

# GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## *Fall Newsletter*

Monday, October 26, 2009 @ 7:30 pm  
Chelsea Library, Lower Level, Old Chelsea QC

### *GVHS Archives Open House*

Join the *GVHS Archives volunteers* for a tour of our archival facilities to view some of our hidden treasures, to learn more about the programs and services that we offer the community, and to find out about volunteer opportunities with the Society Archives.

For nearly fifty years the Society has been collecting and preserving original books, photos, maps, recordings, and digital images. Since securing permanent space in the Chelsea Library our collections have been growing and have become one of the Society's most important resources, supporting the Society's mission to make known and preserve the history and heritage of the Gatineau Valley.



Postcard of "Upper Town", Wakefield [ca.1910]  
GVHS 00232-007

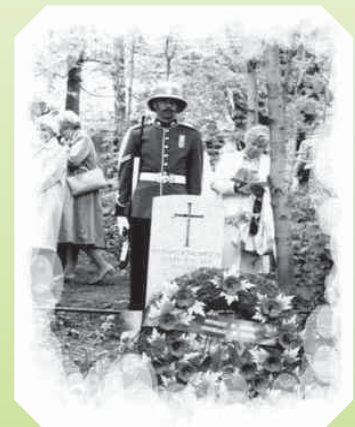
The program will highlight the services we offer to members and the community including the GVHS Image bank, genealogy references, and the GVHS Website. This is your chance to bring your questions, your curiosity and to meet the hard working volunteers that make the Archives a success.

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 @ 10:30 am

### *Remembrance Day Ceremony*

Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery, 587 Route 105, Chelsea

Since 1986 GVHS has hosted the Remembrance Day service at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery to keep the memory alive of Private Richard Rowland Thompson, Queen's Scarf recipient, who is buried in the tiny cemetery. As in past years, Private Thompson's old regiment, the Royal Canadian Regiment, stationed in Petawawa, will form a guard of honour.



Monday, November 16, 2009 @ 7:30 pm  
Chelsea Community Centre, Old Chelsea QC

## *Re-enacting history: both how and why.*

In July, Ken and Heather Bouchard and Michael Cooper, pictured right, GVHS members from Wakefield, joined 250 re-enactors and 42 tall ships in Halifax to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Naval Dockyards.



Their slideshow and commentary will illustrate this significant event, and lead into a discussion of the value of re-enactment, which seems to be growing in popularity in North America. They will be joined by Captains Victor Suthren, who coordinated the Halifax event, and Vernon Fairhead, who has participated in many re-enactments in his own wooden boats.

*We invite your participation: uniforms are optional, but no swords or muskets, please.*

Monday, December 14, 2009 @ 7:30 pm  
80 ch Summer, Cantley 819-827-3164

## *Christmas Traditions at La Grange de la Gatineau*



Members of The Gatineau Valley Historical Society and family and friends are invited to share an evening of carol singing, music and Christmas treats in the historic ambience of The Grange in Cantley. All ages welcome.

To help with the spirit of the evening, we encourage you to bring.....

- your voice ...or musical instrument.... to join the piano and singing and/or
- a plate of your favourite seasonal treats (cookies, squares, nibbles or cash donation) for the Potluck Refreshment Table

*GVHS thanks La Grange de la Gatineau for hosting this special annual event.*

Contact: [phillips.margaret@gmail.com](mailto:phillips.margaret@gmail.com) to offer musical, dramatic or other ideas for this evening.

## *Auction Report*

On August 22, 2009, the day of the GVHS 46th Annual Auction, the weather cooperated—again! It was mainly sunny, and not too hot. A brief shower around 11:00 a.m. scared us, but almost immediately, it stopped and the sun shone again.

The Flea Market and Home Baking Booth had started in business before 8:30. Many prospective bidders had registered by this time, and it was a good chance for people to browse the items for auction. Shortly after 9:00, Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of Parliament for this riding, gave a brief opening address and commended the work of the Society. Chelsea's mayor, Jean Perras also greeted the crowd, and then the Auction was underway, led by Auctioneer Revel Stewart, of Cobden, ON.

The 120 registered bidders came from Chelsea, La Pêche, municipalities and villages "up the line," from Ottawa and Gatineau, and a few from farther

afield; the attendance was easily double that number. Some 70 individuals and businesses donated items to be sold at Auction, and our members and supporters provided the home baking and items for the Flea Market.

The item attracting the most interest was a century-old inscribed Birks sterling silver claret jug that sold for more than \$400. A decorated wooden child's sleigh brought \$155. A pine "immigrant chest," some pine tables, an array of press-back chairs and rocking chairs, two spinning wheels, shutters, mirrors, antique prints, china and linens . . . all sold before 1:00 p.m. A Silent Auction featured vouchers for gourmet food, a winter overnight stay in a Gatineau Park cabin, ski passes, golf games, bicycle rentals and many other fitness-related activities, flowers and gardening help. Net revenue: approximately \$6000.

***Thanks to St Stephen's Church, our silent auction donors, the bakers, our other volunteers, and all who attended and contributed to the day's success.***



L to R: Linda Bardell, Marc Cockburn,  
Lawrence Cannon & Revel Stewart



some of the bidders

### *Silent Auction Donors*

- A Step Up
- Boulangerie dans un Village
- Cabot Personal Chef
- Café Soupe'herbe
- Camp Fortune/Mont Ste. Marie
- Charles IGA,
- Chelsea Auto Repair
- Chelsea Freshmart,
- Chelsea Pizza
- Chelsea Post Office
- Chelsea Smoke House
- DEMSIS Gatineau Park,
- Dunnderosa Golf Club
- Fleuriste Avant-Garde,
- Fortune Aerial Experience
- Gatineau Hills Therapeutic Massage
- Greg Christie Ski & Cycle Works
- La Cigale
- La Vallée Restaurant
- La Vie en Forme
- Larrimac Golf Club
- Les Fougères
- Les Saisons Café
- Marguerite McDonald
- Mayor Jean Perras
- Moorside Tea Room,
- NCC
- Old Chelsea Slip Covers
- Parkway General Store
- Stéphanie Vallée
- The LowDown
- True Value Hardware (Farm Point)

### Executive 2009

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Vacant

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Thanks to baker extraordinaire Renee Nielsen, you can sample these delicious squares at every GVHS meeting!



### Upcoming Event

GVHS members are welcome to join The Bytown Railway Society on **Tuesday, November 3 at the Canada Science & Technology Museum at 7:30pm**. The presentation will consist of a brief history of the Maniwaki line; then a short account of life as a locomotive fireman on the Gatineau train (by Duncan du Fresne a BRS member - he gave a presentation to the GVHS several years ago) and finally the presentation about the Hull Chelsea Wakefield steam railway by André Groulx.

### Gatineau Valley Historical Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Box 1803, Chelsea QC J9B 1A1 ~ 819-827-6224 ~ www.gvhs.ca

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

**Membership Fees (per family): 1 year — \$15.00      2 year — \$25.00**

**New Member** \_\_\_\_ **Renewal** \_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ The newsletter will be emailed to you.

I would like to help with: Auction\_\_ Archives\_\_ Cemeteries\_\_ Executive\_\_ Publications\_\_