

Rideau Township Historical Society

North Gower, Box 56, Ontario, KoA 2To

Newsletter Editor: Coral Lindsay (rideauarchives@ottawa.ca)

- **Meeting Merry Christmas Pot-Luck Supper
 Wednesday, December 14, 2005, 7:30 p.m.**

in the North Gower United Church
2332 Church Street, North Gower
hall entrance – north door, west side lane
parking – Main Street across from church or in the Mall, Church St.

- Christmas music – Ken Holmann
- Christmas memories – members

Note: Payment of \$25.00 each for Burns Dinner is due on or before December 14, 2005. People who pay will have priority but there will be a stand-by list in event of cancellations.

- **Future Meetings**

**Burns Dinner
6:00 for 6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday January 18, 2006**

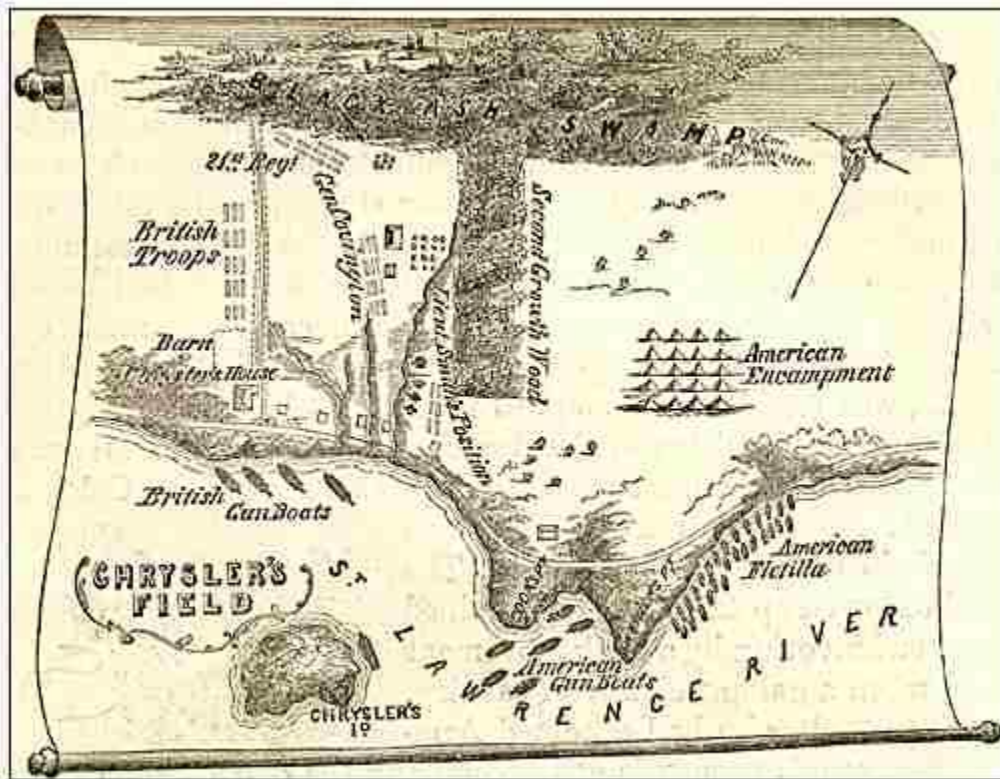
at the Scottish and Irish Store Restaurant
194 Robertson Rd., Bells Corners (west of Moodie Dr.)

- Piper Gary Hysert will pipe in the haggis
- Burns biographical sketch and toast to the “immortal memory”

Note: the Annual General Meeting has been postponed to February 2006 because of space restrictions at the Burns Night Dinner venue in January.

Annual General Meeting will be held on February 15, 2006 when the annual reports will be presented. Program to be announced.

Last Meeting: 16th November, 2005
Aspects of the War of 1812 and the Battle of Chrysler's Farm.
Presented by Mr. John Paul Francis.



Mr. Francis provided a vivid account of the American operations directed against Upper Canada from 1812 to 1814. In particular, two operations in late 1813, aimed at taking Montreal, were defining moments for Canadians. Lieutenant-Colonel Charles de Salaberry stopped the American advance from Lake Champlain in the swamps at Chateauguay on 26 October 1813. This was followed by the battle of Chrysler's Farm on 11 November 1813, when a mixed force of less than 2,000 British regulars of the 49th and 89th Regiments along with some Canadian Fencibles, Canadian Voltigeurs, Tyendinaga Mohawks and Provincial Light Dragoons defeated some 8,000 US soldiers led by the elderly and timid Major-General James Wilkinson. Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Morrison of the 89th ably commanded the British, Canadians and Indians on the shore of the St. Lawrence in his first battle. These two actions foiled the American attempt to cut the supply line to Upper Canada which might have allowed the US to complete its objective of conquest.

A sincere thank you from Lady Val Lister to the Knights who rescued her and her trusty steed from a deep valley on Prince of Wales Drive.

- Your executive have requested operating funding from the City for 2006, which if granted will allow us to: provide AV equipment for improved presentations; publish more historical information; and better support outreach initiatives in the community.
- The Executive Nominating Committee chaired by Richard McDonald, Immediate Past President, with members, Spruce Riorden and Ron Wilson has been formed and will provide a slate in January for the AGM in February.
- Thank you to Mark Jodoin for posting Eleanor Field's presentation:
<http://mosskentdickinson.blogspot.com>
- Drivers Wanted: for a ride to a meeting call Brian Earl, 692-2371.

From the Archives:

now open: first Sunday of each month, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
also open every Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

A Collection of 19th century – 20th century cookbooks has been presented to the Rideau Archives by Audrey Renton. This is a valuable addition to the library.

R.T.H.S. has donated a copy of Dave Mullington's *Chain of Office: Biographical Sketches of the Early Mayors of Ottawa (1847-1948)* to the R.T.A. library also. Much appreciated.