

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

Probably the last meeting before our summer recess, while we prepare for our 20th Annual Auction Sale on 28 August, will take place on Wednesday, 26 May 1982 at 8 p.m. sharp in the West Hull Community Centre, Old Chelsea, Que. (just west of St. Stephen's Church)

We have tapped a new resource and, as a result, we are most fortunate in having Wesley Mattie, Curator, Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, National Museum of Man, who will make a presentation on "Folk Art in Canada" which, by its very nature, depends a good deal on the visual and that is what we will get - words and pictures, in a program which should appeal to you and give you something to reflect on through the long hot days of summer.

So treat yourself to an interesting program by an accomplished and knowledgeable speaker and treat us to your presence before we go our separate ways for awhile.

LAST MEETING

We had a most happy reunion with Karen Woods at our last meeting on 28 April 1982. Karen had spoken to us at a meeting about 5 years previously and, although her subject was on the same topic - all about quilts, she had much that was new to tell us. Her colleague, Denise Larocque-Renaud, ably collaborated in a program of words, slides, film and real quilts which proved to be both enlightening and entertaining. Some members brought quilts, about which they spoke, and this added to the interest of the occasion. I am sure that we all had brought home to us, once again, the creative talent, meticulous care and countless hours of work involved in this craft. Karen's light, wit-laden treatment and the lovely display of designs and colours provided a cheerful and uplifting experience which we will not soon forget.

LAST CALL

If we have not already heard from you, or do not do so within the next two weeks, we shall, regretfully, have to assume that you are no longer interested and your name will be removed from the mailing list. Here are the particulars - if you need them. Mail a cheque for \$3.00 single \$5.00 family to Sheila Strang, Secretary Treasurer, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0. You will then receive your complimentary copy of 'Up the Gatineau!', '82'.

This subject will now be shelved for 1982.

BEAUTY GROWS FROM ROOTS

With the last Newsletter you locals received a leaflet on the detailed proposals to beautify our area, particularly along the road connecting the two Chelseas. This commendable project is being directed by June Roots with the help of her Girl Guides. June spoke to us, briefly, at our last meeting, and as a result of these appeals please help her in any way you can and to the full extent of your abilities. Future generations will bless you for it and, hopefully, present generations will find some enjoyment in it, too.

REMINDERS

Telephone Miss Myrtle Mills of The Historical Society of Ottawa on 232 8529 if you are interested in a Bus Tour to Chaffey's Locks on 5 June 1982.

Telephone Carol Martin on 827 1633 if you can help her with any photographs of old schools in West Hull. She would like to borrow them for possible copying.

Telephone Sheila Strang on 827 0420 if you have anything at all related to the Great Flu Epidemic at the end of World War I - excluding painful memories, if you are old enough to have had such things.

NEWSWORTHY MEMBERS

There was a half-page article on Norma Geggie entitled "Looms Her Way to Relaxation" in the 8th April 1982 issue of THE NEWS which gave a very good account of Norma's absorbing activity.

In the May 1982 issue of Ottawa Magazine there is an article written by Bob Phillips in his own inimitable - and professional - style on Col. By and the Rideau Canal. It is titled "By's Way" and it is so timely to the sesquicentennial of the canal and it is so well worth reading that I suggest your gaining access to a copy of this issue by any means. Incidentally, Bob's writings appear in this magazine from time to time.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, 28 April 1982, Carol Martin and Gary Levy appeared on TV Station CHOT, Hull where they very ably represented the Society in "that other official language of Canada". This program was related to Heritage Week in the Outaouais and was a good prelude to our meeting in the evening of the same day.

As part of a series produced under the auspices of The Historical Society of Ottawa, our - and their - Ed. Laberge has written a thoroughly researched article, in booklet format, on the beginnings of what has developed into the University of Ottawa. This is recommended reading and for information on how to see (or get) a copy telephone Ed Laberge at 820 6717. By the way, this booklet and our 'Up the Gatineau!' were part of a display on the main floor of Ottawa City Hall during the National Book Festival Week - 26 April - 2 May 1982.

LENDING LIBRARY

In addition to the books on the Shouldice Family and the Pritchard Family referred to in our last Newsletter we have the following books which may be borrowed by local members: (a) 'The Home Children' - the story of those children from the United Kingdom who came to Canada under the British Child Emigration Movement at the end of the last Century and the beginning of this one. This book was graciously donated by one of our members - Alfred O'Hanlon of North Battleford, Sask. (b) 'Well Remembered' - by S. Wyman MacKechnie who also authored 'What Men They Were'. Mr. MacKechnie, born in 1896, was a noted 'Gold Medal' farmer in the Pontiac for many years who has developed a reputation as a historian. He addressed a meeting of the Society about 10 years ago.

If you are interested, telephone Sheila on 827 0420 or me on 235 1064 (winter) or 827 2598 (summer)

GOINGS-ON

Although we are no longer in the Tea Room business at Moorside (or anywhere else, for that matter) we presume that the Tea Room will open for business, as has been the custom, on the Friday preceding Victoria Day i.e. 21 May. However, since we are conjecturing, may we suggest that you telephone Moorside on 827 2364 before driving up for tea.

10 May 1982

Arthur Davison
Arthur Davison, President