

32nd Family Gathering 1998

September 6th, 1998
Granby Quebec

A pleasant encounter narrated by Jeannine Ouellet (#2168), President

Following the feast that took place at Granby, September 6 th 1998 the members of the Administrative Council of the Association of the Ouellet-te of America wish to thank the population of Granby for their support, enthusiastic collaboration and participation in the various activities.

More than one hundred and thirty people from various regions of Québec, New-Brunswick, Ontario, Maine and Massachusetts attended the 32 nd meeting of the Association. Among them were the young Pascal, 14 years old and Marie 90 years old, a marvelous and radiant woman.

This year again the sun was with us in all of its splendor.

The day's activities began under the Presidency of Father Gérald Ouellette, curate of Saint-Joseph de Granby and pastoral animator of our Association. A succulent meal was served by a professional catering service, J.D. Inc. of Granby.

Following a visit to France, the country of our ancestors, Father Gérald shared his research relating to our ancestors and of the Houalets living in France.

Our President and animator during the banquet spoke of the presence of the Ouellets in Granby.

Granby, whose name means " large village or large city" , was founded in 1859 and is the fourth city of importance in the Montégérie area of Quebec. The first inhabitants were three brothers Frost

from New-Hampshire who moved there in the early 19 th century. The village was named Frost village in their honour In 1863, of 700 inhabitants 277 were French Canadians. On the occasion of a concert given by Maurice Chevalier in 1950, the local population was given the name " gentilé Granbyen".

Due to its beautiful greenery and magnificent landscape Granby was once known as the Princess of the Eastern Townships and "Cite des parcs".. Granby is a part of MRC de la Haute Yamaska and of the electoral township of Shefford

At present, there are eleven religious parishes in Granby. The oldest, Notre-Dame, exists since 1844. The Ouellets do not appear to have settled there until later.

The first Ouellet marriage celebrated in Granby was of Eusèbe Ouellet in 1892 Then from 1892 to 1972 (during 80 years)of 47 celebrated one of the spouses was a Ouellet- te

In 1798 there were already some Ouellet-te in Saint-Hyacinthe.

Then a draw was held for some door prizes. More than forty Ouellet-tes enjoyed the tour of Granby and its touristic attractions, a city of parks and fountains.

Since its inception the following have become members of the " Club des 100": Monique (#2491), Rose-de-Lima (#1301), Thérèse (#898), Gérald (#2432), Réjean (#1870), Rosaire (#1315), Roger (#999), Ernest (#819), Raoul (#159) and , Jeannine (#2168). Florent Ouellet

from Lévis, and responsible for the « Club des 100 » distributed certificates to three new members: Alphonse (#1652), Richard (#2567), and Roger (#2577). Thank you for your generosity and congratulations to our new members .

During the Annual General Meeting the following members were elected to the administrative council : , Jeannine Ouellet, from Rivière-du-Loup, Gisèle Ouellet, from La Pocatière, Victoire Ouellet-Fortier, from Saint-Romain, Alphonse Ouellet, Director Général, from Lévis, Richard Ouellette, from Saint-Élie d'Orford, Florent Ouellet, from Lévis, Jeanne-Mance Ouellet-Gauthier, from Valleyfield, Micheline Larose-Ouellet, from Montréal North and Gérald Ouellette, from Beloeil.

The day ended with a mass in honour of our ancestors and was celebrated in Granby's St-Joseph church by Father Gerald Ouellette. The memory of this meeting will certainly be long remembered by the participants.