#### THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

# NEXT MEETING

After a busy summer - much of the busy-ness generated by Society business - arrangements have now been completed for the first regular autumn meeting of 1979 to be held on Wednesday, 31 October 1979 at 8 p.m. sharp in the New Town Hall, Old Chelsea, Que.

One of our active members, whom we have enjoyed before, Patrick M.C. Evans, will enlighten and entertain us with his "Wright and Other Reminiscences".

Pat has lately returned from a trip to New England where he has been carrying out further research into the Philemon Wright family background. For the last few months he has also been collecting and/or recording general archival material in the Outaquais for the local Provincial Archives. In the process he has uncovered material on which his talk will be based.

The alliance of an attractive product and an accomplished purveyor should make this one of our 'not to be missed' meetings.

## JULY JOY

The combination of a charming host and hostess, an interesting place to visit and a sunny summer day was irresistible and about 60 members, spouses and friends turned out on Sunday, 29th July to enjoy the hospitality of Bob and Mary Ann Phillips at their heritage development near Cantley, Que. Following tours of the many early log buildings on their estate conducted by Bob and daughter. Jennifer, we were treated to tea, coffee and lemonade by Mary Ann.

We took home not only an appreciation of what the Phillips have accomplished in preserving and recycling relics of the past but also many pleasant memories of a happy afternoon.

AUGUST ACTION

Our perennial activity occupied our time and interest in August and our seventeenth annual Auction Sale on the 25th turned out to be another successful venture.

We had a few more items for sale, a few less registered bidders and a gross take which exceeded last year's by about \$470.00. After sharing the proceeds with our consignors, paying the Provincial Government its sales and auction taxes and covering our not inconsiderable expenses the Society should not close to \$2,000. Six of our consignors generously donated their share of the proceeds to the Society and a great many workers donated a good deal of thought and time to the project to ensure its success. The Municipality of West Hull made available the building for the sale and the National Capital Commission loaned us an "outdoor convenience". We are indebted to all our consignors who made the sale possible and who helped the Society financially by sharing their proceeds. Jane Peddie and Nancy Frank of the Old Chelsea Cafe provided an excellent food service for patrons and workers.

To all the many who contributed in any way to the satisfactory results of our Sale - a sincere thank you!

### THINK HERITAGE DAY

Heritage Canada has launched an extensive campaign across Canada to promote the observance of Heritage Day as a holiday on the third Monday of February each year. This was first proposed some years ago but now a concentrated effort to bring it into being is in hand.

At our next meeting your president will ask for your support by way of signing a petition endorsing this proposal. To sign will cost you all of 25¢ but you will receive a button and our thanks in return. You will also be asked to lend your support in other ways.

So please give it some thought in the meantime!

#### MCCRSIDE

Harly last Spring, when it became apparent that Elaine Albert could not continue, for health reasons, as manager of our Tea Room, we seriously contemplated giving up our management role after our many years of operation. However, at the "eleventh hour" two girls, who had had some experience at Moorside, came forward and after some amicable negotiations they were appointed co-managers.

Despite much indifferent weather this summer, which usually affects adversely the level of business, we have had one of our more profitable seasons. For this much of the credit goes to the good management of Colleen Hendrick and Kathy Cook and we thank them both sincerely.

Sheila Strang has carried out her book-keeping function plus with her usual cheerful efficiency and, of course, we are indebted to all the rest of the staff for their loyalty and invaluable contributions to our season's success. Pat Evans continues to update and keep our small museum in good order.

REGIONAL COUNCIL
Ann Crane and I represented our Society at the meeting in Brockville of the Regional Council of Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec of Heritage Canada on Saturday, 22 September 1979.

Dr. James Pendergast of Merrickville, the Chairman of the Council, conducted the meeting and, due to his forethought and pre-arrangements, those in attendance had something concrete to discuss. Jacques Dalibart, the Executive Director of Heritage Canada, fielded questions and observations from the representatives of the individual societies and associations on how Heritage Canada could serve them better and have closer ties. The net result of this discussion was improved understanding on both sides.

We were fortunate in having present Pierre Berton, the Chairman of the Board of Governors, who conveyed his enthusiasm to us about what Heritage Canada had done and hoped to do. He also made a plea for our support of the campaign to have Heritage Day officially recognized.

The Brockville and District Historical Society, our hosts for the day, provided an excellent lunch following which Douglas Grant, author of "Discovering Old Brockville" conducted short tours in the core of the city. It was a nostalgic experience for me as I had been born in Brockville and spent my growing up years there.

ACTIVATE: PARTICIPATE:

So that you can get more from the Society and the Society can get more from you please let us have your suggestions on how we can improve what we are doing; what kind of programs you would like; suggested speakers; how you could help; or any other thoughts that cross your mind when, and if, you think of the Society. Just telephone me on 235 1064 (winters) and 827 2598 (summers). What is known as feedback would be appreciated.

Arthur Davison, President.

10 October 1979