

Violette Family Association

We Are One!

www.VioletteFamily.org

www.Facebook.com/VioletteFamilyAssociation



Newsletter

December 2011

REUNION 2011 WAS SUCCESSFUL

About 175 people attended Reunion 2011 in Van Buren ME, the place in North America where our family finally settled and spread. The Reunion was held on August 5th through the 7th.

We can thank a group of people for this success. Anne Roy played a major role in locating a place and making local arrangements. Paul Bunnell helped keep us all informed, urged others to pitch in, and helped arrange the program. Reunion setup was done mostly by Christine Lippincott, Bob Lippincott, Elaine Violette, Harold and Lucille Violette, Hannah Bunnell, Tim Conn, Paul Violette, Anna Grace Violette, and others. Rod Violette operated a Genealogical Table and spent many hours before and during Reunion preparing charts for members. Louiselle Violette organized the Registration process and ran the Registration Table during Reunion, with help from Dave Violette and Chris Lippincott. Many others helped in various ways and it takes a whole group to make these Reunions a success. See the Treasurer's Report for the financial success.

Thank you all for all your help!

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Violette Family,

I want to thank all of you for giving me the honor to be your President for the last two terms. It has been an exciting ride and we were at our best when challenges came our way as both our previous Reunion committees developed difficulties and all our experienced veterans came forward and worked together like a well-tuned engine. That made me feel so very proud of our spontaneous teamwork and companionship. I was exceptionally pleased with the profit we accomplished with our Van Buren Reunion.

I would like to send a very special thank you to all my Board Members for 2005-2008: Christine Lippincott, Paul Violette, Rod Violette, Holly Watson, Betty Ashton, Jerry and Sandra Violette, and David Violette; and for 2008-2011: Christine Lippincott, Paul Violette, Rod Violette, Kim Richards, and David Violette. Many past Officers and Board Members (especially John and Louiselle Violette) volunteered behind the scenes that helped bail us out in times of need. Our cousin Anne Roy helped us in so many ways during both Reunions. Thank you so very much to all.

Thank you my Violette Family for giving me a chance to serve you.

Chief Paul J. Bunnell, UE

"We Are One"

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Please be generous with your donations! Send them to our Treasurer or click on the secure PayPal link at our web site.

NEXT REUNION LOCATION

Reunion 2014 will be held again in Van Buren ME, August 8-10, 2014, and in conjunction with the 2014 World Acadian Congress in Madawaska ME.

REUNION 2011 TREASURER'S REPORT

REUNION RAFFLE DONATIONS

Balance: Sep 8, 2008 \$ 5,892.08

Income 2008-2011:

Donations	\$ 464.73	
Bank Interest	10.03	
Total Income	\$ 474.76	

Expenses 2008-2011:

Newsletters (4)	\$ 2,702.71	
Shipping	16.45	
Flowers	77.95	
Postage	44.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 2,841.11	

Balance: Aug 6, 2011 \$ 3,525.73

Reunion 2011 Income:

Registrations	\$ 1,660.00	
Meals at Reunion	3,964.00	
Donations (Mailed In)	1,200.00	
Genealogy Donations	163.00	
Raffle	482.00	
Clothing Sales	331.00	
CDs/Misc	36.00	
Misc Income *	917.91	
Total Reunion Income	\$ 8,753.91	

* Additional donations and/or registrations/meals not accounted for

Reunion 2011 Expenses:

American Legion Hall Rental	\$ 300.00	
American Legion Returned Deposit	-100.00	
Catering/Meals	2,950.00	
Supplies	8.50	
Plaque for Past President	76.80	
For Helium Tank	20.00	
Registrations/meals refunded	251.00	
St Bruno's Church Donation	10.00	
Entertainment	125.00	
Clothing Sales	278.35	
Total Reunion Expenses	\$ 3,919.65	

Net Profit - Reunion 2011 +\$ 4,834.26

Balance: Aug 11, 2011 \$ 8,359.99

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who donated items for the raffle at Reunion 2011 and to all who participated in the raffle!

As you can see in the Treasurer's Report we took in \$482 from the raffle. Not only does the raffle provide items for winners to remember the Reunion by, the proceeds benefit the Association with additional revenue.

IMPORTANCE OF DONATIONS

Please consider making a donation to the Association. The Association does not charge dues and so the only income to cover expenses comes from Reunions and donations. Reunions are designed to pay for themselves and provide some working capital for the following three years. Our major expense is our newsletters, which cost approximately \$700 each to publish and mail, so four newsletters cost about \$2,800.

You can mail a check to the Treasurer.

You can also donate securely online at our www.VioletteFamily.org web site using your PayPal account or a major credit card.

Treasurer's Report submitted by:

Paul L. Violette VFA #1589
Treasurer
Violette Family Association

REUNION 2011 SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of General Meeting, Van Buren ME, August 6, 2011, The Acadian Village Meeting Room.

Call to Order: 9:10 AM by President Paul Bunnell

Minutes: Read by Secretary Rod Violette. Approval moved by Robert Violette, seconded by Arnold Ayotte, Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Report was given by Treasurer Paul Violette. The Starting Balance following Reunion 2008 was \$5,892.08, Income for the period \$474.18, Expenses \$2,841.11, Balance \$3,525.15. See statement attached.

President's report: Paul Bunnell thanked the organizing committee for their work organizing the reunion and explained the difficulties in organizing a reunion from afar. He gave special thanks to Anne Roy for her help putting things together.

Old Business: Anne Roy gave a report on the Violette Industrial Building that was recently constructed at the Acadian Village.

New Business: David Violette presented Nancy Nolette's design and explained it to the members. After some discussion it was moved by Robert Violette to approve an expenditure of up to \$500 for the development of the latest crest design with modifications to be determined by the BOD and Executive Committee. Seconded by John Violette, passed unanimously.

Next Reunion (2014): After some discussion about the 2014 Reunion, because the 2014 date coincided with the World Acadian Congress (CMA) to be held in the area, it was decided to hold the Violette Reunion at the same venue as 2011 (Van Buren ME). The CMA is a huge event lasting two weeks from 8th to 24th August 2014 and attracting over 100 families and 150,000 people. The nucleus of the organizing committee will be Anne Roy, her assistant Georgie Martin, and Harold Violette. Go to the following website for more details. <http://lwww.acadian.org/congress.html>

Nomination of Officers: Committee Chairman John Violette presented a slate of officers with the exception of Treasurer.

Nominated for President: David Violette, Vice-Pres. Paul Violette, Secretary Rod Violette. John asked for volunteers or nominees for Treasurer from the floor. Don Hudenburg volunteered to act as Treasurer. All were elected unanimously.

Moved by Robert Violette to Adjourn at 10:30 AM, seconded by John Violette. Passed unanimously.

VIOLETTES TO MEET IN FLORIDA?

Lois Miller, VFA #1447, and her husband, John, invite Violettes who live in Florida or will be in Florida this winter to get together. They live in the Tampa Bay area. If you are interested please contact Lois by email or phone. They are open as to date, place, and program, though offer their back yard and suggest early March.

Phone: 727-863-0667

Email: lam_34669@yahoo.com

VIOLETTES TO MEET IN ARIZONA?

Dave Violette, VFA #621, and his wife, Elaine, VFA #1482, invite Violettes who live in Arizona or will be in Arizona this winter to get together. They will be in the Phoenix area. If you are interested please contact Dave by email or phone. They are open as to date, place, and program.

Phone: 602-803-5615

Email: David@Violette.com

NEW MEMBERS

The Violette Family Association has grown tremendously since Reunion 2008. The latest VFA # assigned was 2900 on Nov 15, 2011, which means that **795** members have been added since Reunion 2008!

If a member of your family is not a member of the Association please encourage them to join or let us know so we can enroll them. No cost to join.

NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE BOARD

Our new Officers elected at Reunion 2011 are:

PRESIDENT: David A. Violette, VFA #621, (mailing address) 223 Rainbow Drive #12321, Livingston TX 77399-2023, (602) 803-5615, David@Violette.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Paul L. Violette, VFA #1589, 3424 Gunston Rd, Alexandria VA 22302, (571) 312-8649, violettefamily@gmail.com

SECRETARY/GENEALOGIST: Rod Violette, VFA #12, 1775 Barn Valley Ln, Lincoln, CA 95648, (916) 434-8136, rviolette@att.net

TREASURER: Don Hudenburg VFA #322, 2726 Viking Dr, Oak Hill VA 20171, (703) 716-1050, dh3739@verizon.net

Those Officers are also members of the Executive Committee, which also includes immediate past officers plus other elected positions:

PAST PRESIDENT: Paul Bunnell VFA #292, 45 Crosby St. Milford, NH 03055, (603) 672-6616, bunnelloyallist@aol.com

PAST VICE PRESIDENT: Christine Lippincott VFA #1058, 12220 Gatling Gun Ln, Austin TX 78739, (512) 280-3570, chrislippin@gmail.com

WEBMASTER/NEWSLETTER: David A. Violette, VFA #621, (mailing address) 223 Rainbow Drive #12321, Livingston TX 77399-2023, (602) 803-5615, David@Violette.com

DNA/HERALDRY: Nancy Nolette VFA #1702, PO Box 61638, Boulder City NV 89006, (702) 293-7077, nolette@fossilworksinc.com



Our recent Officers at Business Meeting at Reunion 2011. (l to r) Rod Violette, Paul Bunnell, Chris Lippincott, Paul Violette



Our new Officers. (l to r) Don Hudenburg, Rod Violette, Paul Violette, Dave Violette

REUNION 2011 ATTENDEES

MORE IMAGES FROM REUNION 2011

We always have fun giving prizes to Reunion attendees in various categories. The photos on this page show the recipients at Reunion 2008 in our traditional categories.



Youngest and oldest in attendance: Brendan VFA #2569 ; Anne Violette VFA #570, Van Buren ME



Oldest married couple: Clarence VFA #747 and Stella VFA #748 Violette, Van Buren ME



Youngest married couple: Heather VFA #2702 and Jeremy Akeley, Lewiston ME



Traveled furthest: sisters Valerie Goodwin VFA #2154, La Grande OR and Marguerite Powell VFA #2060 , Portland OR



Largest family group in attendance: Clarence and Stella Violette and family, Van Buren ME

MISSING MEMBERS

The following table shows Violette Family Association members with whom we have lost contact. Either we never had an email, mailing address, or phone for them or all of those are no longer valid. There is another group where we are able to contact the parents of the member to request updated info, and that group is not represented in the table below.

We will appreciate any help any of you can provide to put us in contact with these members so they can again receive eNewsletters and newsletters.

This is also a reminder to ALL members: if your email address, mailing address, or phone number change—please let us know!

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

You can help reduce the operating costs of the Association by giving us your email address so we can send your newsletters this less expensive way. If you received this newsletter by mail that means we do not have an email address for you. Please help us!

VFA	Last Name	First Name	Father's Name	Mother's Maiden Name
2282	Bollea	Brooke	Terrence Gene Bollea	Linda Marie Claridge
2268	Daniels	Avery	Shaun Daniels	Jillian E. Richard
2267	Daniels	Jillian	Alan Richard	Linda Violette Ward
2438	Dubay	Lynn	Camille Dubay	Juliette Marie Violette
2618	Dubay	Paul	Walter J. Dubay	Deanna Wallace
1760	Dubois	Henrietta	Remi Plourde	Marguerite Thibodeau
2170	Fillingham	Pat	Charles Davis	Ida Simone Violette
2119	Merrill	Donna	Joseph Louis Enoil Dionne	Marie Olezine Alice Richard
641	Violette	Clara	Edward Belanger	Mary Yargeau
2288	Violette	Crystal		Jennie Marie Violette
2418	Violette	Jean-Guy	Roger Violette	Clarinthe (Claire) Simon
2372	Violette	Leo	Simon Doucet	Scholastique Cormier
1310	Violette	Richard	Stanislaus Pierre (Peter) Violette	Nora McDonald
2292	Violette	Sarah	Dennis James Violette	Melissa Crosby

FAMILY PHOTO GALLERY COMING

We plan to share family photos from members—especially historical photos—in both our web site and our Facebook page. We will announce when we are ready in an eNewsletter, at our web site, and at our Facebook page but we encourage you to send COPIES of photos to Dave Violette, in anticipation of this feature. We prefer that you send electronic versions. Any material you send could possibly get lost in the mail or damaged in some way, so we ask that you not send original photos.

We are not sure at this time how the photos will be organized, and probably won't know until we have more material to work with.

MEET US ON FACEBOOK

We have a fairly active community on Facebook and all newsletters and other communications from the Association are always announced there. You can stay in touch if you friend Dave Violette or if you "like" the VioletteFamilyAssociation page or if you join the Violette Family Association Group on Facebook.

BOOK PROJECT: A VIOLETTE HISTORY

A Violette History, the book, has progressed and now has thirteen chapters published in draft form. The book traces our family history starting with Charles Violet, born 1716 in Villejésus, France. Charles came to Louisbourg, in what is now Nova Scotia, in 1749 with his wife and children and spent the next eight years there before returning to France. His son François, our ancestor, stayed behind and began the family in North America. The chapters published to date tell those stories and takes François from Louisbourg, Île Royale, to the Hammond River—in the lower St John River Area—and then up the River to what is now Van Buren ME and St Leonard NB.

The book is being published a chapter at a time, and members who keep their email address on file with the Association receive electronic notification for each chapter so they can download the chapter to read, print, and file.

However, all chapters are available at the Association's web site at any time. Go to www.VioletteFamily.org and click the **Family Hist** button to see the current list and do the downloads. Chapters available at this time from the web site include:

- Chapter 1: Charles Violet Born in Villejésus
- Chapter 2: Charles Marries, François Violet Born in Saintes
- Chapter 3: Charles and Marie Move Family to Rochefort
- Chapter 4: Charles and Marie Set Sail from La Rochelle
- Chapter 5: In the New World at Louisbourg
- Chapter 6: History of the Violette Family, Rita Violette Lippé
- Chapter 7: The Violette Family, Part 1, Maurice Violette
- Chapter 8: The Violette Family, Part 2, Maurice Violette
- Chapter 9: Charles Back to France
- Chapter 10: Some Legends About François
- Chapter 11: François Leaves Île Royale
- Chapter 12: François at Hammond River
- Chapter 13: François Moves to Madawaska Settlement

Two more chapters are in the works that complete the story about François and how the family became established in the Upper St John River Valley. We plan to combine those fifteen chapters into a Volume 1. A Volume 2 is planned that will include stories about other Violettes beyond François. Volume 2 will not be a chronology telling a sequence of events but will instead tell individual stories set in their own time. Vio-

A VIOLETTE HISTORY AUTHOR TEAM

Rod Violette, VFA #12, lives in Lincoln CA. He was born in St Leonard NB in 1932 and attended school at St Thomas College in Chatham NB until graduation with a BA in 1955. He served ten years as a fighter pilot in the RCAF, and then was a pilot for United Airlines until mandatory retirement. Rod was also an Enrolled Agent licensed to practice tax law before the IRS, and he held a Securities Broker's license.

Rod is married to Helene and they have four children and eight grandchildren. His hobbies are golf, tennis, softball, genealogy, and spoiling the grandkids.

Rod took on the genealogy role for the Violette Family Association following Rita Lippé's work and has greatly extended the genealogical database of the family. Rod brings his knowledge of Violette history and of the Upper St John River Valley to the book project and especially adds his genealogical expertise.

Rod has served for many years as Secretary for the Association as well.

BOOK PROJECT: A VIOLETTE HISTORY (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 7)

ettes have made an impact in many communities in both Canada and the United States and we want to record their stories for posterity. To do that we ask our family members to tell us about individuals they know or know about that have made a difference in their communities, their industry, their trade or profession, or their government. Examples of people who may be included are:

- François's sons François, Dominique, and others
- François grandson Benoni and others
- Dr. Lorne Violette
- Dr. Norman Violette
- Elmer Violette
- Alderic O. "Dick" Violette
- Lawrence Violette
- Rita Violette Lippé
- Former officers of the Violette Family Association

And on. Send your thoughts and comments on potential subjects to one of the authors.

The chapters are printed as drafts at first, and we encourage our members to proofread them and to offer comments, additions, or criticisms of the content. Each chapter will be published in final form after an appropriate period without additional comments.

Plans are being considered that once chapters are made final they will be made available in printed form on quality paper, prepunched for loose-leaf binders. Cover inserts and spine inserts would be available as well. In addition, preprinted chapter dividers may also be made available. Whether the book will ever be available in a bound form is still up in the air.

MAPPING TO ACCOMPANY A VIOLETTE HISTORY

Each chapter in A Violette History will have one or more maps accompanying the chapter that show the location of places mentioned in the chapter. This map will be a static printed map included with the chapter text.

But when you go to the Violette Family Association web site (www.VioletteFamily.org) to download the chapters you will also be able to dynamically view the maps associated with each chapter. But these maps will be dynamic in that you will be able to scroll and zoom on screen and so change the level of detail shown. These maps will be in a printable page with only the map window showing, so you can print the page from your browser. That way you can also save any map you have created by zooming or scrolling.

A VIOLETTE HISTORY AUTHOR TEAM (CONTINUED)

Guy Dubay, VFA #892, lives in Madawaska ME. Guy was born in Van Buren ME in 1942 on the Lot 301 that François Violette settled and built his grist mill. He graduated from Van Buren Boys' High School, and then in 1964 from Fort Kent State Teachers' College (now UMFK) and was an educator for 25 years. He later earned an M.S.Ed. Degree in School Administration from the University of Maine at Orono and was an elementary school principal for 16 years.

Guy is known for his insights into the history of the Acadians and of the Upper St John River Valley. He is a Past President of the Madawaska Historical Society. Guy worked with a team of Aroostook County historians in producing "The County: Land of Promise". He has published books, written columns for local newspapers, and contributed to the books of others. His works are referenced online at URSUS.

Guy brings the historian's view to the book project as well as the genealogist's.

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Go to www.Facebook.com/VioletteFamilyAssociation to follow news about our Association and its members. Aside from individual posts by members, all eNewsletters and printed newsletters will be announced there and be available for download. Chapters from *A Violette History* are also available for download there as links in news items.

Photos from Reunion 2011 can be seen both at the web site and at our Facebook page.

We plan also to share family photos from members—especially historical photos—in both places as well. We will announce when we are ready in an eNewsletter, at our web site, and at our Facebook page but we encourage you to send COPIES of photos to Dave Violette, in anticipation of this feature. We prefer that you send electronic copies such as digital photos or scanned images but we will scan items if needed.

DECEASED MEMBERS AND SPOUSES

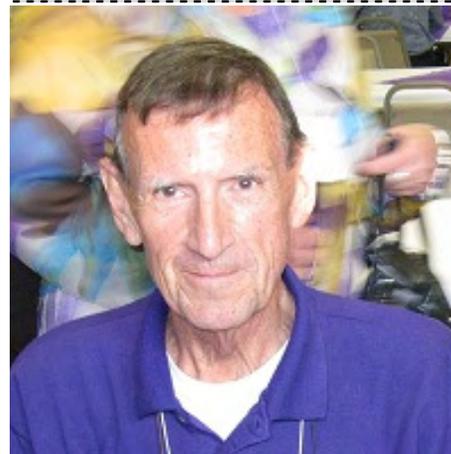
The first table below shows Violette Family Association members that were reported deceased during 2011 (to date), and the second table shows member spouses reported deceased during the same period. We encourage family members to let us know of these events so that we can update both our member records as well as our genealogical records.

May they rest in peace.

VFA	Last name	First name	Date deceased	Place deceased
2218	St Amand	Patricia	11/19/1955	Van Buren ME
1872	Violette	Joseph	11/10/2011	
70	Labbe	Florence	10/27/2011	Gardiner ME
1240	Violette	Albert	9/10/2011	Woonsocket RI
358	Violette	Duward	8/9/2011	Brooksville FL
1117	Martin	Marie	7/4/2011	Enfield CT
1356	Branch	Eileen	5/28/2011	Seal Cove ME
1290	Beaman	Irving	5/19/2011	Hartford CT
563	Violette	Dorothy	2/9/2011	Gorham ME
2658	Amato	Jeanne	2/6/2011	Framingham MA
753	Violette	Cecile	1/30/2011	Grand Falls NB
740	Violette	Robert	1/29/2011	Hartford CT
446	Violette	Imelda	1/23/2011	Dover NH

VFA	First name	Maiden name	Last name	Spouse of	Spouse VFA	Date deceased	Place deceased
	Phyllis	Bouchard	LaJoie	John	949	10/2/2011	
	Eric		Smith	Jeannine	2383	8/18/2011	Milford NH
	Edmund		Branch	Eileen	1356	5/27/2011	Seal Cove ME
408	Donald		O'Bryant	Beulah	407	3/12/2011	Bedford NH

A VIOLETTE HISTORY AUTHOR TEAM (CONTINUED)



Dave Violette, VFA #621, lives wherever "OurHous" (Elaine and Dave's motorhome) is parked. He was born in Concord NH and graduated from St John High in that city and then The University of Connecticut, with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering.

Dave's engineering career carried him to Connecticut, Washington, Colorado, Wyoming, Maine, and Arizona. For most of his career he worked for engineering consulting firms in the public works fields.

Dave's prime hobby has been web site development, since 1995. He has developed a content management system that has been used in a number of sites, mostly for organizations, such as the Association's web site.

Dave is the organizer and storyteller for the project and brings his computer skills for publishing, map making, and organization.

MARCELLA BÉLANGER VIOLETTE SCRAPBOOKS DONATED TO ACADIAN ARCHIVES

Marcella Bélanger Violette carefully collected newspaper clippings, photos, letters, cards, brochures, telegrams, and many other items telling of people and events in the Upper St John River Valley for more than 80 years. The collection resulted in 25 scrapbooks, carefully prepared and preserved by Marcella and passed on to her children upon her death.

Recently her children donated that valuable collection to the Acadian Archives at the University of Maine, Fort Kent, to be preserved and shared with others.

From the Acadian Archives web site item about Marcella: "Marcella Bélanger Violette was born and raised in Van Buren, Maine. She married Elmer Violette and became the mother of five children (Dennis, Marc, Paul, Louise, and Tom). She highly valued education receiving her B.A from The College of New Rochelle and an M.A. in French and English from Boston University. In 1953 she earned her Ph.D. from L'Université Saint Louis Maillet, Edmundston, N.B. Marcella was the first St. John Valley woman to receive a doctoral degree. Her dissertation entitled "French Influence in the St. John Valley" would become part of her life's work to celebrate and promote her Franco-American and Acadian heritage. In addition to her advocacy of the culture and language of the St. John Valley, she was a teacher and lecturer on family life and the role of women in society." (www.umfk.edu/archives/violette/bio.cfm)

Marcella (VFA #458) and her husband, Elmer (VFA #457), played important roles in the early days of the Violette Family Association and were instrumental in hosting the Reunion 1981 held in Van Buren. That Reunion donated the monument to François Violette that stands today at Violette Brook.

Her son, Dennis, and his wife Holly, made the gift on behalf of the family in a ceremony on November 28th and written up in the Bangor Daily News. See that story at <http://bangordailynews.com/2011/11/28/news/aroostook/80-years-of-history-donated-by-violette-family-to-umfk-acadian-archives/>.

A VIOLETTE HISTORY TO BE LINKED AT ACADIAN ARCHIVES

Lise Pelletier, Director of the Acadian Archives at the University of Maine Fort Kent (UMFK), has asked if they could link our *A Violette History* book from their web site. We are working on the details and this link will be in place soon.

The Acadian Archives are physically located at the UMFK campus and house

The Acadian Archives web site is available at www.umfk.edu/archives/.

From their mission statement, "The Acadian Archives documents, preserves, celebrates, and disseminates information about the Upper St. John Valley...."

Lise Pelletier was our featured speaker on Saturday night at Reun-

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

If you received this newsletter by postal mail we encourage you to give us an email address so future newsletters can be sent at far less cost. Newsletter printing and mailing is our largest single expense. While we have greatly increased our membership we have also reduced the number we have to mail by more than 50%. The fewer we have to print and mail each time the less it costs, and this will allow us to print and mail more frequently.