

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

At this meeting on Thursday, 28 April 1983 at 8 p.m. sharp in the West Hull Community Centre, Old Chelsea, Que., 'one of our own' in the person of Mary Anne Phillips will entertain and enlighten us with some reminiscences under the intriguing title "Struggles for History". In addition to helping Bob with his many projects of one kind or another she has had an active involvement in her own right and this you must hear about so come along to the right place at the right time on the right date and enjoy what Mary Anne has to offer - which is considerable.

LAST MEETING

At our last meeting on 31 March 1983 John Corby shared his extensive knowledge with us of steam trains in general and the train to Wakefield in particular. He did this in an informal manner, supported by slides and movies, and I believe that most of us were amazed at the difficulties which had to be overcome - and which have to be faced regularly - to keep this special feature of our Gatineau summers rolling. His lively sense of humour, which he conveyed to us, obviously helps him through these recurring problems.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

-and would like an answer from you!

Some preliminary arrangements have been made by the West Hull Community Centre to have a half-day presentation on the history of the Outaouais, or on some special part of it, by staff from Ottawa University.

The date is still open as well as the specifics of the subject matter. Please telephone Jean Gratton on 827 1312 as soon as you possibly can and tell him what you would like to hear about and when would be a suitable time for you to attend. Jean would be grateful for your prompt and positive response to this request so that arrangements can be completed for this chance to learn more of our part of the country.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Heritage Canada Foundation is planning its 10th Anniversary Conference for September 22 - 25, 1983 in Toronto. The theme will be - Toronto Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow - and it will be co-sponsored by the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Although the Conference, Annual General Meeting and associated events will be held in the Royal York Hotel, it is planned to have two potentially interesting and illuminating Workshops at the Guild Inn in Scarborough on 19, 20, 21 September 1983.

If you are interested in pursuing this matter further please telephone The Heritage Canada Foundation on 237 1066.

FEES PLEASE

We do hope that the fact that some 43 of last year's members have not renewed as yet is not indicative of a lack of interest. Please relieve our suspense by renewing now and we trust that you do plan to do so. If we do not hear from you within the next month we shall, regretfully, have to remove your name from our mailing list and deny you your complimentary copy of 'Up the Gatineau!' for 1983.

To avoid such 'drastic' consequences, simply send your cheque for \$5.00 for an individual or a family membership to our Secretary Treasurer, Miss Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que., J0X 2N0 or pay her at the next meeting. To help you determine whether you have already paid or not this paragraph will be marked in red if, according to our records, your payment for 1983 is still due.

COMING VERY SOON

The Bytown Bottle Seekers are holding a Collectible Show and Sale on Sunday, 17 April 1983 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Nepean Sportsplex, 1701 Woodroffe Avenue, Nepean. Admission is \$1.50 and this entitles you to a chance for free door prizes. For more information, please telephone Shirley Shorter on 596 1023.

FESTIVAL OUTAOUAIS ALLIANCE

May we draw your attention to the leaflet on this matter - either enclosed or given to you at our last meeting.

Through the kind co-operation of David Castleman and June Creelman, the Society will have a display of some of its artifacts at this Festival.

May we bespeak your interest and attendance at this 'fully-packed' event which seems to offer so much of concern to our area. See you there!

DONATION

-not requested but received. The Heritage Canada Foundation, through Susan Spoke, Director, Communications and Membership Programme, has recently sent to the Society one copy each of: 'Up the Streets of Ontario' by R. A. J. Phillips and 'Heritage Fights Back' by Marc Denhez. We are indebted to The Heritage Canada Foundation for these gifts.

These interesting books can be made available to local members, on loan, by request to Sheila Strang or me.

INVOLVEMENT

Please excuse my repeating a well known axiom - "the more you put into something the more you get out of it". Well, it does work that way.

If you would like to get more out of your Society membership you could -

- (a) attend meetings regularly.
- (b) offer suggestions for change or improvement.
- (c) help actively with some of our numerous projects.
- (d) write us a note, once in awhile, with your comments or ideas - feedback does wonders for us.
- (e) offer to serve on our Advisory Committee, with a possible later move to our Executive.

Your Society will mean so much more to you if you are an active, not a passive, member. Even limited participation can be rewarding.

They do say that "happiness is the by-product of some activity". Why not test this for yourself? And we do need your help - very much.

If you are not prepared to make a specific commitment, at this time, maybe you could give us a hint that you might be available - under certain circumstances.

'UP THE GATINEAU!'

The 1983 edition should be available before the end of April. After maintaining the same price for 8 years, we have been forced to increase the retail price from \$1.50 to \$1.75. If you, as a member, wish extra copies, in addition to your complimentary copy, the price to you will now be \$1.25 each.

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison, President