

# Georgeville Historical Society/

## Société d'histoire de Georgeville

Newsletter - Summer 2006

### 2006 AGM

The Society's Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, July 15 at 2:30 pm at the Murray Memorial Centre. This year's special presentation will be a slide show depicting images from the 1940s of Georgeville and the surrounding countryside. The local landscape has evolved considerably over the past 60 odd years and the slides will reflect the degree of change that has taken place during this period. A chance to reminisce on how our community appeared not so long ago!

Everyone is cordially invited to attend, members and non-members alike.

A great opportunity to renew your membership in the Society!... or become a member if you haven't already!

### Walking Tour of the Village

Following the AGM, John Boynton will conduct a walking tour of the village, highlighting some of the more notable sites and buildings from circa 1825 Georgeville.

Known for his series of booklets entitled *Heart of the Village*, John is an authority on the buildings, sites and land records associated with the village – and the various individuals who populated our tiny community over the years.

Join the tour and discover the location of such sites as Moses Copps' original log cabin, the asheries on the lakeshore, the cooper shop on the Magog road and Levi Bigelow's Hotel. Learn the story behind the colonial-styled houses for which the village is famous and the two early stores operated by Joshua Copp and

Chauncey Bullock.

For those interested in accompanying John, please meet outside the Centre.

Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, July 15, 2006  
2:30 PM  
Murray Memorial Centre

Special Presentation:  
Slide Show Depicting Images  
from the 1940s

### Bigelow Garden

The Society's pioneer garden is once again in full bloom thanks to all the abundant rain in recent weeks (months!) and the grooming undertaken by director Valerie Pasztor and her group of dedicated volunteers.

In May, Valerie organized the annual perennial plant sale, and as in the past, was able to raise sufficient funds to maintain the garden for the current season. The plant sale has now become a Georgeville tradition, and a 'perennial' favourite among the list of community events.

As with any garden, the visual display at 'the Bigelow' changes from week to

week and one is always delighted by the variety of plant species and the flowers they produce over the course of the growing season. So if you haven't stopped by lately, please do. You will be pleasantly surprised by the visual delights and the tranquility that the garden has to offer.

And if you are so inclined, please sign the guest book! Your comments are always welcome.

### **Tombstones and Grave Markers**

For 2006, John Boynton has decided to venture somewhat further a field than the local burial plots to which we are accustomed. This season, John has opted to lead a tour of the Brookside Cemetery in the nearby village of Fitch Bay.

While located in a different community, Brookside nevertheless contains the graves of a number of families with ties to Georgeville, such as the Brevoorts, the Gunns, the Merrills, the Packards, the Wilsons, the Bachelders, to name but a few. Most of these burials date from a time when the two villages were more closely linked; when each community supported the other in religious and cultural events and when both were inhabited by various branches of families in common.

John invites you to join him and other members of the Society on Tuesday evening, July 27, for a visit to this beautiful cemetery in nearby Fitch Bay. Those planning to attend are asked to meet at 7:00 pm at the Murray Memorial Centre. In case of rain, the tour will be rescheduled for the following evening.

### **And The Winners Are...**

Its time to announce the winners from last summer's Great Historical Challenge. Surprisingly, three contest participants tied for the most number of

correct responses to the questionnaire and as a result, the order of prizes was selected on the basis of drawing names at a Society's Board of Directors meeting last fall.

The first prize consisting of 'breakfast for two' at the *Auberge Georgeville* went to Judy Land of Gore Bay, Ontario. The second, runner-up drawing of a \$25 gift certificate from the *Georgeville Boutique* went to Karen Smith of Ottawa. Worthy of honourable mention is Christian Miller Hurlow, also of Ottawa, who in addition to being the third participant who garnered the most correct answers, also had the distinction of offering a rather tongue-in-cheek response to the question concerning the circumstances around the death of Dr. Keyes' wife and new-born child... "because he wasn't a very good doctor!"

A third drawing was made from all those individuals who opted to participate, with the winner, Carolyn Parent of Stanstead, receiving a freshly baked pie from the *Georgeville General Store*.

### **Important Dates to Remember:**

Annual General Meeting – Saturday

July 15, at 2:30 pm

Village Tour – Saturday, July 15,  
following the AGM

Brookside Cemetery tour – Tuesday,  
July 27 at 7:00 pm

Cottage Country Tour – Saturday,  
October 7, 10:00 am

### **Shared Accommodation**

The Historical Society has agreed to

lease two-thirds of the space in its exhibition gallery on Carré Copp to the village boutique for the current season. While the Society does not have a specific exhibition on display at the moment, members and the general public may view the various photographs and artifacts in the space the Society has reserved for itself.

### **Cottage Country Tour**

The Society in conjunction with the Georgeville Nature Society, has tentative plans to conduct a walking tour this fall in the sector associated with the eastern shore of MacPherson's Bay.

The tour, conducted by Society president Stephen Moore, will highlight the former Beach and MacPherson estates, the mouth of Taylor Brook, some of the unusual shoreline architecture associated with the bay, a typical and not so typical pre-war example of summer cottages and finally, the former Sheppard and McEwan family farms.

The tour is tentatively scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend, on Saturday, October 7. Participants are requested to meet at 10:00 am at the Murray Memorial Centre.

Given the season and the beauty of fall foliage, this tour will appeal to history buffs and nature enthusiasts alike.

Like all our excursions, the Cottage Country tour is open to everyone who wishes to join us.

### **Seeking Volunteers**

The Society is always open to any member who might wish to serve on its Board of Directors. If you would like to contribute to our activities, please contact John Boynton at 819-843-2675.

### **Renewals And Donations**

Its time to renew your membership!  
And if you missed last year, please do not hesitate to make amends!

The Society relies almost entirely on its membership dues and the donations graciously provided by its supporters to undertake the research and activities that have come to characterize our Society since its inception. The Society does not solicit government financial assistance and thus your patronage is vital to our continued operations.