

# 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](http://www.uelac.org/kingston)

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

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



**Volume 36, No. 5 – November 2017**

**NEXT MEETING: Saturday, December 2, 12:30 p.m.** at St. Paul's Church Hall, 137 Queen Street. Speaker: **Adriane VanSeggelen**, Conservator at the Archives of Ontario, will present "Accessing and Preserving Family Heirlooms". Her focus will be paper artifacts – documents, photographs, great-grandma's bible. Be sure to mention it to all your friends: even those not deeply into family history are certain to have something that has been handed down to them from older relatives. Special treatment is often required to ensure that such items last.

Join us for the optional Sandwich 'n' Squares lunch, 11:30 a.m. for **11:45 sitting**. Cost \$3.50 for those not asked to bring contributions. Lunching together is a great way to get to know your fellow Loyalists.

**PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER TIMES THAN NORMAL, TO ACCOMMODATE OUR SPEAKER'S TRAIN TIMES. WE WILL START HER SPEECH PROMPTLY AT 12:30 P.M.**

Note that the Annual General Meeting will immediately follow the speaker. Please be prepared to stay for the AGM: we'll keep it short, but if we do not have a quorum of members and do not fill vacant executive positions, we may have to consider drastic steps such as surrendering our charter.

## Kingston & District Branch UELAC

### Officers

President: Peter Milliken  
Past President: Dean Taylor  
Vice President: **VACANT**  
Secretary: **VACANT**  
Treasurer: Gerry Roney –  
**VACANT as of 31 Dec. 2017**

### Committee Chairs

Genealogist: Anne Redish  
Hospitality: Maureen Long  
House: Jim Long  
Library: **VACANT**  
Membership & Welcome:  
Lorraine Sherren  
Newsletter: **VACANT**  
Programme: Jean Rae Baxter  
Publicity: Nancy Cutway  
**Replacement requested**  
Web Editor: Nancy Cutway

## SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup> MEETING

Our topic was "**Loyalist Clothing: Design and Fabric for Period-appropriate Costumes**".

First we watched a short video showing an 18<sup>th</sup>-century lady being dressed with the assistance of two maids. It has an excellent narration that explains each garment shown, with additional comments about possible variations for winter warmth, etc. The video, produced by the National Museums of Liverpool (England), is available for anyone to view on YouTube, entitled "Getting Dressed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century", at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpnwWP3fOSA&t=2s>.

Nancy Cutway, dressed in her handwoven linsey-woolsey mantua (dress) with cotton petticoats, shift and cap, spoke about the experience of making the fabric back in 1983-84, leading up to the Loyalist Bicentennial held here in Kingston. As an inexperienced weaver at the time, she made several mistakes but imagines that similar experiences might have been encountered by Loyalist women who suddenly had to learn how to weave when they no longer had access to established weavers in their towns, when they had to leave their homes in the former Thirteen Colonies.

Nancy gradually removed the layers of clothing she wore so they could be passed around and examined. She mentioned that the instructions and patterns were obtained from UELAC in 1983 and were based on information known then. Most of the garments – shift and petticoats – are made only from rectangles of fabric; no "pattern" is used, simply straight cuts measured

out to a certain length. Smaller rectangles are added to the underarm and bottom side seams of the shift or chemise in order to provide some shaping and freedom of movement, since darts were unknown at the time.



*An assortment of Loyalist women's clothing, thanks to Anne Redish and to the UELAC Costume Branch at Dominion Office. The "Costume Branch" is no longer active, but the garments still exist.*

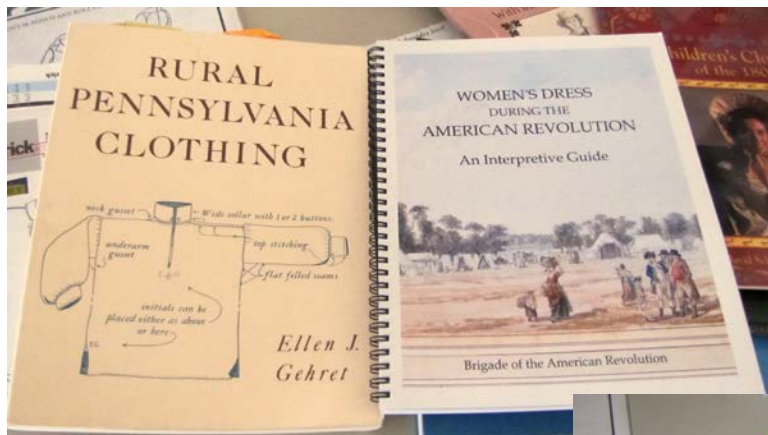
*Note that the colours are not bright. The chemical dyes which permit vivid colours were not developed until late in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Patterns are relatively small, since prints were applied using a roller in fairly narrow strips. Solid colours were much more common.*

*Women always wore a cap, both indoors and out. A flat straw hat, as seen to the left atop the box, would be worn over the cap when going out in the sun. It would be tilted down to cover the face and shade the eyes from the sun.*

Anne Redish then used a Powerpoint presentation to display sketches of styles as they changed throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> century and into the 19<sup>th</sup>. She pointed out problems with a couple of commercial "early American" patterns that have misinterpreted clothing lines as depicted in later paintings that purport to show the Revolutionary War era.

Anne donned a couple of garments to show how they were fashioned. The hip ring (white ring in the photo above) actually served a purpose when worn over the chemise and petticoat and under the skirt: it kept the various layers from riding up as the wearer moved. (If you watch the video mentioned above, you'll see a hip ring used by the lady there too.)

Anne has an extensive personal library on garment construction, in part because she taught costume making at Queen's University for a number of years. She recommends the two books on the next page (at the left) as the best for our purposes.



Anne had brought several other books and samples of fabric both good and bad for Loyalist clothing. She also prepared a couple of handouts. Anyone who was unable to attend and would like Anne's handout on either "What to do with your neglected Loyalist Garments" or another on Vocabulary and Notes with a key segment about why cotton was not in generous supply in the Loyalist era

(wool and linen being the usual materials used), please feel free to contact Anne at [ar11@queensu.ca](mailto:ar11@queensu.ca).

Resources Anne suggested for our further study include:

**Sutlery:** <http://www.townsend.us/>  
<http://www.loyalistarms.ca> - Canadian, but Atlantic-oriented  
<http://attheeasterndoor.wixsite.com/attheeasterndoor>  
<https://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/store/>



**Clothing making supplies:** <http://wmboothdraper.com/> and <https://atthesignofthegoldenscissors.com/>

**Skirt** instructions including pleating / no pattern, <http://fashionablefrolick.blogspot.ca/2011/04/threaded-bliss-tutorial.html>

**Cap:** online still images, tutorial  
<http://artbeautvandwell-orderedchaos.blogspot.ca/2009/05/how-to-make-18th-century-cap.html>

**Stays:** <http://www.farthingleas.on.ca/> (Stays supplies, no 1775 era patterns, some Regency patterns)

**Breeches pattern:** 1730s Breeches Pattern by (I believe) Norah Waugh. Period Impressions has a pattern VERY similar to this, <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/465489311457147433/>

**Patterns:** <http://www.jpryan.com/>

**Study of Quilted Woman's Vest / Jumps** <http://sharonburnston.com/quiltedwaistcoat.html>

**Books:** Gehret, Ellen J, *Rural Pennsylvania Clothing*  
 Gilgun, Beth, *Tidings from the 18th Century*  
 Wright, Meredith, *Everyday Dress of Rural America with Instructions and patterns* (grid drawings)  
 Brigade of the American Revolution, *Women's Dress during the American Revolution, an Interpretive Guide*.

## UNIFORMS

<https://www.scribd.com/document/251081290/British-Army-His-Majesty-s-Loyalists-Indian-Allies>



## THE OSWALD WEMP STORY

By Herb Wemp UE with contributions from Doris Wemp UE

United Empire Loyalists Barent and Catherine Wemp endured hardships of the American Revolutionary war and began a new life in the wilderness north of Lake Ontario and where it meets the St. Lawrence River.

Barent and Catherine had remained loyal to the crown of England. They had to flee their home in the Mohawk Valley leaving everything they owned behind. They were with Captain Michael Grass's Company, a group of 17 at Camp Cataraqui in the fall of 1784. In the late winter of 1785, while Barent was monitoring rebel movements south of Lake Ontario, Catherine gave birth to their first child John, who became known as the first child born in the new loyalist community.

By 1803 they settled on Amherst Island on a 200 acre parcel of land. They raised seven children from whom some of today's Island residents are descended. Barent and Catherine both died in 1843 and are buried on the site of their family farm.

Oswald Wemp was born December 27, 1897 and was the great-grandson of Barent and Catherine. He too endured the hardships of war – World War One. Oswald started off as a Private in the 89th Battalion, but because of his strengths he was transferred to Commander Arthur Bell's 31st battalion and sailed to England. After Oswald's battalion crossed the English Channel in the fall of 1916, they fought in Belgium and France, and were often at the forefront of the fighting. At Vimy Ridge between April 9 through 12, 1917 the whole Canadian division far exceeded their objectives. The 31st Battalion became known as "Bell's Bulldogs". Oswald had become a Lance Corporal by this time.

Over the weeks that followed there was a build up to another offensive and on May 2nd and 3rd in a small village outside of Fresnoy, the 31st battalion received orders and prepared to flank the enemy from the north as the main offensive went through Fresnoy. Oswald never made it home.

Oswald had seen seven months of trench warfare ... some routine, some heroic, and some just the brutal reality of war. Oswald made the ultimate sacrifice ... God bless him.

As reported in *The Napanee Beaver* of Thursday, September 14, 2017 (page 6) in a story headlined "Fallen Soldier's Medal Makes 100 year journey home", the rest of Oswald's story took place after his death. The article by Adam Prudhomme explained that a "First World War plaque, colloquially known in the era as the 'dead man's penny', was issued to Wemp's family on Amherst Island after he was killed in action on May 3, 1917. It was the standard practice for the British military to issue the plaque to every fallen soldier's next of kin. Somehow along the way, however, it took a century-long detour" to North Bay, Ontario.

The *Beaver* story quoted Christopher Gauthier of North Bay saying, "About a year ago [July 2016] we were getting all these boxes out of an attic of the ONR (Ontario Northland Railroad), which is an old building in North Bay. ... In the attic of this building there was just a bunch of boxes ... I was there one day lugging boxes all the way downstairs, it was July so I was sweaty, and against the baseboard in the far corner was this medal. I didn't know it was a medal at the time. I thought it looked neat so I picked it up and I put it in my pocket. Part of me felt bad because I technically took it from the building, but it had a cool image on it so I wanted to know more about it."

Some online research led Gauthier to Amherst Island, a place he'd never heard of much less ever been to prior to finding the Wemp heirloom. "When I found out what the penny was for and what it was about, I figured I had to get it back to its rightful owners or a museum." Once he had a name, he took to social media where he eventually got connected with Herb Wemp, whose great-grandfather was a cousin to the soldier.



Photo of Oswald Wemp supplied by Doris Wemp UE



Herb reports, “Oswald’s family moved off the island to go out west for a short time, but when the family came back to the island, Oswald stayed in Calgary and enlisted in the army on Jan. 3, 1915 at the age of 17.”



Chris Gauthier of North Bay (left) presents Amherst Island’s Herb Wemp and Carol Glenn with the “dead man’s

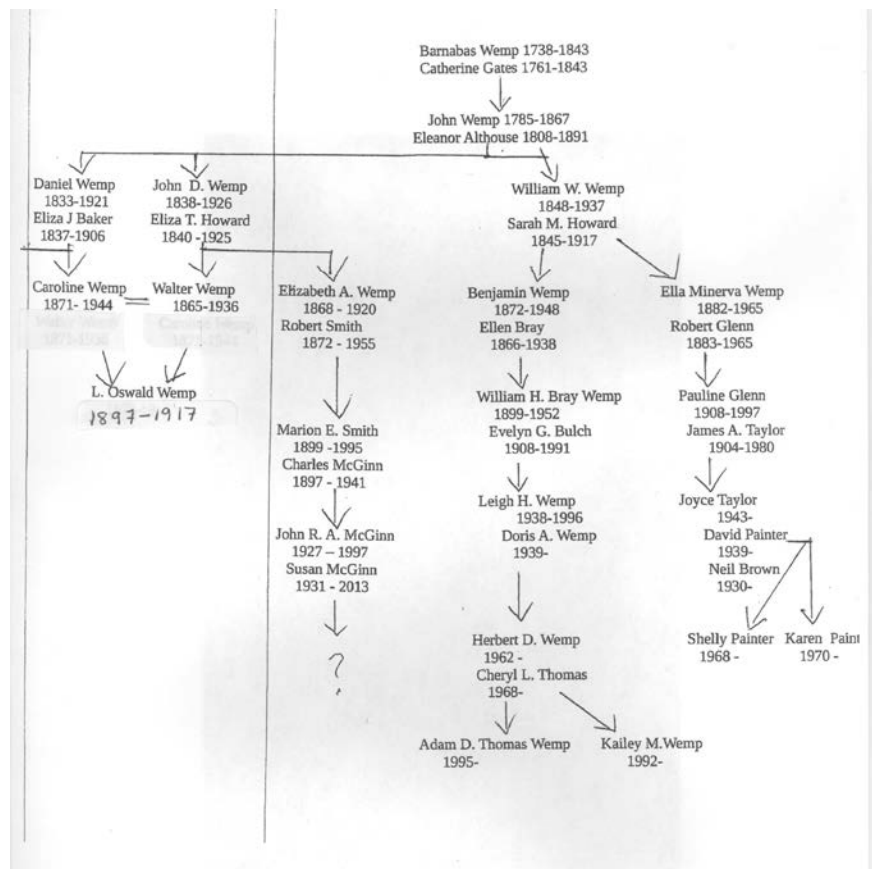
penny” issued to Oswald Wemp’s family when he died in action in 1917. Both are related to the fallen soldier. Photo, Adam Prudhomme of *The Napanee Beaver*

On September 9, 2017, Lance-Cpl. Oswald Wemp's memorial plaque made its way home to Amherst Island, 100 years after his passing. Christopher Gauthier presented it to members of the Wemp family, who in turn donated it to the Amherst Island Museum and Gallery where it will remain on display. The *Beaver* quoted Mr. Gauthier as saying, “I’m just fascinated by the whole thing and I’m honoured to give it back to where it should be. I would like to know how it got to North Bay in the first place, but maybe we’ll never know.”

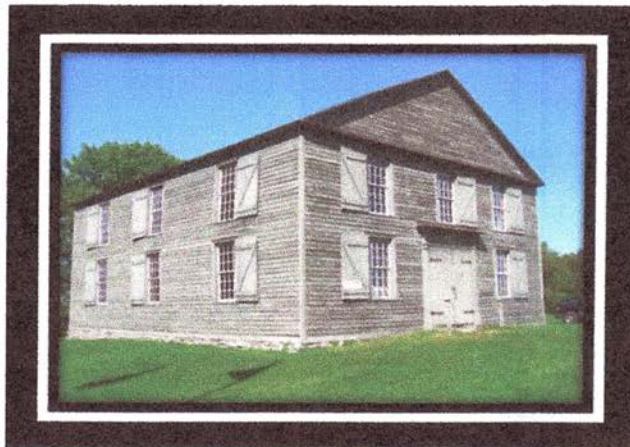
Oswald Wemp’s parents were first cousins.

Oswald is a 2nd cousin twice removed to Herb D. Wemp.

We note that Oswald Wemp’s full military record should be available online at Library and Archives Canada some time in 2018: at present the extensive project to digitize all of the First World War Personnel Records has reached the start of “S” surnames. To find a soldier (or nurse)’s record, go to <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/personnel-records.aspx>



## OLD HAY BAY CHURCH FUNDRAISING APPEAL



What present do you give at a 225<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration?  
The trustees of the Old Hay Bay Church are asking for your support of  
a major preservation "face lift".

A detailed appraisal of the outside work required on the church in  
2016  
reached a total of 100k.  
Look closely at the inside and you will see that work is also needed.

All gifts of \$20.00 or more will receive a tax receipt.  
Please note the purpose of your cheques or contribution on your  
donation.

It can be left with the custodian  
or

Donations can also be made at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org)

or

Cheques can be mailed to:  
Kathy Staples  
1105-828 Sutton Mills Court  
Kingston, ON., K7P 2S9

Watch us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oldhaybaychurch) or on our website [www.oldhaybaychurch.ca](http://www.oldhaybaychurch.ca)

*Your Loyalist ancestors may well have worshipped at this church!*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, November 18, 2017 – Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society** meets at 10:00 am at the Seniors Centre, 56 Francis Street, Kingston. Nancy Cutway will speak on “In Remembrance: Vimy and Other European Memorials”.

**Saturday, January 20, 2018 – Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society** is having a special event, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Marian Press, a retired academic librarian and well-known genealogist from Toronto, will give TWO presentations: "Are You Really Finding It All When You Search? Mining Databases for Every Nugget of Information" AND (at 10:45 am) "Putting Your Family Tree Online: Making Use of Modern Technology to Share What You Know". Visitors are welcome.

**The Kingston Historical Society** meeting on **Wednesday, November 15**, 7:30 pm at the Seniors Centre at 56 Francis Street. Duncan McDowell: “Is there more to Elrond College than an ugly building on Princess Street?”

**Joyce Finland**, a past Chair of Kingston Branch OGS, will give a talk at the Kingston Frontenac Public Library, Isabel Turner Branch, Community Room, on **Tuesday, December 5**, 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm. Under the "KFPL Live" program, her topic is "DNA Testing and Genealogy". Registration for this free session starts on November 25 at 9:00 am. Details can be found at <https://www.kfpl.ca/programs-and-events/2017-12-05/kfpl-live-dna-testing-and-genealogy-isabel-turner>



**CANADA 150**

Please remember that you have seven more months to submit your Canada150 story. It can be about a Loyalist, or about a Loyalist's 6<sup>th</sup>-great-grandchild.

Your story will be added to the collection on our website.

Please send your story to [kingston.uelac@gmail.com](mailto:kingston.uelac@gmail.com) or by mail to our postal address (see page 1).



Kingston and District Branch  
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K7L 4X1  
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### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your cheque payable to the *Kingston and District Branch, UELAC*.

#### Renewal Membership Dues for 2018

Individual Membership  \$45.00

Family Membership (all at same address)  \$60.00  
(name(s) of additional family members):

\_\_\_\_\_

If you belong and pay full dues to another Branch, you may maintain a membership at Kingston Branch for only \$15.00.  \$15.00

#### Please indicate your preference:

I am willing to receive my newsletter by e-mail to the address shown above.

I prefer to receive my newsletter by postal mail.

I am willing for my phone number/e-mail address to be shared with other members of the Branch.  Yes  No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

revised 31/10/2017



## KINGSTON AND DISTRICT UELAC MEMBER SURVEY

It would be of great assistance to the executive, particularly our Programme Chair Jean Rae Baxter, if you would take 5 or 10 minutes to complete this survey and return it as soon as possible. If you prefer to complete the online version, go to [UEL\\_survey\\_2017.rtf](http://UEL_survey_2017.rtf), save the blank form to your computer so that you don't overwrite our template (e.g. with your name, "NAME\_UEL\_survey\_2017.rtf", then complete it on your computer. Save the completed version, and you can then email the completed form as an attachment to [kingston.uelac@gmail.com](mailto:kingston.uelac@gmail.com).

### WHAT YOU WANT FROM THE BRANCH

1. At future meetings, I would like to hear about: (X beside all that apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revolutionary War and Loyalist history events  | <input type="checkbox"/> Loyalist families who settled in the area   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How to do family history in general  | <input type="checkbox"/> How to find Loyalist land records           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life stories of prominent Loyalists who settled here   | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Loyalist regiments                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How the Loyalist settlers made their way (food production, crafts, shoes and clothing, etc.) |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loyalists' social life in their new homes  | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop on writing Loyalist family history |

Other (please give details) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. I would like to recommend the following speakers (please provide their phone number and/or email address as well as topic on which they speak):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Instead of or in addition to meetings at St. Paul's, I would be interested in occasional day trips to visit: (X beside all that apply)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cemeteries where Loyalists are buried | <input type="checkbox"/> places where Loyalists lived e.g. Bath, Adolphustown |
| <input type="checkbox"/> former Loyalist farms                 | <input type="checkbox"/> former Loyalist businesses e.g. Babcock Mill         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> local heritage events                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint meetings with other Branches – including lunch |

Other (please give details) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4 I would be willing to speak at a meeting for about 10 minutes about my Loyalist ancestor(s). I could talk about (list names) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE GO TO OTHER SIDE

## WHAT I CAN DO FOR THE BRANCH

4. I would like to help keep Kingston & District Branch going by helping: (X all that apply)

(a) as treasurer - I can balance my own chequebook and know how to write cheques \_\_\_\_\_

(b) as secretary, taking minutes at general and executive meetings - I have a computer and can type out the minutes afterward \_\_\_\_\_

(c) on the Membership team – I can help welcome visitors to meetings and tell them about the Branch \_\_\_\_\_

d) on the Newsletter team - I can use Word fairly well and write short items \_\_\_\_\_

(e) on the Hospitality team - I can work in the kitchen \_\_\_\_\_

(f) on the Library team - I'm willing to sort the material in our cabinets and update the inventory of booklets and family histories \_\_\_\_\_

(g) I'm willing to be Vice-President and learn how to chair meetings etc. with the possibility of later being elected President \_\_\_\_\_

(h) I'm willing to assist the Programme Chair to arrange programmes and contact speakers \_\_\_\_\_

(i) I'm willing to help publicize the Branch by attending events or school classrooms and talking about the Loyalists \_\_\_\_\_

(j) other skills I can offer \_\_\_\_\_

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

My name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

My email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this survey and return it:

- by postal mail to PO Box 635, Kingston ON, K7L 4X1
- by scanning your completed form, saving it as a \*.jpg or \*.pdf file, and attaching it to an email to [kingston.uelac@gmail.com](mailto:kingston.uelac@gmail.com); or completing the online version, by saving it with a new file name (including your name, e.g. NAME\_UEL\_survey.rtf) and then attaching it to an email.
- or by bringing it to the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting (there will be a box on the Membership table).

The executive hope you will use either the first or second methods of returning the survey, as soon as you receive this newsletter. We want to have committee lists set up prior to our Annual General Meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, although of course you can be added to a committee or committees at any time.

[Type here]