

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

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(819)827-4432

## Newsletter

No. 98-2: April - May 1998

*"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to fulfil it." - George Santayana*

### Coming Events

Monday, April 20

#### "Archives Treasures"

Speaker: **Jay Atherton**  
Historical Society Archivist

Presenting some items of special interest from the Society's own archives, and a few recent acquisitions.

*The Archives is always on the lookout for interesting documents, maps, and photographs. Members are encouraged to bring to the meeting items pertaining to their own family or the heritage of the local area, which they think the Archives might be interested in copying. If you wish to call the Archivist in advance of the meeting concerning this aspect of the evening, please do so: Jay Atherton (827-1703).*

Chelsea Community Centre, Old Chelsea.  
Refreshments at 7:30; meeting, 8:00 p.m.

Monday, May 11

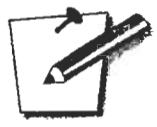
### Annual Dinner

6:00 p.m., Edelweiss Golf & Country Club

Speaker: **Robert Bussière**, Mayor of LaPêche  
*"Heritage Issues in LaPêche"*

Buffet Dinner: \$24

Please reserve your ticket in advance, by calling our Secretary, Eileen Castleman, at 827-4432.



### New Officers Elected Annual Awards Presented

At the Annual General Meeting held on Heritage Day, February 16, the President, Carol Martin, presented the following awards:

#### Awards of Honour

- **Ann Chudleigh**, for her work with the Wakefield Covered Bridge Committee
- **Dr. David Geggie**, recognizing his many years of wise counsel
- **Irene and Bent Nielsen**, for services to the Society and the community over many years
- **Joan Gherson**, for her contribution to the success of the publications program

#### Letters of Commendation

- **Phil and Glennis Cohen**, for their contributions to the community of Wakefield
- **Winnifred Johnston**, recently retired as first chair of the LaPêche Heritage Committee

#### Arthur Davison Prize (best article in *Up the Gatineau!*)

- **Neil Faulkner**, for his article "A Bridge for Our Times--Rebuilding the Wakefield Covered Bridge"

The members approved suggested amendments to the constitution and by-laws and elected a new Executive Committee:

President: **Ernie Mahoney**  
1st Vice President: **Randolph Gherson**  
2nd Vice President: **Bruce Lister**  
Directors: **Allan Richens, Jay Atherton, David Castleman, Anne Fleming**

One director's position is vacant, but can be filled by the Board of Directors. Anyone interested should contact a member of the Executive or the Secretary.

Ernie Mahoney expressed a vote of thanks to Carol Martin for her work as President of the Society.

## Wakefield Bridge Committee Loan Forgiven

At its meeting on February 23, the Executive of the Historical Society voted unanimously to forgive the loan of \$6,000 made to the Wakefield Bridge Committee in the autumn of 1996. The Executive agreed that doing so would effectively convert the "loan" into an allotment of funds to a committee of the Society for activities in support of the Society's objectives and goals ("to promote matters of historical or heritage significance in the general area of the Gatineau Valley").

In approving this action, the Executive expressed its support for the work of the Bridge Committee and wished the members well in their endeavours to retire the remainder of the debt (now ca. \$55,000) by the end of the summer.

Members interested in donating to the Bridge project, to help the committee reach its final target, should contact **Anita Rutledge** (459-2773) or **Norma Walmsley** (459-2061).

## Aylmer Heritage - Recent Events

The most recent newsletter of Aylmer Heritage contains several items of interest to members of our own society. First, our Aylmer cousins will be moving their headquarters. The Ville d'Aylmer has invited Aylmer Heritage to move to the **John Egan House at the Monastery** in late spring. In a four-year arrangement with the Monastery, the city is renting space at the John Egan House. The Aylmer Museum will be housed on the ground floor, while five rooms on the second floor have been set aside for the association's use. The association notes that this arrangement "assists the preservation of one of Aylmer's earliest and historic buildings (the prestigious 1841 home of Aylmer's first mayor and first member of the pre-Confederation Parliament in Quebec)."

In January Aylmer Council awarded a contract for \$7,000 to the Association to undertake a study of 197 heritage buildings in Aylmer, to assist them in categorizing them architecturally and to assess them in terms of heritage interest.

The West-Quebec Post (February 27, 1998)

# St. Stephen's steeple to rise again

Ernie Mahoney

OLD CHELSEA — One of the best known landmarks in West Quebec — the majestic church steeple and bell tower of St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church in Old Chelsea — should soon rise to its former prominence. And the parish priest is hoping it will be ringing by Easter.

After months of planning and negotiating with the Arch-Diocese and architects Carrier Savard and engineers, the Quebec Church Heritage Fund has contributed \$100,000 for the reconstruction of the steeple and the parish has raised additional money, said Paul Huneault, president of the Fabrigue.

The parish had raised nearly \$50,000, in addition to the Heritage Fund.

"Contractors are scheduled

to visit the site today and the tenders will close on March 4 for the project," he said.

The bell tower and steeple, erected in 1895, was removed in January, 1997 because it was rotting.

### *Rotten timber*

Father Croteau said the rotted timber and the tin covering will be removed from the supporting posts and replaced in the same style. Some structural changes will be made in the church to support the tower.

Also, a funding drive is under way for the expensive and urgent job of re-leading the stained glass windows in the church.

Church records indicate that when the steeple and bell tower were erected 16 years after the church was built, the total cost was \$771.



## *Historical Society of Ottawa Celebrates Centenary*

On November 8, 1898, the Women's Canadian Historical Society of Ottawa held its first general meeting at the Normal School at 3:30 p.m. This organization was the fore-runner of the present day Historical Society of Ottawa. During this 1998 season, the HSO's program is focusing on events of one hundred years ago.

### *First Orchestral Concert in Wakefield!*

Saturday, May 9, 2:00 pm  
Wakefield School

The **Parkdale United Church Orchestra**, now in its 53rd season and the oldest community orchestra in the National Capital Region, will perform under the baton of composer and conductor **Peter Willsher**.

Free-will offering. For information call Jan Purcell (459-3362) or Chris Beasley (827-1586).

### *Active Authors!*

**Katharine and Eric Fletcher** have just signed with a major U.S. publisher of travel books, Globe Pequot, to write *Quebec: Off the Beaten Path*. Although the couple have co-published several local histories and have co-authored two contributions to the anthology *The Canadian Writer's Guide* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1997), this is the first time that Eric will be formally recognized as co-author of a book.

In addition, Katharine and Eric are the new travel columnists for *Ottawa Life Magazine* (to appear this spring). Watch our for some local as well as international destinations. They join other esteemed local writer (and HSG President) **Ernie Mahoney** as one of this magazine's regular columnists.

### *Member Caps It Off*

At the Annual General Meeting on February 16, **Norman Gillen** returned to the coat rack to find that his black velvet cap was missing; in its place he found a brownish corduroy cap - which he would like to exchange for his own. If you can help, please call Norman at 729-1616.

## ANNUAL REPORT, 1997

(For technical reasons the last *Newsletter* did not include the report by Randolph Gherson on the 1997 Auction. With apologies for this inconvenience, we are pleased to present it below.)

### HSG Auction, 1997

Randolph Gherson

The 1997 Auction proved to be a great success and a most enjoyable occasion. Everything seemed to go smoothly. The weather - always enigmatic - was very co-operative: sunny, but not too warm. The articles on auction covered a wide range, from antique agricultural implements, bedsteads, tables, Picasso prints, to furs. Buyers seemed contented with the quality and price of their purchases. The silent auction of gifts and gift certificates graciously donated by the Prime Minister, our Member of Parliament, our Mayor, and local establishments provided a competing but not distracting attraction, with quiet but diligent monitoring of whether one's bid had been upped by a rival interest.

Bob Phillips acted as Master of Ceremonies and our President, Carol Martin, thanked our auctioneer amid warm applause at the end of the day. Hoss Bertrand surpassed himself as our auctioneer-cum-entertainer. Proceeds from his superb performance, together with the flea market, bake sale, and books and publications, yielded \$6,000. Another good year for the Society.

The success of the Auction in terms of planning, preparation, operation, and of the event itself is all due to the kind and selfless volunteers who graciously contributed their time, trucks and vans, competence, and, not least, their unfailing good humour. We are also much indebted to all those who provided gifts and free publicity, as well as to St. Stephen's Church for allowing us to use their grounds as our venue. Jay Atherton listed all the credits and names in the October-November issue of our *Newsletter*. A special bouquet of congratulations and warm thanks for their hard work and dedication to making the 1997 Auction such a special and fun occasion.

Members - please note that the financial statements of the Historical Society for the period ending December 31, 1997, are attached to this newsletter.

Brockville and District Historical Society  
27th Annual

**Brockville**  
1998  
**ANTIQUE**  
**Show & Sale**

at the  
BROCKVILLE COUNTRY CLUB  
on hwy. #2, 1 km west of Brockville, Ontario

**APRIL 25, 26**  
**Identification Clinic**  
with

**Mr. Brian Musselwhite**  
**Royal Ontario Museum**  
**Saturday, April 25**

(No Monetary valuation - \$2.00 per item)

**Saturday: 10:00 - 6:00 pm**  
**Sunday: 11:00 - 5:00 pm**

**Admission: \$3.00**

Fair exchange on U.S. Funds

Editor/compiler of the *Newsletter* is Jay Atherton, who welcomes contributions from members (phone/fax: (819) 827-1703; e-mail: james.atherton@sympatico.ca). The mailing list is maintained by Patricia Lavergne, while mailing and distribution is handled by Rae Moore, Marjorie Evis, and Charis Palmer.



***Membership Renewals***

Please check your mailing label. A yellow mark indicates that your membership expired on December 31 (97/12/31). Please renew now.

Annual membership still costs only \$15 for one year, \$25 for two years. *Please send a cheque now to the Historical Society at the address shown on the first page of this newsletter.*


**Only those members who have renewed will receive a copy of the 1998 edition of *Up the Gatineau!***

## Notice to Reader

I have compiled the financial statements of the  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU**  
for the period ended December 31, 1997, from records  
and information provided by management.

I have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to  
verify the accuracy or completeness of such information.

Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be  
appropriate for their purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gonnie de Witte', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Gonnie de Witte, C.M.A.  
March 21, 1998

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

## BALANCE SHEET

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	YEAR ENDED	
	DECEMBER 31	
	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Bank - Current	\$ 1,172.00	\$ 4,447.00
Bank - Savings	5,157.00	5,155.00
Loans Receivable - <i>Note 1</i>	10,494.00	7,200.00
Interest Receivable (CSB)	7,731.00	5,942.00
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Bank Certificates	18,317.00	21,610.00
Canada Savings Bonds	24,200.00	18,200.00
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Furniture - <i>Note 2</i>	500.00	0.00
Accumulated Depreciation - furniture	(50.00)	
Equipment - <i>Note 3</i>	0.00	328.00
Accumulated Depreciation - equipment	0.00	(65.00)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ <u>67,521.00</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>62,817.00</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND RETAINED EARNINGS</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 769.00	\$ 265.00
Prepaid Membership fees	1,708.00	1,673.00
Grant - C. Martin - <i>Note 4</i>	4,900.00	4,900.00
<b>OTHER LIABILITIES - <i>Note 5</i></b>		
Pioneer Cemetery Fund	4,000.00	4,000.00
A. Davison Fund	2,205.00	2,205.00
Memorials Fund	1,836.00	1,836.00
M.A. Phillips Fund	1,800.00	1,800.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ <u>17,218.00</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>16,679.00</u></b>
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS</b>	<b>\$ 50,303.00</b>	<b>\$ 46,138.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ <u>67,521.00</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>62,817.00</u></b>

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31	
	1997	1996
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Auction	\$ 6,281.00	\$ 12,182.00
Publications	4,420.00	4,270.00
Interest Income	2,845.00	2,565.00
Membership fees	1,869.00	2,121.00
Donations	197.00	61.00
Royalties	0.00	75.00
	<b>\$ 15,612.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,274.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>(SEE SCHEDULES ATTACHED)</b>		
Administrative	\$ 2,810.00	\$ 2,072.00
Projects & Activities	8,395.00	7,299.00
	<b>\$ 11,205.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,371.00</b>
<b>INCOME FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>\$ 4,407.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,903.00</b>
 <b>EXTRA-ORDINARY ITEM - NOTE 2</b>		
Loss on theft of equipment	\$ 242.00	
<b>INCOME AFTER EXTRA-ORDINARY ITEM</b>	<b>4,165.00</b>	

## STATEMENT OF RETAINED EARNINGS

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

Retained Earnings	-opening balance	\$	46,138.00	\$	34,096.00
Prior Period Adjustment					139.00
Retained Earnings	-restated				34,235.00
Income from Operations			4,165.00		11,903.00
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS -CLOSING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>50,303.00</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>46,138.00</b>





# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

## SCHEDULES OF EXPENSES

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31	
	1997	1996
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>		
Honoraria - secretary & treasurer	\$ 975.00	\$ 500.00
Telephone	640.00	445.00
Accounting fees	400.00	450.00
Office - Supplies/Postage	630.00	425.00
Depreciation - Furniture	50.00	0.00
- Equipment	21.00	65.00
Financing and Banking charges	59.00	59.00
Miscellaneous	35.00 (a)	35.00 (a)
Interest paid	0.00	93.00
	<b>\$ 2,810.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,072.00</b>
<b>PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES EXPENSES</b>		
Publications	\$ 3,361.00	\$ 2,341.00
Auction	1,184.00	1,858.00
Newsletter - Mailing	1,128.00	918.00
Newsletter - Printing	600.00	616.00
Archives	686.00	112.00
Meetings - Publicity	532.00	521.00
Meetings - Awards Dinner	445.00	418.00
Meetings - General	188.00	152.00
Remembrance Day Activities	175.00	213.00
Donations and Gifts	96.00	150.00
	<b>\$ 8,395.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,299.00</b>

(a) Safety & P.O. Boxes;

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited - See Notice to Reader)

### **Note 1: Loans Receivable**

Loans receivable consists of:

- Interest free loan of \$3,294.00 to Katherine Fletcher. To be repaid by May 1, 1998.
- Interest free loan of \$6,000.00 to the Wakefield Bridge Committee. To be repaid: November 1, 1998.
- Interest free loan of \$1,200.00 to G. Lambton for the publication: "The wildest rivers-the oldest hills". To be repaid by September 1, 1998.

### **Note 2 Fixed Assets**

#### **Furniture**

In 1997, a wooden display cabinet was purchased for \$500.00. It is expected to have a useful life of ten years. The cabinet will be depreciated on a straight line basis at the rate of 10% per year.

Cost	Current Year Depreciation	Accumulated Depreciation	Net
\$500.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$450.00

### **Note 3 Extraordinary item: Loss on theft of equipment**

In April 1997, sound equipment having a book value of \$242.00 was stolen. The equipment was not replaced. The Balance sheet and Income Statement reflect the loss.

### **Note 4: Government Grant**

A grant in the amount of \$4,900.00 for the publication: "In memory of the Chelsea Pioneer Cemeteries" by C. Martin was received in 1996. The book was not published in 1997. It is expected that the book will be published in 1998.

### **Note 5: Other liabilities**

Other liabilities consist of funds held in various trusts. The monies donated to each Fund can only be used for specific purposes as described in the various Trust Funds Memoranda. During 1997, the Executive Committee co-mingled the various fund accounts in order to obtain a better rate of return.

# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE GATINEAU

## REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31	
	1997	1996
<b><u>AUCTION</u></b>		
Revenues - receipts	\$ 6,281.00	\$ 12,182.00
Expenses	(1,184.00)	(1,858.00)
<b>Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 5,097.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,324.00</b>
 <b><u>PUBLICATIONS</u></b>		
Revenues - sales publications	4,420.00	4,270.00
Expenses - production and printing	(3,361.00)	(2,341.00)
<b>Profit (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ 1,059.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,929.00</b>

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