THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

This will be the meeting most closely identified with our Annual Essay Contest and it will be held on Thursday, 4 December 1980 at 8 p.m. sharp in (note the new location) the Parish Hall (basement) of Chelsea United Church, Chelsea, Que. For those few who are unfamiliar with this church, it is located on the south side of Mill Road which runs easterly from Highway 105 at the northerly end of the Village of Chelsea.

The six winners have been invited, with families and friends, to receive their awards. We have been most fortunate in completing arrangements with Commander Tony German to speak to us on the topical theme of the interrelationship of history and literature.

Cdr. German comes to us well qualified for this talk in that he is the author of two historical novels which have a connection with the Ottawa-Gatineau country.

He served in the Royal Canadian Navy from 1942 to 1966; he pioneered the operation in Canada of commercial hovercraft; as Director of Development at Ashbury College he organized the "Forum for Young Canadians". He has travelled extensively and has enjoyed working with young people in a big way.

Since he is bound to have an interesting message for us this is an opportunity not to be missed (and we will have lots of seating available)

LAST MEETING

Whereas we did not attract as many members as we would have liked those who did show up at Moorside on the 8th of October were treated to a comprehensive presentation by Councillor Peter Schnobb on the subject of a proposed new name for the Municipality of West Hull. He had researched the matter thoroughly and after deliberations with an Advisory Committee of people representative of many local organizations it was proposed that the new name be TENAKATIN - the early Algonquin name for the Gatineau River - "the river which climbs upward" - which is so closely identified with this municipality. However, the suggestion was not accepted by the Municipal Council to be referred to the people on voting day for approval or otherwise. So the matter goes back on the shelf for future consideration.

THE BEST

Our minth Annual Essay Contest produced more than twice as many entries as last year and these included essays written in French by two young ladies. The works were of a high order and have added significantly to our storehouse of regional history. The judges have selected the following as being worthy of recognition:

Prize Address Title Name First (\$500) Karen Watson Ottawa, Ontario The Stone Church of St. Stephen, Old Chelsen, Que. Caleb Brooks - Pioneer of Low Second (\$300) Reginald B. Hale Ottawa, Ontario and Low, lue. Wakefield, Que. Third (\$200) Origins of the German Settlers in Gunda Lambton Schwartz and Ladysmith Special Honourable Chelsea, Que. L'Usine Alcan de Farm Point Mention (\$50) Kimberley Pawley Fish in the Basement - The 1974 Honourable Wakefield, Que. Flood of the Gatineau River Mention (\$25) Barbara Steers Ottawa, Ontario Larrimac Golf Club -Honourable and Kingsmere, Que. Mention (\$25) A deL. Panet A Gatineau Gem Congratulations, from the Society, to all participants! May we hear from you again?

The Foundation outdid itself this year in coming up with an exciting, pleasurable and stimulating program for its Annual Meeting and Conference in Winnipeg. There were so many highlights that it is difficult to give a concise report. The list of participant speakers was of a very high calibre and each left his or her mark on the Conference. Pierre Berton, the Chairman of the Board of Governors, and General Chairman of the Conference, was in his usual dynamic form.

Ancillary to the fine addresses and the lively discussion which was engendered, we had a trip to visit Lower Fort Garry which has been reconstituted to the days when it was a Hudson Bay Company post in the mid-1800's. We went there by double-decker buses and returned by river boat which were novel experiences. Another featured e vent was a walking tour of the historical warehouse district of the city. The air may have been chilly but the traditional Winnipeg hospitality was warm.

All those at the Head Office of the Foundation who were involved in the conception and development of this program are to be congratulated - and thanked.

A FRESH LAFECHE

Following more research and writing by Norma and Stuart Geggie, a new expanded edition of LAPECHE is now off the press. The first edition of this "History of the Townships of Wakefield and Masham in the Province of Quebec - 1792 to 1925" sold out quickly and now the Society is proud to present this enlarged edition with more text and additional photographic and map material. It is available through the Geggies in Wakefield; through your bookseller and through our Secretary Treasurer, Sheila Strang, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2NO.

Another benefit of your membership in the Society is that this new edition will cost YOU \$6.00 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling (unless you pick it up and save this latter charge) The regular retail price will be \$7.95 plus postage and handling if it is to be mailed.

Could this be part of the solution to your Christmas gift-giving problem?

WISHES

Since there will not be another Newsletter in 1980 may we wish you the very best for Christmas and the New Year, after which you will hear from us again. May you be able to set aside personal and public cares and enter into the spirit of Christmas in a way that will warm your heart.

May 'Eighty-one Bring you more fun! Arthur Davison
President

12 November 1980