

CATARAQUI LOYALIST TOWN CRIER



*The Kingston and District Branch
United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada
P.O. Box 635, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4X1*

www.uelac.org/kingston

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KingstonUELAC/>

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November 4, 1978*



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NEXT MEETING: Saturday, September 23, 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church Hall, 137 Queen Street. Topic: "Loyalist Clothing: Design and Fabric for Period-appropriate Costumes". Garments will be modelled and discussed. Resources will be available. Since our Hospitality Committee will be unavailable that day, we're suggesting that you may want to gather as a group for lunch beforehand at the Golden Rooster Delicatessen, 111 Princess Street, by noon. Enjoy a self-serve lunch and then leave by the back door, which brings you out on Queen Street just half a block from St. Paul's. Bring or wear your historic garments to add to the discussion!

Kingston & District Branch UELAC

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President: Peter Milliken
Past President: Dean Taylor
Vice President: **VACANT**
Secretary: **VACANT**
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Membership & Welcome:
Lorraine Sherren
Newsletter: **VACANT**
Programme: Jean Rae Baxter
Publicity: Nancy Cutway
Web Editor: Nancy Cutway

MAY 30 BANQUET LUNCHEON



photo: Nancy Cutway UE

Above: Those who joined us for a delicious meal at Minos Village Restaurant are listening intently as David More, PhD candidate at Queen's University, speaks about "How Thousands of Loyalists Were Shipped to Eastern Ontario and how such maritime industry shaped the development of Central Canada."



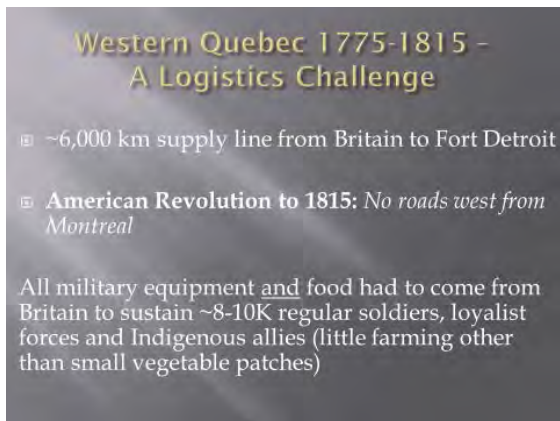
Thanks to a number of generous donors, we had a nice assortment of prizes.

We had a Colour Party carry in the three flags (Canadian, Loyalist, Ontario).



Jim and Maureen Long added Loyalist placemats and Lorraine Sherren made nice centrepieces with roses around a Loyalist flag. (Sorry we don't have photo of those.) It gave a festive look to the tables.

Thanks to David More, we learned a lot about how the Loyalists arrived here. Most of us had probably not given much thought to Loyalist travel arrangements. They came by ship to Montreal; they spent the winter of 1783-84 at Sorel; they came to Kingston and Adolphustown and numerous stops along the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario. But how?



We learned that long before the Loyalists began to arrive in what would become Canada, the inhabitants of New France invented a new type of boat -- a bateau -- to haul cannons and supplies up the St. Lawrence River from Montreal, in order to transit the rapids and supply the western forts during the American Revolution and even earlier during the Seven Years War.

The official British Army ration per person per day was:

- 1 pound (0.5 kg) bread or flour
 - 1.5 pounds (0.75 kg) salt beef (more if pork)
 - 4 oz (110 g) rice or oatmeal
 - 1/3 pint (150 ml) rum
- This totalled about 5 pounds or 2 kg.

This meant about 2,000,000 kg of provisions required annually by 1780 to support military posts, Loyalist raids, Indigenous raids, refugees plus transport all soldiers and all military stores.

The bateau was pointed at both ends, like aboriginal canoes, but was much sturdier than the delicate canoes made of birch bark. The much larger Durham boat could not be hauled up the rapids. The bateau was ideal. It was usually steered by one helmsman while four other men rowed. It could transport about four to five tons of cargo, and could be hauled up the twelve sets of rapids that came between Montreal and Prescott.

Bateau-ing to Montreal



Mr. More kindly shared this image from his presentation. Standing waves through rapids were often 3-5 metres high.

Mr. More made us aware of just how many tons of food and gun powder, as well as the guns, had to be trans-shipped from ocean-going vessels to these bateaux. There was a fleet of 600 bateaux in service during the Revolution, employing between 3,000 and 6,000 men, almost all French-speaking. Many were also employed at Carleton Island, off Kingston, once the British Navy set up a shipyard in 1780 and began building warships

such as *HMS Ontario*, launched in 1780, and *HMS Haldimand*.

Then, of course, after the war ended, seven to ten thousand Loyalist refugees needed to be transported upriver into the heart of Upper Canada, together with their supplies and their animals. The Loyalists were provided by the British government with army rations for two years (1784-86). More rations were provided after crop failures during the Hungry Year in 1787-1788.

French Canadian bateau men carried roughly 12 million pounds (6,000 tons) of rations each year to British Loyalists west of Montreal (over 1200 bateau loads or ~1 bateau every daylight hour during navigation season). An interesting fact was that the government maintained a fleet of 50 bateaux after the Revolution to serve the area of Montreal to Kingston. No civilian-owned boats were permitted on Lake Ontario until after 1787.

Mr. More went on to discuss the Kingston Royal Dockyard and shipbuilding in early Kingston and on Carleton Island. Several warships, including *HMS Ontario*, *Seneca*, and *Haldimand*, were built and/or crewed or commanded by Quebecois between 1780 and 1783 – half of the British fleet on Lake Ontario. French Canadians thus helped lay the foundations for the naval defence of Upper Canada and subsequent shipbuilding, which became a pillar of Upper Canada's economy. Between 1784 and 1787 a French commander, R-H Laforce, surveyed Lake Ontario and is also credited for helping Major Ross construct the first British wharves in Kingston. The Naval Dockyard (where RMC is today) built several vessels between the wars, including *HMS Royal George* (1809). In 1811, before the start of the War of 1812 and the influx of British soldiers and marines, the majority of Provincial Marine sailors in Kingston were French Canadians.

According to the Duke of Wellington, control of the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario was critically important to the survival of Upper Canada during the war of 1812-14 (no good roads, so army could only be supplied by water). Several large warships including 44- and 56-gun frigates were built in Kingston (their remains still can be dived on, in the area). *HMS St. Lawrence* was launched in September 1814. She was a 112-gun battleship, the same class as Admiral Nelson's ship *HMS Victory* – the largest sailing warship ever built on the Great Lakes.

Mr. More concluded by saying that the early French-Canadian mariners – sailors and ship-builders – remain un-mythologized and unsung, but were essential for the defence, settlement and

development of Upper Canada. Perhaps we thought our Loyalist ancestors rowed or sailed boats upriver themselves. Now we'll have a better grasp of the situation when we next see a re-enactment of Loyalists being rowed ashore in a bateau. We'll also understand why the Loyalists may not speak to the boatmen: the boatmen were almost 100% French-speaking, and probably very few Loyalists could talk to them!

David More's historical novels *The Eastern Door* and *The Lily and the Rose* can be found in Kingston Frontenac Public Library, or can be purchased from the author. Information about the author including contact details can be found at <http://www.queensu.ca/history/people/graduate-students/phd/more-john-david>.



UELAC NEWS

From the UEL Convention, we learn that since **Jim Bruce**, who was in line to become the next president, has taken on a significant administrative role at the Dominion Office, **Barb Andrew** is staying on as Dominion President. **Sue Hines** has taken on the Senior VP position; Barb's extra year of service will allow Sue to spend more time as Senior Vice President prior to taking on the role of President. Thanks to them all for their service to the Association.

Jennifer DeBruin is our new Regional Councillor for the Central East Region. As such, she can assist branches with communication to and from Dominion, with co-ordinating between branches, with specific projects within her expertise such as writing and marketing, and bringing her enthusiasm and knowledge to area meetings. Please welcome her when you see her at activities and reach out if you are interested. jenndebruin@gmail.com

There are numerous new UELAC promotional items available for purchase. The July ordering window is long closed, but watch [TRAILS](#) and the Dominion website <http://www.uelac.org/promotion/catalogue.php> for a new ordering window this fall.

The Central East Regional Meeting was held on June 20th at the Isabel Turner Branch of Kingston Frontenac Public Library. <https://www.facebook.com/StLawrenceUELAC/photos/a.103192353451215.1073741828.102886256815158/316100172160431/?type=3&theater> will show you a photo of most of those in attendance, who included Barb Andrew, Dominion President; Patricia Groom, Toronto Branch; Michel Racicot, Sir John Johnson Branch; Sylvia Powers and Rosemary Pleasant, Sir Guy Carleton Branch; Jennifer DeBruin, St. Lawrence Branch; Doreen Thompson, representing Bay of Quinte and Kawartha Branches; Jim Bruce, Past Senior Vice President and representing Little Forks Branch; President Peter Milliken and members Mark Millar, Judy Rudy and Lorraine Sherren of Kingston & District Branch. Meeting was chaired by Anne Redish, Central East Region Vice-President.

Sessions were deliberately short and varied. Topics covered included:

1. Intro by Anne Redish: Why do I participate and dedicate my personal volunteer time to this group? This included consideration of a TED talk https://www.ted.com/talks/simon_sinek_how_great_leaders_inspire_action
2. Loyalists on Social Media by Jennifer DeBruin. Introduction to making and moderating a Social Media group for your branch.

3. Membership Management: Lorraine Sherren: Introduction and discussion of simple and sophisticated membership tools. What have you added to help your membership tracking work best? What do you wish you had?
4. Publicity, Marketing and other ways to get the word out! What word? Why? And How? Discussion of brochures and other media.
5. Which DNA Test and Why -- Joyce Fingland, Ontario Genealogical Society.
6. Bylaws: the UELAC 2013 Bylaws and some branch samples were available.
7. Quebec Loyalists -- Michel Racicot: Many of the loyalists who went elsewhere to settle spent time in the Eastern townships and near Montreal. He discussed records of Sorel, the area where they stayed, how this affected their future and some family members who stayed.
8. Hire-a-teen: How to approach a school to get a student helper or volunteer. Nancy O'Brien, Bayridge Secondary School. <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/124a.html>
9. SHARED: This might provide inspiration: "Volunteer Magnet" – review of book *Turn Your Organisation Into A Volunteer Magnet* 2nd edition, eds. Andy Fryar, Rob Jackson & Fraser Dyer

Central East Region sent this custom-made wreath to a memorial of the Battle of Oriskany, New York on August 6th, 2017. The area KRR / Kings Royal Yorkers with their Fife and Drums reenactors led by David L. Smith of Bath and will attend the August event commemorating the 240th anniversary of the battle. Member Amanda Fasken-Campbell also attended. To read more about the battle, see



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Oriskany



CANADA 150 SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

Thanks to the generosity of those attending the May 30 luncheon, we achieved our goal of raising \$300 (150 toonies) as Kingston and District Branch's contribution to the Canada 150 Scholarship project. We have received a special Certificate of Appreciation signed by President Barb Andrew. Only seven other branches met the challenge by deadline.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Doug Boulter	Kingston, ON	Mark Millar	Sydenham, ON
Kelly Clarkson	Kingston, ON	Patrick Millar	Sydenham, ON
Jeff Hagar	Napanee, ON	Jason Smith	Blind River, ON
Joanne Langdon	Woodview, ON	Rylan Smith	Blind River, ON

CATARAQUI UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY – A resting place of Loyalist Methodists

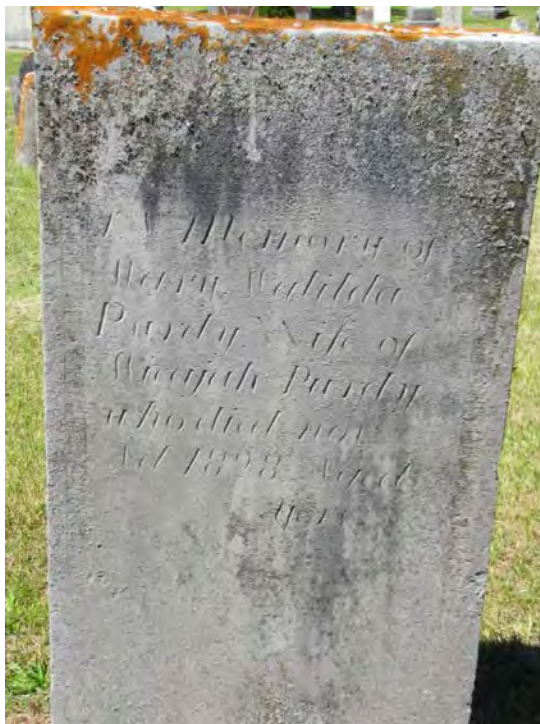
On the weekend of June 3-4, Cataraqui United Church held a celebration of its cemetery, now over 200 years old and the final resting place of numerous Loyalists including Michael Grass. The Cemetery Committee were hoping for volunteers to help clean and restore some stones, and for stories from some of the descendants of those buried there.



Left: Anne Redish UE attempts to read one of the older stones. The orange lichen is a major problem on many stones.



Right: It is suspected that Michael Herchmer's stone has been re-cut at some point, since the lettering is deep and clear. Most 1809 burials are illegible.



Left: Most Loyalist-era stones look like this or worse: lichen and weathering make them difficult to read. Matilda was one of the five wives of Micajah Purdy, a Loyalist who operated a sawmill and grist mill in almost the location where this wife is buried. Purdy's Mill Road is just south of this spot. Micajah and at least one other wife are buried across the road in the Cataraqui Cemetery, which is operated quite separately from Cataraqui United Church Cemetery.

There is a good history of the church at <http://www.cataraquichurch.org/history-overview.html>

Debbie Smithyman, Church School Director, also drew our attention to a lengthy article about the church on the website "FadedGenes: A Chronicle of

the people of the Methodist Church in Canada". See <https://krassoc.wordpress.com/2012/12/01/cataraqi-waterloo-methodist-church-kingston-township-frontenac-county/>



Unfortunately, stones such as this one which lies broken and flat beside the driveway are all too common.

Some monuments such as the McGuin family obelisk were erected much later than the actual burials. This one may have been installed around 1884 when there were centennial commemorations of the arrival of the Loyalists.



If you are descended from one of the numerous Loyalists buried in Cataraqi United Church Cemetery, you may wish to consider a donation of money or time to help restore or maintain your family heritage stones.

All Cataraqi cemetery photos by Nancy Cutway UE



ONTARIO VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to Audrey Bailey, whose numerous contributions to Kingston and District Branch UELAC were honored in June. The executive submitted Audrey's name, and she received a 30-year service award from Sophie Kiwala, MPP, in a ceremony at the Ambassador Hotel in Kingston.

Photo courtesy Joyce Finland



LOYALIST DAY IN KINGSTON – JUNE 12, 2017

As usual, a group of members gathered at Kingston City Hall just before noon on June 12th. We were escorted across the street by a fife and drum trio from the Fort Henry Guard, to the foot of the city flagpole in Confederation Park. Mayor Bryan Paterson read out a proclamation stating that in view of the fact that Governor Haldimand received royal assent to settle Loyalists at Cataraqui on June 12, 1784, he was proclaiming this as Loyalist Day in Kingston. The Loyalist flag was then raised, we sang God Save the Queen, and photographs were taken. For once it was not raining, so we were happy to stand around afterward and speak to the tourists who were busy snapping away.



Nancy Cutway UE, Anne Redish UE, Mayor Bryan Paterson, 3 members Fort Henry Guard, Branch President Peter Milliken UE, Amanda Fasken-Campbell UE and her sons.

We were happy to see students from Leahurst College, a local private school, attending our ceremony. Perhaps we can convince them to continue to study Loyalist history.



2017 HERITAGE FAIR

Six members participated in this year's Heritage Fair, where children from Grades 4 through 8 submit projects dealing with an aspect of history. While their projects are being judged, they visit booths along "Community Street" to interact with adults from various organizations and receive a stamp on their "passport" for doing so. We hope they retained at least some of the information we provided about the Loyalists.



Nancy Cutway UE, Dean Taylor UE, Peter Milliken UE, Anne Redish UE. Photo taken by Lorraine Sherren UE.



THANK YOU, JEAN RAE BAXTER

Thanks to our long-time member Jean Rae Baxter. Now that she has returned to Kingston after living in Hamilton for a number of years, Jean has stepped forward and offered to become our Programme Chair.

Now we just need a branch Secretary, Librarian, Newsletter Editor and Vice-President.

BRANCH HISTORY

Did you know that the reports on our Branch's activities over the years have been collected into one document available on the UELAC website? And that our submissions continue to be appended to it? Start at <http://www.uelac.org/UELAC-history/Adding-Branches.php> and scroll down to the link for Kingston & District Branch. From the new page, you can read our "Branching Out" file.

The history does offer a warning from the past: if there is not enough member participation, the branch could once again go dormant. Please take note of the vacancies shown on page 1 of this newsletter; plus, our Treasurer and President have both given long service and would be delighted to pass the reins along to someone new.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 16, 2017 – Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society meets at 10:00 am at the Seniors Centre, 56 Francis Street, Kingston. Speaker Gail Dever of Montreal will speak on "'Crème de la Crème' of Online Resources for Quebec" – covers both English and French records created by churches, government and notaries as well as newspapers.

Same time, same place, same society on **Saturday, October 21, 2017** - Ron Mann, retired RMC professor will offer "Some Hints and Guidelines for Beginning and Veteran Genealogists".

Plan to attend Kingston & District's Branch Meeting on Saturday, September 23, 2017 when the topic will be "Loyalist Clothing: Design and Fabric for Period-Appropriate Costumes". St. Paul's Anglican Hall, 136 Queen Street at Montreal, 1:00 p.m.

Frontenac Heritage Foundation, St. Marks Barriefield, the Barriefield Village Association and Dry Stone Canada are sponsoring **Dry Stone Canada's 2017 International Festival**, Friday September 29th to Sunday October 1st: by rebuilding the stone walls which flank St. Mark's entrance. The event will consist of the restoration of the wall, workshops, a free children's workshop, and displays. The public will be welcome. Details at <http://drystonecanada.com/barriefield-festival-walling-workshop/>. . . a great way to see the type of work your Loyalist ancestors did!

The Kingston Historical Society meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 7:30 pm at the Seniors Centre at 56 Francis Street should be of interest to Loyalists, with Gesima Laird-Buchanan: "Molly Brant: a life size wool sculpture".

Saturday, December 2, 2017: Our last Branch meeting of 2017. **Adriane VanSeggelen, Conservator at the Archives of Ontario**, will present "Accessing and Preserving Family Heirlooms". Be sure to mention it to all your friends: even those not deeply into family history are certain to have an old book, a christening gown, or something else that has been handed down to them from older relatives. Special treatment is often required to ensure that such items last.