

## Introduction

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*(Note to the Reader: This is the first draft of a chapter that will be part of an upcoming book with a working title of **A Violette History**. The authors welcome comments, criticism, corrections, or additions to the text during its draft review period. Address comments directly using the emails above or through the feedback link at the web site for the Violette Family Association – [www.VioletteFamily.org](http://www.VioletteFamily.org).)*

At the conclusion of the Violette Family Reunion at Windsor Locks CT in August of 2008, the last volume of Rita Violette Lippe's book *The Descendants of Francois Violet* was auctioned off. We continue to get requests for copies as new generations become aware of their Violette roots and heritage, but there are no more to buy.

The original volume, published in 1984, contained about 9,600 names of descendants (and their spouses) of Francois. I took on the Genealogist role for the Association in 19xx and computerized the genealogical info and greatly expanded it. The Violette genealogy now contains over 18,000 direct descendants of Francois and over 60,000 entries when their spouses and the extension of the spouse's families are included. There was some talk of having the book reprinted as is, but that would exclude thousands of Violettes who have come since or whose names have been added. There was also talk about expanding the publication to add more of the genealogy that had been accumulated since it was originally published in 1984.

We concluded that simply attempting to reprint the entire genealogy of the Violette family was not practical or useful. The study of genealogy is better pursued with the use of computers, especially since there is always new information coming to light, and there is always more research to be done. I have always made available to whoever is interested a copy of their direct line all the way back to Louis, the grandfather of Francois, and I plan to continue to do so.

I started to discuss with Guy Dubay, a local historian and genealogist of Madawaska ME and a Violette descendant, the possibility of writing the history of the Violette family instead. He has written many articles for the local newspapers about every subject imaginable concerning the history of the area and its people. He has accumulated a rather thick file containing all these articles and related research. He was very interested, so I started to investigate further. Since neither Guy nor I have the computer skills to facilitate such an endeavor, I approached David Violette, our WebMaster, who has the necessary skills, and he was very enthusiastic. So the three of us agreed to take on this

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project and plan a completion date in time for the planned Violette family reunion in August of 2011.

David has suggested that we include the entire membership for their input. As we complete a chapter in draft, David will email it for their comments to the members whose email addresses we have on file. We value very much any input in the way of suggestions and corrections from our members. We also would like to include material submitted to us by the membership, such as stories and photos about their favorite relatives.

Guy wants to make a detailed study of the first three generations to include Francois, his 23 children, and his 151 grandchildren. Guy would like to plot where they moved to and what lands they owned, and Dave will help him with maps to plot those movements.

(and what else?)