

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
From the Sainte Marie Foundation
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March 31, 2012

Sainte Marie Hosts Picquet Visitor

Roger Picquet of San Luis Obispo, CA, recently visited Sainte Marie, staying at the Foundation House and meeting with residents who are distantly related to him.

“I was visiting relatives in Missouri,” says Roger, “and this just seemed like a good opportunity to renew acquaintances with Ste. Marie contacts.” Roger had visited in 2002 when the Hartrich family had a family reunion.

Roger’s great grandfather was James Picquet, younger brother of Joseph Picquet who founded Ste. Marie. James was a medical doctor, educated in Paris, France, who served the Sainte Marie community for many years in the mid to late 1800s. He was a contract surgeon for the North during the Civil War and is buried in St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Sainte Marie Foundation board members hosted Mr. Picquet, a recently retired superior court judge in California, at a Thursday night dinner and also took him on a tour of various businesses, including DM Manufacturing, ASL Solutions, Olde World Reflections, the Sainte Marie Bank, and Hartrich Meats (his distant cousins). He also visited with Rita Logan, the last direct descendent of the Picquet family still living in Ste. Marie.

“I was very impressed with everything I saw, but the best part was getting to meet the people,” said Picquet. “They have a visible pride in their products and their town. It is clear to me that it is the people who really make Ste Marie the place it is today.”

Picquet hopes that he will be able to return for the gala 175th Celebration (Quartoseptcentennial) to be held on June 29 - July 1, 2012, in Ste. Marie. Since he has done extensive research on the Picquet family history, he helped write the first chapter of the 2012 Commemorative Book (now available for pre-sale) on the town's early days.

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Vanette: Maxine Calvert will be bringing a picture to accompany this news release.