Jérôme Choquette. There are some who may learn that they have common ancestors with him and who may also realise that this cousin is perhaps much closer to their lineage than they thought possible. Should you however detect that one of your forefathers also bore the name of Amable Choquet, it could happen that you are mistaken because from the end of the 18th century to the 19th century, it is quite interesting to note that there happen to be nine of Nicolas' descendants who bore the name of Amable Choquet in Varennes. This strongly leads to believe that this surname was quite popular at that period of time in history, or at least in that part of the country. No wonder that the neighbouring village bears the name of Saint Amable!

JÉRÔME CHOQUETTE'S FAMILY TREE

1. Nicolas Choquet
f Nicolas m Claudine Greuet
November 12th, 1668
Notre Dame, Montreal
Anne Jullien
f Pierre m Marie de Pien
2. Julien Choquet
February 1st, 1694
Enfant-Jésus, P.A.T., Montreal
Marie Madeleine Lauzon
f Gilles m Marie Archambault
3. Jacques Choquet
February 25th, 1721
Varennes
Elisabeth Petit-Lalumière
f Paul m Marie Louise Bissonnet
4. Jacques Choquet
November 23rd, 1744
Varennes
Marie Josephte Gauthier
f Augustin m M. Josephte Jouet
5. Jacques Choquet
June 27th, 1774
Varennes
Thérèse Savaria
f Jean-Baptiste m Françoise Ayet-Malo
6. Amable Choquet
January 18th, 1808
Varennes
Marie Josephte Lozeau
f Jean-Baptiste m Marie Messier
7. Joseph Choquette
February 2nd, 1841
Sainte Famille, Boucherville
Thaïs Audet-Lapointe
f Jacques m Marie Sicotte
8. Ernest Choquette
October 16th, 1889
Beloeil
Eva Perreault
f Cléophas m Catherine Laura Franchère
9. Claude Choquette
June 16th, 1923
Saint Louis de France, Montreal
Pauline Geoffrion
f Amédée m Yvonne Gaudet
10. Jérôme Choquette

Jérôme is quite hopeful that his lineage will be carried on as he is the father of four children: Danielle, Céline, Anita and Frédéric.
(f: father m: mother)

Claude Choquette,
Montreal-North

At the second General Annual Meeting of the Choquet-te Association of America, Mr. Jacques Choquette (Ange-Gardien), Treasurer, remitted to the members present a report of the financial statement of the Association. We believe that it is relevant to present same to you, at the very least for the benefit of those who were absent.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2003-2004

Financial statement for the period of May 1st, 2003 to April 30th, 2004.

REVENUES

- Subscription fees	\$ 3,413.81
- Donations	\$ 223.00
- Revenues from the 2003 Gathering	\$ 2,739.80
- Sale of promotional material	\$ 264.50
- Publicity	\$ 50.00
- Banking interest	\$ 0.81

TOTAL revenues **\$ 6,691.92**

EXPENSES

- Postal fees	\$ 813.95
- Printing and stationery	\$ 458.53
- La Choquetterie Journal	\$ 799.44
- 2003 Gathering	\$ 2,043.91
- 2004 Gathering	\$ 300.00
- 2005 Gathering	\$ 50.00
- Internet Web	\$ 350.91
- Promotional material	\$ 300.00
- Representations	\$ 279.78
- FFSQ* (FFFQ) subscription fee	\$ 153.00
- Banking fees	\$ 2.00

TOTAL expenses **\$ 5,551.52**

Operation surplus of the 2003-2004 exercise \$ 1,140.40

Cash balance as of April 30th, 2003 \$ 907.74

Cash balance as of April 30th, 2004 **\$ 2,048.14**

*Fédération des familles-souches du Québec
(Federation of the Family Founders of Quebec)

The Marriage of Daniel Stephane in New England



Patricia and Daniel

On August 28th, 2004, Daniel Stephane Choquette married Patricia Russo at Saint Mary's Parish in Bristol, near the City of Newport in the State of Rhode Island.

As the only child of Paul J. Choquette and Louise Morency, Daniel, who was born on April 18th, 1975, now represents his father's future, that is to say the only hope for the continuity of his branch of the Choquette family. In fact, Paul's brother Pierre Choquette, Daniel's uncle, has three daughters while his sister Monique Couturier from Ottawa,

Daniel's aunt, has two daughters. Paul J. Choquette was remarried to Diane Savard in 1998 and now lives in Val-des-Monts, Quebec. Paul, Pierre and Monique are the children of J. Roger Choquette and Éliane Gauthier, both

of whom died in 1989.

As Daniel's bride Patricia is a descendant of an Italian-American family, the wedding celebration lasted four days. Furthermore, there were 140 invited guests comprising an even number of Canadians and Americans. The festivities began with a dinner for those who arrived on Thursday evening. The following day, being Friday, an amateur golf tournament was organized between the Canadians and the Americans. Evidently, noblesse oblige: the Americans won the tournament, despite the fact that Paul J. is a golf pro and a great fan of this sport. You can see him out on the green of the Irish countryside.



*Trish, Daniel, Griffin her page
and the flower girl*

On Friday afternoon the wedding rehearsal took place, followed by dinner, which was truly a pre-wedding party in Newport, Rhode Island. Later in the evening, there was a cocktail party for all invited guests.

The wedding took place on Saturday afternoon. After the ceremony, the guests attended a banquet in the fabulously decorated Glen Manor House in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Music was provided by a well-known orchestra that came from New York for this special occasion. Some guests, mostly young people, rounded up the evening with an after-party and the wedding festivities ended at brunch on Sunday morning.

This exceptional wedding was a success for both families. As for Daniel and "Trish" (Patricia), they took flight for Hawaii to enjoy a well-deserved honeymoon.

Translation by Guy Choquette (Winnipeg)

Just as good Today as it was Yesterday

Banana cake



*Denise
Choquette*

Do you remember those famous family recipes that were transmitted from mother to daughter or from generation to generation? Those would most certainly always manage to please the entire family. Well, here is one coming from Andrée Choquette and which was handed down to her by her mother Denise Choquette. She had obviously originally got it from her own mother. Denise is the daughter of René Choquette, who was operating a restaurant near the Singer factory in Saint Jean sur Richelieu and who had to do his utmost in order to cook copious meals for his regular customers . So the grandmother was in good hands.

You need the following ingredients:

1½ cup of regular flour
1 teaspoon of baking soda
a pinch of salt
cup of vegetable shortening
1½ cup of sugar
2 eggs

1 cup of crushed bananas (about 3)
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
½ cup of sour milk (or add a few drops of ½
vinegar in regular milk)
½ cup of chopped nuts (optional)

Heat the oven to 350° F. Grease and sprinkle lightly with flour a 9" square cake pan. Blend the shortening and the sugar together until you obtain a creamy consistency; then add the eggs and mix well. Next, mix in the crushed bananas and vanilla extract. Finally, put in the dry ingredients (flour, baking soda, salt) alternating with the milk.

And you just have to let the whole mix bake during 50 to 60 minutes.

If you decide to make an experiment of it, please don't hesitate to tell us how you appreciate the famous banana cake recipe of Andrée's family!

He HAS LEFT US

Germain Choquette, member of the Association of the Choquet-Choquette of America, has passed away at the age of 84 on September 25th, 2004. Born in La Patrie, he was the son of Joseph Choquette and Séraphie Prévost.

As he had done in 2002, Germain was truly hopeful to participate actively in the 2004 Choquet-Choquette Family Gathering in Sherbrooke, where he lived for many years. A generalised cancer unfortunately forbade Germain from joining his cousins on such an occasion.



*Germain and his eldest son
Michel*

After the 2002 Gathering, Germain was very enthusiastic and fervent in the production of a video which would regrow not only immediate family members, but those of the general kinship.



*Germain in
La Patrie
Village*

Germain fathered 10 children: Michel, Nicole, Carmen and Roch (members of the Association), Carole (deceased in 2003), Diane, Richard, Marie-France, Martine and Jean. He was also grandfather to 13 and great-grandfather to 5.

* In 1941, Germain was drafted to the military service and sent to the Lac Mégantic Camp. His father managed to exempt him as being the son of a farmer. In August 1948, Germain married Jeanne Talbot. He never truly was a farmer but he worked in the forest for 17 years. He did live on a farm in La Patrie as well as in the village. The family moved close-by in the neighbourhood to Scotstown in 1960 where it domiciled until 1967. Germain later on worked in the Lowney manufacture in Sherbrooke until his retirement in 1983.

* *La famille Choquette (The Choquette Family)*, André Lafontaine, Sherbrooke 2003.

NEW MEMBERS : *Please check the list of the members who joined the ACA since last August on page 28 of the French edition.*

New Descendants

New Descendants

We invite all Choquet and Choquette family members of our Association to provide us from now on with photographs of their newborn together with some information with respect to them.

We thank you for your cooperation !



Eugénie Boucher, daughter of Cristelle Choquette and Luc Boucher was born on August 10th, 2004. The family resides in Chambly. Her great-grandfather was J. Armand Choquette who was deputy for the Canadian Popular Bloc in Ottawa from 1943 to 1945.

Her grandparents Normand Choquette and Yolande Mongeau Choquette of Chambly, members of our Association, are proud of the young Eugénie.

As for the tiny **Loïk Isaya**, son of Élise Blais and Frédéric Isaya of Montreal, he was born on August 24th, 2004. It goes without saying that his grandparents André Blais (son of Rose Choquette) and Solange Bolduc of La Patrie, also members of our Association, are very proud of their new grandson.



Congratulations to the parents and long life to Eugénie and Loïk!

.....

following page 5

Five shall decease very young. At a time when an adult's life span was only that of 30 years, it was already an achievement for a mother to have rescued half of her children from the jaws of death.

The baptism certificates of the ten children are registered in four different places: Julien in Quebec, Pierre, Catherine and Jeanne are inscribed in the Notre-Dame of Montreal Parish. The priest does not indicate the date of birth. Perhaps they were baptised at Saint Helene's Island, shortly after their birth, by a passing-by missionary. In the fall of 1692, during the foundation of the Varennes Parish, the Saint

Therese settlers were united to this new parish. The first chapel was then at Cap de Varennes. That is where Catherine Choquet was baptised, the youngest child of the family, born in 1694.

Marthe Gaudreau, Compton

<We are inherent to the shoulders of those who came before us. We walk along their lines, we live in their memory. And when we call their names, when we do pay them tribute, we might perhaps bring them back to life. To survive in the memory of the living: immortality is maybe nothing else.>

This is a translated extract from the book: La Famille Choquette, André Lafontaine.

<Translation by Renée Choquette>

NEW ACTIVITIES

With the purpose of bringing together as many Choquet and Choquette families as possible, your Association proposes to add two regional activities. The first one is scheduled for mid-March 2005 in the Eastern Townships and the other one in the Lower Laurentians for mid-April 2005. Do not miss such opportunities to invite family members to these mini-reunions, shall we say.

Why not take advantage of this occasion to ask other Choquet and Choquette whom you know to join you? Come for a pleasant brunch with your cousins!

Érablière au Sous-Bois (Maple Grove in the Undergrowth)

You are invited on **Sunday, March 13th, 2005, at 11:00 a.m.** at the **Érablière au Sous-Bois**, roughly translated as Maple Grove in the Undergrowth, located at **164, du Sous-Bois Road, Mont Saint Grégoire** (Autoroute 10, exit 37).

Cost: Adults: \$16. Teens 13-14-15: \$8.50. Children between 4 and 12: \$6. Children 3 and under: free.

For information and reservations : **Solange Choquette Carrière** at **association@choquet-te.org**

Cabane à sucre Bouvrette (Bouvrette Sap House)

You are invited on **Sunday, April 10th, 2005, at 11:00 a.m.** at the **Cabane à sucre BOUVRETTE**, roughly translated as Bouvrette Sap House, located at **1,000 Nobel Street, in Saint Jérôme** (Autoroute 15, exit 39 East).

Cost: Adults: \$13. Children from 6 to 12: \$6.50. Children under 5: \$4.

For information and reservations: **Lise Choquette** at **association@choquet-te.org**

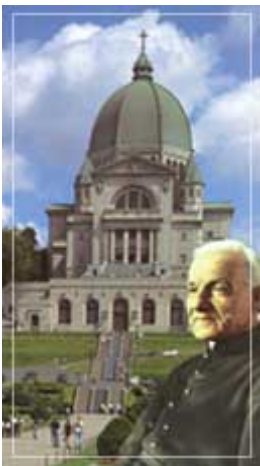
DID YOU KNOW?

New England

A rough guess would be that there are over 12 million Americans who are of French-Canadian origin, that is to say American citizens who were perhaps born in Quebec but mostly whose parents or ancestors came from Quebec and whose name is French. We find them all over the United States but the largest concentration of those Americans lives in New England, that is 8% of that population. As you are well aware, there were at times waves of immigration of French-speaking people towards the South of the border. A lot of Quebecers still have uncles, aunts and cousins in that region of our neighbouring country. This has happened in our great family who now has members essentially in the States of Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts and also in Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

The Federation of the Family Founders of Quebec shall attempt as an assignment next spring to find a simpler manner for us to communicate with these French-speaking Americans and their affiliated associations. Do not forget that certain Quebec family associations did experience successful annual reunions in New England. Thus would it be possible for the Association of the Choquet-te of America to organise such an annual gathering in one of the States of that beautiful area. What do you think about it?

One of ours who is associated with the hundred-year-old Oratory



Saint Joseph's Oratory of Montreal is celebrating its 100 years of existence this year. The basilica of the Oratory, which is undoubtedly the largest one in America, happens to be a haven of beauty and peace where not only Christians but also Jews, Moslems and Buddhists come from all over to meditate. This shrine of pilgrimage has 150 people in its employ, is open 15 hours every day and welcomes more than 2 million visitors a year. Should we look back at its modest beginnings, it was a simple wood chapel established on Mount Royal, being the first oratory dedicated to Saint Joseph on our continent which was inaugurated on October 19th, 1904. The programming of the activities to celebrate the centennial celebrations of the Oratory has been spaced out over the period of one year, that is to say until October 2005.

I am certain that most of you know the story of Brother André, doorkeeper of the Notre Dame des Clercs de Sainte Croix College, as well as his reputation of miracle-worker. Alfred Bessette, his actual name, originally from Mont Saint Grégoire, is the one who prompted the construction of this unique site in the whole world and who transformed the appearance of Mount Royal in a place of pilgrimage which has become as legendary as its founder. During the consecration ceremonies of the basilica of the Oratory, one of ours was put on the hot seat, so to say, with respect to Brother André's canonisation. It is evidently Father Robert Choquette, c.s.c., who is Brother André's official advocate in the eyes of the Vatican. A few have probably seen him on television during that period. You know that several persons have asserted and still do today having been healed by Brother André. However,



Father Robert Choquette c.s.c.

pursuant to the long process for his beatification, where the Church in its prudence recognized only two miracles as being authentic, Brother André was declared blessed by Pope Jean-Paul II on May 23rd, 1982. Father Robert Choquette is still searching for a miracle, since that day, one single miracle that would undoubtedly be authentic in accordance with the science requirements and which would be awarded to the one whom he stands up for. With such a miracle, Brother André would be canonised and thus become a saint. Should you be inspired to go visit the Oratory within the next few months, ask to see Father Robert who, as I well know him, will be very pleased to meet you, even if you do not have a new miracle to speak of.

Choquette Family from Manitoba with founders in Mont Saint Grégoire



Guy Choquette and his grandson Rhian

A new contributor with respect to the translation has joined in the ranks of the members of “The Choquetterie Journal”. His is Guy Choquette from Winnipeg who answered in the affirmative to the invitation which appeared in the last publishing. He is the son of Henri Choquette, originating from Mariapolis in Manitoba, and of Marguerite Morissette from Fannystelle, Manitoba; they were married in 1938. Guy’s grandparents were Joseph Choquette (1857-1928) and Alexandrine Richard.

Joseph originated from Mont Saint Grégoire in Quebec. He and his brother Pierre left their native village to reach Saint Paul in Minnesota (USA) by railway; they then walked up to Red River where they built a raft in order to let themselves float all the way over to Winnipeg. They then purchased the necessary equipment to go settle in Dauphin. Because of the poor quality of the soil due to flooding, they moved to Mariapolis in the western part of the province to find better land. A few years later, a third brother, Alfred, came to join them and became the barber of Mariapolis. Guy’s great-grandfather was Hubert Choquette who also went to live with his sons in Manitoba after his wife Maria deceased in 1892.

Guy has a brother Alain and a sister Éliane Andrée. Guy was married to Lynda Neumann from Winnipeg in 1971 and they have two children. Their daughter Nicole Jeanne Choquette is married to Douglas William Henry; they have a two-and-a-half-year old son who truly delights his grandfather. They are expecting another child in February. Guy and Lynda’s son Paul-Guy Choquette will be celebrating his 30th anniversary in December. Guy Choquette was working with Air Canada and retired on July 1st, 2003. A sincere welcome to this cousin from Manitoba in our midst.

Our genealogist at work

Do you know the person who deals with the genealogy amongst the Board of Directors of our Association? It is indeed Claude Choquette from Montreal-North. It so happens that he is also called upon to inform and to even share his range of information with other groups. Well on Friday, the 26th of November, he presented a lecture to the members of the “Société d’histoire de la seigneurie de Chambly” who wish to initiate themselves to genealogy. As a matter of fact, they plan on trying to reconstitute the genealogy of those people who built up their history in the region. We are quite positive

that Claude knew well how to provide them with a good basis of the necessary techniques of research in genealogy and of all practical tools to finally achieve their goal.

Meeting between cousins from Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec



Solange Choquette-Carrière travels a lot. This fall, she decided to go see her brother Jacques who lives in Kenora, Ontario. He and his companion H  l  ne Rannou, who are hunting fans, thought that they would take this opportunity to introduce Solange to this great sport by taking her on a moose hunt in the area. She confided in us that she truly loved the experience but that no gun took the place of her camera in her hands. However, what really concerns us here is the fact that, because of this trip, she met another cousin, a Choquette from Manitoba. As it turns out, Solange, who was travelling by plane, had to go to the Winnipeg Airport, which

happened to be the closest one to her destination. And yes, you have well guessed, it was her chance to contact **Guy Choquette** and his family. As you can see from the photograph, it is not hard to imagine how the warm greetings took place in a restaurant in Manitoba. **Can be seen from left to right: Guy, his wife Lynda and their grandson Rhian, Solange and her brother Jacques.**

A highly skilled golfer

Paul J. Choquette from Val des Monts seriously plays golf. Do you know any fans of this sport who would go play in Ireland? And yet, you can see him on the green of that country last spring. He did confide in us that he is able to play good competitive golf with a large number of enthusiasts of that sport. It would undoubtedly be interesting if Paul J. would let us know the depth of his passion for the sport by way of organising a golf tournament for the whole Choquet and Choquette family. Wouldn't you agree? I will certainly take part if he accepts the challenge. Although we have already spoken of his family in the present journal with respect to the wedding of his son Daniel, we still intend to make further mention of this very special person in a future publishing because we do have a lot to share with you with respect to Paul J.



Paul J. Choquette in Ireland

As the Christmas season is now approaching, the entire La Choquetterie Team takes this opportunity to extend its warmest wishes for happiness, health and prosperity to you and yours for Christmas and throughout the New Year!

In honour of Ernest Choquette

You have undoubtedly taken the time to read Ghislaine Choquette's article and to take a look at **the genealogical tree of Jerome Choquette. His grandfather was Ernest Choquette.** Ernest did practice medicine but was mostly known because of his municipal political involvement and did make history in the beautiful City of Saint Hilaire. A street name was therefore dedicated to him. Should you ride through, you leave Route 116 and you climb Fortier Street to reach **Mont Saint Hilaire**. At the junction of Ozias-Leduc, you will see on your left the **Ernest Choquette Street** which sits at the foot of the mountain. We beg to recall that Ernest passed away in 1941.

GENEALOGY AT THE ACA

Genealogy is becoming a very popular hobby. In general, most individuals wish to know about their roots, as well as of the history and the lifestyles of their ancestors. The Genealogy Committee of the Association is there to listen to its members and its principal role is to authenticate the accuracy of the information received and also to make all necessary adjustments and modifications to same.

The data bank is managed by the Webmaster Mrs. Jeanne Choquette (Gatineau), who is assisted by Mr. Claude Choquette (Montreal-North). In two years, they have carried out over 3,500 corrections and additions to the pre-existing list. The information contained therein is available on the web or through the Committee members.

You may forward all information or make specific requests by way of e-mail to association@choquette.org However, if you do not have access to the Internet site, you may address yourself directly by mail to: Association of the Choquet-te of America Inc., 11523 De London Avenue, Montreal-North, Quebec, H1H 4J6

The success of the Choquetterie bulletin requires your support and contribution. In order to improve the quality and interest of our newsletter we do need your contribution in terms of articles and news.

Send us all noteworthy news related to your immediate family members such as: births, marriages, deaths, promotions or appointments, honors, extraordinary achievements, special projects. Tell us your family history. Write to us by mail or e-mail or call us.

Your cooperation will be appreciated a lot.

Get to know your new Board of Directors: see page 3 of the French version .

The upcoming deadline will be by January 25, 2005