

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

We are going to assume that the weather will be just fine for the evening of Tuesday, 31 January 1978 when our next meeting will be held in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea, Que., at 8 p.m. sharp.

We will, briefly, review our past year, which has been one of our more active ones, and look to our future, both immediate and long range.

In addition, we hope that YOU will be part of the entertainment and enlightenment by participating in a SHOW AND TELL. You bring an object, preferably of historical, archeological or archival interest, show it and tell us, in a few words, what you know about it. If you do not know, you can 'show and ask'.

So drive down, up or across to Old Chelsea over well-cleared highways or roads on a crystal-clear, starlit, last night of January and involve yourself for the benefit and enjoyment of us all.

We will look forward to seeing (and hearing) you then and there.

LAST MEETING

Our meeting on 29 November was action-packed and full of variety and interest.

We had the pleasure of having all the winners in our 1977 Essay Contest with us, well-supported by their families and friends.

Mr. Christopher Young passed along some suggestions and words of advice for our Essay Contest and for the contestants. These were especially useful and valuable, coming as they did, from a professional in the field of writing.

An added note of interest was provided by Mr. Howard Harris of Shadow Hill Farm, Gatineau whose family has been in Canada since 1818 and in West Templeton since 1820 where his great great grandfather took up a 200 acre land grant. He presented to the Society some wooden tokens honouring the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II which is a story in itself.

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Harris as a new member.

MEMORIES

Mr. Marcel Boulet, whose family spent summers in Old Chelsea, remembers the dam on Chelsea Creek just west of the village and he is most anxious to get a photo of how it looked in the 1920-30 period.

We have already ~~already~~ produced one picture from our records but it is 1890's vintage and he wishes something of the later years.

If you can help, and please do so if you can, will you kindly telephone Mr. Boulet in Ottawa at 729 8096 any evening.

UP THE GATINEAU!

We will soon be underway on the 1978 issue of our annual booklet and, whereas, with an accumulation of articles from our Essay Contests and other sources, we have an abundance of longer articles from which to choose, we can make good use of shorter items or fillers about the Gatineau to help balance our page layouts and add a little seasoning.

If you have, or can develop, such material please telephone the undersigned at 235 1064 as soon as possible. The need is now.

In the latest Newsletter of Heritage Ottawa, Jennifer Roddick reviewed our "Up the Gatineau!" and was kind enough to say, in part, that "...this book is a unique presentation of history and a delight to read even if you are not interested in touring the Gatineau."

Incidentally, there are still some copies left of the 1976 and 1977 issues.

ACQUISITIONS

The great great grandson of Patrick Farrell, of whom there was an item on our 1977 "Up the Gatineau!", has written to us from Iroquois Falls where he - Gerald Daly - is principal of the Secondary School. He enclosed a photocopy of a beautifully hand-scripted agreement dated November 5, 1863 between Patrick Farrell and Francis and John Skillen, the latter of whom were to "take out, draw and deliver ..... Six Hundred pieces of white pine saw logs....." under specific conditions and for "Ninety five Cents for every standard log of twenty one inches in diameter of first and second quality...."

If we get the approval of Mr. Daly we may publish the whole of this interesting 115 year old agreement which is so topical for the Gatineau.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

Carol Martin, whose husband, Bob, is on a four year posting in Geneva for the Government of Canada, has sent a two page letter vividly describing their new life in Switzerland, pointing out the differences and delineating the features they like and the things they miss from home. They, their two teenage children and four Canadian cats are adapting to such delicacies as fresh, warm croissants, goat's milk cheese, new varieties of vegetables and Swiss cat-food respectively.

They send best wishes to all their friends over here.

THAT TIME AGAIN

Annual dues are due for the calendar year 1978 and we do hope that you will make it easier for our Secretary-Treasurer by sitting right down now and sending a cheque for \$3.00 single, \$5.00 family (no increases) to Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que. JOX2NO. And thank you for your prompt action!

May '78 be great!

16 January 1978

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison,  
President.