



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

Box/C.P. 1803 Chelsea Post Office, Chelsea PQ, J9B 1A1
(819) 827-4432

NEWSLETTER

No. 00-6.: December 2000 - January 2001

Coming Events.

January 15th, 2001

A visit to the Chelsea Temperance Tavern, circa 1865. The home of Harry Gow, 469 Rte. 105, Chelsea. 7:30 p.m.

February 19, 2001

We are delighted to confirm our guest speaker for the February 19th, 2001 HSG Annual General Meeting. Dick Evans of Lennoxville, first President of the newly-created Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network, will share his knowledge of the many heritage activities and initiatives in Quebec's heritage and history community. He also wants to hear from us, for the strength of the Network will be the creative ideas of its members. Please bookmark: AGM, 7:30 p.m., February 19th at the Chelsea Community Centre.



Chelsea Councillor Ross Anderson, HSG Archivist and Citizen of the Year Finalist, Jay Atherton, HSG President, Ernie Mahoney, and Carol Martin, Chelsea's Citizen of the Year.

Chelsea Recognizes HSG Excellence

The year-long Chelsea 125th Anniversary Celebration was the Historical Society of The Gatineau's golden opportunity to contribute the best of what it has to offer! The efforts of the many HSG volunteers who worked to promote the heritage aspects of the celebrations were officially recognized by Chelsea Municipality

at the 125th Anniversary Excellence Gala, held at camp Fortune November 24, 2000. Carol Martin (HSG Past-president and Editor of *Up the Gatineau!*) was chosen as Chelsea's Citizen of the Year, while the Group of the Year award went to the HSG. Together, this group of dedicated volunteers worked to illustrate the heritage celebrations with historical authenticity.

Carol was the Society's representative on the Chelsea 125th Anniversary Committee and in this capacity led the research (along with HSG Archives volunteers) for most of the historical material that was used in the celebrations. She gave an informative slide presentation on the history of Chelsea, researched and provided material on historic Chelsea councilmen for a mock town hall meeting to kick-off the 125th Anniversary celebrations in March. As well, Carol was interviewed by CTV and CBC radio, put the Chelsea Town Hall on the cover of *Up the Gatineau!* and contributed an article about the early administration of Chelsea. She wrote a series of articles on Chelsea topics for the Citizen and The News.

The Society was cited for its contribution to the 125th Anniversary Celebrations, the Cascades Club 80th Anniversary, and the St. Stephen's Mystery History Contest.

Welcome to Recent New Members

- Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana - Mr. & Mrs. D. I. Kaiser, Pittsburgh, PA
- Lise Madore, Val des Monts, QC
- Eric Marion, Cantley, QC
- Phoebe Munro, Chelsea, QC
- Ian & Joan Fairweather, Chelsea, QC
- Linda Bekkers, Manotick, ON
- M. M. Hunter, Ottawa, ON
- Mrs. Nellie Wright Garner, Ottawa, ON
- William and Gladys Wright McCann, Nepean, ON
- Debra McCann -Nepean, Ont.

Correspondence

The following information was included in the letter received from William and Gladys McCann

Nellie Wright Garner and Gladys Wright McCann are sisters, and are grandchildren of Christopher - Hannah Wright (buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in Chelsea), and great-great-grandchildren of Philemon Wright, founder of Hull, Que. Nellie and Gladys and their three living brothers, Gordon, Charles and Harry, are the remaining children of Alonzo and Elizabeth Wright of Kars, Ont., but formerly of Chelsea, Que. All these five remaining children were born in Chelsea between the years 1914-1921. (Pat Evans' "The Wrights" book, table 63, applies.)

We made a very infrequent visit to your Pioneer Cemetery on Aug. 27 and were sorry to see part of Mr. Wright's headstone overturned. We thought it was vandalized -but were pleased to learn from Alan Richens that it was a fallen tree. We also were very pleased to learn from him that he and others keep an eye on the cemetery. Our membership fees in a small way will help to cover some of the costs of upkeep.

Yours truly,

William. And Gladys McCann

In the Jan-Feb 2000 HSG Newsletter we printed a request from Audrey Bell of Gravenhurst On, who was seeking a copy of Pat Evans' book "The Wrights" At the suggestion of Sheila Strange of Edmonton, AB, Mrs. Bell contacted Fiona Hyslop in Victoria, BC. from whom she was able to obtain a copy of the book. Mrs. Bell in turn made a donation to the HSG and asked us to convey her sincere gratitude to Sheila Strange and Fiona Hyslop.

HSG Wants to Document our Communities on Videotape!

Yes, we are moving ahead historically so to speak. The Society is proposing to capture the stories relating to the communities of the Gatineau Valley as video documents. These will provide both a dynamic and permanent record of the people of the Valley and their stories. The HSG is developing this project, titled "Windows of the Soul", with the Quebec Learners Network at Heritage College in Hull. Together we would find interested resource people in each community, then train them in videography. With expert help, they would research, storyboard, then videotape community stories. After editing, the final productions would be available for school and community use, and could go onto on the HSG web site...for the world! So if all goes well (touch wood), our grant applications will make their way across the desks and through the right hoops to (we hope) to the people that write cheques! Watch this space for news.

REPORT OF 38TH ANNUAL AUCTION

Date: 19 Aug 2000, 0900-1300
Location: St Stephen's Church Grounds, Old Chelsea QC
Weather: Sunny/cloudy periods, 18 C
Auctioneer: Michel "Ross" Bertrand
Auction Committee: Teresa Winfield, Manager, Jay Atherton, Carol Martin, Allan Richens, Klaus Decker, Ernie Mahoney, Rene Nielsen, Eileen Castleman, Dave Castleman
Number of Donors: 41 (21 from regular auction and 20 solicited for celebrity and silent auction)
Number of Registered Bidders: 132
Residency of Bidders: Chelsea (51), Ottawa (29), Nepean (8), Aylmer (8), Hull (6), Gatineau (5), Wakefield (4), Masham (4), Cantley (3), Buckingham, Brantford, Cumberland, Farrelton, Danford Lake, Luskville, Navan, Breckenbridge, Pte.Claire, Campbell's Bay, Pittsburg PA, Montreal, Toronto.

Expenses: \$1,909.47

Revenue: \$11,053.86

Profit: \$9,144.39