

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

Another year has come into being and this brings with it our Annual Meeting which will be held in the Chelsea United Church (main floor), Mill Road, Chelsea, Que. The time will be 8.00 p.m. sharp and the date will be Thursday, 4 February 1982.

We are most anxious that our members have a greater involvement in the affairs of the Society and we do hope that you will come out and contribute your thoughts and ideas.

There will be some brief reports on last year's activities and then we will get into a feature which seems to have met with favour in the past. We plan to have another SHOW AND TELL, or, simply a TELL session, with each of you allotted 5 to 10 minutes to SHOW us something you prize and TELL us about it, or alternatively, TELL us about some bit of family history or anything else which you feel might interest your fellow members. This is your night to be a significant part of the program and we hope that you will take advantage of it.

LAST MEETING

For various reasons four of the award recipients from our 1981 Essay Contest were unable to attend our presentation meeting on 3 December 1981. We did, however, have the pleasure of greeting Jessie Waterston of White Lake, Ontario and Thea Bennett of Ottawa, both well supported by friends and relatives who witnessed these two essayists receive their awards.

Following the prize-giving we were again treated to one of Cdr. Tony German's excellent presentations. This time his topic was the Georgian Bay Canal - a project which is now dead, or at least dormant, but into which he breathed life in the telling. Cdr. German has a way with words which makes him well worth listening to.

FEES, IF YOU PLEASE

Since our fiscal year coincides with the calendar year the annual membership fees are now due - a little past due, in fact.

At last year's Annual Meeting a resolution was moved, seconded and carried that we be allowed to increase our annual dues, if necessary. With the recent substantial increase in postal rates we could well justify an increase as postage is a major factor in our budget. However, because we had a little unanticipated revenue this past year through the sale of Moorside dishes and because we had a lesser expenditure than expected on the Essay Contest we have decided that we wish to be unique and give our members the benefit of the old rates which have been in effect for a number of years.

So for 1982 the dues will again be \$3.00 single \$5.00 family - one of the very few uninflated items in your personal economy. We hope that the impact of these low rates will have the desired effect of motivating you to sit down right away and send your cheque to Sheila Strang, Secretary Treasurer, Old Chelsea, Que., JOX 2N0. Or, alternatively, you can save yourself a 30¢ stamp by paying your fees at the next meeting. Think of the added pleasure that you will enjoy by getting this matter off your mind NOW.

'UP THE GATINEAU!' '82 The wheels have started to turn toward the production of the next edition of our annual booklet - our eighth. We have a stock of longer articles on which to draw but we can always use short items of Gatineau history (places, people, events) or local anecdotal material.

These are used as fillers and add to the interest and variety of the material in the booklet. If you can help in this regard please telephone me on 235 1064 as soon as possible and we can discuss the best way to get your material into my hands. You will get a credit line if your material is used. So, please, the need is NOW.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Too often our Society is called Gatineau Historical Society. This suggests to me some possible identification with the Town of Gatineau which, of course, is not the case. Our name was consciously chosen the way it is to relate us to that broad area known as THE GATINEAU - and that is the way that we like it. A lot more people identify with The Gatineau than with Gatineau.

Let me quote from an old Minute Book of the Society. The minutes in question cover a meeting on 9 October 1962 - the year of our birth.

"The advisability of changing the name of the Society was discussed at some length and it was moved by Mr. A. Davison, seconded by Mr. Hugh Bostock, that the name remain 'The Historical Society of the Gatineau'. Passed."

So there you have it - officially!

MISCELLANY

(a) Heritage Canada Foundation is doing a job for us which merits your support. How do you support it? By subscribing to its fine magazine - Canadian Heritage - at \$12.50 per year which automatically makes you a member of H. C. F. How do you subscribe? Please see note at the bottom of this section.

(b) Lend your support to Heritage Day coming up on the 15th of February. How can you do that? See note below.

(c) Have a ball! - a Beaux Arts Ball, that is. Last year the first such Ball sponsored by the Macdonald Club of Ottawa in conjunction with the WINTERLUDE program which, in turn, was sponsored by the National Capital Commission was reported to be a huge success. There will be another such Ball on Saturday evening, 6 February, 1982 in the ballroom of the Skyline Hotel. Interested? For more particulars, see note below.

(d) Thanks to Bert Holt, one of our members in Victoria, we have two new pictures of 'our' H. M. C. S. Gatineau - a Canadian destroyer stationed (or based) in Esquimalt, B.C.

(e) Whereas the Society has been a modest landowner ever since it acquired the old Cemetery north of Chelsea, Que., in the Sixties through the generosity of the Meredith family our holdings now seem to have taken on a new importance since the assessed value has increased from \$3,525 to \$11,725. Fortunately, we are not required to pay taxes.

NOTE For more information on any of the above items, please telephone Sheila Strang on 827 0420 or the undersigned on 235 1064.

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison  
President.

15 January 1982

May '82  
Be good to you!