

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

NEXT MEETING

To initiate our 1983 series of regular meetings on Thursday, 24 February 1983 we will assemble at the West Hull Community Centre in Old Chelsea, Que., and please try to be in your seat by 8.00 p.m.

For this occasion we are fortunate in having Mr. T. A. Brown, Curator of Agricultural Technology, National Museum of Science and Technology, present an illustrated talk on 'Collecting Agricultural Antiques'. He may even bring a few small artifacts.

Mr. Brown, by education and experience, is well qualified to speak to us on a subject which should have some relevance for most of us, either directly or by inheritance. Although the Gatineau developed into a prominent lumbering and mining area, its roots, like those of many parts of Canada, were firmly imbedded in agriculture.

We feel that this is one of those 'do not miss' occasions so we hope to meet you back in our familiar meeting place.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The evening of Thursday, 27 January 1983 yielded us some cold but not stormy weather for this meeting in the Chelsea United Church, where the facilities were up to their usual high standard - all of which was appreciated by those 20-25 in attendance.....reports, short and to the point, revealed another year of activity and development.....our efficient Secretary Treasurer, Sheila Strang, presented our Financial Statement which had a gratifying 'in-the-black' character; receipts of \$11,667.90 exceeding expenditures of \$7,370.63 by \$4,297.27 plus an accumulated investment portfolio of \$28,000 from which we will need the declining interest income to cover anticipated increasing expenditures in 1983.....Phillip Journeaux was again appointed our auditor for the ensuing year.. ....early in the Spring of 1982 we were requested by the National Capital Commission to remove our museum artifacts from Moorside to make room for an alternative development which they had in mind. This we did in a concerted operation, the bulk of them now being stored in the basement of Pat Evans' home - through his kindness. Some pictures are stored on the Davison property and a few items are on loan to the N. C. C. for its Log Farm in Nepean. We are studying the future disposition of our museum.....although, statistically, the annual Auction Sale was not up to the 1981 Sale, in many areas, the net return was up slightly, due to careful control of expenses. The future of this Sale is being reviewed by a committee, under the chairmanship of Bob Phillips, who gave a short report, indicating that there would be more on this subject soon.....the modest increase in membership fees recommended by the Executive Committee and reported in detail in the November Newsletter was formally approved.....Cdr. Tony German, chairman of the committee involved, reported on our 'Search for History' program under which we are giving some financial assistance to four applicants to enable them to carry on research on diverse Gatineau Valley subjects.....Pauline Smith, Director, English Cultural Resource Centre, who had been invited to our meeting, made a plea for help in the Centre's project for preserving the English institution -al records of Western Quebec. (see below).....an application has been made to Revenue Canada for a charitable status licence to enable the Society to recognize donations with a receipt for Income Tax purposes.....work has started on assembling material for the 1983 edition of 'Up the Gatineau!' - our ninth. Because of the loss of, or reduced sales by, some of our established outlets, the 1982 issue did not generate quite enough revenue to cover the increased costs. However, over a period of the last five years, in total, we have made a reasonable profit on top of giving complimentary copies to members.....during 1982 there were 7 meetings of the Society and the Auction Sale.....Heritage Day on 21 February 1983 was promoted on behalf of the Heritage Canada Foundation.....an announcement was made on a series of courses on 'Discovering the History of Western Quebec' (more details below).....the present Executive was returned to office with the following changes and additions: Carol Martin transferred to the Executive and Alan Powell moved to the Advisory Committee with Joanne MacDonald and June Creelman accepting appointments to that same Committee.....a few suggestions from the members were noted for future consideration.....three members added interest to the occasion by participating in the SHOW and TELL session.....and now our 21st year of existence as a Society is consigned to history - with additional activity anticipated for 1983 in which it is hoped that more and more members will become actively involved.

ENGLISH CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTRE

The Centre is a properly constituted body, funded temporarily by the Secretary of State of Canada. Briefly, the objects of this Association, formed in July 1981, are (1) To identify common problems of the English speaking residents of the Outaouais, pool our resources and sensitize the appropriate bodies to our needs. (2) To initiate and encourage projects and activities designed to preserve and enrich English cultural presence in the Outaouais. (3) To promote the contribution of English speaking people to the Outaouais region: past, present and future.

If you are sympathetic to this cause and would be interested in obtaining more information, please identify yourself, as a member of our Society, to Pauline Smith on 777 0177.

SEARCH FOR MUSIC

Music is the great time machine, and nowhere is this more true than in folk music. As people came to the new world, they brought with them their music to preserve their cultures and traditions. Such music commonly took on new and unique qualities in the new land. Canada is rich in folk music, and we believe the Gatineau contains many fine musicians who have maintained the region's oldtime musical practices. It is our goal to meet as many of them as possible, to record and transcribe their music. The challenge lies in locating the talent. We gratefully welcome any assistance in contacting the oldtime singers and instrumentalists of the Gatineau who are willing to share their gifts with us. Michael Bussière, 68 Cooper St. 234 4694 Mr. Bussière is being assisted under our 'Search for History' program. So PLEASE help! NOW!

HISTORY STUDY

Although some matters have to be resolved and details developed it is hoped to have a series of eight seminars and workshops on 'Discovering the History of Western Quebec' - one session per week - with qualified speakers and resource people. It is planned to hold this at CEGEP in Hull. Watch the press for final details or telephone Jean Ogilvie at 684 2336 or Pierre-Louis Lapointe at 777 2900.

10 February 1983

*Arthur Davison*  
Arthur Davison, President.