

Association des Chabot

Nº 63 Summer 2023



Four generations of Chabot in cranberry growing



### Nº 63 Ssummer 2023

### Les Chabotteries

The Chabotteries is a quarterly newsletter published by the Association des Chabot.

### Association des Chabot CP 46084 Lévis (Québec) G6V 8S3

Site Internet : www.association-chabot.com/ Courriel : info@association-chabot.com

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

### Coordination, graphics and layout:

Maryo Chabot Tremblay (275) Marie-France Chabot, (80)

### Reviewing Team:

Marie-France Chabot, (80)

### Translations:

Marie-France Chabot, (80)

### Contributors to this issue :

Diane Chabot	(09)
Lynda Chabot	(583)
Marcel Chabot	(96)
Marie-France Chabot	(80)
Maryo Chabot Tremblay	(275)

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## President's word



Hello members, cousins, cousins and friends Life begins again, little by little, the beautiful summer season is here and we have the pleasure of being able to go out to make our garden, see our

flowers, or for a BBQ with friends, visit family or even make a trip. We have regained the joy of doing what we love, just like before that virus that changed our lives.

The good news is also that despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, your Association is in good health, except that we were unable to meet in 2020 and 2021. Thankfully, we were able to hold a rally in September 2022, but attendance was reduced because many were still worried about their health. Hopefully, we'll see a lot of each other in 2023.

We want this meeting to be different from the others. There will of course be the general assembly, but it will be as short as possible to give us time to do other activities, including sharing a meal together. We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you better.

OUR NEXT ANNUAL GATHERING WILL TAKE PLACE IN ST-ISIDORE DE BEAUCE, ON SEP-TEMBER 10th, 2023, FROM 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM. THE DETAILED PROGRAM, CON-TACT INFORMATION AND MEAL MENU WILL BE SHARED WITH YOU IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER. MARK THIS DATE ON Y O U R C A L E N D A R . If you would like to offer something as a door price, let us know. As you saw in the last edition of Chabotteries, we have created a new column on «Les jeunes Chabot» of all disciplines or jobs. Write to us about them to suggest articles. In addition, you can also help us document life stories and exploits made by Chabot of all other generations.

Our membership is quite large but we are losing members as a result of their death. To see which Chabot have left us in recent years, you can visit the page dedicated to them on our website: https:// association-chabot.com/project/inmemoriam/.

As always, we ask for your help in recruiting new members. To that end, this year alone we are launching an exceptional promotion entitled: SUBSCRIBE YOUR DE-SCENDANTS! This is about offering discounted subscription for your children and grandchildren. We are interested in all the ancestral generations of the Chabot and also contemporary living generations. If you join us in this exceptional project, the Association will bring together several generations of CHABOT, we will rejuvenate our staff and we will also increase our membership!

See the box at the bottom of page 13 to know more about that promotion, namely the pricing.

> Maryo Chabot Tremblay Member nº 275

## Time to harvest cranberries



From The News Tribune (Tacoma, Washington) and published Wednesday, November 2, 1983

LONG BEACH – Jim Chabot ran a television repair shop here for 15 years, but when his father offered him the chance to take over the family cranbrerry farm 12 years ago, Jim Chabot gave up his business and became the fourth generation of his family to take up cranberry growing on Washington's coast.

« There's a lot less pressure running cranberry bogs than serving the public. This is a heck of a lot more relaxing out here, » the 47-year-old Chabot said, his eyes sweeping over the 20 acres of cranberries he grows.

It's cranberry harvest time on the Long Beach peninsula now, and that means 12-hour days and six-day work weeks for Jim Chabot and the six people he employs to harvest the crop.

Fall is the busiest time for Chabot, who is captain of the Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department and an emergency medical technician. He always has a radio handy to monitor emergency calls while he's working, but when harvest time rolls around, Chabot said, it would have to be a big emergency before he'd leave the bogs to respond. « The berries come first before anything I do, » he said.

Weeding, fertilizing and herbicide spraying are done in the spring. Much of the weeding is done by hand, the way it's been done for many years.

Chabot spends summer months cleaning ditches and repairing dikes surrounding the bogs.

Bugs, fungi, deer and elk are some of the everyday problems facing the estimated 28 cranberry growers on the peninsula.

« Deer and elk like to get out there and play in the bogs, and eat the berries, tearing up the bogs in the process, » Chabot said.

Frost in the spring and fall sis one of the biggest enemies of the cranberry farmer. An en-

tire crop of berries can be wiped out by a spring freeze if the berries aren't kept wet with sprinklers.

Those are problems that have been dealt with by members of the Chabot family for most of the last 100 years.

**Anthony Chabot**, a French-Canadian civil engineer, and great-great-great uncle of Jim Chabot, who built what is believed to be the first commercial cranberry bogs on the Long Beach Peninsula in southwest Washington in 1883.

Robert Chabot, Jim's grandfather and a nephew of Anthony Chabot, managed his uncle's holdings on the peninsula for some time before moving north and running his own cranberry farm near Copalis Beach.



Robert Chabot, Anthony Chabot's nephew



Elwell Chabot, Robert's son, James Chabot, Elwell's son and Jeffrey Chabot, James's son

Elwell Chabot, Jim's father grew up on that farm and in 1947 returned to the Long Beach Peninsula, where he built the present-day Chabot cranberry farm.

«It was a jungle here when we came here in 1947, » Elwell Chabot said.

« When we went into it, we were getting 7-8 cents a pound for berries. But it's a nice business as far as farming's concerned. »

Last year, farmers were paid 40-45 cents a pound for their berries.

Elwell Chabot will never forget one dark day in cranberry-growing history. It became known as « Black Monday, » a day in the late 1950s when federal health officials told the country that an herbicide used by cranberry growers to kill weeds in their bogs caused cancer in laboratory rats, Jim Chabot said.

Wholesale buyers and consumers threw away their berries, Chabot said. Cranberry sales dropped to nearly nothing. The government subsidized the cranberry industry to keep berry farmers from going bankrupt, he said. Buyers like Ocean Spray Inc., which now buys about 85 percent of the cranberries grown in the United States, had gotten rid of all the berries they had stored.

Ironically, the herbicide that caused the scare has since been approved for use on cranberry bogs. Chabot said few growers use it, however, becaue there now are other herbicides on the market that do the same job.

Over the last eight years or so, the demand for cranberries for use in mixed juices has been a boon to cranberry farmers.

« Before that berries were sold for Thanksgiving and Christmas, » Jim Chabot said.

The Washington cranberry industry has weathered the recession well, he said. «The future will be much like the present, » said Jim Chabot. «People that are in (cranberry farming) are staying in it.»



Diane Chabot Fard Member # 09

The Board of Directors wishes a very happy birthday to all their members, their spouses and parents, who have aged (or become younger!) by one year during the last quarter. Good health and long life to you!

The Board of Directors also offers its deepest condolences to those who have lost a loved one.

## Cycling: a passion but also a commitment



The rudimentary beginnings

I am Lynda Chabot. I was born on March 6, 1961. My parents are Madeleine Labrecque and Léopold Chabot. In my mid-teens and in the middle of the countryside at Hebertville-Station in Lac St-Jean, I found my space of activities restricted. So what do I do to get more freedom? "I know, I'm going to buy a bike to go around in my own way."

Mont-Ventoux, France

Being the tenth of an eleven-child family, I didn't want to use the one bike that served all the purposes. I

wanted my own bicycle, my "little queen'. So I decide to collect raspberries from our garden and sell them on the side of the road with my parents' permission. The activity was quickly lucrative because we had beautiful wild raspberry plants. This money, combined with several months of babysitting income, meant that at the end of the summer of my 16th birthday, I was able to buy a beautiful 10-speed bike from «Motobécane», a beautiful blue machine made in France.

The following summer, the kilometers accumulate and I have the idea of cycling around Lac St-Jean, solo. Not having the necessary cycling equipment, my father Leopold made me 2 bike bags with garbage bags, and here I am on the road! Quite an adventure and I must admit, a little too audacious for the road conditions of the time. Final result, my father came to pick me up after 2 days, about halfway, around the town of Dolbeau with 3 flat tires that I had to repair.

In 1983, at the age of 22, I moved in beautiful Quebec City, with my bike. I found a job as an archivist with the Government of Quebec and I then worked 37 years there, including 21 years with the Ministry of Tourism.

### My commitments

During the summer of 1984, I had the wind in my sails and I discovered the Cyclorizon bike club through an acquaintance. It is a club of happy cyclists who share the same passion as me. With them, I also discovered the passion to travel in cycle tourism mode, first across the province, and then around our beautiful planet.



This expression dates back to the 19th century and has its origin in the history of the Netherlands during the reign of Wilhemine, a young woman who became queen at the age of 10, in 1890. After a few years of her reign, the visiting French Press pointed out the queen's funny habit of cycling through the kingdom. Thus, the expression «the little queen on a bicycle» was taken up by many French newspapers and the expression «the little queen» was adopted by the whole population to designate the bicycle. Given my rather "leader" personality, I quickly became involved in the club management, with the Board of Directors, first as travel manager, but then as secretary and president for several years. I volunteered there so much that I'm now an honorary member. After all these years, I still have a lot of fun riding with them and remembering our adventures on 2 wheels

This was the beginning of my commitment to promoting cycling as a means of daily transportation and, above all, to improve the safety of cyclists on our roads in Quebec. In the late 1990s, I became a director of the association Vélo Québec and I was on the board of directors of that provincial organization for more than 10 years, including one year as president. Through these years of commitments, I also discovered the organization Accès transport viable, a Quebec city organism, around 2015. That's how I became the spokesperson for cycling month for two years. The month of May was therefore filled with public interventions (on TV and on the radio) and concrete actions with bike clubs and the general public.

In 2017, I then explored another club in the Quebec City region called "Sport-en-tête". At the time, I needed a new sport challenge but also, I realised that this club needed my experience as a club manager. Starting in 2021, I am a member of their board and will have held the positions of secretary, president and director. I am still active in organizing trips and social activities. I love biking but also the pleasure of sharing this passion with other enthusiasts like me.

### Travels in Europe

My two first trips to France were by car. It quickly made me realize that it wasn't really my way of life. At the dawn of my 35th birthday (1996), I went solo to ride the region of the Loire, it was a difficult two weeks because of my lack of experience (especially in mechanics), but the flame was there and it was the beginning of a long journey.

The year 2002 was revealing for me. First, I am selected by the Association des archivistes du Québec to attend an internship at the Archives nationales de France from early April to the end of June. Living in Paris for several months forced the little girl from Lake St-John to evolve! I discovered a city jewel, an extraordinary work environment with archivists from 20 francophone countries around the world. Naturally my bicycle touring made the trip with me. The first pedal strokes, from Montmartre to Archives street in the 3rd arrondissement, made my heart rate rise to the maximum. Those Parisians are crazy!

At the end of the internship, I had planned a route between Paris and Lyon by bike. I had to train to prepare to cross the 1000 km in 30 days. So, at the end of each working day, I did climb the Montmartre hill, near my apartment, several times. One day, a man approached me to ask me why I worked so hard every day.

### Les Chabotteries

This man was Simon, a cyclist as passionate as me. We fraternized and I was quickly introduced to his private group of globe-trotter cyclists. I rode with them for 10 years. They

said, "We're on a Canadian journey". Going on an adventure with them was a revelation. We visited the following countries: Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Montenegro, Austria, England, Guadeloupe and several regions of rural France on our bikes. With them, I slept on benches in a barn that served as a dormitory during the German occupation in Poland and on the benches of a railway station in England for failing to find a hotel room.





Angleterre of Stonehenge

The cycling tour of Corsica was a love at first sight. Here I am on the roads, accompanied by cycling friends who have the same goals as me, discovering countries, cities, landscapes and people on our little wheels; our bags full of memories.

Corse, Col of Bocca di Bavedda

Over the years, I also began organizing group travels to Cuba every spring for more than 15 years, while Autumn was devoted to group travels to Europe. Leaving with 40 cyclists and being the only one responsible was a bit foolish but also exhilarating. We visited the following countries: Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and of course several times various regions of France from east to west and from north to south (I think I did everyplace  $\Box$  or almost). I ride an average of

8,000 km per year and my best two years were



Col de La Bonnette, France

1999 and 2022 with more than 10,000 km on the meter, more than with my car  $\bigcirc$ .



Col of l'Iseran, France

Over the years, documentary and digital tools have greatly evolved. In the beginning, writing itineraries on European roads with maps and a curvometer was quite a challenge and patience was a must. Now with «Google Maps» and GPS, it's very easy and reassuring for a volunteer organizer. These gadgets help us find the hotels but especially the small terrace to drink our «dirty beer» at the end of the day, before showering, that fun after the effort. (photo D Iseran)

In the summer of 2022, I took part in a challenge to mark my friendship with cyclists from Luxembourg, whom I had the

opportunity to meet in Guadeloupe in 2018. We travelled 10 days between the Luxembourg Palace and the Monaco Palace. It was memorable: 200 km per day and between

2000 and 3000 meters of positive altitude difference, per day. I was happy with this achievement but it was a strong challenge for a cyclist of my age (61). Spring 2023 will make me discover Portugal through the Douro valley and beaches of the Algarve.

Over the years, I have had in my possession seven bicycles both in cycling tourism, road bike or FAT bike. Besides, my mother was always discouraged to know that I had so many bikes and no car, this lasting for more than 10 years. It must be admitted that my condo is in the heart of downtown Quebec City, therefore close to everything.

I wish myself to be able to continue to play this sport for a long time because it made me grow and flourish, surrounded by wonderful people. There are still beautiful destinations to discover such as Crete, Albania, etc.

Now I have a question for you: when are you getting on your bikes and travelling?

Lynda Chabot



<sup>1</sup>The **curvometer** is a measuring instrument used to measure on maps any curved linear element or any non-rectilinear route.



Col of l'Espigoulier (France)



### In the series, Maurice, my brother

It was Adrien, I have always been told, who had the idea of breeding foxes and who put his project into effect thanks to a loan from his grandmother to buy the first couple of animals. This was around 1936 or 1937, when he was only 16 or 17 years old. One thing is



Enclosure with a fox cub

certain, however, if he succeeded in expanding it and making it profitable until the early 1950s, it is because his brother Maurice helped him at every stage of its implementation:

building the pens and cages, sharing the daily feeding tasks, preparing the pelts for sale, etc.

And then, when he took his wife in 1944, Adrien built new pens on the small farm that Dad had left him, leaving his brother Maurice to take care of the animals in the pens under his care. This he did with zeal and diligence, the two brothers having always worked together, without animosity or jealousy, as it sometimes happens. And as Adrien (who did not like farm work) began to earn a living outside the farm to support his new family, Maurice greater responsibility had to assume for the management o f the fox farm.

Until the early 1950s, furs, including fox, were fashionable and sold well. Year after year, the sale of the pelts brought in a few hundred dollars that surpassed the costs of buying food and other ordinary expenses, but was far from compensating adequately for their work. For, in addition to the daily care of the foxes and their cubs, the latter had to be slaughtered at the appropriate time, skinned, degreased, and pinned on specially cut boards after having been rubbed with wheat bran to polish them. All these operations required a meticulous precision work: it was necessary to avoid notching the skins during the skinning and degreasing because with skin holes devalued. a was stronaly

The breeding of foxes is demanding. First of all, these animals are not domesticable despite the attention they may receive and are always likely to attack or bite1. And, in addition to a balanced diet that must be provided daily, composed in part of fresh meat2, we must take care of the periods of t of the females to promote mating and, most importantly, pay special attention when they gave birth, which happened in spring. It was necessary to avoid frightening them or any passing animal, because then they could kill their young to keep them out of danger. Only Adrien, to my knowledge, had access to the cages, and even then not all the mothers allowed him to do so. He was always eager to check the color of the fox cubs and thus calculate his future earnings, the platinum color coat being worth double or triple that of the silver one and quadruple that of the common black fox.



Maurice, Bernadette And rifle It was around 1950 that the last slaughter took place, which I attended. Here is a funny fact from that day that I remember. Adrien, the expert butcher, pretended to swallow the genotoires of an animal he had just skinned, inviting me to imitate him by pretending to enjoy it. Of course I refused under the mocking glance of Maurice, accomplice of his brother.

It is hard to imagine nowadays, what kind of initiative and courage it took to accomplish what Maurice and his brother did. Both uneducated, penniless, barely out of their teens... They had to manage, learn everything by themselves, make mistakes, start over, persevere. They were certainly able to count on generous people who accepted to advise them, to give them a hand in a world where Internet and modern means of information were not

even imaginable. As the baby of the family, I barely knew the rigors of their era, which had the advantage of training hardworking and creative young people. One thing is certain, I have

always admired them and I am proud to pay them this small tribute.

1. When my brothers were away for a day or two, they entrusted my sisters Carmelle and Madeleine with the task of watering the foxes. They were scared to death of the foxes, who would stare at them and scarcely dare to go near the pens. So they used a long pipe that they inserted through the mesh of the fence to the water bowl and poured the water into the other end. It was a great show and my brothers enjoyed their ant i c s .

2. I remember that we used to get our meat from the slaughterhouses in the area, where we got the bones, the tripe, the tendons and the inedible parts of the slaughtered animals. For this purpose, the two brothers bought an old car and converted it into a truck, cutting the body in half and replacing the back part with a wooden box attached to the structure. The meat they brought back, sometimes a little porky, was mashed with a big grinder that we called a meat grinder. I also remember that my brothers sometimes bought, for a few dollars, an old "picouille" to serve as a meal for their young and adult protégés. I still have a vague memory (I was maybe three years old) of seeing one of my brothers try to cut down a huge gray "piton" in front of the barn. He had a burlap sack shoved over his head, holding it at a good distance on each side with a rope to prevent it from moving. Adrien, I think it was him, ten steps in front of the poor cow, shouldered the gun, pulled it and missed... It had moved. Then it was a battle to catch him because the animal had fled. After several attempts, we managed to catch him and he was finally killed in a nice way, this time by Maurice. Standing on the sidewalk, I had observed the scene with great interest and a little fear at times.



Note : Curiously, I could not find, in the family album that my mother left us, The picture page 11 any photo of the enclosures built by Maurice and Adrien that were called at the time "fox ranches".

This one, below, was taken at another breeder's in St-Lazare.

On the right, my brother Adrien holding a fox cub in his arms with his wife, or future wife, Jeannette Henry (around 1944). Behind, we see the pens next to the house of Alphée Chabot on Rang 5.



Adrien and Jeannette with a fox cub

Marcel Chabot, Membre 09 printemps 2016

OFFER YOUR CHILDREN AND/OR GRANDCHILDREN A A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ASSOCIATION AT A REDUCED PRICE : \$15 FOR 1 YEAR (instead of \$25) \$25 FOR 2 YEARS (instead of \$50) \$60 FOR 5 YEARS (instead of \$110) EACH OF YOUR DESCENDANTS, ONCE SUBSCRIBED, WILL ENJOY THE SAME BENEFITS AS YOU. PAYMENT BY CHEQUE, INTERAC TRANSFER OR PAYPAL. FOLLOW THE PAYMENT INSTRUC-TIONS THAT WILL BE SENT TO YOU AT THE TIME OF PURCHASE. FOLLOW THE LINK: SUBSCRIBE YOUR DESCENDANTS, on our website: https://association-chabot.com/ THE RELEVE IS ESSENTIAL!

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I AM BOARDING!

# Chronicle "The young generation of Chabot"

### Maggy Chabot, a sports champion turned architect

### 1. When were you born and who are your parents?

I was born on July 14, 1997 in Quebec City. My parents are Martine Dussault and Louis-Georges Chabot.

## You are currently completing a master's degree in architecture at Laval University, has it always been your career choice or have you tried something else before?

After high school and college in sciences, my interest was more in biology, but my career choice was not yet clearly defined in my mind. That's why I decided to choose a university more based on my sporting aspirations, which led me to complete a year at McGill University in Anatomy and Cell Biology (2017-2018). It was beautiful experience, sportwise, but from that moment on, I didn't feel at my place in the field of biology. Ironically, after a few encounters with a private guidance counselor, architecture and law popped out as my main interests. So I choosed architecture. It made a lot more sense, because I've always been interested in the built environment without knowing that I could make a career out of it. The journey was therefore not easy; questioning, doubts, etc.

## 3. You have two brothers, one played hockey and the other played football. Your father is a sportsman himself. Did Louis-Georges play a role in your development in this regard?

My father played a very important role in this development for me, as well as for my brothers. It was very important to him that physical activity was part of our lives, regard-less of sport, which is why he introduced me to all sports. I think that's why I've always had

good motor skills in all sports. For as long as I can remember, I always had a tennis ball or racket in my hands.

## 3. Tell us about your participation in soccer, steps, successes.

I started soccer at the age of 5. At the age of 9, I played at the AA competitive level for my town, Les Rapides de Chaudières-Ouest. My journey with this team was a love story that lasted 5 years. We won everything in our path. I was used as a defense player and my leadership role allowed me to stand out as captain of my team all along my journey. I was also selected to be part of the team that represented my region, Chaudière-Appalaches, in the 45th final of the Quebec Games held in Gatineau in 2010, I was then 13 years old. I also had the chance to lead my team as a captain to win the gold medal.



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### 5. Tell us about your basketball journey, milestones, successes.

In elementary school, I attended Clair-Soleil school and we played basketball for fun at lunchtime. One day, a physical education teacher from École la Martinière, another neighbourhood school a little further away, approached me to transfer in his school to play for their mini basketball team "Les Albatros", for my last 2 years of primary school (grades 5 and 6). Following these years, it was obvious that my choice of high school would be the Séminaire Saint-François for its reputation as an elite sports development. I started my journey with the Blizzard in Secondary 1 (2009-2010) at the youngest AA level.

In Secondary 2 (2010-2011), I was upgraded to play with Secondary 3 players for the Junior AAA team, where we were crowned provincial champions in 2011. In Secondary 3 (2011-2012), we also won the provincial tournament for the second consecutive year. My achievements led me to try my luck to be part of the Quebec team in the summer of 2012. I was selected to be part of the team and we won the gold medal at the U-15 Canadian Championship in Fredericton, New Brunswick. In Secondary 4 (2012-2013), at the AAA juvenile level, we won the provincial tournament for the third consecutive year. In the summer of 2013, I was part of the Quebec U-17 team for the Canada Games in Sherbrooke (8th place). Back with the Blizzard, for my last year of high school, I decided to get involved in other sports of the school, including Soccer, Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee while continuing Basketball. The end of my high school studies at Séminaire Saint-François was celebrated at the annual sports gala, where I was awarded the athlete of the trophy (all sports combined). vear



Recruited by the Dynamiques de Cégep de Ste-Foy at the AAA college level in 2014, I was able to win the bronze medal and the gold medal at the provincial tournament. My team has also competed in the Canadian championships twice (Nanaimo, BC and Windsor, ON). Recruited by the McGill University Martlets in Montreal, my team has been crowned Provincial Champions in 2017-2018, in front of my family in Quebec City. This put a glorious end to my basketball career.

### 6. How did you manage to combine sports and studies and get good grades?

A choice had to be made for me to perform as well in sport as well in my studies. I chose to end my soccer career in High School 3 to pursue only basketball. Frankly, it was a lot of work and a lot of effort, but sport gave me the discipline and balance I needed to succeed at school and at home. Those were my best years! Now that I am going to have a professional life, I will try to keep this discipline in my everyday life.

## Les Chabotteries



### 7. What makes you passionate about architecture?

The power to have an impact in creating living environments for people in their every day life. To contribute to the design and construction of healthier, more sustainable and more humane living environments. What I am passionate about is seeing that architecture can mark the landscape and the history of a place and of the people who live there.

### 8. Do you have preferences in architectural styles?

I don't really have a favourite architectural style, but I have a great interest in projects that are concerned about their integration into the landscape, including the use of local materials and simple architectural forms to create spaces on a human scale.

### What are your career plans?

Following my graduation, a two-year professional internship is required before taking the exams of the Ordre des architectes du Québec. I want to join a private firm to gain as much experience as possible and participate in various projects that will make me grow. I have always dreamed of working abroad and why not Denmark!

### 10. What does it mean to you to be a Chabot?

For me, to be a Chabot is to be part of a great family that inspires us to excel. Being a Chabot inspires me to be upright, persevering and altruistic, values that I hope to have the chance to transmit one day. That is what my own Chabot family inspires me and that is the model I have around me.

This interview was conducted by Marie-France Chabot (80) with the collaboration of her niece Maggy.

