

Gatineau Valley historical society Newsletter

~ Help Preserve Our Gatineau Valley Heritage ~

Fall Events

Monday, September 17th at 6:00 pm ~ *GVHS RETURNS TO ITS ROOTS AT MOORSIDE*
Mackenzie King Estate - parking lot entrance (no parking fee) is off the Champlain Parkway

Program -

6:00 - 7:00 pm: **Guided tour of the Mackenzie King Museum**, and chance to walk the grounds.

6:30 - 8:00 pm: **Pub Night at Moorside** - *Real Ale and Pub Fayre*, and dessert @ \$14.00 per person, and of course, Allan Richens, the organizer, promises both light & dark British Ale at proper cellar temperatures.

8:00 pm: *"Moorside, from then till now."*

Denis Messier, Manager of Historical Interpretation Services and Special Events at NCC's Gatineau Park, will review the history of our Society and Moorside, outline the current preservation activities, and introduce two new NCC projects: a publication on Gatineau Park history, and a data-base covering Park heritage properties.



To reserve: Please call **Michael Cooper** at 819-459-2787 by September 13th.
If leaving a message, state name + phone number + number of participants.



Sunday, September 23rd at 2:00 pm
CHELSEA PIONEER CEMETERY RESTORATION CEREMONY

587 Route 105, Chelsea

~ A brief ceremony will be followed by a cemetery tour and refreshments ~



Monday, October 15th at 7:30 pm ~ *"90 YEARS OF COMMEMORATION"*
Chelsea Community Centre - 220 Old Chelsea Rd., Chelsea, QC

David Stacey, Secretary General of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, will talk about the beginnings and the evolution of the War Graves Commission from its inception in 1917 to the present day. He will discuss some of the challenges of commemorating 1.7 million war casualties in more than 150 countries, with a focus on Canada and places of commemoration of importance to Canadians.

This timely talk follows the rededication of the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery and will be of particular interest to the many members who are veterans, and their families.



Monday, November 19th - "LUMBER KINGS AND SHANTYMEN"

David Lee of Ottawa, a former Parks Canada historian, wrote this book in 2006 which follows the history of the Ottawa River from the economic hub of Montreal through the rapidly developing cities of Ottawa and Hull, and out to the settlements of Arnprior, Renfrew and Pembroke. The book chronicles Philemon Wright's timber fortune, the rapidly growing pulp and paper industry, and the government that grew around those industries. More information in the next newsletter...

John Hardie will be performing his play about Dr. Harold Geggie on **Friday, September 21st** and **Saturday, September 22nd** at 8.00 p.m. at **Le Moulin** in Wakefield. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at Le Moulin and at Café Les Saisons in Chelsea.

Bob Milling has kindly given Theatre Wakefield the premises for free and the proceeds will go to the Wakefield LaPêche Community Centre Cooperative. Le Moulin is also putting on a **traditional (early 1900s) dinner before the Friday show (only) for \$29** and the proceeds from that will also go to the Coop project. Reservations for the dinner are separate from the ticket purchase and can be made by calling 819-459-1838.

Written and performed by John Hardie, *Dr. Harold* chronicles the life and work of Harold Geggie, who came to Wakefield in 1911 as a young intern working with Dr. Hans Stevenson. The play, based on the 1987 book *The Extra Mile* written by Norma and Stuart Geggie, tells the story of how this young idealist overcame or dealt with the challenges of bringing medical care to the people of the Gatineau Hills and how, in 1952 he realized his great ambition, the building of the Gatineau Memorial Hospital.

Theatre Wakefield

Dr. Harold



September 21 & 22 septembre, 2007
8 p.m. / 20h

Auberge et Spa Le MOULIN, Wakefield
Written and performed by / écrit et interprété par
John Hardie

6:00 p.m.	Traditional dinner - \$29 - Souper à l'ancienne / Fri. 21 st only / vend. le 21 seulement Reservations required / réservations requises @ (819) 459 1838	18h
8:00 p.m.	The play : Dr Harold : La pièce	20h
9:30	Discussion : Norma Geggie, John Hardie	2130

Tickets / Billets : \$15
Available at / disponible chez
Le MOULIN, Wakefield, Café Les Saisons, Chelsea

All proceeds (tickets and Fri. dinner to / bénéfices (billets et souper de vend.) versés à la
Coopérative centre communautaire Wakefield LaPêche Community Centre Cooperative

The play is in English and is a history told in ten voices about Dr Harold Geggie, his life and work in the Gatineau Hills, his love for Ella Stevenson and his great achievement: the creation of the Gatineau memorial Hospital.

Le pièce, en anglais, est l'histoire, raconté en dix voix, du Dr Harold Geggie, sa vie, son travail dans les collines de la Gatineau, son amour pour Ella Stevenson et son grand accomplissement : l'établissement du Centre hospitalier Gatineau memorial.

Dance the night away... September 29th at 8:00 pm at the Larrimac Golf Club
GVHS members are invited to take part in an evening of historical memories.



Larrimac Golf Club is offering an evening of dancing to the "The Grey Jazz", an orchestra of 9 members, who will play mostly the music of the 50's complete with singer Bill Luxton. One of the members of the band is Bob Cleall who for several years was the Music Director at Philemon Wright H.S.

Period dress appreciated! The price is \$25.00 per person.

Please contact Allan Richens 819-827-1616 for tickets and/or information.

CEMETERIES ARE NOT ALWAYS "DEAD QUIET"

The **Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery** has been the scene of considerable activity during 2007.

Just before Christmas vandals toppled the grave-stones of Boer War hero Private Richard Rowland Thompson and his wife, Bertha Alexander, along with five other stones in this small, historic cemetery owned by the GVHS. The damage, which included a shattered bench, broken flagpoles and stolen flags, was a shocking reminder of the vulnerability of valuable historic sites.

Newspapers and across-Canada wire service carried reports of this sad event, and the GVHS quickly established a fund designated for restoration of the cemetery. Estimates from monument repair firms confirmed that some \$3000 would be needed to reset and repair the damaged stones.

How to accomplish this, along with regular maintenance of the cemetery and all the other essential GVHS activities? We realized that a targeted activity would be the only way to raise sufficient

funds for professional repair of the gravestones.

A very successful **Fundraiser Breakfast** hosted by the GVHS on July 17, 2007, attracted some 100 people to the Larrimac Golf Club to meet Transport Minister Lawrence Cannon, Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, and Gatineau MNA Stéphanie Vallée. The contributions from this event (a minimum of \$25 from each person), were entirely dedicated to the cemetery restoration fund.

So, the cemetery has certainly not been quiet, as monument repair crews and local volunteers have worked during the summer months.

Now it's time to celebrate! We are pleased to invite everyone to come to a short **ceremony and cemetery tour** on **Sunday afternoon, September 23, at 2:00 p.m.**

Some of the damaged headstones at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery.



Fundraiser Breakfast - July 17th



MNA Stéphanie Vallée and husband, Louis-André Hubert



Transport Minister Lawrence Cannon and Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor with GVHS organizer, Carol Martin

Executive 2007

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~ Help Preserve Our Gatineau Valley Heritage ~

Membership includes the following benefits

- *Up the Gatineau* - our annual local history journal
- GVHS newsletter
- Access to our archival material
- Regular meetings on local and national heritage topics



Purpose:

"...to promote matters of historical or heritage significance in the general area of the Gatineau Valley."

The *Gatineau Valley Historical Society* is a charitable organization which has acted to conserve and foster interest in history and heritage in the Gatineau Valley Region.

Gatineau Valley Historical Society Membership Application

Box 1803 Chelsea QC J9B 1A1 819- 827- 4432

Membership Fees: 1 year - \$15 - includes *Up the Gatineau* (per family)
2 year - \$25 - includes *Up the Gatineau*

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone (Home) _____ New Member -

Telephone (Business) _____ Renewal -

E-Mail _____ Would you like the newsletter emailed to you?

Areas of Interest:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Auction <input type="checkbox"/> | Cemeteries <input type="checkbox"/> | Publications <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Programs <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Archives <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive <input type="checkbox"/> | Special Events <input type="checkbox"/> | Web Site <input type="checkbox"/> |