

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

For our next meeting we are going to be a little shifty - if you will pardon the expression. We shift from our traditional Thursday evening back 24 hours to Wednesday evening and we shift our May meeting forward to June. We even have to shift the time a little. Assuming that you are now completely confused, the net result is that our next meeting will be on Wednesday, 1 June 1983 starting about 8.15 p.m. The reason for the time shift is that the room is in use until 8.00 p.m. However, we are not shifting locations. Please come to the West Hull Community Centre, Old Chelsea, Que., at, or preferably before, 8.p.m. so that we can quickly fill the void as soon as the room is vacated.

We are indeed fortunate in having as our speaker Pamela McDougall. Among other distinctions, she was formerly our Ambassador to Poland and currently she is an Adjunct Professor in the School of International Affairs and a member of the Board of Governors of Carleton University. At her suggestion the subject matter has been left open for the time being but whatever it is you may be assured that it will be pertinent, significant and well worth your time to be present on Wednesday, 1 June 1983. Do not deny yourself the pleasure and the opportunity.

LAST MEETING

On Thursday, 28 April 1983, Mary Anne Phillips revealed something of her background in her "Struggles for History" and especially in the field of preservation of historic buildings. She was heavily involved in a movement out of which grew the well-respected Heritage Ottawa of today. Many of those in attendance could readily relate to her local "struggles" and this, naturally, added much to the interest of the occasion. Now she and Bob are seriously committed to the preservation and re-construction of old buildings as is readily evident in their impressive establishment on the Gatineau at Cantley, Que., including 'The Grange' in which they live in delightful and nostalgic surroundings.

'UP THE GATINEAU!' With this Newsletter you should be receiving your complimentary copy of 'Up the Gatineau!' for 1983 - unless you have already received it through other channels and unless your 1983 membership fees remain unpaid.

Because we have had to increase the selling price - which we had maintained for eight years - to \$1.75, you, as a paid-up member, may buy extra copies at \$1.25 each. We have begun placing these booklets in our sales outlets in Ottawa, Hull and up the Gatineau Valley and we would welcome your assistance or advice on enlarging our circulation. Incidentally, we still have copies of some previous years if you should be interested. These, of course, will sell at the old price of \$1.00 each to members.

FESTIVAL OUTAOUAIS ALLIANCE Those of you who attended this festival on Saturday, 30 April 1983 will, I am sure, agree that it was "quite a show".

All who, in any way, were involved in the conception, development and realization of this event deserve a lot of credit. It was obvious that a great deal of time and effort had been spent in the planning and organization, all of which yielded the many visitors much of interest and fun.

This Society made its contribution by setting up a display of some of our smaller artifacts, formerly located in the Moorside Museum, and for this we are indebted to June Creelman and Dave Castleman who did the work and attended the display.

We also had a sales table, thanks to the indefatigable Sheila Strang who looked after it throughout the day with some help from Marg Clifford. We had our publications for sale including the new and previous issues of 'Up the Gatineau!'. We also had several of Tony German's books which sold well and which kept Tony, who was on site, busy autographing. Tony also gave some readings as part of the general program. Several of our members took part in what the day had to offer including Karen Woods with a presentation on her beloved quilts.

During the day, the original organization - the English Cultural Resource Centre - was wound up, to be succeeded by the Outaouais Alliance which had its founding meeting. I was impressed by the Chairman, John Trent, and by the abilities of others involved in the new organization.

It was a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable day which was so packed with activity that even though I was there all day, starting with the free breakfast, through the Courtyard Barbecue Lunch to the Community Buffet in the early evening, I was able only to sample some of the numerous events, displays, talks, demonstrations, band concerts, plays, square dancing, guitar performances, step-dancing, film shows, musical entertainment, etc., etc., etc. It was almost too much to absorb in one day.

Many of our members were seen circulating in the crowd of all ages and, I feel that they would join with me in a - "Congratulations to all concerned!"

SWEET CHARITY

We are now identified as a registered charity with tax-exempt status so, if you wish to ease your tax burden, a little or a lot, for 1983 all you have to do is donate, a little or a lot, to the Society and you will receive an official receipt with a long number on it as assigned by Revenue Canada which will enable you to put one more item in the Charitable Donations deduction column of your 1983 Income Tax Return. By helping us you help yourself which is not a bad deal.

UPCOMING The Federation of Quebec Historical Societies will be holding its 18th Annual Conference in Hull, June 3-5, 1983.

Six workshops relating to genealogy and local history will be held on Saturday, 4 June, at Sheraton le Marquis Hotel, 131 Laurier, Hull, beginning at 9.00 a.m. The guest speakers include Raymond Vezina of the Public Archives of Canada who will speak, in French, on 'The Use of Art, Posters, Photographs and Film by the Amateur Historian' and June Creelman of The Historical of the Gatineau who will give a presentation, in English, on 'Kingsmere, Residence of William Lyon Mackenzie King'. Two of the workshops will be devoted to those interested in genealogy. Publications of historical societies will be on display and for sale.

Registration for the conference is \$70.00 which includes a reception on Friday evening, a lunch and banquet on Saturday. For persons wishing to attend the workshops only the registration is \$30.00. A sight-seeing excursion to Aylmer will be available for Sunday. Interested members of historical societies and of the general public are invited to attend the conference.

For more information and registration forms write to: Gary Levy, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0 or telephone him, in the evenings or on weekends, at 827 0058.

16 May 1983

Arthur Davison
Arthur Davison, President.