

THE HISTORICAL  
LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA GATINEAU

Box/C.P. 485, Chelsea (Qué) J0X 1N0  
(819) 827-4432

**Newsletter / Bulletin**

*March / mars*  
February / février 1993

HSOG 10/28

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### Next Meeting

Monday, March 15, 8:00 p.m.

Community Centre (La Pigeonnière)  
Old Chelsea

#### **Brian Doyle**

on his writings for young people

Brian Doyle's books have won numerous awards and have been published internationally. Several, including *Up to Low* and *Covered Bridge*, deal with the Gatineau area, the home of his father's family. His musical on the Battle of Brennan's Hill was performed at the Brennan's Hill Hotel.

Brian Doyle taught at Glebe Collegiate for many years, but now devotes all his time to writing.

A spirited, lively evening for all!

*Please note the change in location for the March meeting: the newly renovated Community Centre in Old Chelsea, next to the new MRC (Municipalité régionale des collines) headquarters building.*

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### Coming Events

April 19 - monthly meeting, speaker will be **Helen Routliffe** of Fort Coulonge, on "The Contribution of the Women's Institutes in West Quebec". There will also be a panel of speakers on the local Institutes.

May 17 - **Ruth Latta** on how to write your memoirs.

Watch for details in the future *Newsletters*.

### Awards at Annual General Meeting

For those unfortunate souls unable to attend the Heritage Day Dinner and Annual General meeting on February 15, here are the annual award winners. All received framed certificates to mark the occasion.

Honourary Life membership to **Ray Daly** for his work in support of the Maclaren House and the Wakefield Mill; the Arthur Davison Award for best article in *Up the Gatineau!* to Stan Cross (includes a \$100 cash prize); Awards of Honour to **Gilles Lachance**, **Gunda Lambton**, **Beth Macfie** and **Paul Fydenchuk**, and posthumously to the late **Colin Chisholm**. (The President later delivered Colin Chisholm's award personally to Mrs. Chisholm.)

Congratulations to all our award winners.

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### Meet Your New Executive

The new executive and Board of Directors, elected at the Annual General Meeting on February 15, are:

President: Jay Atherton  
First Vice President: Carol Martin  
Second Vice President: Allan Richens

Directors: Stuart Geggie  
David Castleman  
Valerie Hiscocks  
George Gould  
Gunda Lambton

A full list of committee chairs and appointed officers will appear in the March *Newsletter*.

## THINGS ARCHIVAL

Recent acquisitions by the Society's Archives:

1) Book entitled *Pioneers of New France in the New World* by Francis Parkman, 1865, published by Little Brown & Co., Boston 1868. Inside the front cover, in handwriting is: "Henry Aylen from Alonzo Wright Dec. 25 1886." Alonzo Wright may be identified as the M.P. who built the "Chateau" at Limbour. Henry was a member of the Aylen family, well known in this area of the Gatineau, and at Aylmer. Donor: the late Colin Chisholm.

2) Land deeds and sales of the property at Meech Lake which was acquired by Thomas Leopold "Carbide" Willson, for both a cottage and a plant for the experiments in which he was engaged, and later developed. The first deals were in 1906, with Frederick A. Dixon and Rosanna Wright. Donor: Mrs. Marian (Willson) Roberts.

3) Land deals and sales of the property at Meech Lake acquired by various persons, mostly on the southerly shore, for cottages and lately for more permanent homes. Some names involved: Trowsse, Turnbull, Sutherland, Joynt, Nelson, Cowden, Atwood, Robertson, and Shorter. Donor: Mrs. Shirley Shorter.

4) Photographs and story of her grandparents, William James Tilley and Mary Ann Bellman, who acquired property on both sides of Meech Lake. Donor: Mrs. Arthur (Betty) Davison.

5) Military land grant in Meech Creek Valley to Sergeant William Baldwin, the grant being dated 8 Feb. 1843. Donors: Mrs. & Mrs. James Hammond. Mrs. Hammond (Mabel) is a descendant of the sergeant.

6) Photograph of Kirk's Ferry before the Gatineau River was flooded, 1925-1928. Loaned to the Society for copying, in quantity, by Mrs. Bent (Rene) Nielsen, daughter of the late Phil Juneau.

7) Assorted photographs of historical scenes - and people - of the lower Gatineau Valley. Donor: Mrs. Robert (Carol) Martin.

8) Book entitled *1201 to Wakefield* by W.C. Slim, 1981. About the steam train between Ottawa and Wakefield. Donor: the Historical Society of Ottawa, through Jean McNiven, Librarian at the Bytown Museum.

9) Deeds of sale, etc. in connection with the Gobell cottage at Burnet (on the Gatineau River). Names mentioned are Boswell, Dean, Larmonth, Bradley. Donor: Mayor Judith Grant.

- P.M.O. Evans  
Archivist

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## Anglican Church Project

Valerie Hiscocks has brought to our attention an interesting project of the Anglican churches in the area, as reported in the Christmas issue of *The Gatineau River News*: efforts to establish a home for the intellectually disabled in the Gatineau. Planning is just getting under way. Anyone interested is invited to call Warren Major at 827-0529.

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## New Members

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Stephen Harris and Nancy Hall, Cantley  
Archie Pennie, Ottawa  
Mr & Mrs. Snow, Old Chelsea

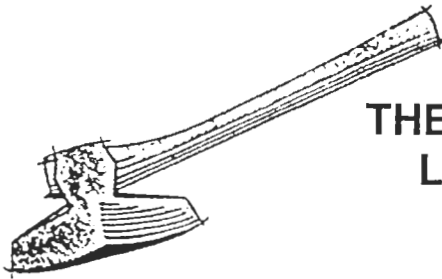
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Has your membership expired? Check the address label and look out for a coloured circle around the date. Send us a cheque for \$15 (\$25 for two years), and we'll keep you in our good books!

Spread the word. Any of your friends who you think would be interested in joining our ranks? A membership form is attached. Please pass it on to a friend or neighbour.

The Historical Society of the Gatineau *Newsletter* is published monthly as a vehicle of communication between the members of the Historical Society. Contributions are welcome, care of the address of the Society or by telephone to the editor, Jay Atherton (827-1703).

Coordination and distribution: Yvonne Jurgens



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## PURPOSE

".. to promote matters of historical or heritage significance  
in the general area of the Gatineau Valley."

## ACTIVITIES

- ▶ monthly meetings; interesting speakers
- ▶ annual journal *Up the Gatineau!*
- ▶ monthly newsletter and special historical publications
- ▶ Pioneer Cemetery, Chelsea
- ▶ annual antique auction and flea market
- ▶ historical tours
- ▶ Wakefield Mill and Maclaren House Museum
- ▶ Wakefield Covered Bridge Committee

## PLEASE JOIN US AND HELP TO PRESERVE THE HERITAGE OF THE GATINEAU

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Membership is for the whole family. Options are: 1 year (\$15) \_\_\_ 2 years (\$25) \_\_\_

New Membership \_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_

Please make your cheque payable to **The Historical Society of  
the Gatineau** and mail to Box 485, Chelsea, Québec J0X 1N0.

### Areas of Interest

The activities of the Society rely upon support and help from the membership. To participate in areas that are of interest, please indicate your choice below:

Auction \_\_\_\_\_

Cemeteries \_\_\_\_\_

Publicity \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Research \_\_\_\_\_

Publications \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Tours \_\_\_\_\_

Wakefield Mill \_\_\_\_\_

Maclaren House Museum \_\_\_\_\_

Special Events \_\_\_\_\_

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

