

GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Spring **Newsletter**~ **Upcoming Meetings** ~Monday, April 18th, 2011

Chelsea Library, 100 Old Chelsea Rd., Chelsea QC

**THE LIFE & TIMES OF CHELSEA ARTIST
ROBERT HYNDMAN**

A long time resident of Chelsea until his death in 2009, **Robert Hyndman** was a war artist, portraitist and landscape painter

Our guest speaker will be his daughter, **Brydie Hyndman** who will reminisce about his achievements with a slide show of his paintings. His works are owned by hundreds of private collectors across Canada and by institutions such as the Canadian War Museum, the Supreme Court of Canada, and Ottawa City Hall.

Complementing the talk will be the opening of a Chelsea Library exhibit of selected Hyndman paintings and memorabilia.



Robert Hyndman (standing to the right) instructing an art class at the bottom of Ojai Road across from Brown's barn in Kirk's Ferry.

Photo courtesy of the Hyndman family. (1983)

~ **ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS EVENING** ~

Monday, May 16th 2011 @ 5:45 p.m. - cocktails
6:30 p.m. - dinner

Dunnderosa Golf Club, 11 Notch Rd. Old Chelsea, QC

\$30.00 per person

**Please call Rene Nielsen before May 10th
at 819-827-1845 to reserve your spot.**

Reports - 2010

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Gatineau Valley Historical Society Société Historique de la Vallée de la Gatineau

Fiscal Period Jan 01, 2010 – Dec 31, 2010

Financial Statements Information

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets

Current Assets

Bank balance	\$17,045.86
Sub total	\$17,045.86

Long-term Assets

Bank GIC	\$10,000.00
Bond	\$40,000.00
Sub total	\$50,000.00
Total	\$67,045.86

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue

Memberships	\$2,803.95
Donations	\$915.00
Publications	\$6,664.88
Archives	\$1,671.23
47 th Annual Auction	\$8,757.35
Total	\$20,812.41

Expenditures

Administration	\$558.54
Meetings - Advertising	\$762.17
Publications	\$9,338.45
Archives	\$3,730.80
47 th Annual Auction	\$3,173.73
Annual Dinner	\$677.04
Pioneer Cemetery	\$266.03
Remembrance Day	\$360.65
Total	\$18,867.41

Notes:

- i) Financial Statement prepared on cash basis
- ii) Long Term Assets - GIC - Mature 2012; Bond P035C - Mature 2013 – Bond P058C - Mature 2017
- iii) Archives expenditure's include \$625 repayment to QAHN
- iv) Admin expenditure's (Bank Fees – \$235.94, P.O. Box - \$162.61, Office Supplies – \$129.99, QAHN -\$30.00
- v) The above does not include fixed assets and inventory of publications.

Treasurer: *Mary Armitage*



ARCHIVES REPORT

For nearly fifty years, the GVHS 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. Our "new-look" website at www.gvhs.ca is becoming a great index as to some of our holdings.

The Archives is operated by a group of volunteers with R.J. Hughes as Manager. All offer their enthusiasm, skills, and community knowledge on a voluntary basis. The volunteers include: Linda Bardell, Janet Bradley, Annette Brand, Glennis Cohen, Adrienne Herron, R.J. Hughes, Carol Martin, Erik Rask, Louise Schwartz, Meredith McLean, Catherine Joyce, with technical support by Mike Bardell.

What is in the Archives?

Our main holdings can be grouped into: Document files (records of the GVHS itself, records of local activities and significance); Image Bank (digital photographs of people, places and events in the Gatineau region); Maps, pictures, artefacts, etc. (a small collection including paintings, a replica of the Queen's Scarf, etc.); microfilmed records (local census from 1842 to 1891, some local church baptism, marriage and burial records).

Some Archives activities:

Acquisitions: New holdings are received and registered, processed as time permits and accessed. In 2010 we received 39 new acquisitions some of which are waiting to be processed. In 2011 we are working towards listing acquisitions in a database from our paper files.

Reference and research:

During 2010, the GVHS had an average of six inquiries a week. Visitors arrange in advance or drop in to our Archives, asking for photographs, family, local and historical information. We also receive e-mail inquiries about photos in our Image Bank collection - images@gvhs.ca, genealogy or local history.

Exhibits:

Small exhibits of photographs are situated in the lobby of the Chelsea Municipal Building, and on the wall beside the GVHS Archives, as well as in the libraries in Wakefield and Masham. A number of commercial enterprises (including the Wakefield Mill, the Wakefield General Store, the Cascades Club, La Vallée Restaurant in Chelsea, etc.) have historically relevant displays of photographs from our Image Bank. The GVHS shares a display cabinet with the Municipality of Chelsea and for Remembrance Day 2010.

Library:

We have several hundred printed items in a small library, the contents of which are also listed on our website.

Image Bank:

As of 2010, the Image Bank has over 7000 digitized historic photos of persons, places and events from the Gatineau Valley and is very busy editing and correcting entries.

Text Bank

Scanned and key word searchable clippings (5148) from local newspapers including many area births, marriages and deaths, and events. Also includes some scanned documents (4471) including poems penned by local residents.

Looking ahead for 2011:

During 2011, the GVHS Archives group will be working on accession procedures and standards (including computerized databases of items recently added to our inventory), copyright policies, kick starting oral history once again and increasing the GVHS website.

R.J. Hughes

CHelsea PIONEER CEMETERY REPORT

The GVHS owns and maintains his historic cemetery. We are extremely pleased to note that on December 23, 2010, the Municipality of Chelsea passed bylaw No. 777-10 giving heritage status and protection to the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery, and also to the Old Chelsea Protestant Burial Ground.

Although earlier municipal bylaws, (Nos. 335 and 341, dating to April 1989) declared both cemeteries to be historic, they had never been recognized at a provincial level as no documentation accompanied the earlier bylaws. In February of 2010, Carol Martin prepared documentation for both cemeteries and requested that the Municipality demand heritage status for them. The request was supported by Chelsea's Cultural and Heritage Committee, and also by its Planning Committee.

The Society is grateful to many local volunteers who have helped to keep the Pioneer Cemetery attractive and in good repair. During 2010, \$266.03 was spent. \$250 of this was paid to David Larcher and his brother for regular grass cutting and clearing of fallen branches. In preparation for Remembrance Day Ceremonies, the Larcher brothers cleaned up and cut the grass at no cost to the GVHS.

At the sign marking the entrance to the cemetery, Louise Lebrun has created and cares for a lovely small flower garden. In the urn at the Cenotaph, Marilyn Liddiad provides and maintains flowers over the summer months. We are most grateful to these volunteers (both members of the Gatineau Valley Gardeners), for their assistance in beautifying the cemetery.

Two minor repairs were carried out. The metal bars of a low fence marking Pte. Richard Rowland Thompson's grave were straightened. Also, Peter Jessen kindly repaired one of the benches that had been damaged by a fallen branch. Mr. Jessen keeps in touch with the GVHS should any problems arise.

Allan Richens



2011 SOCIETY AGM – PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good evening everyone and welcome to the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Gatineau Valley Historical Society.

Our Executive and Committee reports will be published in the next Newsletter, and since I can't possibly cover everything, this evening I want to highlight just a few of the Society's noteworthy achievements from 2010, and to look forward to next year when the Society will be marking its 50th Anniversary.

Tonight's meeting is somewhat of a beginning to that celebration, so instead of having a speaker we decided to focus on ourselves and invite Members into the Society archives and preview our new Website which we hope will be the launching pad to take the Society into our next 50 years.

Our Publications list was enhanced last year with the launch of *Tributes: Gatineau Personalities and Historical Events*, a book of selected articles written by former GVHS President Ernie Mahoney and lovingly edited by Norma Geggie and Anita Rutledge.

Many thanks once again to Carol Martin for editing her 18th volume of *Up the Gatineau!*. Volume 36 of our was published in May and distributed to all members.

Overall our publications continue to find new readers with over 800 copies of the *Up the Gatineau!*, and other publications sold in the last year. Many thanks of Harold and Margaret Reid and to Mary Armitage, for storing and distributing the publications.

We remain active in providing assistance to local municipalities for identifying historic sites in the region. In 2010, Carol Martin, André Renaud and Dave Yuill began work on collecting house histories in Chelsea, with Bob McClelland doing the same in Cantley. This was to provide input for an MRC driven project to identify and register historic sites in the Outaouais.

Carol Martin continues to Chair the Chelsea Municipal Cemetery Committee, a group that includes members André Renaud, Allan Richens, and the late Alan Hopkins. This group works to ensure the preservation and maintenance of the historic Old Chelsea Protestant Burial Ground and the Society owned Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery. They have recently sent an application to the MCCCFC to have the two cemeteries designated as official historic sites.

The Society's finances and membership are in good shape and our core programs such as our monthly meetings have been very well attended, thanks to some great speakers and innovative programming, and to Shirley Brown and Erik Rask for publicizing our events in the Newsletter and website.

We had another great Auction this year, both in terms of revenue and in terms of lessons learned. Many thanks to R.J. Hughes and many volunteers for finding new ways to get the best value out of our main fundraiser.

Everyone from the Executive Committee to our occasional volunteers and supporters have contributed to yet another successful year for the GVHS.

Over the next few months we will be forming a 50th anniversary committee to plan events and activities to celebrate the Society history, to recognize our valued volunteers, and to make some lasting and meaningful investments in furthering the Society's mission to preserve and make known the history and heritage of the Gatineau Valley.

Finally, I hope to see many of you at our Annual Dinner in May when we will have a chance to properly toast some of the individuals that have helped us in the last year, and over many years, to help us achieve our mission.

Thank you and enjoy the evening.

Marc Cockburn

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE - WWW.GVHS.COM

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

Shirley Brown produces the quarterly GVHS *Newsletter*. GVHS members who have provided e-mail addresses receive the *Newsletter* electronically—a choice that gets the information to them immediately, and means we can *send reminders about forthcoming events*. It also saves postage costs! Please let us know if we can add your name to that list—the benefit to you is that you will receive reminders about events.

Carol Martin edits the GVHS annual journal, *Up the Gatineau!*, published each May and distributed to all members. We thank those who assisted with this publication in 2010: Louise Schwartz and Margaret Coleman as assistant editors, Beth MacFie copy editor, and layout by Frances Curry (Chelsea Books).

At the annual dinner in 2010, Michal Anne Crawley was awarded the **Arthur Davison Prize** for her article, “Lights! Camera! Action!—A Brief History of Crawley Films.” The award noted that “The story of Crawley Film and the Crawley family is entwined with the development of film-making in Canada, events on the world stage, and extensive social changes that took place during this time. The breadth and scope of this article is impressive, and it is written with engaging warmth, humour and honesty.”

A special feature of the annual dinner was the launch of a book of selected articles written by former GVHS President Ernie Mahoney. *Tributes: Gatineau Personalities and Historical Events* - an illustrated collection of 31 articles written by Ernie Mahoney between 1985 and 2001, is edited by Norma Geggie and Anita Rutledge. This 136-page book of stories about local people and events that Ernie found interesting touches on the traditions and way of life that were beginning to change and enter the realm of history during his time in the Gatineau Valley.

The new GVHS web site now includes an on-line version of the Index to all volumes of *Up the Gatineau!*, and a selection of **18 articles**, including illustrations.

Publications Sales:

As part of their membership, some 300 GVHS members each receive a free copy of *Up the Gatineau!*, valued at \$7. The **Index for Volumes 1-35** sells for \$4, and offers a ready reference to those of us who have a collection of *Up the Gatineau!* Complete sets of *Up the Gatineau!* (36 volumes and an Index) are available at for \$130, a saving of \$31 over the individual price.

We sell the current *Up the Gatineau!*, back issues, and other publications directly at GVHS events and at 14 stores and boutiques in the region. We also have a GVHS presence, selling publications and responding to inquiries for historical information about our area at several other local events. In 2010 we attended the Gene-O-Rama sponsored by the Ontario Genealogical Society, the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) conference, both in Ottawa, the Wakefield Craft Fair held at Vorlage in Wakefield, the Friends of the Gatineau (FOG) Heritage Paddle (Wakefield-Chelsea) and the GVHS Auction in Chelsea. (Total sales at these five realized \$924.00).

Continued interest in the Gatineau Valley Historical Society is reflected in the publication sales figures for 2010.
Direct sales - \$4233.50 + Retail sales - \$2868.60 = Total sales: \$7102.10

Other Publications

In addition to *Up the Gatineau!*, the Society sells a *Historic Map of Chelsea-1875* (\$6.00) and a poster of *Gatineau Valley Railway Stations* (\$8.00), and **NEW** in 2010, *Tributes: Gatineau Personalities and Historical Events*, by Ernie Mahoney (\$20.00).

The following books by **Norma Geggie** and **Carol Martin** are also currently available through the GVHS: *The Extra Mile* (\$16.00), *A Place Apart* (\$8.00), *Wakefield Revisited* (\$12.50), *Wakefield: un deuxième regard* (\$12.50), *In Memory of Chelsea's Historic Cemeteries* (\$14.50). (The inside back cover of *Up the Gatineau!* carries ordering and mailing details.)

Contacts

For the *Newsletter*, Shirley Brown can be reached at browncrest@sympatico.ca.

For *Up the Gatineau!* Carol Martin can be reached at the GVHS address or by e-mail at rjcmartin@primus.ca.

For **publications sales**, Harold and Margaret Reid can be reached at 819-827-0138 or by e-mail at hreid1@bell.net.

Carol Martin



Executive 2011

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Save the date!

**Saturday
August 20, 2011**

GVHS Annual Auction

Archive Hours

Chelsea Library - downstairs

Monday & Wednesday

1:30pm to 4:30pm

Thursday

6:00pm to 8:00pm

or by arrangement: email - info@gvhs.ca
phone: 819-827-6224

Archivist Emeritus
Jay Atherton

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__