



## Press Release



### **LA MEUTE CULTURELLE CHOOSSES THREE FOUNDING FAMILIES**

October 27th 2011, Lafontaine, ON :

From its inception, the Festival du Loup recognizes the contributions of the founding families of the Lafontaine area. The Forget, Laurin and Génier founding families will be featured at the 2012 Musée vivant de Lafontaine (Living Museum and Festival du Loup), July 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The members of these families are invited to share family history and genealogy along with some of their treasures, photos and family lore. It is a great way to renew ties with relatives and gain insight into family history.

One of the museum committee members, Lucille (Forget) Marchand, shared the following about the selected families. The Laurin patriarch, Antoine by name, came to this area with his wife Judith Desmarais and their ten children from Joliette, Québec. They settled on a farm in the 18<sup>th</sup> Concession in the late 1860s. Shortly thereafter, in 1868, there followed Louis Forget and his wife, Célina Cloutier, who settled on 25 acres in Concession 16, Lafontaine. He was a farmer first but was also a talented cobbler. As for the Génier family, Jean-Baptiste and wife, Sophie Saucier, came from St-Anicet in 1845 and along with their children settled on a farm in the 18th Concession, Tiny.

The Museum committee sets up exhibits in the Lafontaine Parish Hall throughout the Festival weekend. By popular demand, the rural school theme will be repeated in 2012. If you are a member of one of the honoured founding families (Forget, Génier, Laurin) and would like to participate or contribute information, please call the Museum committee chairperson, Suzanne (Marchildon) Rose (705-533-3156) or Joëlle at La Meute Culturelle (705-533-0628). Help us develop a vibrant, living Museum in Lafontaine.

### **Lafontaine's Living Museum Initiates Audio-Visual Collection -**

Lafontaine ON: November 24, 2011 : The Musée Vivant de Lafontaine committee is looking for audio or VHS recordings which contain local heritage subjects. Thanks to a grant from the Trillium Foundation, La Meute has the possibility of converting VHS or Audio tape documents to DVDs and CDs which can be played on computer or T.V. This is a win-win deal! You get to save your heritage treasures and contribute to the collective bank of local history.

From its inception, the Musée Vivant de Lafontaine exhibits artefacts and photos of local history. The committee appreciates the fact that the community can see and touch these artefacts and so would like to be able to see and hear videos or tapes of the past. The aim is to catch a glimpse of the past: styles in clothing, expressions and accents in language, songs among other sources and build a data base of our folklore. These would be available year round and especially at Festival and Museum time every third weekend in July.

Types of video cassettes we're looking for may range from an entire video or segments of a "Café chantant", an interview, a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (or better), baptisms at different eras. The Museum committee would be pleased to transfer them to DVD or CD format. We are also planning to film and interview persons from the community at large. If you have ideas on the "who" and the "what", we would appreciate your suggestions. For more information, we can be reached at (705) 533- 0628 or by e-mail : [leloup@csolve.net](mailto:leloup@csolve.net) . *Le Musée Vivant de Lafontaine, a vibrant and living heritage.*

**Info : La Meute culturelle de Lafontaine 705-533-0628**

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