

# CATARAQUI LOYALIST TOWN CRIER

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The Kingston and District Branch  
United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada  
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DUCIT AMOR PATRIAE

December 2015

*Kingston and District Branch was granted its charter November 4, 1978*

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A warm welcome to all! We hope you have enjoyed the beautiful Fall season with its multitude of colours and often bright blue skies! Our next meeting is **Saturday, December 5th, at 11:30 a.m. for 12:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church hall, corner of Queen & Montreal Streets.** A delicious sandwich and squares luncheon will be served. For those not supplying food, a contribution of \$3.50 would be appreciated..If you wish to bring a food item please call Maureen Long 613 384 9190.or e mail at [jmlong@cogeco.ca](mailto:jmlong@cogeco.ca).

Our speaker is **Mr. Gord Sly** a retired history teacher and a volunteer at the Frontenac County Schools Museum in Barriefield.

**Come and join us and bring a friend!**

## September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Our speaker Mr. Nigel Day, took us back in time. Addington "Road" was a "colonization" road predating any "real"roads! As a reference for locating points, a pattern of horizontal and vertical lines formed squares on a map or chart. Cadaster, a public record survey or maps, recorded the value, extent and ownership of the land.

Preplanning, a crew of six to 10 people, traveled 3 miles a day to find the original marks of stone cairns. From these markers would be found the original mark or a cedar post in a swamp, even a surveyor's level.A legal boundary survey was used to define what is common law land.

In 1764 Samuel Holland and John Collins received the first King's order for a survey of Townships in Upper Canada. No notes of these first surveys (Kingston) could be found. The first post from Haldimand arrived Oct.27, 1783, ordering 120 acres, 19 chains and a road every five lots.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

30th September, 2015.

Dear Mrs. McCracken,

The Queen has asked me to thank you for your letter sent on behalf of the Members of the Kingston Branch of the Monarchist League of Canada on the occasion of Her Majesty becoming the longest-reigning Monarch of Canada on 9th September.

The Queen appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing as you did and, in return, has asked me to send her best wishes to you and all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Sandamas  
The Chief Clerk to The Queen

Mrs. Marlene McCracken.



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We are gathered today to mark The Queen's reign as Monarch of Canada having become the longest in modern history. With each other, our fellow Canadians and many people throughout the Commonwealth. We honour a Monarch who embodies the Canadian state, and a woman of faith and principle whom we deeply admire.

As our Monarch, The Queen is part of Parliament, ensuring that we are a nation governed by law and not by the whims of a dictator, nor even of an elected leader subject to the shifting sands of popularity: for their power is lent by the Crown on behalf of us all, and according to the rules we have made. She guarantees a neutral judiciary, and enhances national identity in countless ways. Her image appears on all our coinage, as well as many postage stamps and bank notes. She sets a tone of stability, one reinforced as we look forward in the fullness of time to the reigns of her successors, Charles, William and George. Entrenched in our Constitution, she is at once a human being and the incarnation of a bedrock institution of Canada, giving authority to both the federal government and the provincial governments. She is the fount of Honour, recognizing Canadians for their good deeds, and encouraging others to do the same.

As our friend, The Queen exemplifies the ideal of service, freely given. As a figure of unity, she denies herself the expression of personal opinions in favour of listening what we have to say. She is the particular friend and trusted Ally of our First Nations peoples. She defies stereotypes of age, continuing at age 89 to show that a busy schedule, interest in others and engagement with communities is a recipe for happiness and longevity we might all wish to emulate. She does not follow style nor seek to be a "personality" - she is herself!

She has been with us in Canada from sea to sea to sea, in large cities and rural hamlets, meeting us, encouraging us, spreading happiness and a sense of common values and shared purpose wherever she journeys. She has been and in memory remains forever a central part of every significant occasion in our national life, from the Opening of the St Lawrence Seaway in 1959 to Expo '67 to the Montreal Olympics, the final Patriation of our Constitution, Canada 125, the Anniversaries of D-Day and Vimy and recently of Ypres; and, God willing, she will join us in the great party for Canada 150 in 2017.

First coming to Canada as Princess in 1951 when Vincent Massey was Governor General, and Louis St Laurent her Prime Minister, she has known all their successors, and met many of us who see in her, yes, the mysterious enchantment of monarchy; but much more the down-to-earth hard work of a woman whom we admire - a granny and great-grandmother now - but always, a Mother of our Confederation and constant companion in the ups and downs of our nation's life. "I am no fair weather friend," she once observed on Parliament Hill. How true!

She is the only Monarch most of us have ever known - how fortunate we are! What a challenge to all her fellow Canadians that we might live our lives inspired by her good example. And that, in a nutshell, is why we are gathered here today. To say thank you, and well done and long life - God bless and keep her!

**NEW MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Our Branch has not had a rate increase in our Dues since 2011. Since then the amount we remit to Dominion has been steadily increasing. We have found it necessary to increase our dues to meet expenses. The following new rates were approved at our last Executive Meeting:

New Members:

- > Individual ..... \$55.00
- > Family ..... \$75.00

Renewals:

- > Individual ..... \$45.00
- > Family ..... \$60.00

Secondary Branch Membership ..... \$15.00

NOTES:

- 1) Family membership includes additional family members living at the same address
- 2) The Dues are separate from the fee required for processing each U.E. Certificate application (\$40.00)
- 3) Secondary Branch members are those who have their primary membership in another branch.
- 4) Our Membership year is calendar (Jan-Dec); any new or renewing member after July 1st will have their dues reduced by half.

A particular note for those who may have family or friends who are interested our heritage; as of 2013, you do not need to have a loyalist ancestor to join, participate, support and be a full voting member of the UELAC.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

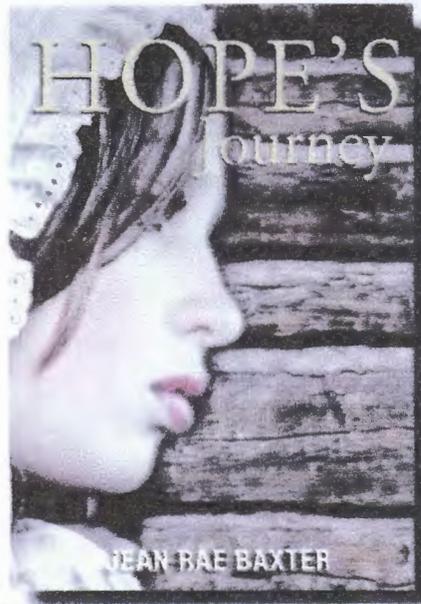
Loyally yours,  
Lorraine Sherren, UE  
Branch Membership

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## BOOKS

Our member **Jean Rae Baxter** had a book launch of her newest book "*Hope's Journey*". Oct. 22nd A copy is available to peruse and copies are available to buy at Novel Idea book store. **Congratulations Jean Rae!**

# BOOK LAUNCH!



Thursday, Oct. 22  
at 7 p.m.

Novel Idea  
Bookstore

156 Princess Street,  
Kingston, ON

(613) 546-9799

We have been contacted by **Don Glickstein**, an author from **Seattle, WA** who writes: As a "Yank" who has lived most of his life close enough to the Canadian border that I regularly watch Peter Mansbridge and Rick Mercer. I know too well the bias of the U.S. historians who write about the American Revolution. They talk about "Patriots" and "Americans" as if Loyalists and First Nations weren't just as patriotic and just as American.. (As one Loyalist, living in exile in England, wrote a friend. "I am sometimes tempted to endeavour to forget that I am an American but the passion for my native country returns") My new book *After Yorktown* tries to bring a fairer perspective to the American Revolution.

*After Yorktown* is about this period. I focus on the people, and have ben amazed that these icons were funny, sarcastic, scared exhausted, passionate, hopeful and hopeless.

I write about Samuel Hearne who surrendered Fort Prince of Wales(now Churchill Manitoba) to a French explorer. Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea)the Mohawk Nation war chief who was more educated than most of his enemies and whose sister was one of the most powerful women on the continent. Simon Girty, the so-called "White Renegade" who became a propaganda tool of the rebels, but who was honoured by the British. James Colbert, the Mississippi Loyalist who became became enemy No.1 for the Spanish, and many others.

*After Yorktown* comes out in November from Westholme Publishing, but you can pre-order the book now from an independent bookseller or Amazon and Barnes and Noble. For direct links to these booksellers, go to: <http://www.donglickstein.com/buy/>

## SILENT AUCTION

The December 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will include a Silent Auction of some duplicate books which were removed from our branch library when it was placed on permanent loan at the Central Branch of the Kingston Frontenac Public Library, plus a few others donated by members. We hope to regain some much needed space in our storage cabinets.

The centrepiece of the sale will be an original 1878 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Frontenac, Lennox & Addington Counties (Meacham Publishers). It was deemed to be more practical to place our 1977 Mika reprint in KFPL, since it is indexed and more easily searchable. The starting bid on this item is \$75.

Each book will have a bidding sheet giving the starting bid. If you're the first bidder, you can write your name beside that amount; the next bidder will put their name below yours, and a higher amount.

The auction will be open throughout lunch and you will have opportunity to keep checking back to see if you need to increase your bid. Bidding will close when the AGM begins, and winning bidders can pay for their purchases either at the break while our speaker gets set up, or after his talk at the very end of the meeting.

Even if you don't join us for lunch, do come before the meeting starts at 1:00 pm to see what's being auctioned. **BRING YOUR CHEQUEBOOK OR CASH!!**

Nancy Cutway, U.E.

Received from Paul Caverly U.E.

Many of us involved in our Family History have taken trips, some more adventurous than others. Family History had my wife and me traveling in to New York State back in the 1990's checking out the Ulster County area. Fortunately both of our family trees have focused on Ontario for over 150 years so we have traveled around the province sight seeing old ancestral locations.

One exciting part of doing our genealogies was finding distant cousins we never knew about and sometimes visiting them. This resulted in attending family reunions in New Hampshire and Michigan over the years. We also traveled to western Canada (Manitoba and Saskatchewan) to meet some distant cousins for the first time. Meeting all these cousins and sharing family stories is one of the more interesting aspects of doing your family history. Years ago we have even visited the Old Hay Bay church and Adolphustown Heritage Park..

With the Queen's latest achievement of having the longest reign in the U.K. and also the fact Canada is in an election year, history abounds all around us. I even took a moment to check out more Kingston stories. [Http://www.euelac.org/kingstn/stories.html](http://www.euelac.org/kingstn/stories.html)

Thanks for keeping our Loyalist history and interest alive.

Regards,

Paul R. Caverly U.E., PLCGS

**HYMN: "The Maple Leaf Forever"**

(verse 1 & chorus by Canadian immigrant, Vladimir Radian, 1997)

(verse 2 & chorus from original lyrics of Alexander Muir, 1867)

O, land of blue unending skies,  
Mountains strong and sparkling snow,  
A scent of freedom in the wind,  
O'er the emerald fields below.

To thee we brought our hopes, our dreams,  
For thee we stand together,  
Our land of peace, where proudly flies,  
The Maple Leaf forever.

Long may it wave, and grace our own,  
Blue skies and stormy weather,  
Within my heart, above my home,  
The Maple Leaf forever!

At Queenston Heights and Lundy's Lane  
Our brave fathers side by side  
For freedom's home and loved ones dear,  
Firmly stood and nobly died.  
And so their rights which they maintained,  
We swear to yield them never.  
Our watchword ever more shall be  
The Maple Leaf Forever.

The Maple Leaf our emblem dear,  
The Maple Leaf forever.  
God save our Queen and Heaven bless,  
The Maple Leaf forever.

Note:

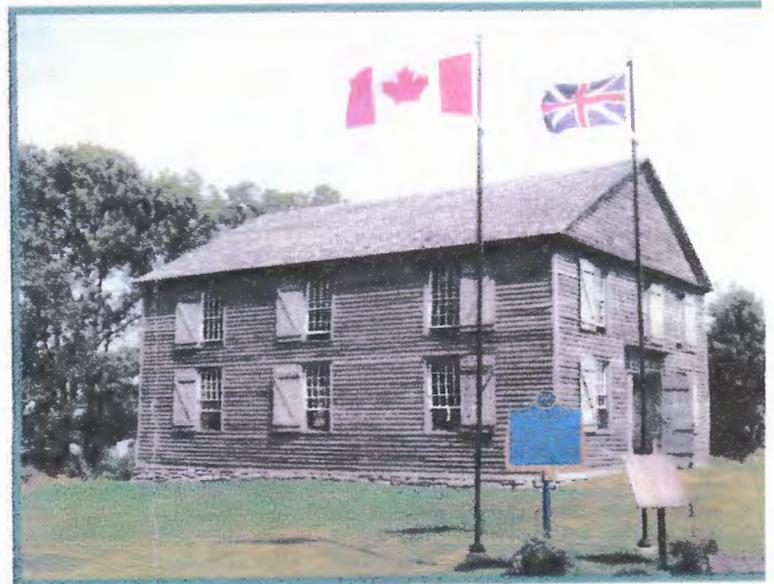
CBC ran a contest to write new words for the beloved Alexander Muir tune, which would be more all embracing and less all "British". The winner was a Romanian immigrant, Vladimir Radian. CBC and Mr. Radian were seeking someone to introduce it on CBC. It happened that our daughter Carolynne was singing in a musical with a Romanian immigrant singer Vladimir Radian. When Vladimir heard her sing he exclaimed instantly that she was the one he wanted to sing his words!

The "new" Maple Leaf Forever was first introduced across Canada on the Andy Barrie show on CBC and sung by our daughter Carolynne Davy (then Carolynne Godin) in 1997.

Carolynne also sang it in a personal appearance before Prime Minister Jean Chretien. It was also performed here in Kingston in concert, at Grant Hall in the summer of 1998 with Howard Cable's orchestra and included other Canadian songs, aboriginal, French Canadian and early English folk songs brought over by the early settlers including the Loyalists.

**ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE SERVICE**

**OLD HAY BAY CHURCH**



**Adolphustown, Ontario, Canada**

**Sunday, August 23, 2015**

*Scenes from Dominion Conference at Victoria, B.C. 2015*

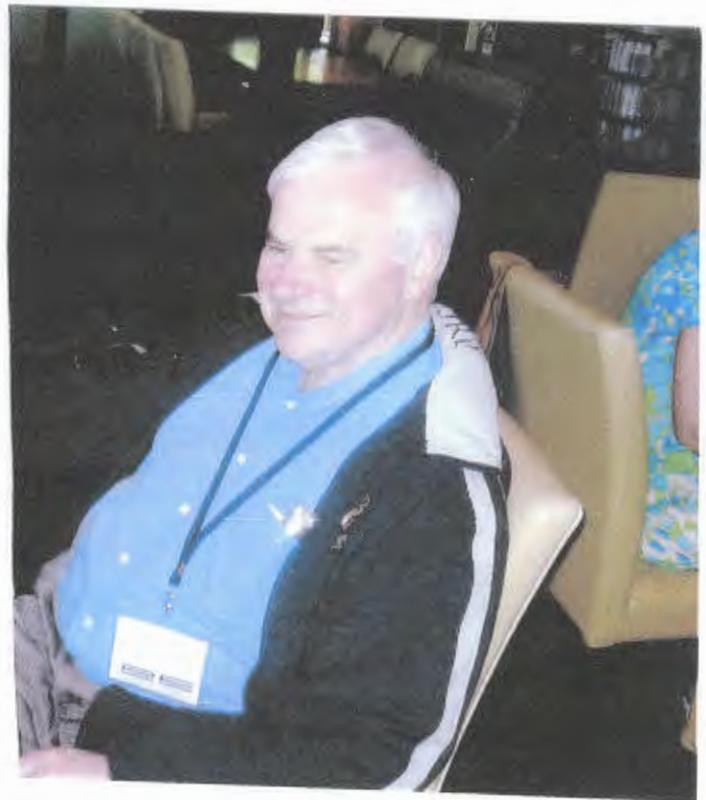


*The Hon. Judith Guichon,  
Lt. Governor Province British Columbia*

*Bonnie Schepers  
Ret. Dominion President  
U.E.L.A.C.*



*Barbara Andrew  
our new Dominion President  
U.E.L.A.C.*



*Peter Milliken  
President Lingston Branch  
U.E.L.A.C.*

## **Additional Information related to Captain Michael Grass - His Life before Kingston**

**by Glen V Grass, Cambridge, ON (sent to KFPL on 12Jun2015)**

If individuals or organizations wish to use this material, kindly reference this document

The story of Captain Michael Grass has been told before. He was one of the Loyalists who, in 1783, was forced to flee the newly-created United States of America after the American Revolution. The establishment of communities by these Loyalists, in Canada West, along the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario heralded the beginning of the creation of the Province of Ontario. Captain Grass lead his group to Cataraqui, present day Kingston, in the spring of 1784, after a reconnaissance visit with a survey crew in 1783.

In the past, little was known of Captain Grass' life before Kingston. He had said that he was born in 1735 in Strasbourg, which is in the Alsace Region of France. The Alsace had been, for centuries, part of the German States, but Louis XIV of France had swept through that area in the mid 1600's and subjugated it's population, re-establishing the Catholic Church's dominance and diminishing the influence of Protestantism and the German language. In the late 1600's and well into the 1700's, waves of German Palatines from the Alsace and areas north of there in the German States had fled their homeland for a better life in British America, the Thirteen Colonies. They took the perilous journey from ports like Rotterdam to New York or Philadelphia with the promise of land in the British Provinces like Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, and others.

Michael Grass was born Johann Michael Gress on 11Feb1735 in Roppenheim, Alsace, France, the son of Johann Michael Gress, Sr, and Anna Maria Kramer. He was christened at the Lutheran Church in Roppenheim the next day. There were quite a few Gress/Kress families in Roppenheim and nearby communities of Forstfeld, Kaufenheim, and Lautenheim, and some were Lutheran and others Catholic. The surname Gress was sometimes written as Kress by people in the same family. Captain Michael used Gress when he married in New York, his brothers used Cress or Kress in America. It's easy to confuse the two names when they're written in German as the 'script G' and the 'script K' look very similar.

Michael was the third child of six boys, all of them born in Roppenheim, and christened at the Lutheran Church there. Of his other brothers, two were older: Johann George Gress, b 15Aug1730, and Johann Ludwig Gress, b 05Sep1732, and three younger: Samuel Balthasar Gress, b 16Dec1736, Johann Peter Gress, b 03Sep1741 and George Jacob Gress, b 26Aug1748. Samuel Balthasar Gress died, at the age of 4, on 01Sep1741, just 2 days before his brother Johann Peter Gress was born. The cause of his death was not mentioned, but the survival rate for babies and young children in that era was not good, and this family faired better than most.

Michael Grass' father, Johann Michael Gress, Sr. was born in Roppenheim on 12May1699, the son of Johann George Gress, b 29Nov1747 and Elizabeth Meder, b

12Oct1746. Michael Grass' parents were married in Roppenheim on 13Sep1729 at the Lutheran Church, which still stands and operates today as a Lutheran Church. It's not known whether Anna Maria Kramer was a Roppenheim girl, but there were other Kramer's in town and the birth records for the years 1704-8 in Roppenheim are missing or were not taken. The Kramer name was sometimes written as Kraemer or Kramer with an umlaut on the 'a'.

A notation in a church document says that the Gress father left his Regiment, and apparently Roppenheim, about 1748. That would be the same year that youngest child, George Jacob, was born. The whole family probably left Roppenheim and came to America together. No death/marriage record for any of them appear in Roppenheim after that. A Johann Nickel Gress took the Oath of Allegiance in Philadelphia on 24Aug1750 after disembarking from the ship "Two Brothers", which had sailed from Rotterdam some 6 or so weeks earlier. The middle name Nickel, I suspect was Michael. On the same ship was a Johann Peter Kramer (and possibly his family). A person of that name had lived in Roppenheim, and may have been a brother of Anna Maria Kramer. Previous Gress family researchers had put Michael, Ludwig and Jacob (last name Gress) aboard the ship Halifax in 1752, but Jacob would not have been recorded if he was only 4 years of age. I believe these people are not part of the Michael Gress family.

Having reached Philadelphia in 1750 (or so), the Gress family probably stayed together for a while in order to better acquaint themselves with the English language and British customs, getting established and developing skills for finding work. Assuming 1750 as the year they arrived, father Michael Kress would have been 51, mother Anna Maria 40 something, oldest sons George, Ludwig and Michael 20, 18 and 15, and youngest sons Peter and Jacob 9 and 2. Compulsory service in the militia was required for all males 15 to 55, so father Michael and the three oldest sons including Michael would have had to enlist.

Because schools in America were rare, at least for the less affluent, before the American Revolution, the children would have been taught at home. Mother Anna Maria would have wanted her family to learn English and the youngest children would have learned it from her. In fact, Peter and especially Jacob would be English speaking almost entirely. Michael and the oldest boys less so, having retained a strong German accent throughout their lives. Because the Alsace had been under French rule, and although spoken German was still strong there during the time the Gress family lived in Roppenheim, (except for dealing with French authorities, like the government or the military), the oldest Gress family members would know some French. It is known that Michael and Peter learned skills with saddlery, possibly from their father and both of them worked in that trade.

The story about Michael being acquainted with a Mary Ann Schultz and learning English from her could be true, for it may be that this girl was a friend/neighbour of the family and helped them to get established in Philadelphia. Whether she married Michael has not been verified. I'm guessing not – all the children attributed to Michael have been accounted for with his marriage to Margaret Schwartz. A Schultz family was on the 'Two Brothers' ship that came in 1750 with the Gress family. To be continued