



Volume 1, Issue 2 - April 2016

MAHC 2016 Grant Season

This year, the Maine Acadian Heritage Council will distribute \$33,200 in funds received from the National Park Service. MAHC members and the St. John Valley community are invited to apply for the following three grant opportunities: the Heritage Trail Guides, the Acadian Heritage Speakers and Performers, and the Education Resource Development.

\$26,000 in Heritage Trail Guide Grants are earmarked for St. John Valley member museums and historical sites. These grants support hiring, training, and retaining personnel at local museums and historical sites. At these sites, personnel will be made available to welcome visitors, guide them through the site while educating them about the history of the buildings, their artifacts, and Valley Acadians.

\$2,500 is available for Acadian Heritage Speakers and Performers Grants. These grants make it possible for individuals and organizations to hire speakers and performers at festivals and other public venues in the St. John Valley. Performers are experts in the fields relating to Acadian history and culture, including: music, traditional arts, and French language.

\$6,700 are earmarked for Education Resource Development Grants to promote and preserve distinctive forms of Acadian cultural expression including language, performing arts, crafts, and folklore indicative of life in Northern Maine's St. John Valley.

The proposed projects will educate all residents of the St. John Valley, whether in the classroom or at public venues. Examples of past awarded projects: educational fieldtrips, resources for the classroom, and teacher workshops.

Completed applications will be evaluated for eligibility and ranked for funding in accordance with the priorities and criteria indicated on the form. A general accounting of spending is requested once the grant funds have been used. The Council also requires that any publicity about the funded activities name the Maine Acadian Heritage Council as a financial supporter of the activities.

The Council reserves the right to adjust the amount of each respective award depending on the availability of funds and feasibility of funding certain projects at less than the amount requested.

A public announcement of the awarded grants will be made at the Council's annual dinner and meeting, on Sunday May 22nd.

Last year, MAHC funded 10 heritage projects. We also funded a one-week teacher-training institute free of charge to all Valley teachers. We are deeply grateful to the National Park Service for its financial support of the people of the Saint John Valley.

For more information, please contact Kim Deschenes at maineacadianheritage@gmail.com, by calling the office at 207-728-6826. or at maineacadian.org

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Maine Acadian Heritage

Maine Acadian Heritage is published four times a year by the Maine Acadian Heritage Council. This newsletter is designed to provide information on efforts to preserve and promote the Acadian culture, language and history in the St. John Valley and beyond. Submissions are subject to editing. For details, contact Kim Deschenes at 207-728-6826.

In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and in pursuing its own goals of pluralism, the Maine Acadian Heritage Council shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin or citizen status, age, disability, or veteran status in all areas.

MAHC President	Lise Pelletier
Secretary	Chad Pelletier
Treasurer	Thérèse Ouellette
Office Manager	Kim Deschenes

Meet Our Voting Members

Lise Pelletier, President



Lise is director of the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes at the University of Maine at Fort Kent. She received a B.A. degree in English and in French from the University of Moncton and an MA in French from the University of Maine. She has been teaching French and Acadian History and Literature since 1991. She was a founding board member of the Congrès mondial acadien 2014. Lise has created a teacher's institute about Acadians of the St. John Valley and has put together educational resources for teachers in an "Acadian Treasure Chest". She has been involved in local history since the 1970's.

Terry Ouellette, Treasurer



Terry, MAHC Treasurer is also the President of the Ste-Agathe Historical Society which she represents on the MAHC Board. She has been a lifetime resident of St. Agatha, current pop. 747, except for her years at the University of Maine in Fort Kent. She taught Kindergarten in MSAD # 33 for 37 years and retired in 2004. Terry has been on the board of the Ste-Agathe Historical Society since its beginnings in 1978. Terry is also a member on the board of directors of the Long Lake Public Library since its inception in 2007. Her daughter, Rachel, and grandson, Jack, live on Flat Mountain.

Chad Pelletier, Secretary



Chad is the President of the Fort Kent Historical Society and represents the Society on the MAHC Board. An avid history buff, he has been interested in local history as long as he can remember. Chad has been known to add some of his own artifacts in the Ft. Kent Historical Society buildings. Recently, Chad gave two sessions for SAD 27 Senior College: "The History of Square Dancing in Fort Kent" and "The History of Banks in Fort Kent". Chad is frequently called upon to inform visitors about the "Bloodless Aroostook War" and Fort Kent's Blockhouse, a National Historic Site, built in 1839.

Ken Theriault



Ken is the Town Librarian for Madawaska, Maine and represents the Town of Madawaska on the MAHC Board. He has a degree in History from UMFK and did graduate work in Historical Sociology at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts before becoming a librarian and working at the Worcester Public Library. Ken is a former Vice President of the Maine Acadian Heritage Council and is on the Board of Directors of the Madawaska Historical Society. He lives in St. David with his wife Kerry and two children Elizabeth and Andre.

Susan Tardie



Susan Tardie is the representative of the Greater Fort Kent Area Chamber of Commerce on the Maine Acadian Heritage Council. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from the University of Maine at Fort Kent in 1999. She has been employed at UMFK's Relations and Alumni Affairs Office as administrative assistant for the last eleven years. In addition to serving on the Chamber board since 2013, Susan was a member Fort Kent Business and Professional Club for thirteen years and served as president from 2012-2015. She was co-president in 2012 and 2013 for the Maine Business and Professional Club. Susan was a member of the CMA 2014 Maine Regional Coordinating Committee. Susan is a member of the Fort Kent Historical Society and the Fort Kent Rotary Club.

Judy Paradis

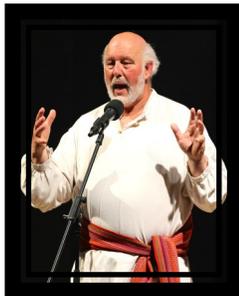


Judy, a former president of MAHC, represents l'Association française de la Vallée St-Jean on the board. She was born and raised in Ste-Agathe. A graduate of the University of Maine at Fort Kent, she taught French at Wisdom High School and Madawaska High School. Judy then served as a Democrat in the Maine House of Representatives for six years and the Senate for eight years. She was chair of the Health & Human Services Committee. She loves politics, current events,

engaging with people, reading, writing and helping others. She resides in Frenchville with her husband of forty-five years, Ross Paradis.

Joseph Donald Cyr

Instructor at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (Art) and the University of Maine at Presque Isle (History), Don is the founder of the Association culturelle et historique du Mont-Carmel. He has been restoring the interior and exterior of the former Notre-Dame-du-Mont-Carmel church in Lille since 1983. Don has served on many state and national committees, including the Maine Arts Commission, and the Allagash Wilderness Advisory Council. Don won the Maine State Historic Preservation Award twice as well as the Phoenix Award by the North American Council of Travel Writers. He is also an Acadian step dancer and story teller and has performed in France, Spain, and the Soviet Union.



Anne L. Roy



Anne is the President of L'Heritage Vivant Historical Society and director of the Acadian Village that is owned by the Society. Anne graduated from Fort Kent State Teachers College in 1964. Her teaching career started in Fort Fairfield, she also taught in Van Buren, and later at Loring Air Force Base. Her pride is her daughter Kelly-Sue, son in-law Rick Pitre and two grandchildren. Anne also has three step children Don, John and

Nancy, 6 grandchildren and three precious great grandchildren. Anne is a RSVP volunteer, member of the Daughters of Isabella and American Legion Auxiliary. During the winter months Anne teaches religion classes for her local parish.

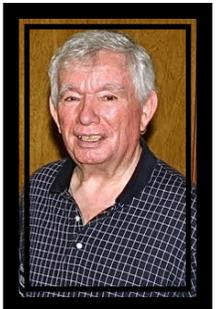
Marilyn McBreairty



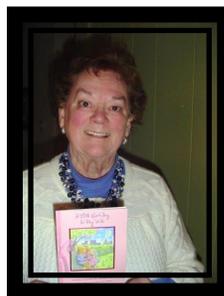
Marilyn is the youngest of Clark and Phyllis (Morrison) McBreairty's three daughters. She has been married to Bernard for 41 years and they have one daughter, Shauna. Marilyn represents the Allagash Historical Society with which she has been involved for many years and was elected president in 2003. Together with Cathie Pelletier she released a book of Christmas memories. The sale of the book supplied funds to build a new museum that opened May 2014. Marilyn volunteers all of her time at the museum, attending meetings, writing grants and anything to help to keep it alive for those who will take over after she is done.

Rosaire Paradis

Ross Paradis represents the Town of Frenchville on the MAHC Board of Directors. He was raised in Frenchville, where he was a selectman for eighteen years. A graduate of Boston College, he taught English, French and Latin for fourteen years at Wisdom High School and twenty-two years at Madawaska High School, serving as English Department chair at both schools. After his retirement from teaching, Ross served in the Maine House of Representatives as a Democrat. He is a staunch New York Yankees fan. He likes current events, history, reading, writing, proofreading, translating, country music, trivia, jokes, and sports.



Cléo Paradis Ouellette



Cléo was born and raised in Frenchville, Maine. Educated at Dewey School, Notre Dame de la Sagesse Convent, BA degree from St. Joseph's College, MS degree from UMO, summer session at Univ. Dijon, France. She taught French and/or English for 33 years at Limestone High School, UMFK, 29 years at Wisdom High School. Cléo participated in student trips to France and Canada. She is a longtime member of MAHC and active in and often head of many Church and community organizations, including the Frenchville Historical Society (president for 9 years). She has worked decades for the advancement of the French language and culture. Cléo founded La Maternelle, a French pre-school for 3-5 year-olds. Married to J. Paul Ouellette, mother of 6, and the grandmother of 12.

MAHC gratefully acknowledges the generous financial support of our partner, the National Park Service.

Brian Bouley



Brian is the Executive Director of the Greater Madawaska Chamber of Commerce which he represents on the MAHC Board. He lives in Madawaska, Maine with his wife Carlene "Cai" Bouley, a school teacher at the Madawaska School Department, along with his son Christopher.

Brian is a volunteer Firefighter, a board member of the Greater Grand Isle Historical Society, and a member of the Knights of Columbus #8414 as well as other organizations. He became a member of the MAHC this past year. Brian has a part time business "Up North Antiques & Collectibles" where he buys and sells items that he finds in garage sales or from people who contact him locally. In his spare time he loves to research his and his wife's genealogy.

Gerald Soucy

In the summer of 2007, my brother Gordon and I set out to form the Greater Grand Isle Historical Society. Our intent was to promote and preserve the history of our ancestors. With the help of many good people, we negotiated a number of hoops and hurdles and have arrived home in the former Catholic Church rectory. We continue to promote the history of our ancestors not only through words and pictures but also through action. The Grand Isle to Riviere-Verte ferry is a prime example as well as the old-fashioned Quebec bread oven built and used in 2015 to make fresh bread just like Mémère used to. Our hobbies consist of promoting growth and development which would make our ancestors proud.



Darlene Coltart

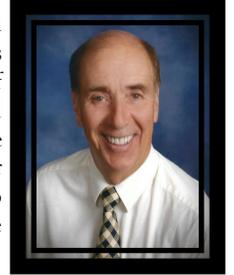
Darlene represents the Madawaska Historical Society on the MAHC Board. (No picture available)

Reynald Raymond

Reynald represents the Town of Eagle Lake on the MAHC Board. (No picture available)



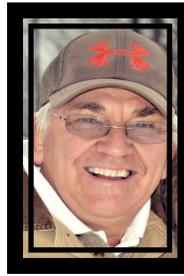
Donald Raymond



Donald represents the Town of New Canada on the Maine Acadian Heritage Council. After his military service, he started at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in 1970, as a student, and did not leave until his retirement in 2011. Being the University Registrar is the best job one could ever have, Don states. It was an opportunity to encourage and assist Valley people to get a college degree.

Since retirement, Don has volunteered with many Valley organizations. The Maine Acadian Heritage Council is especially important to him since its goals are also to promote the Valley's culture, history, traditions, and French language.

James Dumond



James was born in Eagle Lake, ME in 1952. He enlisted in the Army in 1970 and served in Vietnam as an MP. He received many honors and was honorably discharged. In 1990 Jim became a Maine State Game Warden stationed in Clayton Lake area, then transferred to Portage Lake in 1977 until his retirement in 1996. As a Game Warden he received many awards but the ones that meant the most to him were "Game Warden of the Year in 1990 and Legendary Game Warden in 2013".

He also appeared on the television show "Mountain Men" for Season 2 & 3. He and his wife, Betty, owned Dean's Motor Lodge from 1988-1994. He now guides fishermen and hunters in the Portage Lake region and represents that area on the MAHC.

Lisa Desjardins Michaud



Originally from Van Buren, Lisa moved to the Bangor area in 1996 and was hired at the Franco-American Centre at the University of Maine at Orono. She is the managing editor of the Centre's publication, Le Forum, a bilingual cultural journal by and about Franco-Americans. Lisa was instrumental in digitizing Dr. Marc Chassé's oral history collection and she created a website where the videos can be viewed. Lisa is the advisor for the student group FAROG. Lisa also organizes cultural events at the Centre. She represents the Centre on the MAHC Board.

Theo Nykreim

Theo is a very busy man. He is a selectman for New Sweden and a board member for the Chamber of Commerce in Van Buren which he represents on the Maine Acadian Heritage Council. If you visit the Acadian Village in Van Buren in the summer, you just might see him tending to his grape wine orchard. Theo is always ready to lend a helping hand for various projects. (No picture available)