

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

Opportunity knocks and we open the door to greet our next speaker, Ewan Caldwell, Manager, Ottawa Division, (Woodlands), Consolidated - Bathurst Inc., who will come to us on Wednesday, 25 February 1981. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. sharp.

His subject, illustrated by some 80 slides, will be "Dragon Feeders of the Ottawa" (the story of early logging in the Ottawa Valley). We are fortunate in getting Mr. Caldwell as he has lately given this talk in Toronto and while there he received a pressing invitation from the Minister of Forestry in New Brunswick to repeat his performance in that province.

For this meeting we will return to the West Hull Community Centre (formerly St. Stephen's Old School) immediately west of the church in Old Chelsea, Que. The accommodation is good and there is adequate parking available.

The subject is topical, the speaker is knowledgeable and articulate and the opportunity may not come again so - better not miss it!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

Good weather, good attendance and good facilities characterized our Annual Meeting on 29 January 1981 short reports revealed another year of activity which could have been improved with more activists.....our receipts and expenses each exceeded \$12,000 for the year with a net loss of about \$250, largely attributable to our financing the republication of 'Lapêche' in 1980 which will be repaid as sales are made.....Phillip Journeaux was appointed auditor for 1981..... our Annual Auction (the 18th) yielded a profit of about \$1,700, down about \$150 from last yearthe Essay Contest attracted 8 entries including 2 in French, a marked improvement in numbers over 1979.....our annual booklet 'Up the Gatineau!', now substantially sold out at 1400 copies, made a profit of almost \$500 and this provided for complimentary copies to members and some others. Since our first issue in 1975 total revenues have exceeded costs by \$99.....due to a policy change by the National Capital Commission the Society will no longer operate Moorside Tea Room after 17 years of well-received operation. We are making special efforts to assist our loyal staff at the Tea Room toward continuing employment.....plans are under study for a move of our small museum away from Moorside.....we have almost recouped our investment in the publishing of 'Unto the Hills' except for \$350 which we previously agreed to write off as a contribution to the United Church Women of Wakefield who sponsored the project.....we had 7 meetings during the year; an auction day and a pleasant Saturday afternoon with tea and tasty food at the country home of Howard and Grace Harris at East Templeton.....an increase in annual dues of \$2.00 was approved only if considered necessary after further study.....Heritage Day activities and subscriptions to Canadian Heritage magazine were promoted.....a donation of \$100 to the Gatineau Memorial Hospital Centre was approved on condition that the funds would be applied toward the preservation of this historic building in Wakefield.....the 1980 Executive was returned to office with the exception that Cdr. Tony German will be added to replace Dr. Edouard Laberge who has agreed to form the nucleus of a new Advisory Committee.....after several years as chairman of the Essay Contest Committee, which he made effective, Dr. Laberge is relinquishing this post to Cdr. German..... Fat Evens reported briefly on the Philemon Wright Memorial in Winchester, Mass. and on the 'Archives of the Outaouais' project on which he has been active.....references were made to the possible name change of the Municipality of West Hull; to the future publishing of "A Century of Schools" as a memorial to Katharine Moore, a well known teacher in the Wakefield area until her death in an automobile accident; to a recent engagement of your president when he was invited to speak to the Annual Meeting of The Ottawa Valley Historical Society in Pembroke, Ont. and to the sudden death of a friend of the Society in the person of Reg. Watts, local auctioneer.....Mrs. Raymonde Cahill made a presentation, illustrated with slides, on a possible community use for the John Hudson house, south of Chelsea, in which the Society might participate as a new location for its museum. This will be contingent on much further study... ..after this lengthy agenda the meeting wound up with a SHOW and/or TELL session in which several members gave short talks.....and so our 19th year slips into history.

FEE PLEASE

We hate to keep raising this point but there are some dues still due, on the hoped-for assumption that you wish to continue your support. You could have one less matter requiring your attention if you sat down right now and sent off a cheque - \$3.00 single, \$5.00 family - to our Secretary Treasurer, Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0. Wouldn't it be worth it to get it off your mind?

'UP THE GATINEAU!'

The 1981 issue, our 7th, will soon be going to press with its being available by May, we expect, after completing the numerous chores involved in editing, proof-reading, layout, etc. May we remind you that complimentary copies will go to paid-up members in due time!

ESSAY CONTEST

Anytime now you can start thinking about participating in our 10th Annual Essay Contest. There is much more to be gained than the opportunity to be a prize-winner and to be published in our annual booklet.

In brief, the subject must pertain to the history of the Gatineau - places, people or events. It should not exceed 3,000 words and may be in English or French. It should be sent to Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0 on or before 15 September 1981.

COMPARATIVE CLIMATE

While we are enjoying (?) one of the coldest winters on record, Bertha Holt, one of our members in Victoria, B.C. must have felt that we could get "steamed up" if we read a newspaper clipping, dated 23 January 1981, which she sent, the first paragraph of which reads - 'One of the warmest winters on record has lawnmower service shops swamped, garden stores reporting a booming business and bemused residents of Greater Victoria doing things in their gardens they normally wouldn't do for months.' Savour that thought and simmer a little!

DON'T FORGET

The 1920's Jazz Ball, in costume, being held on the eve of Heritage Day, i.e. FEBRUARY 15th at the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa and the 'Old Time Dance Party', being sponsored by the Aylmer Heritage Association. Call Heather Lawson on 771 2727 for details.

11 February 1981

Arthur Davison Arthur Davison, President