

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

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NEWSLETTER

No. 01-5 October 2001 - November 2001

COMING EVENTS

Remembrance Day at the Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery November 11th – 10:30 a.m.

The members of the Historical Society of the Gatineau and their friends are especially invited to attend one of the most poignant of the thousands of Remembrance Day ceremonies held across Canada on November 11th. This year, it is obviously even more important to set aside a time to remember, both the past and the present

The Historical Society of the Gatineau has hosted the Remembrance Day service since 1986 to keep alive the memory of Private Richard Rowland Thompson, Queen's Scarf, who is buried in the tiny cemetery, that is part of the HSG heritage. Mr. Jake Warren, OC, of Larrimac, will be Master of ceremonies.

It is anticipated, as in past years, that Private Thompson's old regiment, the Royal Canadian Regiment, stationed in Petawawa, will form a guard at the grave of the soldier who won one of the world's rarest awards of bravery, The Queen's Scarf.

One of eight known to be crocheted personally by Queen Victoria, the scarves were to honour the enlisted men who served in the Boer War in which Private Thompson was a trooper with the Special Services Battalion RCRs. He won his honour for rescuing wounded

soldiers under the guns of the enemy on the battlefield of Paardeberg in 1900. He died in 1908 and was buried with full military honours in a plot belonging to his wife Bertha, the daughter of the Alexander family of Meech Lake.

Wreaths will be laid by representatives of the federal government, the Royal Canadian Regiment, and others of the armed services, the municipality of Chelsea, and by Children from the local schools. Clergy will participate from the various faiths of the community.

Dedication of the Chelsea Veterans Memorial.

This year there will be two memorial plaques (English and French) dedicated to the memory



of those Chelsea (West Hull) residents who lost their lives in the first and second world wars. The plaques that will be attached to the cairn, and will list nine names: Stephan Dunn and Allan Farmer who lost their lives in the World War I (1914-1918), and John Bates, Richard Hammond, George Kingsbury, Robert

Lee, Erle Milks, William Murphy, and James Reid who gave their lives for Canada in World War II (1939-1945). The plaques, while mainly funded by the HSG, have received financial support from the municipality of Chelsea.

COMING EVENTS

October 15, 2001, 87:30 p.m.
Chelsea Community Centre

***Chelsea's Volunteer Fire Department -
From the past to the Present.***

Chief Mike Dunlop and Capt. Ernie Tardiff of the Chelsea Volunteer Fire Department will discuss how the department evolved, from its creation in 1957, to the techniques and procedures of today.

November 18, 2001, 7:30 p.m.
Chelsea Community Centre.

***The Canadian West - A Virtual
Exhibition***

Archivist Jeff Murray of the National Archives of Canada will introduce the exhibition which concentrates on those aspects of the settlement process that are documented in the collections of the National Archives of Canada. The intent is to give a general impression of the nature, variety, and vastness of the records that relate to Western Canada, and in doing so, show how these records might be used by researchers.

October and November, 2001
Chelsea Public Library

Remembrance Day Display

To mark Remembrance Day, the Chelsea Public Library is home to two displays offering visitors information on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and on Prisoners of War. Check with the library for opening hours.



HSG MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

1. Association & Organization Membership Exchanges: **27**
2. Honourary Memberships: **12**
3. Paid-up Members & Associations: **180**
4. Non Paid-up Members: **28**

Other Historical Societies

1. Norway Bay Historical Society: **16** members **12** of which are cottagers
2. Brockville & District Historical Society: **58** life members and **31** annual members
3. Aylmer Heritage Association: **188** members
4. Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum: **225** members

Final reminder for membership renewals:

This will be the last issue of the newsletter going out to Non Paid-up members. Please check the address label on the envelop sent to you with this newsletter, and if your membership has expired, please consider renewing your membership to the Society. Thank you.

REPORT OF 39TH ANNUAL AUCTION

Date: 18 Aug 2001, 0900-1300

Location: St. Stephen's Church Grounds, Old Chelsea QC

Weather: Sunny/cloudy periods, 21° C

Auctioneer: 'Michel "Hoss" Bertrand

Auction Committee: Teresa Winfield. Manager, Jay Atherton, Carol Martin, Allan Richens, Klaus Decker, Ernie Mahoney, Lillian Irwin, Eileen Castleman, Dave Castleman

Number of Donors: 42 (25 from regular auction and 17 solicited for celebrity and silent auction)

Number of Registered Bidders: 103

Residency of Bidders: Chelsea 46, Ottawa 23, Aylmer 7, Wakefield 7, Gatineau 4, Alcove 3, Hull 3, Cantley 2, one each from Davellyville, Pontiac, Messines, Masson-Angers, Low, Calgary, Guelph, St d' Avergnel.

Membership: 2 Renewed memberships and 4 new members.

<u>REVENUE</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Bake table	295.75	Donors	339.75
Flea market	485.40	Mat for Frame	3.44
Donation	100.00	Pub. - WQP	297.45
Silent Auction	530.00	- Le Droit	256.80
Auction	<u>3,986.00</u>	- The News	<u>57.51</u>
	\$5,397.00		\$954.95

Profit: \$4,442.70

Historical Society of The Gatineau - Image Bank Project
Notes of Presentation by Adrienne Herron to Members – September 17, 2001

(The following is a condensed version of the notes from Adrienne's presentation .)

Advantages:

- *Saves Time:* The Image Bank saves time. It can be searched quickly for relevant photos.
- *Saves Space:* We can borrow photos, scan them and keep them stored in our computer while returning the original photograph to its owner.
- *Improved Access:* The Image Bank is more deeply indexed than the present paper system. It can be searched for dates, place names, people or objects.
- *Permanence:* The image bank is permanent. It will not deteriorate like paper photographs.
- *Inexpensive Copies:* The Image Bank equipment allows us to make copies of photographs cheaply and quickly. With the old system, a photo had to be sent out to a photo lab for copying and would return days or weeks later.
- *Preservation:* The priceless originals in our collection that have been donated by members, friends and relatives of people who once lived in this area, now will be handled less frequently. And we will no longer be required to lend out these precious photos. Lending has its risk.
- *Restoration:* If an old image in our collection is damaged (it may have dust spots, cracks, mildew or food stains or be faded), we can often improve it using the computer.

If you or your friends or neighbours will lend us your photographs, we will scan them quickly and return them to you. We will keep only a computer copy and the original will remain in your family forever. However, if you lose it or it deteriorates, you or your descendants, will always be able to acquire a copy from the HSOG. We will be preserving it for you, your family and for future genealogists and historians.

It's not just the pretty photos of the Photo Club genre that will be important in the future. It will be the photos in your shoe-boxes and family albums that will be critical in preserving our history. I have learned the value of family photos and all the information they contain. We cannot just accept what we see at a glance in a photo. We must study every detail to learn its benefits. What objects are in the background, foreground of the subject? What are the people wearing? Examine their hands – do they show the signs of hard labour are they wearing jewelry? How is their hair done? We must look deeply to benefit fully.

Something You Can do for Yourself and Your Family: If you want to do something for your descendants, photograph your house, your car and inside every room in your home. But please, indicate the names of rooms, buildings, and people. Record the year and make of cars and always put the year the photo was made on the back. This will be extremely helpful to future handlers of your photos

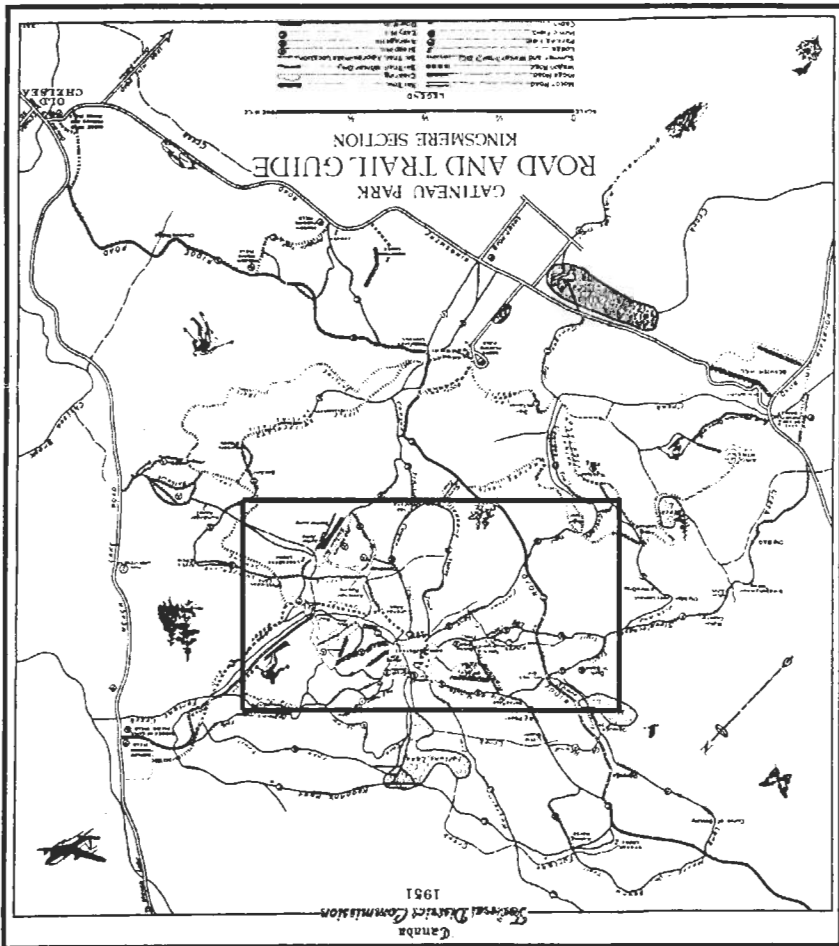
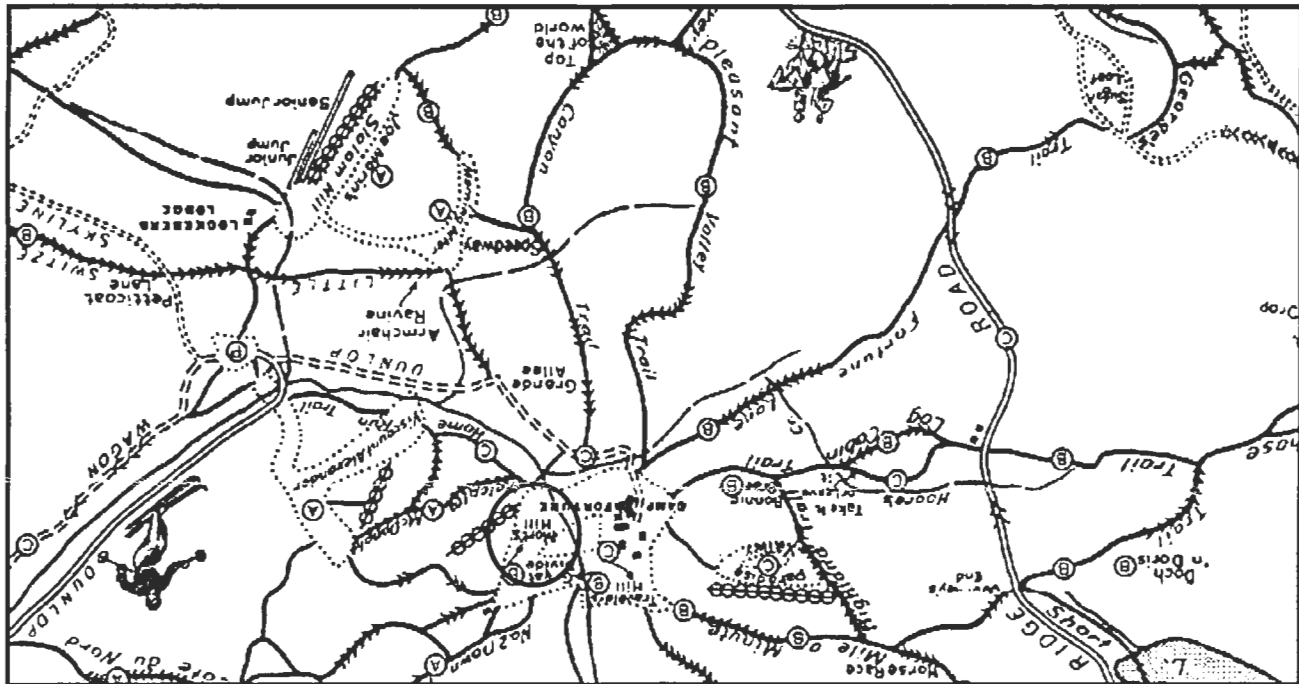
If you have a photo collection of this area and you would be willing to share it with us, please contact us. Or you can visit the Historical Society archives any Monday or Wednesday afternoon in the basement of the Chelsea Library to chat with us or to look at the Image Bank.

Volunteers: If anyone is interested in working on the Image Bank, we will welcome volunteers. We need people to help with entering photos and typing records – even proofreaders to check for errors. If you know the history of this area, you might even help us by assigning dates and names to some photos for which this information is lacking.

DO YOU REMEMBER ?



This image tells the story of a dusty trip down a bumpy road with the wind blowing through the car. It was perhaps taken in the roaring '20s judging by the lady's dress and shoes. I think she's going to have a dusty dress from sitting on the running board. And that dog held by her friend seem like a frisky, adoring pet. And yet we know absolutely nothing about this photo! If someone could at least identify the car, that would be helpful. The names of the two women would be a bonus.



It isn't only photographs that can be added to the HSG Image bank. Any document can be scanned and pre-served as a record of The Gattineau Heritage. The map shown beside and below is a recent acquisition to the Image Bank. Created in 1951, under the auspices of the Gattineau Park Trail Riders, this old map shows the extensive trail network, and their former names, that existed in 1951.

The Trail Riders were a group of volunteers who came together in 1948, under the leadership of Doug Carman and Vern Trent, to maintain the trails, create signage and provide ski patrol. Their lodge on Mort's Hill is shown below.

**Gattineau Park
Road and Trail Guide
Kingsmere Section
1957**