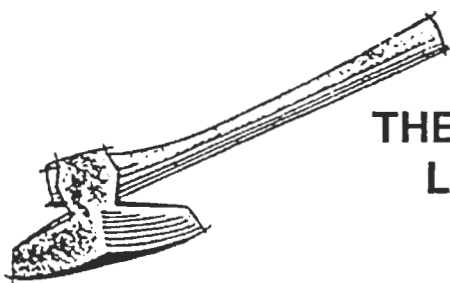


HSOG 10/28



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE DE LA GATINEAU

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Newsletter / Bulletin

September / septembre 1993

Next Meeting

Monday, September 20, 8:00 p.m.

**Chelsea Community Centre
Old Chelsea**

Speaker: Anne Meness-Printup

Mrs. Printup, the daughter of Chief Frank Meness, will speak on the historical events involving her parents and other Maniwaki Algonquins in the Iroquois struggle over the Niagara border crossing in the 1920s.

Mrs. Meness is currently a counsellor at the Kitiganissipi School in Maniwaki.

Come and bring a friend!

REFRESHMENTS AT 7:30; MEETING AT 8:00

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FUTURE EVENTS

October 18 - Monthly Meeting.

Speaker: Tony German - "Remembrance: Canada's Part in the Battle of the Atlantic"

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ANNUAL AUCTION OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

The 26th annual Auction took place on a beautiful (cool - but beautiful) Saturday morning, August 21, in the picnic ground behind St. Stephen's Church, Old Chelsea. The auction itself was supplemented by the traditional flea market and bake sale. The Society had coffee and refreshments on hand and the men of

the church operated a hamburger and hot dog stand, providing needed sustenance to all those occupied in the events.

Attendance was at an all-time high, as was the enthusiasm of the bidding at the auction. Master of Ceremonies Bob Phillips and auctioneer Revel Stewart did their usual professional jobs. Overall coordination was in the capable hands of James Strate. Two happenings were of special note: the surprise offering of Father Croteau's hat for auction; and the introduction of the newest member of the Society, Robert Bertrand, Liberal Party candidate in the upcoming federal election.

THANKS ... are due to everyone who worked on the auction, our local member of Parliament, Barry Moore, and Mayor Judy Grant for their support, as well as the various local merchants who generously supported the event. The annual auction is a model of effective teamwork in action. People come out each year to perform the same task, efficiently and with great enjoyment. Thanks to all of you. And see you again next year!

Details on the financial results will appear in next month's newsletter.

- Jay Atherton

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ARTHUR DAVISON FUND - GENEROUS DONATIONS RECEIVED

Readers of the Newsletter will recall the notice in the June issue of the Newsletter concerning the establishment of the Arthur Davison Fund, in memory of the later Arthur Davison, a founder and long-time supporter of the Historical Society.

Since that note appeared we have been informed

by the solicitors for the Estate of Arthur Davison that Mr. Davison, in his will, left the Society a legacy of \$2,000. In addition, several members have made donations to the fund.

The Board of Directors of the Society will be reviewing its options with regard to the funds thus accumulated, and will be presenting proposals to the membership at the Society's annual meeting in February, 1994.

- Jay Atherton

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SOCIETY BIDS AU REVOIR TO CURRENT, AND WELCOMES NEW TREASURER

With regret the Executive has accepted the resignation of Yvonne Jurgens as Treasurer of the Society. Yvonne's departure is the result of her husband being posted to Indonesia. We shall all miss her efficiency and commitment to the work of the Society - and we wish her good luck, as well as "au revoir". We expect to see her back this way in the near future.

As Yvonne's successor we are fortunate to have Mary Lamoureux, a devoted member of the Castenchel Choir and the Historical Society. Mary will be taking over the duties from Yvonne in September.

- Jay Atherton

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COSTUME SOCIETY TOURS MILL

Letter to Dr. Stuart Geggie, June 7, 1993:

On behalf of the Costume Society of Ontario - Eastern Group, I would like to thank both you and Andrew for the wonderful tour you gave us on Saturday [June 5].

We were all very impressed with the work you have accomplished with the Maclaren House and Mill Museum. I, personally, had not expected anything so professional. To find artifacts actually displayed in

cases, good labelling, and last, but not least, such effective mannequins(!) is use, was really great to see. Despite the cold, Andrew's explanation of the working of the Mill was fascinating! I was glad to see a turbine, at last! I always wondered what the actual mechanism looked like!

I will send you copies of any of my photographs that turn out. I would like to select the best for display outside of my lab. I will have a caption giving credit to the Maclaren House and Mill Museum.

We had a delicious lunch at Le Café Pot au Feu. In all, it was an absolutely delightful day. Please convey our gratitude also to Andrew.

I look forward to our next occasion to be in touch.

Yours sincerely,
Julie Hughes
Regional Representative,
Costume Society of Ontario

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Correspondence

To: Mr. P.M.O. Evans (21 March) -

I did appreciate your asking Y. Jurgens to advise me of [Arthur Davison's] death. I cannot be sad about it but I did so enjoy working with him & you & the other members. Hope to see Ryans in April in the Okanagan. Do enjoy getting [Up the Gatineau!] & the Newsletter as it keeps me in touch with the Gatineau....

Sheila Strang, Vernon. B.C.

To: The Historical Society of the Gatineau (10 July) -

My family and I would like to thank the Committee and Members of the Historical Society for their kind expression of sympathy extended to us in June issue of Newsletter for the recent loss of our loved one, Arthur Ferguson Brown of Kirk's Ferry, Que.

Musie Brown, Shirley Ann Brown,
Jim Brown & Family

UPDATE ON THE SAMUEL BENEDICT PLAQUE

In October of 1972 the Historical Society of the Gatineau, in partnership with the National Capital Commission, installed and unveiled a bronze plaque to honour the memory of Samuel Benedict (1744-1820) and his wife Mary Dibble (1746-1825). The Benedicts were from Sharon, Vermont, arriving to settle in this area in 1801, a year later than the party led by Philemon Wright.

The unveiling took place at the corner of the Mountain Road and Gamelin Boulevard before a crowd of interested people with the late Arthur Davison, then President of the Historical Society, presiding over the ceremony.

The plaque, attached to a large stone bedded in the ground, was only yards away from the Benedict farmhouse on the Mountain Road, an ideal site.

Lately, the road engineers came up with a plan to rearrange the corner to meet increased traffic use. When the new road system was finally constructed, unhappily the bronze plaque was left in the middle of nowhere, where it could not be seen, except by the odd hiker.

As the National Capital Commission had been a partner of the Society in the placing of the plaque we approached the Commission with our dilemma. Our timing seemed appropriate, as the NCC's own planning service was engaged with plans for a new entrance to the Gatineau Park.

In June 1972 the Chairman of the NCC, Mrs. Pigott, assured us that the Commission had not forgotten about the plaque, and that it would be relocated in the near future.

Early in June of this year M. Jean-Luc Charron, the NCC's Land Management Planning Officer, invited me to accompany him to the present plaque site, as he had never seen it. This I was happy to do, as I had not seen it in four years. We stopped to see the Benedict farmhouse, only to discover it had been ruthlessly torn down. M. Charron was able to assure me that the plaque and stone will be moved to the entrance of the Park, where a parking lot will be installed.

- Patrick M.O. Evans, Archives/Research

NEW MEMBERS

The Historical Society welcomes the following new members:

John Irwin
Robert & Kate Bigras
Marie-Hélène Courtemanche-Boyle
Adrienne Herron
Duncan & Gudula Marshall
Robert Bertrand

Welcome to all of you - and we look forward to seeing you at our various events!

SPECIAL "RED CROSS" BENEFIT CHOO-CHOO TRIPS SET FOR SEPT. 25 & 26

Picturesque train excursions from Hull to Wakefield and return; one each day

Theme: World War II - costumes, music, nostalgia

Co-sponsors: Red Cross, Canadian War Museum, Régiment de Hull, Royal Canadian Legion, Historical Society of the Gatineau

Wakefield Mill and Museum open for the day

Cost for train trip: \$25 each, of which \$10 is a donation to the Canadian Red Cross

For tickets, call Choo-Choo (778-7246), Red Cross (595-8838), or Maison du tourisme (595-8005).

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).

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