



GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Apr — May 2005

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

Number 2005-02

Coming Events

Monday, April 18, 7:30 PM
Chelsea Community Centre

The Bristol Heritage Experience

Local archaeologist and Geomatics specialist, **Jonathan Murphy**, will be speaking about his experiences combining education, archaeology, and state of the art Geomatics technology in the municipality of Bristol on the Ottawa River. During the summer of 2003, Jonathan participated in the cultural resource inventory of the municipality of Bristol and archaeological excavations undertaken at the site of the former Samuel Armstrong Brickyards. Instrumental in both projects was the involvement of students from Pontiac High School.

Monday, May 30, 6:30 PM
Club de golf Dunnderosa
11, Notch Road, Chelsea

GVHS Annual Dinner

Guest speaker will be **Daniel Drolet**, long-time journalist at the Ottawa Citizen, who has been uncovering and writing many of the untold stories in Ottawa's 150 years.

Ticket Information: The cost for this year's dinner will be \$25. Please call Rene Nielson at 827-1845 to purchase tickets.

Report of the 2005 AGM

February 21, 2005 at the Chelsea Community Centre

President's Message:

Good evening ladies and gentleman, Happy Heritage Day, and thank you for attending the Gatineau Valley Historical Society's 2005 Annual General Meeting. My name is Marc Cockburn and it's my great pleasure to be the President of your Society.

I think it's fitting for the Society to celebrate our achievements on this, our National Heritage Day, since it encourages us to reflect on our mission to preserve and make known the Gatineau Valley's rich history. Our heritage is a collective treasure, given to us, and it is ours to bequeath to future generations. Tonight, we are once again renewing our commitment to maintain an open gateway to the discovery of our region's past.

Before moving on to the business portion of the evening, and hearing from our guest speaker, Mr. Ches Banks, I would like to take a few moments to highlight some of our achievements of the past year and briefly point to the areas that we would like to build on in the coming year.

Overall, I think we have had an impressive year. We certainly made a big splash in Low. Our Annual Diner with special guest Wayne Rostad, attracted one our largest audiences yet to a Society event. The dinner coincided with the opening of a Society sponsored exhibition at the newly created Low Reception Centre, containing 22 images and maps documenting the history of the Central Gatineau Region. These two events were attended by the Mayors of seven Municipalities north of Low. Many of these municipalities — notably, Danford Lake, Kazabazua, Low, Denholm and Lac Ste. Marie, recently passed council resolutions in support of a joint application by the Society and these communities for funding through the "New Horizons Program" to create a Central Gatineau Local History project. Whether we receive the grant or not, I think we have certainly generated some local interest on which we can build to extend our reach further North. Many thanks especially to the Mayor of Low, Mike Francis, for facilitating this initiative.

Our monthly meetings have been very well attended. Program coordinators, Michael Cooper and Fergus Maclaren continue to craft an eclectic program with interesting speakers and topics that help generate meaningful audience participation.

Our publication program remains on track. The *Up The Gatineau!* continues to be a quality product and the Newsletter serves to keep members informed of our events and activities. Many thanks to Harold and Margaret Reid for their help in marketing and distributing our publications.

(continued next page)

(President's Message continued)

I believe we have had our best year yet in terms of selling back issues of the UTG. In the next year, I hope that we can build on our inventory with translations, new publications, and reprints of our dwindling stock of books such as *Hurling Down the Pine*.

Our Archives, under the guidance of Jay Atherton, continues to be the main hub of activity for the Society and our Image Bank has grown to over 5,000 images. Many thanks to coordinator Adrienne Herron and to all the volunteers contributing to the Image Bank. We have recently negotiated an agreement with Chelsea to purchase a new computer for the Image Bank that will be connected to their office network. This will give us storage space on their server, and give us an internet connection that will help us fill researcher requests more efficiently.

I'm seeing, as well, an increase in our participation in Municipal heritage programs. This year Chelsea is celebrating its 130th anniversary by organizing some low key events with the help of Society members. Furthermore, Chelsea has invited us to participate in a task force to complete the Chelsea Cultural Policy. Our participation will be an opportunity for us to promote the establishment of an historic building designation program for Chelsea. Thanks to Fergus Maclaren and Jay Atherton who have agreed to form a tag-team to work on this committee.

In LaPêche, Society members Anita Rutledge, Norma Geggie, and Ernie Mahoney continue to serve on the Municipal Heritage Committee which has recently recognized a number of buildings within the municipality for heritage designation. We are also aware that recent development pressures on the Village of Wakefield, and that recent efforts by community leaders to "revitalize" the Village must take into account Wakefield's unique cultural landscape and we will work to promote the preservation of the Village's significant heritage elements.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the volunteers who have contributed to our mission in the last year. Events such as our Annual Auction, and our Remembrance Day Ceremony could not happen if not for the tremendous skill and commitment by our members.

(Continued)

GVHS Exhibition opened in 2004

Coinciding with the 2004 Annual Dinner, the GVHS participated in a "preview" opening of the new Low Reception Centre. Within the facility, the GVHS has set up an exhibition of Gatineau Valley images drawn from the collections of the GVHS Image Bank, Library and Archives Canada, and les Archives Nationales du Quebec, Outaouais. The presentation includes 22 photos, artwork, and maps related to the settlement of the upper Gatineau Valley, the logging industry, the development of the railway, and the building of the Paugan Dam. The exhibition was mounted by GVHS President Marc Cockburn.



View of Construction Camp and Train Trestle (1927)
Hydro-Quebec photo, Gatineau Valley Historical Society (01363)



View of Construction Camp and Village of Low (1927)
Photographer unknown. Jane Earle MacDonald Collection / GVHS (02153.032)

(Presidents Message continued)

In particular I want to thank the Executive Committee for their support and efforts in the last year. Many thanks to Past-president Ernie Mahoney for tutoring me on the do's and don'ts of being Society President, and for his help in organizing the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Chelsea. Thank you to David Castleman and Treasurer Mary Armitage for their expert handling of the Society's finances. Thanks again to Fergus and Michael for working on program events, and an extra thank you to Michael for his work with Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network board of directors where he represents West Quebec. I want to thank Carol Martin who continues to lead our publications committee, as well as for being involved in many of Chelsea's heritage related endeavors. As well, many thanks to Allan Richens, Anita Rutledge, and Lois Wilson for their various contributions this year. And finally, thanks to Debbie Cross who just completed her first year as Secretary to the Board and has shown a remarkable ability to faithfully record our sometimes scattered discussions.

(Marc Cockburn, GVHS President)

AWARDS: Presented at the 2005 AGM

AWARD OF HONOUR

Presented to **Michael Francis** for his ongoing support of the Society and, in particular, his assistance in establishing a presence in the MRC de la Vallée de la Gatineau through a permanent exhibit at the Low Reception Centre.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

Presented to **Joanne Hendrick** who, acting on behalf of the estate of the late **Leo Hendrick**, helped the Gatineau Valley Historical Society save the lintel of the 1876 West Hull Township Hall, thus preserving an important element of the Township's heritage.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

Presented to **Linda Payne Bardell** for her efforts to ensure the transfer to the Archives of the collection of photographs acquired by her mother, Gladys Cross Payne, over her lifetime. Linda has also collaborated with a team of enthusiastic volunteers to select and describe the photographs, which document the history of the Cross family in the Meech Creek Valley and the Village of Cascades.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Presented to **David and Eileen Castleman** who, for three years and more, have tirelessly laboured to enter the data on the Archives' holdings of photographs into its Image Bank. Without their work, we would know not what we see!

Election of Officers:

Ernie Mahoney, the Chair of the Nominations Committee presented the committee's nominations. Lois Wilson moved and Rene Nielson seconded the adoption of the report, which was approved unanimously by those present: The new Executive Committee for the year 2005 will be:

President: Marc Cockburn (Wakefield)

First Vice President: Michael Cooper (Wakfield)

Second Vice President: Lois Wilson (Alcove)

Past President: Ernie Mahoney (Wakefield)

Directors: Allan Richens (Gleneagle)
Fergus Maclaren (Tenaga)
David Castleman (Larrimac)
Anita Rutledge (Wakefield)
Carol Martin (Kirk's Ferry)
Norma Geggie (Wakefield)
Jonathan Murphy (Bell lake)

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**GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY ...
SOCIETE HISTORIQUE DE LA VALLEE DE LA GATINEAU
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 01 Jan 2004 -31 Dec 2004**

I Revenue:

Bank Balance 01-01-04 Royal Bk AIC 5097654		
Union Mission Church	3,346.11	
Operating	<u>5,054.05</u>	8,400.16
Memberships		3,414.53
General Donations		136.00
Publications		7,903.59
Bank Interest		1.37
Annual Dinner -Low Heritage Hall 17 May (158 @ 25)		3,950.00
Archives		372.00
Annual Auction 21 Aug		6,535.16
GST & QST Rebate (03)		<u>694.59</u>
	Total:	\$31,407.40

II Expenditures:

Administration:		
Office Supplies	882.40	
Telephone	539.78	
Bank Fees	90.26	
Magma Communications (www.gvhs.ca)	272.32	
Miscellaneous	24.16	
PO Box	86.27	
QAHN	25.00	
Que Registration	32.00	
BIFHSGO	17.00	
OGS Gene-O-Rama 2004	<u>23.50</u>	1,992.69
Publications - <i>UTG!</i> , Books		5,668.59
Newsletter (incl. \$926 for G V Rail Stns poster)		3,151.19
Archives		1,409.53
Meetings — Advertising		631.92
AG Meeting (incl \$287.56 Rent)		411.18
Annual Dinner		3,217.31
Remembrance Day (03) Cascades Club		448.00
Remembrance Day (04)		563.76
Wkfld Promotion Ad		201.29
GST & QST Rebate -Wkfld Cenotaph		37.87
Low Exhibit		1,424.95
Flowers (M Lister)		123.05
Pioneer Cemetery		250.00
Autobus -Ecole du Grand Boise		143.78
Annual Auction		1,591.55
UMC-School Taxes (03-04)		75.35
Bank Balance 31-12-04 Royal Bk AIC 5097654		
Union Mission Church	3,270.76	
Operating	<u>6,794.63</u>	<u>10,065.39</u>
	Total:	\$31,407.40

III Long Term Investments

Cda Premium Bond Series P35 matunng 01 Dec 2013	30,000.00	
Cda Saving Bond maturing 01 Nov 2007	8,000.00	38,000.00
Book Loan — <i>Wakefield Revisited</i>		3,162.50
Royal Bk GIC maturing 18 Apr 2005		<u>8,715.92</u>
	Total:	\$49,878.42*

*Includes Que Government grants of \$4.9K for publication of "In Memory of Chelsea's Historic Cemeteries" and \$2K for GVHS 40th Anniversary Project. **Note:** The above does not include fixed assets and inventory of publications.

IV Financial Assets -Summary

<i>Date</i>	<i>Bank Balance</i>	<i>Long Term Assets</i>	<i>Total</i>
01-01-1999	12,798	40,494	53,292
01-01-2000	4,579	45,494	50,073
01-01-2001	3,440	43,984	47,424
01-01-2002	5,813	37,853	43,666
01-01-2003	103	38,042	38,145
01-01-2004	5,054	49,723	54,777
01-01-2005	6,795	49,878	\$56,673

PUBLICATIONS Report:

Up the Gatineau! The reason we have been able to produce 30 volumes of **Up the Gatineau!** is due to some very special people — authors! At our 2004 Annual Dinner (held in the Heritage Hall in Low in May), **Heather Guipp** received the **Arthur Davison** prize for her article in Volume 29 about "The Old Mountain Lodge at Kingsmere." The eight authors who contributed to Volume 30 were also recognized and thanked. Members present at the dinner received copies of the publication, while those unable to attend received theirs by mail. A new **Index for Volumes 1-30**, compiled by Jay Atherton and published by Castenchel Editions, was ready in July.

Publication sales for the year 2004 amounted to \$7,576.67. This was a very successful year in terms of sales and cash receipts generated from the publications distributed and sold in this area. The most northerly store which carries our books is Irwin's at Kazabazua, and across the Gatineau River our publications are for sale at McClelland & Sons in Poltimore. A special order for the Municipality of Low amounted to \$2,640, however, even without this, our figures indicate a growth of 54% over the previous year. We have sixteen stores and outlets which display our publications, and have attended five other events, which was good exposure for the GVHS and what we are about. These included the **Gene-O-Rama** in Ottawa in April, the annual **GVHS Auction** in August, the fall conference of the **British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa** in September, the annual **Craft Fair at Wakefield** in early November, and the **Quail Bazaar** held at Chelsea November 27th.

By reprinting some of early volumes, we are able to make available all back issues of **Up the Gatineau!**, and also have **30-volume sets**, complete with the new Index, for a special price of \$98. We sold 9 of these sets (in addition to the special sale for Low) in 2004.

New in 2004 is a coloured **Gatineau Valley Railway Stations** poster (11 in. x 17 in) for \$8.00. Three publications which we carried for a number of years are no longer in print. These are: **Echoes of the Past**, **Touring the Two Chelseas**, and **Hurling Down the Pine**.

Other Publications and Incentives. In addition to its own publications, the Society provided an interest-free loan to **Norma Geggie** for half of the publication costs of **Wakefield Revisited / Wakefield: un deuxième regard**, her most recent publication, which offers a short history of the Village of Wakefield and the families significant in its development. The GVHS also promotes other publications dealing with Gatineau-area topics, by Society members Norma Geggie and Katharine Fletcher.

The Society's **Newsletter**, with information about coming events and other heritage items, is edited by Marc Cockburn. Contributions from members are always welcome. For the **Newsletter**, please contact Marc at marc.cockburn@lac-bac.gc.ca For **Up the Gatineau!** Carol Martin can be reached at the HSG address or by e-mail at rjcmartin@primus.ca. **Harold and Margaret Reid** manage publication sales, maintaining an inventory of our publications and distributing them. They bring a selection to the Society's regular meetings and deal with telephone or mail requests. They can be reached at (819) 827-0138 or by e-mail reidh@travel-net.com. During the past year, GVHS volunteers Eileen and David Castleman, Anita Rutledge, Mary Armitage, Debbie Cross and Carol Martin also assisted with sales at several special events.

Have you thought of buying GVHS publications as gifts? **The 1875 map of Chelsea** may help you locate a family property, or show who owned the site where you now live. Or how about the coloured **Gatineau Valley Railway Stations** poster? Norma and Stuart Geggie's book **The Extra Mile**, based on the journals of Wakefield's Dr. Harold Geggie (\$10), Norma Geggie's new books about Wakefield (mentioned above) and **A Place Apart, A Search for the Pioneer Cemeteries of the Lower Gatineau Valley** (\$8) are also available directly from the Society.

(Carol Martin, March 2004)

CEMETERIES Report:**Chelsea Pioneer Cemetery.**

The GVHS owns this cemetery, and its maintenance has been coordinated by Allan Richens on behalf of the Society. We are also grateful for the help offered by neighbours Clem St. Pierre and Peter Jessen, who cleared fallen branches after a wind storm, and John Pomeroy who trimmed some brush and trees. Marilyn Liddiard of the Gatineau Valley Gardeners kept flowers blooming in front of the Cenotaph throughout the season, and we paid John Green to carry out regular small maintenance jobs around the property. For 2005, we are planning to refurbish our sign by the highway.

The GVHS has hosted a Remembrance Day service since 1986 at this cemetery, to keep alive the memory of Private Richard Rowland Thompson, **Queen's Scarf**, who is buried here. As in past years, Private Thompson's old regiment, the Royal Canadian Regiment, from Petawawa, formed a guard of honour. Afterwards, continuing a family tradition begun by Bob Phillips, his family graciously offered **The Grange** for a reception.

A Cenotaph, recognizing the soldiers from West Hull who lost their lives in World Wars I and II, had been dedicated on Remembrance Day, 2001.

(Continued on next page.)

(Cemeteries Report continued) This year, another Chelsea name from World War I came to our attention, and Private William Patrick Reynolds, 21st Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Eastern Ontario Regiment), was added. The plaques on the Cenotaph now list 11 names.

Old Chelsea Protestant Burial Ground

After being in legal limbo for many years, the Municipality of Chelsea has finally cleared its possession of this "designated historical site." The Municipality has also put some effort and money into the upkeep of this cemetery, which has the distinction of being the oldest in Chelsea as well as one of the oldest in the region.

It received new signage during the summer, with text prepared by Carol Martin of the GVHS for the two large descriptive panels, in English and French, erected by the municipality. J. P. Laurin Monuments restored the bases of several tombstones, and this year the site was surveyed and some students on a community work project painted the surrounding fences. Work will continue on the entrance way to make it more visible and attractive to visitors.

(Allan Richens and Carol Martin)

A Year in the Life of the Image Bank

Year 2004 was an active one for the Image Bank. We now boast 5000 images with more than 800 added in 2004. Several volunteers work almost exclusively at photograph acquisition and documentation. These include **Norma Geggie**, **Anita Rutledge** and **Janeth McKinley** who are at the archives on Monday afternoons, and **Preston Wilson**, **Linda Bardell**, **Sylvia Shawcross**, **Bob Hughes** and **Don McLeod** who gather happily on Wednesday afternoons. We acquired several important collections during the year.

- The largest acquisition came from Linda Bardell. She and her Wednesday team processed some 350 images collected by her mother, Gladys Cross Payne. Some of these images were featured in an exhibition in the foyer of the Chelsea Town Hall.
- **Gary Walton** donated 200 photographs depicting life in Cascades and we acquired images from **Leila Bates** that included Cascades and the east side of the Gatineau River between Wakefield and Alcove.
- **Bonnie Steinberg** (Burnett) donated family photos, some showing the old Burnett family farm before the Gatineau River was flooded in 1926-27.
- **Geoff Burbidge** gave us several 1960s photographs of sailboats at the Gatineau River Yacht Club.
- **Hugette Poulin** donated images of the Meech Creek Valley showing buildings that are now demolished and including images of the Baldwin farm and silo in the act of being demolished last fall.
- **Goldie Craig Templeman's** images of the Craig/Kennedy families include the family homestead in Masham and a class picture taken near the Rupert School.



Annie Lila Wilson, daughter of Samuel Wilson and Alice Cross Wilson, 1926. (02283.002) Donated by Gary Walton.



Homer Cross with his son Mervin Cross on horse "Birdie" with Norma and Hester Cross in the doorway of their home on Cross Loop about 1940. Also in background is Homer Cross' school bus that transported pupils from Farm Point to the Wakefield Consolidated School. The bus was cold and unreliable. The seats were wood planks on blocks of wood. Image Bank 02248.007. Donated by Mervin Cross

(Image bank report continued) Photos from the image bank will be displayed on a regular basis at the Wakefield Library, the Chelsea Town Hall and on the Chelsea Municipality's web site, www.chelsea.ca under a new History tab. During the year, we received many visitors to the image bank and our photos were acquired for a variety of different purposes. In one case, a couple had a great gift idea. They purchased images of the Kirk's Ferry for friends who had recently bought a house in Kirk's Ferry.

Annette Brand and **Adrienne Herron** scan and process the photos on Wednesday afternoons. **Eileen** and **David Casleman** enter the descriptions of each picture into the Image Bank on Friday afternoons.

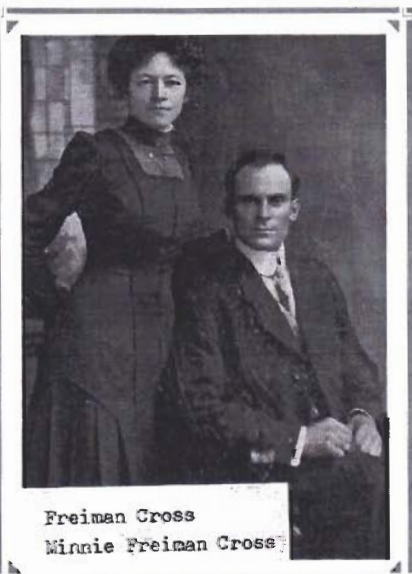
The Chelsea Library, where our Archives are housed, has announced a planned expansion of the Library to begin this spring and to be completed by fall. The new addition will be five times the existing size and perhaps will give us a little more space to house our own library, photo collection and computers. Also, we will incorporate the Image Bank with the Municipality of Chelsea's computer network. This will benefit us and our clients in that it will provide additional computer power, technical assistance and Internet access.

We are always on the watch for additional volunteer help with this interesting and important project. Anyone interested should call Jay Atherton (827-1703) or Adrienne Herron (827-4269).

(Adrienne Herron, Image bank Coordinator)

More On Moose - Cow CROSSbreeding

In the Feb-Mar '05 GVHS Newsletter, there is an intriguing piece headlined "Moose -Cow Breeding At Aylwin Camp" excerpted from "The Gatineau", a mysterious orphan newspaper issued in 1949 with no known past or future, and a very short present, only two editions.



Freiman Cross
Minnie Freiman Cross

Portrait photo of Minnie and Freeman Cross. Her maiden name was also Freiman and she was from Ironsides. Freeman Cross was born Nov. 11, 1877, and was the son of the William Cross and Mary Ann McKelvey Cross. Image Bank 02283.106 (Donated by Lillian Walton)

all headed for the bush. People in the community were divided on the authenticity of these animals. It was pre DNA testing, so nothing could be proven conclusively.

This all happened in the late 1940's, so there should be lots more information out there about the F. T. Crosses. and their Mooses. Please contact the GVHS if you can help.

(Preston Wilson, Feb '05)

To summarize: An Ayrshire cow became enamoured of a bullmoose, and produced a huge calf, Lucky, who was sent north to "The Baskatong". She also had a weakness for a good looking moose, and got herself "in trouble" as they used to say, and begat Angus, who fancied Durham heifers.

The Ringmaster of this genetic mess was Freeman Thomas Cross (F.T. to his acquaintances). He was West Quebec's version of a crossbreed between John D. Rockefeller and P.T. Barnum. He owned & operated sawmills and a hydroelectric company, ran as an independent for a Federal Government seat — but lost. Sued the Gatineau Power Corp and took them to the highest court in England - but lost. He went from bankruptcy to being a millionaire and back more than once. When two people met on the road anywhere between Chelsea and Gracefield, Freeman's name would come up early in the conversation.

More information has surfaced on this Malange de Moose -Cow.. In the Social section of The Ottawa Citizen (circa 1950) it reports: "On Sunday, Mr & Mrs Cross had what they laughingly called a coming out party for Angus." His geneology seems to vary from "The Gatineau" story to that of "The Citizen". Let's follow the Citizen one -it's more entertaining.

About 30 friends gathered for dinner at Mr. Cross' sawmill at Aylwin, then went to visit the baby. "Wee Angus has a coat of short, curly, wool-like hair. His tail comes to a point and his head is short and thick. Already there is lumpy evidence that he soon will have horns." In other words -a Durham's dream! His mom and grandmom were also in attendance, but when the visitors acted too familiar, granny bawled out a MOOOO, and they

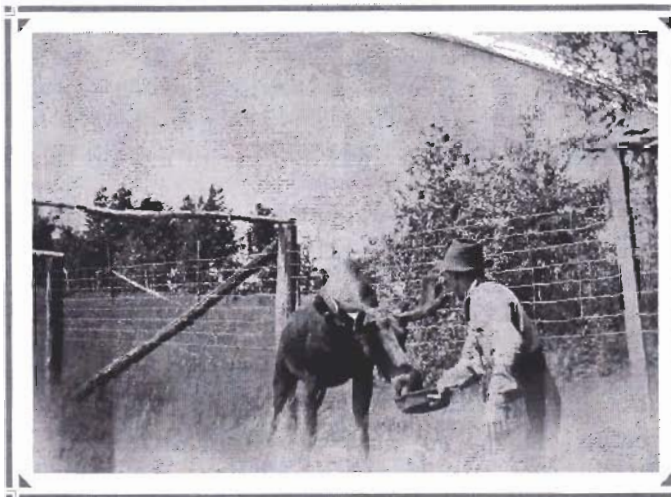
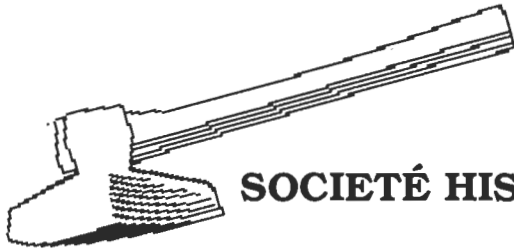


Photo of Freeman Cross feeding "Camoose" said to be half cow half moose. Image bank #02227.136 (Donated by Linda Payne Bardell.)



GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA VALLÉE DE LA GATINEAU

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

PLEASE JOIN US IN HELPING TO PRESERVE THE HERITAGE OF THE GATINEAU VALLEY

Your membership in the Society includes these benefits:

- You receive the Society's annual local history journal *Up the Gatineau!*
- The bimonthly GVHS Newsletter containing Society news, events, and items of interest to the local heritage community.
- Access to the Society's growing collection of local archival material, including the popular Electronic Image Bank.
- Monthly meetings and speakers on local and national heritage topics.

Name _____ Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____ Postal Code _____

Membership:	1 Year — including <i>Up the Gatineau!</i>	\$15	_____
	2 Years — including <i>Up the Gatineau!</i>	\$25	_____

Membership is for the whole family. New member _____ Renewal _____

Areas of interest: The activities of the Society rely upon support and help from our membership. To participate in areas that are of interest to you, please indicate your choice below.

Auction _____	Publications _____	Special Events _____
Archives _____	Web site _____	Executive Committee _____
Image Bank _____	Cemeteries _____	Youth programs _____