



GATINEAU VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA VALLÉE DE LA GATINEAU

...preserving and promoting awareness in the history and heritage of the Gatineau Valley since 1962

SPRING • SUMMER ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS

GVHS Annual Dinner at the Wakefield Mill

~ Awards, Up the Gatineau! launch ~

A presentation by Innkeeper Lynn Berthiaume on the preservation of the mill on the occasion of its 175th anniversary

**Monday, May 27th 2013 @ 5:00 p.m. - Bar open
5:30 p.m. - Dinner**

Moulin Wakefield Mill, 60 Chemin Mill Road Wakefield, Quebec, J0X 3G0

\$35.00 per person (includes taxes)

Please contact Shirley Brown by May 23rd
at browncrest@sympatico.ca or 819-827-1999 to
reserve your place or reserve on-line - [Click here](#)

*Note: Since we must pre-pay for the number of diners, please
let Shirley know by May 23 if you have reserved and can not
attend.*



Visit www.gvhs.ca for more information

Re-visiting Rupert Village circa 1900

Saturday, June 15, 2013 from 1:30 – 3:30

At the end of the 19th century Rupert was a thriving community with two churches, a school, stores, cheese factories, a sawmill, and a blacksmith shop, all surrounded by numerous family farms.

Take a tour of this hamlet to discover the heritage buildings which remain from that era, and learn where other significant landmarks were located.



Barbara Rielly will lead a tour of the Rielly Cemetery, which dates to circa 1853. Barbara and a volunteer team have worked hard to tell the story of this hill top cemetery, which for years was largely forgotten even though it is the final resting place for approximately 100 pioneers.



More details to follow.



• Save the Date •

50th Annual Live Auction, Silent Auction, Bake Sale and Flea Market



with
Auctioneer
Revel Stewart
www.revelstewart.com



165 Old Chelsea Road, Old Chelsea QC
www.hendrickfarm.ca

Contact RJ Hughes for more information - 819-827-3766 or rjchelsea@yahoo.ca

Report of President = 2012 *Marc Cockburn*

Last year when we met for the AGM we were launching the Society's 50th anniversary celebrations, and at that meeting I noted Bob Philipps' quote in the UTG from 26 years ago... "Then it will soon be time to start working on an appropriate record for our first fifty years..." So with that in mind, we decided that we wanted to revisit the places and people that helped shape the Society over the years, and to highlight the initiatives of the many Society members and contributors who have helped us throughout our 50 years.

Our program took us from a lively evening of local music at the Wakefield Mill, to a virtual trip down the Ottawa River with River-keeper Meredith Brown. We reminisced about golfing at Larrimac with Larry Dufour, and had a guided tour through Gatineau Park with Katharine Fletcher. We then paddled down the Gatineau River to the Grange in Cantley and joined our friends from Cantley 1889 and the Friends of the Gatineau for a raftman's dinner. After that we ventured across the Ottawa River to the Gatineau airport to visit Vintage Wings of Canada hangars.

Over the summer we ran another successful auction, this time at Hendrick Farm, and regrouped in the fall for a joint 50th celebration with the Gatineau River Yacht Club with a classic BBQ and slideshow. In October Ken Buck treated us to fascinating stories about Bill Mason's life. We finished the year with our traditional Remembrance Day Service, and we heard about the War of 1812, from one of our favourite speakers, Vic Suthren. Along the way we recognized our volunteers and contributors with 50th anniversary pins and we did our best to honour the pioneers and builders of the Society.

All and all, we were very encouraged by the terrific response we received at these events. I think our smallest audience was a cozy 50 or so, and our largest was a record crowd of over 300 at our Remembrance Day Service. So thank you to everyone who supported these events in 2012 and I hope you will continue to follow and support our future program events and activities.

In a moment you'll hear other reports, all of which bode well for our future, so I want to say thanks to everyone from our Executive and all our volunteers for a great effort last year. I remain proud to be part of the Society, and I think that we are very well positioned to take on more challenges and initiatives in the future, to make known the history and heritage of the Gatineau valley.

These past few months has also given us a moment to take pause to remember some dear members and reflect about the future.

In recent months we have lost some Honourary Life Members, and as I look toward our future, I can't help but recognize in these people, elements of the Society's spirit that I think, must remain the foundation of the Society.

Jay Atherton signifies good governance, volunteer appreciation, and a professional attitude to Society affairs, while at the same time remembering that what we do is fun. So this year we are looking at strengthening our processes and procedures, particularly in our Archives, so that we can continue building on Jay's work.

Allan Richens, of course, signifies our commitment to remain true to our mandate of telling and recording the personal stories of our community, and to continue our stewardship of the special places that bear witness to our history. In 2013, we hope to make some improvements to our Pioneer cemetery and to make it more accessible to the community as part of the Chelsea trails system.

Rae and Don Moore, signify our commitment to honouring and appreciating the participation of our members at all levels of the Society, and we plan to keep offering Members opportunities to participate in Society activities.

And although I didn't know **Ray Daly** very well, his achievements from the earlier days of the Society, particularly with the old Wakefield Mill Museum, reminds us to continue reaching out to assist our community partners, and to be a vehicle to connect communities through our common mission.

Report of 50th Anniversary Auction *Carol Martin*

Our 50th Anniversary Auction heralded this special anniversary (it was really our 49th Annual Auction) at a new venue, the Hendrick Farm, just off Old Chelsea Road, a few hundred yards from our last year's location at St. Stephen's Church grounds.

After a long, very hot summer, the weather cooled slightly and there was a little breeze. President Marc Cockburn introduced Stéphanie Vallée, MNA and GVHS supporter, who greeted the crowd. He also introduced and thanked Sean McAdam and Carrie Wallace, of Hendrick Farm, who had offered this site for this year's auction. Revel Stewart, of Cobden, ON, was Auctioneer.

There were 73 listed donors for the Auction and Silent Auction, and many others who baked goods and contributed items anonymously to the flea market. (There were 34 Auction donors and 39 Silent Auction donors.) For the Silent Auction, about a third of the businesses donated more than one voucher or certificate. This year, as in other years, more than two thirds of consignors *donated* their items, and will receive charitable receipts for 100% of the selling prices these items raised. However, several who brought in 30 or more items elected to receive 50% of the amounts their items raised, which is reflected in the balance realized for the Auction itself.

There were 145 registered bidders, (compared with 139 the previous year). What did we sell?

Three World War I metal helmets sold for \$210, and a British bobby's hat for \$50. A collection of ladies' hats went for \$20. Looking forward to winter, perhaps, a raccoon coat sold for \$105. Wooden furniture was plentiful and popular: there were many tables (with prices up to \$150); cabinets, dressers and chests in the same price bracket as the tables; chairs, rocking chairs and stools (up to \$130 for a set), and some wicker furniture for \$170.

Among the more unusual items included sheep shears and a pair of miner's lanterns, both of which found new homes. An antique harmonium (dated to 1871 and demonstrated by one of the GVHS volunteers) sold for \$60. A box containing "glass, dishes, etc.," sold for \$105. Various lots of china, silver, and glassware were popular. Outdoor items included a collection of fishing rods (\$70), antique snowshoes and old cross-country skis.

Many thanks to all the GVHS volunteers, contributors, purchasers and supporters who helped to make this yet another successful Auction.



Report of Treasurer = 2012

Financial Statements

Gatineau Valley Historical Society / Société Historique de la Vallée de la Gatineau

Fiscal Period Ending December 31, 2012

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets

Current Assets

Bank balance	\$34,137
Sub total	\$34,137

Long-term Assets

Canada Savings Bond CPB P035 C	\$38,396
Canada Savings Bond CPB P038 C	\$11,177
Sub total	\$49,573
Total	\$83,710

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue

Memberships	\$2,895
Donations	\$2,211
Publications	\$8,559
Archives	\$374
Annual Auction	\$8,807
GST Rebate	\$249
Total	\$23,094

Expenditures

Administration	\$360
Publications	\$7,316
Archives	\$1,427
Annual Auction	\$2,949
Annual Dinner	\$1,146
Cemetery	\$1,318
Meetings	\$574
Newsletter	\$246
Remembrance Day	\$876
Union Mission Church	\$823
Other Programs	\$1,219
50th Celebration	\$2,507
Total	\$20,761

Notes:

- i) Financial Statement prepared on a cash basis
- ii) Donations includes \$2,100 from memorial donations for Jay Atherton & Rae Moore
- iii) The above does not include fixed assets and inventory of publications.

Treasurer's Signature: *David Yuill*

Publications Report = 2012

Louise Schwartz

I am pleased to table my first report as Director of Publications. The GVHS has a long history of publishing and supporting local authors, one of the primary means we use to promote awareness of, and interest in, the Gatineau Valley's history.

Our centrepiece publication is *Up the Gatineau!*, which will release its 39th volume in 2013. Published in May each year, the newest volume is unveiled at the annual dinner and awards evening and its contributors recognized. All GVHS members receive one free copy as a benefit of membership. Volume 38 was my first venture as editor and I was fortunate to be supported by a capable editing and production team of **Adrienne Herron** (cover design and photo editing), **Margaret Coleman** (assistant editor), **Beth Macfie** (copy editor) and **Frances Curry** (layout and indexing). **Catherine Joyce** acted as the poetry editor, selecting a poem and contributing the foreword.

In 2012, we added a new in-house publication to our inventory—an English and French version of the *Gatineau River Heritage Paddle Guide*, produced in collaboration with two other local groups, Friends of the Gatineau River and Cantley 1889. It sells for \$20 (\$15 for members). Guide sales in 2012 account for the significant increase in the number of books sold and total revenue, compared to 2011. In addition to our existing publications, in 2012 we added books by three other writers of local history—Katharine Fletcher, Alexa Pritchard and Carolyn Kidder. We also sell a historic map of Chelsea and a railway stations poster.

We owe a large debt of gratitude to the former Director of Publications, **Carol Martin**, for her careful stewardship of the publication program, and particularly her editorship of 21 of *Up the Gatineau!*'s past 38 volumes. I also want to acknowledge the significant contribution made by **Harold and Margaret Reid**, who handled direct publication sales and distribution to retailers for the past ten years. I am pleased to welcome GVHS members **Dave Dunphy and Shirley McGlashan** as the new managers of publication sales, effective in 2013.

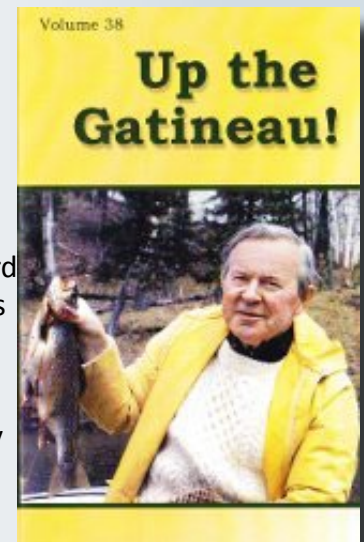
The GVHS sells directly to members and the general public and also sells a number of its publications to 15 local stores and boutiques. In 2012, we set up a publication table at each of our GVHS monthly meetings as well as at other eight other events. This included the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network and British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa conferences, the June Heritage Paddle, a Cantley 1889 talk, the Chelsea Meredith Centre opening, as well as the GVHS antique auction, the Wakefield Farmers' Market and the Vorlage Craft Fair.

In 2012 we sold 1,172 books, including 9 complete sets of *Up the Gatineau!*, 7 maps and 4 railway posters. Included in these sales numbers were 304 copies of Volume 38 of *Up the Gatineau!* and 234 copies of the *River Guide*. Receipts for the year were as follows:

Direct sales	\$6,438
Sales through our retailers	\$2,121
Total Sales:	\$8,559

Our primary means of communication to members on news and events is a quarterly newsletter, produced by GVHS Director **Shirley Brown** and sent out by email (if we have your email address) or through the post.

Current and previous newsletters are accessible on our website at www.gvhs.ca



Fairbairn House Heritage Centre Openings



Fairbairn House Heritage Centre will hold its **2** official openings this Spring. Two?

Yes, on **May 18th** the new La Peche Tourist Bureau will open at Fairbairn, situated in the former summer kitchen. Summer student staff will also act as heritage guides for the Fairbairn Centre, which will open on **June 15th**.

Permanent displays are being prepared, using many GVHS artifacts and images. Rotating exhibits for 2013 will include the Bill Mason display in "Faces of the Valley" and the brand new working model train. This HO scale layout features Wakefield village in the 1930s, so accurate rolling stock and buildings are being prepared.

The Fairbairn Centre will be open daily from 10am - 4pm.

Watch for news of future opening events: the Fairbairn Archives, an online service; the outdoor stage in the amphitheatre, and the restored log cabin, recently moved from Meech Lake.



English Quebec through 100 Cultural Artefacts website launched

"English-speaking Quebec is made up of communities large and small in virtually every region of the province. Contrary to an enduring myth that English Quebec is a monolithic entity, by its nature, our community is not only geographically, but culturally, ethnically and historically diverse.

It is QAHN's hope that the collage we have created with our 100 objects - exhibited digitally on this new website, as well as on our soon-to-be-released 100 objects DVD -- will serve not only to spotlight some of the things that distinguish our constituent parts, but also -- and perhaps more importantly -- to strengthen the sense of identity that English-speaking Quebecers share."

GVHS' *Broad Axe* is on the SOFTI (Significant Objects for Telling Identity) website. The story was written by Carol Martin and Dave Yuill - [read the entire story here](#).

The Broad Axe - 1860-1900

I am the broad axe whose sharp edge bit into the red and white pine of the Gatineau Valley forests. Settlers swung me sideways to square felled trees that they fashioned into homes and schools. Lumberman used me to trim the giant pines into square timbers that were sent overseas for building ships and masts.



Abstrast:

In 1800, entrepreneur Philemon Wright led a group of Massachusetts settlers to the western shore of the Gatineau River where it met the Ottawa. Here he began to clear land for farming. Seizing the opportunity to invest in a fledgling timber trade, Philemon Wright began to cut timber, and built an enormous raft of logs which he floated all the way to Quebec. He sold 700 logs, 9,000 boards, and 6,000 barrel staves, and initiated the timber industry on the Ottawa River. The key to the early success of the timber trade was the broad axe. It was one of the essential tools of the lumber industry brought by the pioneers who settled Hull Township and the Ottawa Valley.

Executive 2013

President

Marc Cockburn - 819-459-2004
cockburn.marc@gmail.com

Past President

Carol Martin - 819-827-1633
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1st Vice-president

Bob McClelland - 819-827-0540
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2nd Vice-president/Treasurer

David Yuill - 819-827-0851
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Secretary

Suzanne Gibeault
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Directors

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Louise Schwartz - 819-827-1429 - *Publications*
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Welcome to New Members

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| • Linda Dunsmore Porter | Regina SK |
| • James Grimes | Chelsea QC |
| • Barbara Humick | Chelsea QC |
| • Jean Perras | Chelsea QC |
| • Susan Ross | Wakefield QC |
| • Gershon Rother | Chelsea QC |
| • Anneke Schwarz | Ottawa ON |
| • Brian Scott | Ottawa ON |
| • Bernie Simpson | Chelsea QC |
| • Ulrich Wodicka | Gatineau QC |

• Fall Events •

- September 16 - TBD
- October 21 - The History of "The Low Down..."
- November 11 - Remembrance Day
- November 18 - Vintage Wings Talk

• Pat Evans Archives •

Chelsea Library • downstairs

Hours:

Monday & Wednesday

Thursday

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

or by appointment - 819-827-6224

Gatineau Valley Historical Society Membership Application/Renewal Form

Box 1803, Chelsea QC J9B 1A1 ~ 819-827-6224 ~ www.gvhs.ca

- *Up the Gatineau!* - our annual local history journal
- *GVHS Newsletter*
- Access to our archival material
- Regular meetings on local and national heritage topics

Membership Fees (per family): 1 year — \$15.00 2 year — \$25.00

New Member ____ **Renewal** ____

Name _____

Address _____

City/town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

Email Address _____ The newsletter will be emailed to you.

I would like to help with: Auction__ Archives__ Cemeteries__ Executive__ Publications__