

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

With the inevitable passage of time comes another New Year - this one 1981 - and this brings with it our Annual Meeting which will be held in a new location, recently made available. The place which we are alluding to is the renovated building housing the West Hull Community Centre. This was formerly St. Stephen's Old School, just west of the church in Old Chelsea, Que. (where we have held our annual auction sales lately). We are told that we will hardly recognize the place since the renovations. That is the 'where' and the 'when' is Thursday, 29 January 1981 at 8 p.m. sharp.

Come and let us share thoughts on the Society's past, present and future. Your input is respectfully requested.

A feature, which seems to have met with favour, will be repeated this year. We hope to have another TELL or SHOW AND TELL session with each of you allotted 5 to 10 minutes to tell us something memorable associated with you and/or your family. Alternatively, you may SHOW us something significant to you and TELL us all about it. In any event, this is your opportunity to occupy "centre stage" surrounded by an attentive and sympathetic audience. We do want to hear about YOU and/or YOURS - and in this new setting. This is our own PARTICIPATION.

LAST MEETING

Although we did not have all the prize-winners of our 1980 Essay Contest on hand at the last meeting on 4 December 1980 we did have a good representation, replete with enthusiastic supporters, whom we were happy to welcome. The members also turned out in good numbers.

After the prize-giving, all in attendance were treated to an especially good presentation by Cdr. Tony German who made his subject - the interrelationship of history and literature - most interesting. His references to the early days of Bytown enthralled us all. When you have a guest who speaks not only well but knowledgeably on a popular subject, you have a 'hard to beat' combination - and that is what we enjoyed with Cdr. German.

DUES ARE DUE

As we look forward into 1981 the Society is still functional and we hope that you are the same. We also trust that we can count on your continuing support.

To avoid any recurrent disturbing thoughts about inaction on this matter, may we suggest that, right away, you send off a cheque to Sheila Strang, our Secretary-Treasurer, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0. Think of what this will do for your peace of mind.

As one of our members, who has already renewed two family memberships, was kind enough to say - "surely the only true bargain left in the universe". This, of course, has reference to the fact that pre-inflation rates still prevail - \$3.00 single and \$5.00 family - and this includes your complimentary copy of 'Up the Gatineau!' for 1981.

Please let our mutual need for each other motivate you into some prompt action on renewal. You'll be glad you did - and so will we.

UP THE GATINEAU! '81

There are stirrings of activity toward the preparation of the new edition of our annual booklet - our seventh. As previously, we have an adequate supply of longer articles, principally from our essay contests, but we can use some shorter items of Gatineau anecdote or history as fillers to add variety and interest.

Can you help in this regard? If so, please telephone me on 235 1064 as soon as possible and we can arrange the best and quickest way to get your material. As the lawyers say - 'Time is of the essence'. And we'll gladly credit your effort by giving you a by-line, if accepted.

NAME CALLING

More properly, this refers to a calling for names. The Municipality of West Hull, prompted by some new representation on Council, plans to soon submit three names to all taxpayers in West Hull, including summer residents. We will be asked to make a choice from (a) Tenakatin, (b) Castenchel and (c) West Hull for the future name of the Municipality.

Those of us who were present at the meeting of the Society on 8 October 1980 at Moorside heard Councillor Schnobb make a good case for 'Tenakatin', the early Algonquin name for the Gatineau River - "the river which climbs upward".

Castenchel is a name made up of the first letters of Cascades, Tenaga and Chelsea.

West Hull, of course, is for those who wish no c hange.

Naturally, the choice will be yours, if you are a taxpayer in West Hull. However, may we bespeak your interest and participation in this matter by making your choice known and, secondly, by not dismissing 'Tenakatin' without considering its advantages. It has an historic connection with a prominent feature of the municipality; it recognizes some of the earliest residents of the area; it overcomes any bilingual interpretation problems; it is unlikely to be confused with any other name or area and it is not difficult to learn to pronounce. Think about it!

CANADIAN HERITAGE

The Heritage Canada Foundation is anxious to increase circulation of its attractive and interesting new magazine, Canadian Heritage, and toward that end it is prepared to assist member organizations who obtain new subscribers. Subscription, incidentally, includes membership in the Foundation.

If you are not already a member/subscriber and you subscribe through THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU the following 'deal' applies. For every one-year subscription a participating organization sells, Heritage Canada Foundation will return to the organization \$4.00 of the \$10.00 fee. For every two-year subscription \$5.00 of the \$18.00 fee will be returned and for every three-year subscription at \$25.00, \$7.00 will be returned.

Interested? We hope so. This will be brought up at meetings but if, for some reason you cannot attend, please telephone Sheila at 827 0420 or the undersigned at 235 1064 (827 2598 in summer) and we will give you all necessary particulars.

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison,  
President.

14 January 1981