

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA GATINEAU

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NEWSLETTER

No. 00-2.: March 2000 - April 2000

COMING EVENTS



April Meeting
April 17th - Chelsea Community
Centre - 7:30pm
Speaker: Vincent McSheffrey

This year marks the 150th anniversary of St. Camillus Catholic Church. Mr. Vincent McSheffrey, local author, has edited a book to mark this occasion and will be on hand to speak to us and answer questions.

We also plan a half hour for "Show and Tell", and invite members to share the Society any items of interest which they might bring.



HSG Annual Dinner Meeting
May 15th - Camp Fortune - 6pm
Speaker : Deborah Morrison

This year, the HSG annual dinner meeting will be held at Camp Fortune. The cost for this years event will be \$23.00. The price includes a buffet style meal with three entrees, several salads, desserts, coffee and bread.

The speaker for this year will be Deborah Morrison, the Administrative Director of Historica, a new Canadian foundation whose mission is to provide Canadians with a deeper understanding of their history and its importance in shaping their future. Historica will emphasize the use of new media and focus on the Internet with the development of its own web presence - histori.ca (www.histori.ca)

In order to make this year's dinner a success the Society will need to sell about 60 tickets which must to be purchased in advance. Dinner tickets will be on sale at the April meeting or can be purchased by calling the HSG number (819) 827-4432



An Outing to Historic Hudson,
Quebec - Greenwood Centre for
Living History.
June 17th

08:15am: Meet at Chelsea School, form carpools, drive to Hudson. Maps will be supplied.

10:30am: Welcome to Hudson, introductions, coffee and muffins, at Greenwood Centre.

11:00am: Take the ferry to Oka; guided tour of the native mission church, with its unique collection of artifacts.

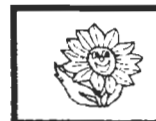
12:30pm: Picnic lunch at Greenwood (bring your own lunch; drinks and dessert provided)

13:00pm: Guided tours of the Greenwood Centre for Living History. This lakefront property was settled in 1732, and is comprised of 3 houses and extensive gardens. Home to many notables, the houses contain a unique collection covering three centuries of family heirlooms.

14.30pm: Guided tours of Hudson, featuring the development of the 3 communities on the Vaudreuil Seigneurie, steamboating from Montreal, the remarkable homes, interesting residents, and much more...

15:30pm: Tea at St. James, and suggestions for "free-time" visits in and around Hudson, before reluctantly heading home.

Registration: Limited to 30 participants, please call the HSG answering machine at 827-4432 before May 27. **Questions?** Call Michael Cooper at 459-2787 before April 17.



We host the Hudsonites.
September 30th:

Our turn to return the hospitality will come on Sept.30th, when our new friends from Hudson visit us. We will be looking for help in developing an interesting programme to show case the Gatineau Valley, so please give us your ideas, and indicate your willingness to help.

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 17, 2000 - Chelsea Community Centre



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - ERNIE MAHONEY

It has been another busy and I think very rewarding year, with good attendance at our monthly meetings, with members attracted by first class speakers that ranged from Laural Buck who delivered a real tear-jerker of a talk on her Irish roots and Tom Sawyer who told us about the monumental task of restoring and conserving the Vimy memorial in far away France. And then Jayne Elliot of Queen's University who reminded us of the problems faced by Dr. Harold Geggie in his maternity practice in the Gatineau Valley.

Other events during 1999 included a successful auction that raised more than a thousand dollars for the work of the Society and the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at the grave of Pte. Richard Rowland Thompson, Queen Victoria's Scarf at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery continues to attract a large crowd who are joined with units of the military who come from Petawawa for the occasion. Of course our thanks to Bob Phillips who hosts the troops at The Grange following the ceremony. In conjunction with the Remembrance Day service, Allen Richens arranged a very interesting display in the Chelsea Library commemorating Chelsea veterans of both World Wars. It ran for two months and plans are afoot to have a permanent plaque at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery to remember the veterans of both wars who came from Chelsea and area.

The Historical Society has been an active partner in celebrating Chelsea's 125th year of incorporation. Carol Martin, the HSG member on the 125 Anniversary Committee has already made a major contribution to the year with her slide presentation last month, of a delightful slide show on the highlights of Chelsea with 80 slides of heritage properties in the Municipality.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Carol Martin reported that all of the current executive have agreed to serve another term: President, Ernie Mahoney, 1st Vice president, Randolph Gheron, 2nd Vice president, David Castleman, Past president Carol Martin, Directors: Marc Cockburn, Michael Cooper, Norma Geggie and Allen Richens. Jay Atherton will be Special Advisor to the Board of Executive.

Joining the Executive this year is David Nobbs, co-owner of Resort to Work in Wakefield and a lawyer. There were no other nominations. Approved and carried.



AWARDS

Honorary Life Member: Allan Richens, for many years of valuable service to the Society.

Award of Honour: David Nobbs and Louise Mailloux for their work in setting up the HSG website on the Internet.

Award of Honour: Michael Cooper for his work on the Wakefield trail and interpretive plaques.

Letter of Commendation: To Gordon Graham, history and geography teacher at St. Michael's School in Low, for inspiring his students to research the HSG archives and produce computer slide presentations of archival records.

Davidson Prize: Shirley Selwyn, for her article, "Summering up the Gatineau" in Up the Gatineau!.



SPEAKERS

Anne Chudleigh introduced Robert Milling and Lynne Berthiaume, the new owners of the Wakefield Grist Mill. They gave an interesting presentation on their plans to convert the mill to a resort and conference centre. The hotel will have 29 rooms with baths, a large conference room that can be divided when required, kitchen, and dining rooms that will mainly cater to conference and hotel guests. The exterior of the building is in good condition and its appearance will remain much the same as it is now. They expect to be in operation within six months. Response from local, regional and Quebec governments has been very good. Ernie thanked the speakers and expressed the Society's hope to having a meeting and/or dinner at the Wakefield Mill in the near future.

ANNUAL REPORTS



HSG ARCHIVES Jay Atherton

Accessions (Received During 1999)

- **Gatineau Boom Company**, Paugan, Low, 1937-1953. Part of a payroll ledger and miscellaneous records rescued from a fire and found in a van at Paugan in 1997, through Ernie Mahoney.
- Panoramic photo of "**Meach Lake**" **ski trails** (ca. 1920) - from Allan Richens.
- **Rolf Latté** papers - publications and documentation concerning heritage in the National Capital Region, including a copy of his survey report (and maps) on heritage buildings in the NCO. Donated by Rolf Latté.
- Photographs of HSG Museum, **Bernard Sully** and his wife, etc. - from Norma Geggie.
- Negative of a photo of the **Sully/Brown farm**, Meech Creek Valley, 1940s - loaned for copying by Bob Hughes.
- Copies of newspaper clippings (39 pages, 11" x 17") on the Gatineau, 1943-1971, from Arthur Brown through Bob Hughes.
- Short description of "**Telecommunications Station in Chelsea** During WW2" written and donated by Joe Fleming, Chelsea.
- *History of **Education** in the Gatineau Valley* (Gatineau Protestant Teachers' Association, ca. 1965) - from Norma Geggie.
- **Bradley Family** Genealogical Collection - from collection of Jeanne Williams of Forth Worth, Texas - received from Noreen Brownrigg.
- Obituary of **Dr. Peter Geggie**, from Robert Newell, Calgary.
- "Church Records of **St. Andrew's Presbyterian/United Churches, Poltimore and Cantley**, Quebec, 1881-1939," from Cindy McClelland, Denholm.
- "The Ewen **McMillan Family**," genealogy donated by Cindy McClelland, Denholm.
- National Capital Commission, **Meech Creek Valley Land Use Concept, Final Report** - from Marie Lemay, Chelsea Municipality, and the NCC.
- **Ledger**, 1894-1896, of unknown origin, recording expenditures and income re. purchase, manufacture, and sale of railway ties, etc.
- **Ginns Collection** - land deeds of sale from 1877 to 1969 of Lot 9B, Range 13, Township of Hull. From Jim and Anne Ginns.
- Photographs of Brown family, hay wagon, and Cascades, early 20th century; also copy of land deed to **Cowden property** in Meech Creek Valley - from Doug Cowden.
- Photographs and genealogical table of the family of **William Burnett** (arrived in the Gatineau in 1839, aged 12 years) - from his great-grandson, David Doherty of Flint, Michigan.
- **Geggie Collection** - receipts, Wakefield and area merchants, 1897-1901. From Norma Geggie.
- **Le Manoir Sans Souci Committee**, Wakefield - Seniors' Residence, Wakefield. Minutes of the Committee, 1994-1995. Received from Geoff Hiscocks.
- **Benedict Family**, genealogies, assorted papers and clippings. Presented by Janet Benedict.

Archives Staff (March 2000)

Jay Atherton, Annette Brand, Norma Geggie, Joan Gherson, Anne Goodeve, Anita Rutledge.

Hours and Location

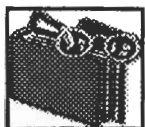
The Archives operates out of the basement of the Chelsea "Town Hall" - beneath the Library. It is open for consultation and research on Wednesday mornings, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, September through June.



FINANCIAL COMMITTEE David Castleman

As in previous years, the Financial Committee developed a budget for this year in consultation with the Executive and other committees, and provided advice and assistance to the Treasurer. The Financial Statement (attached) which was audited, details 1999 revenues/expenditures and the long term investments.

ANNUAL REPORTS



Publications Committee

Carol Martin

Up the Gatineau! celebrated its twenty-fifth edition with a silver anniversary cover in 1999, and two initiatives in support of this historic event. One was an Index, covering Volumes 1-25, edited by Jay Atherton, published as a millennium project—perhaps the first produced in advance! The other was the offer of full 25-volume sets of *Up the Gatineau!*, Index included, for a special price of \$75. This was made possible through arrangements made by Carol Martin to have replica editions made of previously out-of-stock volumes.

Historical Society members receive *Up the Gatineau!* as part of their annual membership, and the Society also makes copies available through direct sales at its meetings and at local and special events such as the Gene-O-Rama (organized by the Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society) and the annual conference of the British Isles Family History Society. Additionally, more than a dozen local stores stock the publication and some of these also sell the Society's other publications.

Other Historical Society publications include a *Historic Map of Chelsea—1875* showing the Municipal land ownership as indicated by the 1875 valuation roll (a 1997 update by Carol Martin of one prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Ryan circa 1965 in collaboration with Patrick M. O. Evans), John W. Hughson and Courtney C. J. Bond's *Hurling Down the Pine*, and Bob Phillips' *Touring the Chelseas and Un tour des deux Chelseas*.

In addition to its own publications, the Society offers interest-free loans, typically half of the publication costs, to support publications on local history topics. In 1998 Katharine Fletcher received funding from the HSG toward *Promenades historiques dans le parc de la Gatineau*, the French-language version of her book on *Historical Walks: The Gatineau Park Story* (which had also received an earlier HSG loan), and the Society also offers copies of these books for sale. In 1999, Norma Geggie received HSG funding toward her book *A Place Apart: A Search for the Pioneer Cemeteries of the Lower Gatineau Valley*, and this book, published in May 1999, is also available from the Society.

The Society's *Newsletter*, with information about forthcoming meetings and other heritage and history items, is now produced every two months in order to reduce postage costs. Marc Cockburn is its new editor, taking over from Jay Atherton—many thanks to both of you for its continued success! Contributions from members are always welcome. For the *Newsletter*, please contact Marc Cockburn, and Carol Martin for *Up the Gatineau!*

The birth of a new Heritage Network in Quebec?

On February 9th, a dozen representatives of English-language historical societies from across Quebec met to discuss the creation of a new Heritage Network. We spent the day sharing experiences, interests, ideas, and then agreed to move towards the creation of a new organization, which could become a pivotal service-centre for over 100 volunteer-based heritage organizations across Quebec. To facilitate this process, Heritage Canada agreed to underwrite the initial costs of creating this association so that it can work for the benefit of all minority-language heritage groups in Quebec.

To move the idea from dream to reality, the volunteer steering committee has organized a joint conference and founding conference that will take place at Bishop's University in Lennoxville on June 23rd-to 25th. So far the the programme includes a number of workshops, stimulating speakers, and social activities, followed by a founding convention. All history and heritage groups in Quebec will be contacted and invited to attend and lend their support to this network.

Michael Cooper, Wakefield: HSG Executive, and your representative.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

1999 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

01 Jan 1999 - 31 Dec 1999

I Revenue:

Assets 01-01-99		
Royal Bk Accounts & Short Term GICs		12,798.12
Memberships		3,919.38
Publications		3,537.66
Interest		735.27
Calendars		216.00
Donations		616.30
Dinner Meeting		1,320.00
Auction		<u>8,622.50</u>
	Total:	\$31,765.23

II Expenditures:

Administration:		
Office - Supplies, Postage, etc.	632.73	
Telephone	431.17	
Bank Fees	205.40	
Honoraria	1,000.00	
Financial Adjustment	44.16	
Miscellaneous - Web, Accountant 98, SDB, PO Box	<u>1,095.57</u>	3,409.03
Capital Region VolNet		586.44
Publications - UTG, Books		4,737.01
Archives		1,406.75
Newsletter		868.63
General Meetings - Advertising		942.12
AG Meeting		286.89
Dinner Meeting		1,145.65
Auction		4,460.39
Pioneer Cemetery - Maintenance		823.00
Donations & Gifts		116.00
Cda Saving Bonds		5,000.00
Publication - "A Place Apart"		2,000.00
Remembrance Day re Library Display		457.60
Remembrance Day Ceremony		446.66
St Stephen's Church Steeple Donation		500.00
Bank Balance 01-01-00 Royal Bk A/C 5097654		<u>4,579.06</u>
	Total:	\$31,765.23

III Long Term Assets:

Investments:

Cda Saving Bond maturing 01 Nov 2003	16,200.00	
Cda Saving Bond maturing 01 Nov 2007	8,000.00	
Cda Saving Bond maturing 01 Dec 2009	<u>5,000.00</u>	29,200.00
Royal Bk GIC maturing 18 Jan 2000	5,213.08	
Royal Bk GIC maturing 18 Apr 2000	<u>7,580.80</u>	12,793.88

Publication Loans:

"A Place Apart"	1,500.00	
"Historical Walks: The Gatineau Park Story" (Fr.ed.)	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>3,500.00</u>

Total: \$45,493.88**

** Includes Que Government grant of \$4.9K for publication of "In Memory of Chelsea Pioneer Cemeteries" anticipated in 2000, and amounts remaining from the following previously donated funds: Pioneer Cemetery \$4,000; A Davison \$2,205; MA Phillips \$1,800; Memorial \$1,836

Note: The above does not include fixed assets and inventory of publications.

2000-02-21