Carleton’s Book of Negroes
Murder & Mayhem
Loyalists Cross the Bay of Fundy
Beaver Harbour: 1st to Abolish Slavery
War of 1812 Vets: Peter Maybee, Peter Young & William Hutchins
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Contact head office for international rates. Prices include mailing and handling. Please make cheque or money order payable to: United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada. Mail it to: UELAC, The George Brown House, 50 Baldwin Street, Suite 202, Toronto, ON Canada M5T 1L4. Phone: (416) 591-1783. E-mail: uelac“at”uelac.org. Website: www.uelac.org.

The UELAC has indexed The Loyalist Gazette. This index is available at: http://www.uelac.org/publications.php#index.

Please contact our office (see page 4) to order copies of articles or back issues.

Cover

Black Loyalists were the cover story in our Spring 1990 issue. Portrayed is a Black Butler’s Ranger, the most famous of whom was Richard Pierpoint who served from at least 1780. By 1788 Pierpoint was located on a 200-acre (0.81 km²) land grant on Twelve Mile Creek in Grantham Township near present-day St. Catharines, where he served as a griot [storyteller] for the local Black community. Photo by Michael Johnson, Unexpected Co., 2015.
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A collage of interwoven layers, reflections, echoes, memories. No straight lines. I spent my first months and later, many weekends, in Thurlow, Ontario, on a working, century-farm, with old barn buildings mixed with new, and my grandfather’s grafted fruit trees, together with the outhouses, since the water-consuming bathrooms were for bedtime and winter. Later, my grandparents’ new highway house had a rain-water cistern. Bathing in one inch of water, two girls together, not like in town.

In the weekday city, the Belle-Ville, we played dress-up, skated on the frozen pond, learned about butterflies, trees and lightning, from Dad, the naturalist, teacher and later principal. Mom sewed velvet Christmas dresses and so much more.

There were Christmas horse-drawn sleigh rides

At the weekend farm, it was easy to imagine earlier days: the war-time foster children, our family here in the depression, hearing how there was room, food, heat and love for all. There was syrup making: early-on horses pulled the wagon or sled, later tractors pulled. There were Christmas horse-drawn sleigh rides and, later, snowmobile rides. After the midday dinners, we, in Sunday dresses, searched for familiar faces among the snapshots. Ross had taught this first grandchild how to read, feed chickens, make cement, use a lathe, dust tomatoes, and step on the garden worms to launch the flying innards. We stacked bales in the highest peak of the barn and pail-fed calves. We obeyed grandpa’s brother, the stern but gentle great-uncle with Secord for his middle name.

When we moved to far-away Peterborough, the 1960s hadn’t yet paved every parking lot. It was a “Native Triangle”: Rice Lake’s Serpent Mounds, the Stoney Lake Petroglyphs, and the Ojibwa Curve Lake – Native history all around. We enjoyed family car trips to both coasts, Florida, Niagara, and time-travel-like visits to Upper Canada Village and Lang Pioneer Village near Keene.

Back in the summery country-time, we splashed below the falling-down mill, stepping through the powerful curtain of water. Getting “squeaky-cheese” from “our” factory, established by neighbours long ago; before milk-quota; before the chickens, pigs and horses left. Then, naming more photos with Grandpa. Just in time, almost done. Then he was gone. I couldn’t cry. Soon came my grade-school handwriting copying documents at Toronto’s Ontario Archives, after the R.O.M.’s day programme, years before Xerox. Sitting on Dr. Burleigh’s porch while they found proofs, or “picnics” in graveyards, making rubbings of the faint stones, all contributed to finding the gaps that Grandpa hadn’t had time to tell.

Adam Scott, the high school and the man: a pioneer settler. We tobogganed, skied and skated. We babysat. Earlier Brownies, Guides, and later Rangers, leadership, solo camping, sewing our own uniforms, using Mom’s lessons well. Swimming, from zero to Junior Leader in four years. Weeks-long adventures at the cottage of friends, water and wilderness. Later an in-ground pool, and teaching the neighbour kids. Fewer time-travels to the century-farm.

We explored the past, on a city weekend, on the edge of town, the ruins of a Victorian home and the midden, a word I learned again later. A slowly-rotting leather child’s lace-up boot. Antique glass bottles were harvested. Broken china left behind. There, a few years later, I found a name on a board. The name was on a library map and in a local history book about the city’s early mayors. Scuba classes led to rescuing bubbled glass treasures from murky
shallows of former town river-dumps. I read Mary Stewart’s Arthurian legends. Then I learned of the archaeology and the aerial-viewed field markings, revealing clues of that past.

High-school French and Drama led to Queen’s Ivy-covered heritage, at the tip of the Shield. More drama led to Montreal at the National Theatre School of Canada, focusing on Stage Management. An apprenticeship in Toronto, then Montreal, Stratford, Grand Bend. Toronto theatre was interspersed with courses to finish the BA, at York University: Arts and Literature in Early Canada; Historical Geography: Settlement in Early Ontario. Driving a Children’s theatre school tour van with actors and set, from Timmins to Alexandria, learning the lay of this land. I was a Teacher’s Assistant at a City of York middle school, where I was the visible minority, descended from earlier immigrants. I learned as much as I taught.

With John Chard UE, the new Kawartha Branch was established; Dad was President in 1979. Much later, just recently actually, Mom took her turn as President. I learned much, by osmosis, and with their guidance. The 1984 Loyalist Lineages, Prindle, page 526.

More theatre, a fine young man, two summers, a wedding, a move to Kingston to finish that B.Ed., while he taught theatre technology at Queen’s. More theatre, then library staff work in a heritage building, one perky baby boy, a move to a 1900-ish farm house, 30 minutes north, a lovely baby girl, a great time at home with those two, then library work in “The Bay,” using the early Internet for online librarian courses. Back to the King’s Town when the first was ready for school.

At Queen’s Drama, I worked with emerging artists and teachers in quests for skills in costuming and stage management. Twenty-ish years there passed quickly with summers in Gananoque, Prince Edward County, or Millbrook, as Costume Designer, or Stage Manager, interwoven with Drama Workshops for children and youth at the Thousand Islands Playhouse near Gananoque, Queen’s University enrichment programs, and more.

The kids visited the century-farm when they were young. It was sold out of the family years ago. Grandma had to leave the highway-house, and has since passed on. The adult kids are doing fine, both working in Alberta at things they love. Recently, changes in my health have led me to find new paths, take courses, volunteer in Queen’s University Archives, as well as teaching English to new Canadians. I joined Kingston & District Branch in 2012, serving as Branch Secretary since 2013 with Peter Milliken UE as President. I’ve been Branch Genealogist since November 2014, when the loss of her eyesight made it impossible for Eva to continue, and just recently was elected Central East Regional Vice-President. No Straight lines for me!

Anne Louise Redish UE (nee Thompson, Lott, Sine, Smith, Prindle, Ranson, Coon, Lockwood, Fraser, Dafoe, Barrager, Keller, Grass, Wartman, Cartwright and more. Ernestown, Fredericksburgh, and Kingston) (Underlined are proven by a family member.)

Anne Redish UE selects tickets from a hat at Adolphustown, Ontario. The gentlemen are, from left: Capt. Alex Lawrence UE, Peter Johnson UE, Major David Moore UE (seated), Lt. Col. Reg James. Photo: 24 May 2015 by Don Galna UE.
Over the years, your Dominion Council has toiled diligently in a number of areas. Extensive work has been done in finance and investments with very positive results. Compliance with the Canadian Government “Not for Profit Legislation” involved expertise from many. Updating and rewriting of policies required countless hours of work by numerous volunteers. The many projects relating to the celebration of the UELAC centenary required much planning and execution by many members in every branch. These areas required attention, and conscientious members saw them to fruition. For many volunteers this was almost a full time commitment. On behalf of all of us involved in this great Association, I want to say “THANK-YOU!” Your efforts have been, and continue to be, very much appreciated.

As the incoming Dominion President, my message is simple. In order for the UELAC to grow and the memory of the contributions of the United Empire Loyalists and their descendants to survive, we must embrace change. It is my goal to work in an open and cooperative manner with my fellow-officers and members of the Executive Committee.

The UELAC is a lineage/genealogy-based association. During this transition period with the new Dominion Genealogist at the helm of that area, we can, and should, expect some changes that will hold the UELAC in good stead in the years ahead.

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A Dominion Archivist has been appointed and work is well underway in the creation of a Dominion Archives Mission Statement and a Dominion Archives Vision Statement.

As we move toward the year 2017, and the 150th anniversary of Confederation, I am hopeful we will all work to increase the visibility of this great Association. Our mission will be to find innovative ways to communicate to Canadians the many contributions that the original United Empire Loyalists and their descendants have made in so many areas that have influenced the history of Canada pre- and post-Confederation. Recently a UELAC “Canada 150” committee has been put in place. Please contribute ideas to them as they “hit the ground running,” planning events leading up to and including 2017.

Each and every Dominion President that has preceded me has put his or her own mark on the Association. Each one has taken on the role with a vision. My vision is to see the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada grow our membership. Retention is key, and personal contact is the most effective promotion tool we can use!

I’m convinced that if we labour together we can build on an incredible foundation and legacy. I am committed to working with every member to make the UELAC more responsive to those in need of our services in the genealogical resource areas, more engaged with younger generations, and more beneficial to our members. Please support me in these efforts and contribute as you are able.

Thus far, I have used the pronoun “I” numerous times, but there is no “I” in TEAM. Let’s make a joint TEAM effort to increase our membership across this great Dominion that stretches from sea to sea to sea.

I am confident that if we all share the vision and contribute to the workload, we will reap great benefits that will result in increased visibility and growth.

—Loyally, Barb Andrew UE, UELAC Dominion President.

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Thanks to Cosmo Condina for the photo on our back cover. He follows re-enactments and has published a book about them, described as:

- 132 pages of vivid photography by Cosmo Condina captures battle re-enactments and daily camp life at Niagara’s forts.
- Follow the battles of the War of 1812 in the Niagara region, plus information on re-enactments, the forts, First Nations, and more with text contributions by: Bob Andrews, Stan Lapinski, Zig Misiak, and Matt Straw. Published by Mr. Books.
- Printed in Canada.

Look for our review next issue.
The monument shown, placed by the Abegweit* UELAC Branch in 1987, stands proud and strong, commemorating the Loyalist ancestors of our past. (*Abegweit, the Aboriginal name for Prince Edward Island, means "cradled on the waves.")

This island’s small population, independent since 1769, was increased by about 500 Loyalists who were part of the evacuation of New York in 1783. Some came directly and others via Port Roseway (Shelburne) N.S. The Loyalists who settled on Isle St. John, now Prince Edward Island, had a difficult time getting clear title, from the British, to the land they were granted.

Their monument stands on the perimeter of the spacious grounds of the Loyalist Country Inn Resort, one of the Lakeview Hotels and Resorts in Summerside, Prince Edward Island – and the site of the 2016 Dominion Conference.

Since the entire hotel has been booked for the duration of the Conference, it is now accepting reservations. There are eighty (80) rooms available, each at the conference rate of $139.00 per night. Since the entire venue is reserved, online registration is not an option. You MUST call direct. Phone: 902-436-3333, call toll free: 877-355-3500, or fax: 902-436-4304. The phone numbers are also on the inn’s web page. Tell them you are booking for the United Empire Loyalist Conference. Optional locations are being investigated.

Transportation options include WestJet with a 10 percent discount for flights to Charlottetown between 06 and 17 July for Conference attendees.

The Conference will kick off on Thursday, a day earlier than in the past. Thursday morning begins with registration at 9:00 a.m. in the parlour/display room, and the membership meeting will commence at 10:00 a.m., lasting for two hours. The genealogists’ meeting will begin Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. The speakers and specific rooms will be announced later.

Following the Thursday meetings and some rest time, there will be a traditional reception from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. with finger food and a cash bar.

Weather permitting, the reception may be held outside on the lawn near the Loyalist monument. There is a very pleasant hospitality suite in the hotel for regrouping or mini-meetings. There is also the Prince William Room restaurant and lounge that is open daily. The hotel has a pool and spa and is wheelchair accessible. The many amenities are listed on its website: https://www.lakeviewhotels.com/hotels/summerside/

Friday will begin with registration in the parlour. There will also be display tables that include a silent auction, a ticket sales basket from the UELAC Branches of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, an authors’ table, and Dominion promotion items, etc. There is a wall-screen in this room. Anyone who wishes to project pictures of past conferences from their laptop can make arrangements for the necessary equipment with advance notice.

An extensive bus tour will take us to visit the museum at Badeque that...
includes a Loyalist section designed by the Abegweit Branch. Following this, we will visit the Anne of Green Gables House and grounds, stopping afterwards at Cavendish Beach for a brown bag lunch. We will then visit other local attractions before returning to the Loyalist Country Inn.

On Friday evening, a buffet-style lobster dinner is planned in the Empire Room, which can accommodate 200 or more guests. There will be entertainment and greetings from UELAC officials.

Saturday morning is the AGM followed by the Dominion Council meeting. This will take place in the Empire Room where there is ample space and audio visual equipment.

During the afternoon, three guest speakers, specializing in the Loyalist genealogy of the Maritime Provinces, will conduct seminars. The Empire Room will be the venue for Saturday evening’s gala dinner and entertainment. The special guest speaker will be the renowned author and educator, Terrence M. Punch CM, FRSAI, FIGRS, from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

A traditional conference church service will be held on Sunday morning at St. Peter’s Anglican Cathedral in Charlottetown, followed by a light lunch. Then it will be goodbye to friends old and new once again for another year. More details coming soon in the Loyalist Trails newsletters near you.

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**The Loyalist Gazette is now Digital!**

**The UELAC semi-annually publishes The Loyalist Gazette magazine. As a member of the UELAC, or as a subscriber to the Gazette, you can get it in digital form:**

- earlier when the paper version goes to the mailing house,
- in colour, not just the front and back covers, but all pages,
- enjoy the advantages a digital copy offers when reading,
- help reduce costs by saving on paper, printing and mailing.

If you haven’t previously requested the current issue of The Loyalist Gazette just go to Request the Digital Version on the UELAC website: http://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Gazette/GazetteSubscribe.php.

Several past issues of The Loyalist Gazette are available to the general public on-line. Just click on this icon on the UELAC web site. We would appreciate any feedback about the digital copies to the webmaster “at” uelac.org and gazette.editor “at” nexicom.net.

—Robert Collins McBride UE, B.Sc., M.Ed., (Bob) UELAC Publications Chairperson and Editor of The Loyalist Gazette

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**Rates:** Note Ad layout: V = Vertical, H = Horizontal

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**Multi-issue discounts:**

- A 20% discount applies to orders for advertisements that will appear in multiple issues.

**Deadlines:**

- Spring issue – 15 January
- Fall issue – 01 August

Please contact: Doug Grant UE:
loyalist.trails “at” uelac.org
S720 - 112 George St., Toronto ON, M5A 2M5 Canada.

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The headquarters of the British forces since 1776, New York City became a haven for thousands of white and black Loyalists as the American Revolution drew to its end. Evacuating the British army and its support services was a daunting task. Added to this was the ever-swelling number of loyal refugees who required transportation to sanctuary in other parts of the British Empire. Sir Guy Carleton could be forgiven for feeling that he had been given a “great and complicated business.” No one had told him that he would also have to decide on the fate of thousands of escaped slaves. Were they Patriot property or emancipated Loyalists?

The peace treaty that enumerated the conditions to end of the War of Independence included Article 7 which stated that “All Hostilities both by Sea and Land shall from henceforth cease all prisoners on both sides shall be set at Liberty and His Britannic Majesty shall with all convenient Speed and without Causing any destruction or carrying away any Negroes or other Property of the American Inhabitants withdraw all its Armies, Garrisons, and Fleets, from the said United States.”

The American Patriots considered that all freedom-seeking slaves who had crossed British lines during the Revolution were nothing more than property, property that should be returned at the end of hostilities. However, as early as 1775, Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia, had promised emancipation to any Patriot’s slave who served the crown for a minimum of a year. Having lost the war, would the British honour their promise or soothe ruffled feathers and hand the slaves back to their Patriot owners?

Fortunately for the Black Loyalists, Carleton was a principled man. “Property,” to him, meant those Africans owned by Patriots when the peace treaty was signed. Any man or woman who had
responded to the British offer of freedom before 1783 was no longer “property” but a free person. “The Negroes in question” said Carleton “I found free when I arrived at New York, I had therefore no right, as I thought, to prevent their going to any part of the world they thought proper.”

Although Patriots argued with Carleton’s interpretation, they could not dissuade him from making (in his words) “a notorious breach of public faith.” To assure the Americans that he was only evacuating Black Loyalists and the slaves of Loyalists, Carleton notified the Patriots that he was establishing a ledger in which his officers would record the names and circumstances of every person of African descent leaving New York City during 1783.

If the British government sided with the Patriots’ interpretation of “property” in the months following the Loyalist evacuation, slave owners could refer to the Book of Negroes. They could then demand the return of their slaves or receive financial compensation for them. The British Secretary of State later said that the rescue of Black Loyalists was “certainly an act of justice due to them from us” and that it could in no way be deemed an infraction of the peace treaty. As it turned out, no former slave was ever returned because of the Book of Negroes.

The Book of Negroes lists the details of 2,744 Africans who were evacuated in over a hundred ships between April and November of 1783. While giving historians invaluable information about the occupations, ages, colonies of enslavement, years of service to the crown, and the destinations of Black Loyalists, the ledger does not record data on every African who left the United States. Hundreds of unrecorded Black Loyalists left Charleston and Savannah in 1782. Others travelled on merchant vessels and troop ships. Historians’ conservative estimate for the number of Black Loyalists who left New York in 1783 is at least four thousand, about half of which are recorded in the Book of Negroes.

So although Carleton’s ledger can only give historians a glimpse into the lives of some of those who were part of the greatest slave emancipation in early American history, it is nevertheless an important document. Despite being over two hundred and thirty years old, historians have only tapped the Book of Negroes in the past forty years. Early 20th century scholars knew nothing of it, and therefore made guesses about which passengers on a Loyalist ship’s manifest were of African descent. Esther Clark Wright, who made such an incredibly detailed study of American refugees in her 1955 classic, The Loyalists of New Brunswick, does not
mention the Book of Negroes, while Robin Weeks only refers to an unidentified ledger in his 1971 book, The Blacks in Canada. However, by the mid-1970s scholars could search through microfilm versions of the ledger that had been purchased by provincial and university archives. The two original copies of the 156-page Book of Negroes can be found in Britain and the United States, but keen researchers can access transcripts of the ledger at several Internet websites.

A very quick review of Carleton’s ledger reveals a host of fascinating details. The Black Loyalists who are listed in its pages often served the Crown for the entire Revolution, acting as trumpeters, drummers, sailors, shoemakers and teamsters. They originated in every colony with the exception of New Hampshire. One ship sailed away with a passenger list that was 38% men, 28% women and 33% children. Its youngest passenger was three weeks old; its oldest was seventy. Evacuation ships carrying Black Loyalists sailed to Nova Scotia’s Port Roseway, Port Mouton, Fort Cumberland, Annapolis Royal and the mouth of the St. John River. Others found new homes in six different German states, Quebec, and Abaco in the Bahamas.

The ledger, compiled by Carleton’s staff from the spring to the fall of 1783, reveals the racism of the day, referring to Black Loyalists as rascals, quadroons, mulattos, mustees and wenches. Only seven females were given the dignity of being called women.

In the Book of Negroes, one can find twenty-year-old Deborah and forty-three year-old Henry, two slaves who had escaped from their master, George Washington. Forty-seven children found in the ledger ran away from the horrors of slavery before they were thirteen. The name of one Black Loyalist who boarded the Clinton is later found among men petitioning the New Brunswick government for land. However, by that point in time he was also using his original African name, Corankapone. Freedom as a Loyalist meant freedom to be known by his own name.

By cross-referencing the letters that Sir Guy Carleton received in New York City with the Book of Negroes, one can discover a number of stories with happy endings. Judith Jackson alerted the British commander-in-chief that a slave hunter from Virginia planned to take her back to the plantation from which she had escaped seven years earlier. She had married a Black Loyalist named James who had served the Crown as a river pilot. The couple had an eight-year-old son. What became of Judith? The list of Black Loyalists that boarded the ship Ann for Port Roseway tells the tale. All three members of Judith Jackson’s family escaped to freedom.

Another letter that Carleton received contained a very poignant request. James Peters, a Loyalist bound for the St. John River, had a slave named Cairo. She was married to a free Black Loyalist named Pompey Rumney. Rumney was Carleton’s servant. Would the British commander-in-chief allow his employee to accompany his enslaved wife in the Loyalist evacuation? Book of Negroes records that among the passengers aboard the Alexander were James Peters, his slave Cairo, and Pompey “on his own bottom. Born free.” But the story does not end there. Thirty-seven years later the probate records of New Brunswick note that James Peters ordered that Cairo (still a slave) “be kindly treated and provided with every necessity,” while her husband, Pompey, should also be “kindly treated and provided for if required.” Despite slavery, love had endured.

For the white Loyalist descendant brave enough to confront the possibility that his/her ancestors might have been slave owners, the Book of Negroes can provide many missing pieces in the family genealogy. In fact, Carleton’s ledger provides more information on individual Black Loyalists than can usually be discovered for White Loyalists. Details such as height, scars, physical handicaps, speech impediments, deafness and blindness, as well as the colony of origin, are scattered throughout the ledger.

If a white ancestor’s name is in the Book of Negroes, that Loyalist either owned African slaves or accompanied Black Loyalists on their journey. (These sponsors or escorts are found in a column of the ledger that was titled “the persons in whose possessions they now are”). Next to that ancestor’s name will be the name of the ship, its captain and when it sailed.

For example, the descendants of Captain Nathan Frink might only know that the New York Loyalist settled in St. Stephen, New Brunswick. By referring to the Book of Negroes, those descendants will discover that the Frinks left New York City on the Elizabeth under the command of Captain Watson on 18 September 1783, sailing for the mouth of the St. John River. They will discover that Frink’s wife had been a Cuyler because the ledger says her mother gave her a 16-year-old slave. The Frinks also bought a seven-year-old girl before leaving Staten Island. Too much information?

The Book of Negroes can be the starting point for a family’s story. The entry for Gabriel Johnson records that he was a slave in New Jersey. When he died almost twenty years later, the probate records of New Brunswick note that he left his wife enough of an estate that she was able to bequeath a house, land and belongings to other Black Loyalist women. Jack Patterson was an indentured servant when he arrived in New Brunswick. After completing his indenture, he became a farmer, capturing the colony’s most wanted criminal who had been hiding in his shed. This achievement is recorded in the first international best-selling book to be written by a Loyalist, Walter Bates’ The Mysterious Stranger.
By comparing the passenger lists in the Book of Negroes with the names of those who sailed for Sierra Leone in 1792, one can see which Black Loyalists sought better lives outside of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Unfairly treated by colonial officials, almost 1200 Black Loyalists, many of them evacuees from New York City in 1783, became the first settlers of West Africa’s Sierra Leone. Corankapone and Harry Washington, mentioned earlier in this article, were among the founding fathers of the free black colony.

The Book of Negroes is “just” a ledger that lists the names and brief descriptions of former slaves, and yet within its frail pages there is the tip of a fascinating historical iceberg. A single name can be the first step in compiling an epic story. For the genealogist and historian willing to commit time to sift through the Book of Negroes, there are grains of gold to be found: stories of brave escapes, family reunions, romance and faithful service to a distant Crown. It was created by a wily general as a means to rescue loyal subjects, but has become one of the primary documents of the Loyalist era. This is the legacy of Carleton’s ledger, the Book of Negroes.

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Editor’s Note:

Readers might like to know that in 1807, the British Parliament passed legislation to abolish the slave trade in 1808. In the United States, abolition of the slave trade also took effect in 1808. It was not until 01 August 1834, that slavery itself was finally abolished in Canada and the rest of the British Empire. The Thirteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution officially abolished slavery in the U.S.A. in 1865. Thus, pockets of emancipation in various regions did not mean freedom for slaves until these later dates. Dunmore’s Proclamation of 1775 does not state any reference to length of service required by Negroes in order to obtain their freedom. – Robert C. McBride UE, based on research notes for The Book of Negroes, by novelist, Lawrence Hill, and further research conducted by this Editor.

Our excellent proofreaders sometimes question the historical content of articles. In this article, the author removed the phrase “within the lines” on the advice of historian and author Todd Braisted who commented:

“Enlistment in anything other than local militia throughout the British lines was entirely voluntarily. Many Loyalist refugees, black and white, removed "within the British lines" during the course of the war. In no way does that phrase equate to service. Indeed, the post-war Loyalist claims have scores of examples of people using the phrase "within the lines" simply to differentiate that they did not reside amongst the Rebels during the conflict. Once within the British lines, they could work or serve as they chose. Many phrases during that time should not be taken too literally. Another common expression used in the claims was "did everything in their power" to assist the British. This too is rather meaningless and most commonly used by those who in fact did the least. For those looking for detailed information on the service of Black Loyalists in the American Revolution, I would recommend my chapter in Moving On: Black Loyalists in the Afro-Atlantic World (Garland Press, 1999).”

—Todd W. Braisted UE, Honorary Vice-President, UELAC

Our own UELAC Historian added:

“With all due respect to the author, and recognizing the expertise of the proofreader, one has to take care with references to "within the British lines." While such a phrase could include individuals who joined the British military, it applies equally to Loyalist women, children and the elderly who sought sanctuary in British-controlled areas. It’s not proof of service.” —Peter Johnson UE.
Thus Adam Young was among the first sixteen families in the first census of what is now the Province of Ontario, and one of the first sixteen families to settle in this province, as indicated by Lieutenant-Colonel E. Cruikshank who stated: “The settlement at Niagara actually preceded that at the Bay of Quinte by nearly four years. The only previous attempt to cultivate the soil on the western bank of the Niagara River by white men was that made by LaSalle in the summer of 1679, as recorded by Hennepin. As the French portage was subsequently established on the opposite shore, no effort was made to continue this early attempt at gardening.”  

However, when General Frederick Haldimand, Governor of Quebec, in 1783 gave orders for Lieutenant William Tinling, an Assistant Engineer in the 29th Regiment, to be dispatched to Niagara, one of Tinling’s responsibilities was to extend the land reserved for the Crown north of the Garrison Line westward to the Four Mile Creek. This would take in the small village of Butlersburg and Lot 27, occupied by Adam Young UE. Forced to leave the land that he’d cleared on the west bank of the Niagara River, Adam Young UE joined his married son, Lieutenant John Young UE. John had been a member of the Indian Department during the Revolution with his good friend, Chief Joseph Brant. Brant had given John Young a tract of land on the banks of the Grand River. Thus, when the two families decided to celebrate, it was with these two families together. Numerous intermarriages had occurred between the Nelles and Youngs during those times and so cousins met with cousins to celebrate those special occasions.

At one of these celebrations, however, peace and harmony were not to be the end product of the evening’s festivities. Perhaps the best account of the events that unfolded on that fateful night of 10 November 1822 is provided by the petition of Warner Henry Nelles, the perpetrator of the death of Peter Young, written at Newark on 24 January 1823.

(Note: the following is an exact transcription of this petition, spelling and grammar being unaltered):
February 4th, 1823

Sir

I have received the commands of His Excellency [sic]
The Lt. Governor to request that the enclosed petition of Warner H. Nelles may receive the consideration of the Hon Executive Council at its first meeting –

I have the Honor to be

Sir
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
[signed] P. Maitland

The Hon. The M Justice as Presiding Councillor His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland Knight Commander of the most honorable Military order of the Bath, Lieutenant Governor In and over the Province of Upper Canada, and Major General Commanding His Majesty Forces therein &c &c &c

The Petition of Warner H. Nelles now a Prisoner In the Gaol of the District of Niagara

Humbly Sheweth –

That on the night of the 9 & 10th of November Last your Petitioner was at a party of pleasure at the house of a Mr. John Young on the Grand River in the District of Niagara, at which one Peter Young now deceased was also present – That in the early part of the Evening some altercation took place between the said Peter Young and Your Petitioner, but harmony was after wards restored. That after the dance had ended your Petitioner retired to rest, – that about two of clock in the morning the said Peter Young came to the room where your Petitioner was, and several times in a most provoking and insulting manner endeavoured to pull him out of bed: – that upon the family being thereby disturbed the owner of the house ordered the said Peter Young away, – who before he retired however again not only grossly insulted, but actually assaulted your Petitioner, and even threatened to Knock out his brains with an Iron-bound neck-Yoke which he held in his hand – That your Petitioner was but too much inflamed at his wanton and vicious conduct, and having warned him that he should chastise him for his insolence and brutality, hastily put on his shoes, and immediately, in the heat of indignation, hastened after the said Peter Young, whom he was unfortunately prompted to strike on the left side of the head, with your Petitioner thinks his open hand; and most certainly with no other intention than to punish him for the injuries he had previously borne with becoming forbearance. That on receiving this blow the said Peter Young sunk gently to the floor, but neither your Petitioner or the by standers conceived him to be hurt. And it is with sentiments of deepest contrition and concern that your Petitioner adds this inconsiderate this slight strike proved too fatal, and that the death of the unhappy man immediately ensued.

Your Petitioner Cannot describe to your Excellency the feelings of remorse, horror, and despair which wrung his Soul on discovering the appalling catastrophe – He did all that remained in his power to restore animation, and applied his utmost efforts in the vain endeavour to revive the deceased; till convinced that no human skill and avail he left the sickening scene. He can testify before Heaven that no hatred or malice towards the deceased ever dwelt in his breast, or actuated him at the fatal moment – that he was solely driven by the ibultition of his pafsion to raise his hand at all, and then with no other view than to inflict moderate chastisement for accumulated wrongs – and that the blow the neck [?], was not violent, nor sent with such unusual force as in ordinary circumstances to endanger the safety of a fellow Creature – Your Petitioner begs further to represent that has Since understood the deceased was affected with some imposthumi cause thereby he principally ascribes the deplorable consequences of his ill-timed correction.

That a Coroners Inquest was immediately held upon the Body, when the Jurors returned that the deceased came to his death by the hand of your Petitioner, but did not determine the legal character of his offence nor find the stroke to have been either murdrously, or simply feloniously given – That an immediate process followed the Verdict, but your Petitioner remained at full liberty, and might have fled had he deemed flight necessary to his safety. – But on the Contrary thereof however your Petitioner felt so conscious that the unhappy homicide was an undesigned and accidental event, that no blow was aimed by him with any malignant or felonious mind – no arm raised in malice or depravity of heart; – that his general character, and particular conduct in this melancholy matter, could not in the strictest scrutiny of the Law raise any well grounded suspicion of guilt; – but that the hapless act was induced alone under the excitement of ungovernable invitation, with the sole and only purpose of imposing moderate punishment for past aggression, and extending to bodily harm and therefore in the humanity of the Law susceptible of indulgent consideration; that your Petitioner revoluted at the idea of Escape and resolved to resume in the Justice of his Country – Confident that his offence could not in the most aggravated point of View exceed that of Manslaughter, and convinced that when favorable circumstances operate on behalf of the accused, and good and simple security can be obtained Bail (in the spirit of the constitution is seldom refused by His Majesty Superior Criminal Courts, in the sound and judicious exercise of the discretionary powers vested in them for attaining the ends of Justice without the semblance of oppression; Your Petitioner felt no apprehension for the event, and in the fullest Confidence that the benignity of the British Laws would Deal leniency with him, voluntarily surrendered himself to a Magistrate of the Niagara District on the 4th of December last, and was thereupon committed to his present Confinement – ...

It is with the deepest regret your Petitioner informs Your Excellency that the two applications for Bail, (advocated by the peculiarities of his case and the known regard of our laws to the liberty of the Subject, when consistent with the true ends of justice), have proved fruitless, two of the three Judges of His Majestys Court of Kings Bench, not thinking that the circumstances of your Petitioners misfortune indicated called upon them to exercise their discretion in his favor, tho the other learned Judge entertained Contrary sentiments.

Your Petitioner need not say this unexpected termination of his hopes has not only destroyed his confidence, but driven him almost to despair in the prospect of a protracted misery by Eight Months longer imprisonment in a gloomy Prison. He could notwithstanding in conscious innocence on the one occasion, combined with a pleasing retrospect upon his past years, find strength and firmness to bear against the unlooked for trial did now but individual considerations press upon him; yet (altho he has an unsullied reputation to rest upon,
The Petition of Warner H. Nelles now a Prisoner in the Gaol of the District of Niagara Praying for a special Commission for his Trial Read in Council 5th of February 1823

while the verdict of the Council, also found on the cover of the above petition, records:

In Council 5th February 1823.

Upon the Petition of Warner H. Nelles referred for the Consideration and advice of Council the Committee lament the situation of the Petitioner as represented but under a full Consideration of the Premises cannot recommend the Prayer of the Petition for a special Commission for Trial in this Case not to be distinguished from that of frequent Commitments of Charges of Felony, Short Periods after the general Delivery of the Gaol, and would be a Precedent authorizing similar Applications from all in similar circumstances.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

For Warner H. Nelles

[signed] J.B. Macaulay
his Attorney

24th January 1823

It should be pointed out here that the “aged parents” Warner Henry Nelles is referring to are his father, Johann Warner Nelles, then age 52, and his mother, Elizabeth Young, then age 48.

The cover of the above petition, as found in the National Archives in Ottawa, Ontario, states:

N5

The Petition of Warner H. Nelles now a Prisoner in the Gaol of the District of Niagara Praying for a special Commission for his Trial Read in Council 5th of February 1823

Was justice properly served in this case?

The final verdict will be left up to you, the reader. Suffice it to say that the surviving records only provide one with a very brief statement, as follows:

“12 Sept. 1823. The trial of Henry Warner Nellis came on for the murder of Peter Young on the Grand River, he was acquitted. Not guilty.”

Incidentally, Warner Henry Nelles, almost immediately left the area of the Grand River and moved to Grimsby, where his prosperous uncle, Colonel Robert Nelles, a founder of the community, had extensive land holdings.

“#21 Nelles Manor -

126 Main Street West. Considered to be the oldest inhabited dwelling between Niagara and Kingston, Nelles Manor was built in Georgian style by Colonel Robert Nelles, of locally quarried stone, over a ten year period (1788-98). It was written in the “Annals of the Forty” to be “carefully cut and laid, with flat arched windows and doorways and kitchens wing on the West End.” Built facing north, on an old path called Squire Nelles’ Lane, the main entrance was later moved to the south with a pillared porch facing on to the “new” Stone Road (now Main Street). Col. Nelles’ Office was a small room on the north where, in his capacity as Justice of the Peace, he performed many marriages before clergy were available. The house was a centre for gala events and remained in Nelles family possession until 1963, when it was purchased by its current owners. Restoration is an on-going project in this warm welcoming home, with its seven fireplaces, walnut woodwork and spacious halls and rooms.”

Image courtesy of the Grimsby Museum.
Warner Henry Nelles married in Grimsby on 20 January 1825 Sarah Uhline. This couple then settled near St. Catharines and lived a very fruitful life, becoming the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters. Their eldest son, Dr. Alexander H. Nelles, married Sarah Jane Ball in St. Catharines on 11 June 1850, the daughter of George Ball & Catherine Overholt, the Ball family being prosperous millers of the area.

Warner Henry Nelles had inherited a Six Nations chiefship at age 17 after the death of the former holder of the title. His Native name was Tahanata.

"Apparently the paraphernalia that went along with this role (e.g., the wampum strings that were placed over his shoulder as part of the initiation ceremony) were still in the family at the time of his death – according to his obituary." 7

Warner Henry Nelles died at the age of 96 on 09 October 1896 in St. Catharines, Ontario, and is buried in Victoria Lawn Cemetery in that city along with his wife, Sarah Uhline, who died in 1892.

The survivors of Peter Young didn’t fare as well.

Peter was buried in the Young Tract Burying Ground, his grave now unmarked, along with that of his wife, Catharine. Their only known child, William Peter "Pap" Young (1814 – 21 November 1907), petitioned for land owed to his father and became a hotelkeeper in Seneca Township, Haldimand County.

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Endnotes

7. E-mail from Dr. David K. Faux, 4028 Larwin Ave., Cypress, CA, 90630, USA, e-mail address: fauxdk“at”yahoo.com, to Robert C. McBride, 05 October 2002.
M y almost-Loyalist-descended wife and I are sitting in our Silverado on a barge being pushed by a tugboat from the muddy banks of Campobello Island across the Bay of Fundy to Deer Island, one of many dots of land that speckle the Loyalist path from Castine, Maine, to St. Andrews, New Brunswick.

There are only seven vehicles on our sea-borne platform, and the bumpers of the last two cars are dangerously close to the prow of the tugboat. Our solitary crewman tells us that Deer Island will be a drive-through. We’ll have to cruise a few miles around the island to get to the dock of the provincial ferry. There we will find more of a boat than this raft we stayed on and, we are promised, it will have a sumptuous, eclectic “Pentagoet,” that is both the name of the inn at which we stayed and one of the original names of Castine. (The other was the Abenaki word, Majabigwaduce). It has also been called by a host of other names in the four centuries since its “discovery,” and is, and has always been, a nexus of historical energy.

Historians call Castine “The Battle Line of Four Nations.” It has lived under four flags, not counting the Abenaki’s totem, and has witnessed numerous hand-offs among the same list of empires: the French (twice), the Dutch, the English (four times), and the Americans (incredibly, twice). Its ancient bayside manses, narrow colonial lanes, and the remnants of its forts that were built under different names, have seen a lot of action over the ages, including one fort that the Dutch blew up a year after they built it. Castine’s fortunes have flourished, faded, and risen again with surprising regularity.

Toward the end of the American Revolution, the 74th Regiment of Foot, also known as the Argyle Highlanders, surprised the port and seized it. This was up until then the most ambitious amphibious invasion in British colonial history. Despite the eventual success of the rebellion, the British never surrendered Castine in a military action. They held onto it both for strategic purposes, and to keep a place of refuge for Loyalists from the colonies. Castine was ceded back to the United States twice: first by the Treaty of Paris in 1783 that ended the Revolution, and later by the Treaty of Ghent that concluded the War of 1812.

The United Colonies’ military efforts to recover Castine resulted in “the greatest naval disaster of United States history” until Pearl Harbor. In 1779, the largest armada ever to be assembled by the American Rebels was decisively defeated by the cunning, craft, and defensive capacity of His Majesty’s forces, who were vastly outnumbered. Holding Castine were 700 British troops from the Royal Artillery, the 74th Highlanders, and the 82nd Duke of Hamilton’s Regiment. Three Continental Navy warships left Boston and more than 40 others under the command of Massachusetts, including private vessels. More than 1,000 New England militia were hell-bent on destroying the British. They faced off in Penobscot Bay.

The “Penobscot Expedition,” as the Massachusetts government had optimistically dubbed it, was supposed to have been a “slam dunk” for the Rebel cause, but it turned into a strategic and financial catastrophe. Few died on either side, but it eventually cost the newly minted U.S. government a staggering 300 million dollars. There are wonderful and stirring chronicles about this fiasco, and at least one New York Times bestseller, The Fort, by Bernard Cornwell. The story still has poignant meaning for all who find themselves caught in domestic and international warfare.

Having relocated once, some of the Loyalists who had removed to Castine must have been reluctant to emigrate. However, the King offered them land grants across the Bay of Fundy in what was to become “The Loyalist Province.” The coastal region known as “The Saints” (St. Andrews, St. Croix, St. David, St. Patrick, St. Stephens, St. Georges, and Saint John) attracted many early settlers.
I am just finishing my lecture to my almost-Loyalist-descended wife when she points to the windshield. She notes that, in spite of our having barged across the first part of the Bay of Fundy, bumped our way around Deer Island, and having been ferried over the remaining part of the Bay on the Provincial Ferry, she has not yet even seen the mainland that must be dead ahead. Our windshield is misted over by the Fundy salt spray, and I have neglected to use the wipers.

So I turn on the engine.

“Jaysus!” I hear the vaguely Scottish accent of the ferryboat crewman screaming at me, then see his face in the windshield as soon as the wipers make this possible.

“Turn it off!”

I want to ask him if his ancestors were Scottish Loyalists, and did they serve in the 74th Highlanders.

But I don’t dare because he is too busy cursing me.

“Damn fool tourists!” the crewman announces to the New Brunswick Power truck parked beside us.

His fellow New Brunswicker nods and smiles at him, then glares at us.

I want to assure both of them that I am not just any tourist; I am doing serious research, and have intentionally put myself awash in the Bay of Fundy to retrace the path of the Loyalists, who were probably their ancestors.

Today, the quickest way to get from Castine to St. Andrews, New Brunswick is by driving north on U.S. Route 1, the “scenic coastal highway,” to Calais and St. Stephen, though one that only reluctantly yields a view of the beautiful coastline. U.S.1 was not the chosen route of the Loyalists two hundred years ago, of course, most of whom came by boat, both because U.S. Route 1 North didn’t exist back then, and because, by sailing across the Bay of Fundy they could take their houses with them.

Canadians have always loved “caravaning,” and the Castine Loyalists may have been the first. Back at the Pentagoet I talked to the seasoned old sea-salt innkeeper, Mr. Jack Burke, who has spent much of his life helping refugees for the U.N. He described to me how the early refugees from Castine put their houses and parts of houses on logs and rolled them down the long gradual slope that is still called Main Street, reaching the docks at the bottom of the hill. They loaded their houses and parts of houses on barges not much different than the platform we rode from Campobello to Deer Island. The Loyalists towed their belongings behind them, instead of pushing them. They took themselves and their houses into the Bay and over to St. Andrews, where some of the original structures remain in situ.

Other Loyalists arrived as passengers on sailing ships that were chartered, borrowed, or otherwise provided by the His Royal Majesty King George III. After they landed, the settlers were joined by some of the soldiers and sailors from the British regiments who formerly protected them. Together they made their homes, their fortunes, and their descendants, many of whom still live on the Fundy coast.

Although it is called Canada’s First Summer Resort and was designated a National Historical Site in 1998, St. Andrews is often by-passed by the tourists who hustle their campers, kayaks and bicycles across the New Brunswick shoreline on Canada’s own Route 1 to get to the busier bicycling, kayaking and campsites of Nova Scotia’s Atlantic. St. Andrews, like Castine, is an architectural and historical treasure and a must-see for anyone who is interested in the Loyalists.

Thankfully, St. Andrews was also by-passed by the 19th century which explains why so many of its original late 18th century houses still stand, including the ones brought over by barge from Castine. One example of a Castine barge building is the Old St. Andrews Coffee House, owned by an original grantee, Andrew Martin from Castine, who brought it, stone by stone, to St. Andrews and then sold it to a John McPhail barely one year later. The building remains at the foot of Prince William Street, where Martin reconstructed it, and is still a coffee shop, now called “Java Moose.”

We can see the cost of Martin’s labours on the St. Croix Courier’s genealogy website: http://members.shaw.ca/caren.secord/locations/NewBrunswick/Glimpses.

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*More than $7,000 today.
St. Andrews is self-described as a “classic example of colonial town planning,” and it takes an hour or so for a pleasant walk-through. The town fathers present their town as:

The broad, straight streets form a regular grid, broken at intervals by open squares for public buildings and a market place. Except for Water Street, which runs along the shore, all the street names have royal or colonial associations. Thirteen are named after the children of George III and his wife, Charlotte, and two after faithful servants of the crown; the remainder are King, the showstreet, and Queen and Prince of Wales.

The intersection of Montague and King Streets is watched over by the All Saints Anglican Church (1783), and most of the houses near it were constructed in Georgian and Federal styles. Some say the humble saltboxes and Cape Cod houses remind them of an old New England village, which makes sense; others say the gables and roof lines recall the seaports on the West Coast of England (you have to use your imagination). Whatever, the only thing wrong with St. Andrews, and its Mother Ship, Castine, is that there is not more to them.

The same can be said for its lack of population. When the first Loyalists landed two hundred years ago, they didn’t exactly have to fight their way ashore. Two trappers from Saint John, Hanson and Young, were the only folks in residence, and even they had chosen a nearby island for base camp. The presence of Aboriginals wasn’t an obstacle for the Loyalists either; there weren’t any.

The first Loyalist to set foot in St. Andrews was a married woman, from Castine, where her husband William Towers had helped to build Fort George for the British. It was said for years afterwards that Mrs. Towers was so excited about finding a new home that she jumped off the boat and waded ashore. She then hammered away at Mr. Towers until he became the first to hammer together a house for her on what is still called “Tower Hill.”

In 1783, Col. John Allan described the setting in a letter to the Governor of Massachusetts.

On my arrival at Passamaquoddy the 23rd Sept. I found there had been several Surveyors exploring the rivers, and a number of settlers taken possession of St. Andrews Point. ... I also received information that two public Surveyors were there in the place for the purpose of laying out townships. ... On the 3rd of October two large transports and several smaller vessels with a number of families arrived at St. Andrews from Badaduce (Castine). ... I passed by the ships and cautioned them not to land any inhabitants. But a few days after the whole were landed to the amount of forty families.

The current All Saints Anglican Church, built in 1867, above the site of the original, (1788) where the first Loyalists worshipped. The Anglican denomination was for years the only one in New Brunswick, although earlier New England settlers had established Congregational churches on the St. John River. The historic blockhouse built at St. Andrews to defend the village from the Americans during the War of 1812.

Mrs. Towers got what she wanted, but she needn’t have hurried. Even today, St. Andrews’ population falls short of 2,000, about the same as the population of Castine. Amazingly, there are still empty lots for sale within the original grid work of both places. A visitor has to wonder why there aren’t more people in either place. Perhaps it’s because both towns are said to be haunted: Castine, by the ghost of a little drummer boy, Rebel or British, depending on your apprehension; and St. Andrews’ Algonquin Hotel by a mysterious glowing “orb.” (See Youtube.)

Who were the original Loyalists who settled there?

The first thing to remember is that there were not very many of them, though more than enough for a healthy start. A muster roll of 1784 provides the names of 178 men who accompanied 102 women, 206 children over ten years of age and 163 children even younger, totaling 649 immigrants during the first year of settlement. That’s a mob, by St. Andrews’ standards. Over one hundred years later the population was only 1,000, and, by 2006, the number of “St. Andrewsians” was 1700. Of course, two hundred and thirty years of history has produced a steady flow of descendants who have spread out from The Saints, establishing themselves all over New Brunswick, into Nova Scotia, and out to the rest of Canada, and even back to the United States.

Second, we shouldn’t assume that their biographies, family status, or motives for leaving, were very similar. Immigrants came from many different places in the English Atlantic colonial world, and for many different reasons. In the samples that the author gives on page 21, one man hardly had to move from his boyhood home near Castine. Another was a slave-holding veteran who continued to serve his King in New Brunswick after protecting the Loyalists of Castine. The third was descended from a Maryland family, moved to Delaware, enlisted on the Rebel side, was held prisoner in New York City, and then “took the oath” to the King. We’ll never know the reason for his change of heart, but I could guess that the prison had something to do with it. He settled, like all the others, in one of the various “Saints.”
Benjamin Bradford was a descendant of the Englishman, William Bradford, the first Governor of the Plymouth colony. Twenty years before the Revolution, Benjamin’s parents had moved to Maine, which was then a part of Massachusetts. It may be that he was British to the core, or just maybe that he didn’t like change, because he and his wife, Martha, didn’t move to St. Andrews until they had to. Bradford, like other Loyalists, made his way across the Bay, where he operated “Bradford’s Ferry” between Bay Side and Oak Point. He died a true son of New England, but one who remained loyal to his king.

Captain Angus McDonald built the first frame house on the grant given by the king to veterans of the 74th North Carolina Regiment. He ploughed the first ground there, too. Back in North Carolina, he had owned a plantation with slaves, and, when the time came, raised a company in the name of King George. Sometime after Lord Cornwallis capitulated in 1781, McDonald went missing with ten of his soldiers. He got as far as the English settlement near St. Augustine, Florida, before he was apprehended. There he was tried for desertion ... and acquitted ... perhaps because he intentionally overloaded the court with school boy excuses: family emergency, personal illness, he didn’t know the procedure for leave, etc. He, too, ended up in St. Andrews, and brought his soldiers and his two slaves with him. McDonald was mustered out of the service there, married, raised two sons and three daughters, and died in St. Stephen. In one of the typical frustrations of oral history, his family has passed down many stories about the long, cold winters he endured and how he was so good at fishing for gaspereaux [small shad-like fish]. Almost nothing is known about his service during the War, or what he remembered about his famous cousin, Flora Mcdonald, (Bonnie Prince Charlie’s boatwoman), who had lived near him in North Carolina.

John Noble

Finally, there is my wife’s fourth-great-grand uncle: John Noble. The personal history he brought was somewhat different from the others. Noble had been a Revolutionary War soldier in the Delaware Line. He was raised in Maryland, near what is now Washington, D.C., on his family’s tobacco plantation, and was distantly related to George Washington. He enlisted as a Rebel in 1778, fought at The Battle of Camden, and was taken prisoner. He was incarcerated in New York City where he seemed to have reconsidered his loyalties. Probably hoping for “early release,” he swore allegiance to the King. When the War ended in 1783, John and his wife, Jemima (Purdy), were shipped to Port Mouton, near Shelburne, Nova Scotia. Like some others who landed there, Noble was disappointed. He requested a land grant anywhere else, and got Morristown, now St. Stephen. Noble landed in St. Andrews in 1784, the same year the muster was taken, although he was not included. By 1790, the Nobles were one of fourteen families living near St. Stephen. He died there in 1843, age 81, leaving lots of children and a hefty estate valued at what would now be $140,000.

These three men and the women they knew, as well as the two slaves who must have settled somewhere, may or may not be representative of all the Loyalists. A review of other Loyalist biographies reveals that some of them arrived in St. Andrews single and never married; others went on to England. Quite a few (or their children) returned to the United States. Some appeared to be of Catholic ancestry, most were Protestant, and the Jewish name of Solomon crops up in a number of places. They were white, black, and some were mixed with Aboriginals. One’s father even signed the Declaration of Independence. The only certainty is that every one of them had a story, and it would be a mistake to assume that they shared more similarities than they did differences.

As we settle in at The Ice Cream Shoppe, I suggest to my wife that, as it has been a long day’s journey to St. Andrews, we might as well book into a local B&B and stay awhile. My wife has been my boon companion for almost half a century, and has cheerfully followed in the wake of my eccentricities, but this day her tolerance for the coincidences of history has reached its limit, and she asks me why I want to stay in St. Andrews now that we’ve seen it.

I take out a paper full of names and addresses and tell her I have already searched the Internet and found a number of Nobles still living in the region. One of them even works for the province, I say, and talking to her about her family’s history might prove interesting.

But meeting a distant cousin after two hundred and thirty years with no postcards, letters, or e-mails exchanged, is not at the top of my wife’s bucket list, and she tells me it’s a bad idea, says she’s not really interested, and that she has long since turned the study of her ancestors over to me, even if some of them, like the Loyalists of St. Andrews, seem pretty interesting.
On a foggy Saturday afternoon, seventy or so folks from across the Maritimes and Maine attended a special celebration in Beaver Harbour to recognize the settlement's founders. Organized by the New Brunswick UELAC Branch, in conjunction with the New Brunswick Black History Society, and hosted by the Archives and Museum of Beaver Harbour, the attendees gathered to hear the story of how a small group of Quaker Loyalists took an historic stand against slavery as they evacuated New York in 1783. New Brunswick Branch President, Deborah Coleman, delivered the keynote speech, explaining the history of the Quaker movement and their role in settling North America, including the colony of Pennsylvania.

As the Loyalists fled north to Canada, she explained, forty-nine Loyalist heads of household from Pennsylvania and the surrounding area signed a set of rules and regulations forming a colony in what is now Beaver Harbour, originally called Penn’s Field Colony. The document’s fourth article clearly stated that no slave could be bought, sold or kept by any member of the settlement, making Beaver Harbour the first place in British North America to abolish slavery! This was not an easy stance to take in those days, and the Quaker settlement faced significant persecution from neighbouring communities for its way of life. Ralph Thomas, who provided remarks on behalf of the Black History Society, noted how the Quakers were often abused just as badly as the Black community of the day was, and that Black New Brunswickers to this day hold the Quaker Loyalists in high regard.

Following the speeches, those in attendance walked down Quaker Lane to the Quaker Burial Ground, where a brief dedication service took place for a new memorial. Last year there was a ceremony that honoured the arrival of the Camel, the ship that brought a party of Quakers, Anabaptists and free Blacks to Beaver Harbour in 1783. This inspired Carmen Eldridge, a native of Beaver Harbour, to donate the memorial stone. Eldridge is a veteran of the Second World War, who rose from Ordinary Seaman to Petty Officer and served on a total of five ships before the war ended. Born in Beaver Harbour, he has lived abroad in Toronto and elsewhere, currently residing in St. Andrews, but never forgot the little village where he was born, and the heroic sacrifices of those first Quaker settlers.

While there is already a stone marking the burial ground, the new memorial testifies to the settlers’ historic condemnation of slavery. The stone’s inscription makes its author’s view of slavery clear.

Back at the museum, folks were treated to a demonstration of the “traveling desk” of Joshua Knight, one of Beaver Harbour’s founding members. A medium-sized box with a pop-out desk and multiple hidden storage compartments, the stylish storage device is now the property of Judy Davies, who happily showed off her family heirloom to all who were interested. According to family lore, the box was brought in the late 1690s with Joshua Knight’s Quaker ancestors – possibly on the same ship as William Penn himself!
The Re-Dedication of the UEL Monument at Adolphustown

By Peter W. Johnson UE

It was really two events in one: a re-enactment and a re-dedication. The Glengarry Light Infantry was the focus of the events on Saturday, 23 May 2015, and the re-dedication of the UEL Monument was the centrepiece of Sunday, 24 May.

While a War of 1812 re-enactment may seem a touch anachronistic for a site such as Adolphustown, there are definite links. In the latter part of the War of 1812, the Glengarry Light Infantry was stationed in the area affording Lieutenant James Fitzgibbon the opportunity to wed Mary Haley at Adolphustown in 1814. Yes, this is the same James Fitzgibbon to whom Laura Secord reported after her famous walk.

The weather was fine both days. Saturday unfolded with displays by various organizations and individuals: the Bay of Quinte Branch UELAC, Quinte Branch OGS, 7th Town Historical Society, the Oriskany Alliance, Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society, Old Hay Bay Church, and researchers/publishers, Linda Corupe and Sherrell Branton Leetooze. The morning also featured a demonstration by the Loyalist Fifes and Drums under the command of Drum Major, Michael Putnam.

The troops put on a tactical demonstration in the early afternoon. It was a good opportunity for the public to see both War of 1812 and Revolutionary War costumes and to note the differences between the two eras. Major David Moore UE of the King’s Royal Yorkers and also an officer in the Canadian Fencibles (1812) served as the narrator of the demonstration. David’s colourful commentaries have been known to strike fear in the hearts of Rebels from Upstate New York to well down into the rebellious colonies!

The marriage of Lieutenant James Fitzgibbon and Mary Haley was re-enacted in mid-afternoon, Saturday, 23 May 2015. David and Rhonda Smith UE portrayed the wedded couple with a bemused Jon Wannamaker UE as the father-in-law! The bride arrived on horseback and the ceremony was officiated by Drum Major Mike Putnam (who is actually a minister). Special thanks go out to Dave for his able organization of the troops and the re-enactment portion of the weekend. When he isn’t watching the Chicago Black Hawks, he lives and breathes heritage and history. The town of Bath is a richer place for his participation.

Once the public portion of the day concluded, the re-enactors retired to the east end of Adolphustown Park for a pig roast and wedding cake!

The first event on Sunday, 24 May was an inter-denominational service under the care of Reverend Frank Hamper. At the close of the service, three UE certificates were presented: Paul C. Lozo UE and Arthur Richard Phillips UE, both for Elisha Phillips UE, and Mary S. Clark UE for John Phillips UE. Arthur and Mary had come a considerable distance from the United States for this event. Also far from home was Art Day UE from the lower Hudson Valley who received certificates later in the day for Captain Michael Grass UE, Peter Wartman UE and Gilbert Purdy UE.

After lunch, most of the re-enactors switched to Revolutionary War uniforms, and assembled near the beach to draw for their location tickets that designated their new land grants and future homes. When this task was completed, the troops paraded up to the UEL Cemetery for the re-dedication ceremony, where an Honour Guard had been placed previously around the UEL Monument.

The master of ceremonies was Branch Past President, Brian Tackaberry UE, who has played such a pivotal role in the monument project. He welcomed those assembled, the Royal Anthem was played by the Loyalist Fifes and Drums, and the flag was lowered. I brought
The graves where the U.E. Loyalists lie buried

The Centennial Celebrations of 1884

The Centennial Celebrations of 1884 took in a three-day gala event from 16 to 18 June 1884, and attracted large crowds who arrived by carriage, on foot, in crowded boats and by any other available means. The green foliage was set off by the striking red coats of the 15th Battalion who had arrived from Belleville. A large number of speakers were featured over the course of the event. One of the first was Lewis L. Bogart, President of the Adolphustown Celebration Committee, and himself a UE descendant. He was considered to be the oldest living male Loyalist descendant in the area. The speaker who followed Bogart was Dr. Canniff who is likely more familiar to current generations of descendants because of his printed works. A major event that day was, “the laying with Masonic honours of the corner-stone of the new monument to the U.E. Loyalists.” (Old UE List, p. 23) The Grand Master of the Masons was represented by District Deputy Grand Master, Arthur McGuinness. The ceremony concluded with music from the 15th Battalion, “B” Band, Kingston, and the Picton Coronet Band. Later speakers included D.W. Allison MP, Sir Richard Cartwright, and Reverend D.V. Lucas from Montreal. Speeches were delivered with the flag of the Native Canadian Society of Belleville nearby.

The second day featured the laying of the cornerstone for St. Alban’s the Martyr, Adolphustown. Reverend Richard Syles Forneri was the guiding light in that project. A cornerstone for a new Methodist Church had also been placed on 14 June with the honours done by Mrs. James Allison, one of the few remaining of the second generation. Of note was the presence on 17 June of the Lieutenant-Governor who had arrived from Napanee via private yacht. The 15th Battalion and Argyll Light Infantry served as the guard of honour. Speakers on the second day included Chief Sampson Green, Captain Grace, G.E. Henderson QC, former MP J.S. McCuaig, Parker Allen, Reverend C.E. Thomson, MP D.W. Allison and, naturally, Lieutenant-Governor Robinson.

The third and final day featured an array of speakers, “under the shade of the trees and over the graves where the U.E. Loyalists lie buried.” (Old UE List, p. 46)

That brings us to the events that transpired 131 years after the 1884 erection of the monument. It’s perhaps a sad comment on our time but, despite the huge increase in population since 1884, it is much harder to attract an audience to a Loyalist event than it was in 1884.

The UEL Monument was erected in the Loyalist cemetery, established soon after the Associated Loyalists landed nearby in 1784. Over the last decade it was observed that the limestone base was crumbling and action was needed before the granite obelisk tumbled and broke. Happily, this was achieved in 2014, and the monument now stands on a solid granite base. The work was completed by Campbell Monuments of Belleville.

Greetings were presented on behalf of various groups and organizations. The UELAC Honorary President, The Honorable Peter Milliken UE, spoke on behalf of the federal government. Lennox & Addington and Greater Napanee were represented by Gordon Schermerhorn. Mayor and Warden. R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride UE, Immediate Past UELAC Dominion President, represented the District Masons, as the Masons were heavily involved with the original 1884 dedication. President Joe Stafford of the Ontario Historical Society brought greetings on behalf of that organization as did Helen MacLeod for the Ontario Heritage Trust. Our own James Maracle UE represented the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte and Bonnie Schepers UE, UELAC President, delivered a well-crafted speech.

Wreaths were placed at the monument. Those of the Federal and Provincial Governments were carried by The Honorable Peter Milliken UE and Thelma Coulter UE respectively. The wreath for Lennox and Addington and Greater Napanee was placed by Mayor and Warden Gordon Schermerhorn. A wreath on behalf of the Masons was carried by R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride UE, and one on behalf of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte by James Maracle UE. Bonnie Schepers UE (for the UELAC) and I (for Bay of Quinte Branch) placed the final two wreaths.

Bibliography


- 24 - The Loyalist Gazette - - - -
The placing of War of 1812 Veteran Markers has become quite frequent in Ontario’s Quinte area, but not as common as it has been in Niagara. Nevertheless, a second marker was placed at Stockdale Cemetery north of Trenton on 19 July 2015. The first for John Johnson was unveiled last autumn and the latest was for Peter Maybee.

On the hottest day of the summer, relatives and friends gathered to honour this veteran, born in New Jersey in 1775 and who passed away about 1830. He was the son of Captain Abraham Maybee UE and Gerritje Hogenkamp. Peter married Catherine Huff. Their eight children all reached adulthood and left descendants. Peter served in the Northumberland County Militia as did his eldest son Abram P.

The simple ceremony featured the local MP and the mayor of Quinte West, as well as a colour guard from the Royal Canadian Legion in Frankford. It was the second for me, but it won’t be the last. The Maybee Family Reunion near Schenectady, New York took place the following week. American cousins honoured both Revolutionary War Veterans and American veterans of the War of 1812. We can do it here for our own!
On 11 July 2015, over one hundred people attended a ceremony to unveil a graveside marker for Peter Young, a veteran of the War of 1812. The ceremony was held at the Caledonia Old Methodist Cemetery on Winnett Street in Caledonia. Peter Young (1784-1846) was the son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Windecker) Young UE. He was also my third-great-grandfather.

Peter Young was a member of the 1st Essex Flank Company and the 1st Essex Volunteers. He also served sixty days with the 2nd York Militia Regiment after he had been wounded at the Battle of River Raisin in January 1813. A detailed record of Peter’s service and a biography can be found at [http://www.1812veterans.ca/en/searchdetails.php?id=317](http://www.1812veterans.ca/en/searchdetails.php?id=317).

This was the second 1812 veteran marker ceremony in which I have participated. The first ceremony was for Peter’s father, Captain Daniel Young UE, of the 5th Lincoln Militia Regiment. The volunteers at the Graveside Marker Project were very helpful when I supplied documents to show that my relatives served during the war. The complete details of the process for obtaining a veteran marker are outlined on their site at [http://www.1812veterans.ca/](http://www.1812veterans.ca/).

Praise needs to be given to the Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment and the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry for their participation in this ceremony. These regiments have their beginnings with the regiments with which Peter served during the war. They conducted a military act of remembrance and a wreath laying; both were very moving parts of the ceremony.

Reverend Daniel MacLean of Grace United Church in Caledonia recited an opening and closing prayer. The Seneca Wesleyan Church associated with this cemetery closed in the 1870s and amalgamated with another church to form Grace United Church. A volunteer group from this congregation has been working for several years to restore this cemetery that had its last burial in 1900.

Peter Young’s headstone was restored by this group from an overgrown area near the fence line.

Political representatives, MP Diane Finley, MPP Toby Barrett and Councillor Craig Grice, gave brief presentations as part of the ceremony. They spoke of the Young family’s contributions to the area and the importance of recognizing the sacrifices of others in the past that have allowed us to enjoy freedom in Canada today.

A small group of Peter’s descendants unveiled the marker. Pat Kelderman UE, Ken Young and Frank Young (all third-great-grandchildren of Peter) participated in memory of their mother, Lola Timson UE. Lola had been a member of the cemetery restoration group before she passed away last fall. Isabelle Moore Young (five great-grandchild) and Mason Vandyke (seven-great-grandchild) also took part in the unveiling.

I am proud to have contributed to the planning of the Peter Young ceremony. I encourage others to honour their heritage by placing a veteran marker at their relative’s grave.

Above: Mason Vandyke (seventh-great-grandson of Peter Young), Isabelle Moore Young (fifth-great-granddaughter of Peter Young) and Bill Young (third-great-grandson of Peter Young) with the unveiling of the quilt made by Kristin Poon Young (fourth-great-granddaughter by marriage).

Below: Bill Young UE (left) speaks to 100+ people. Photos by Ed Lehming, son of Patricia Kelderman UE, Past President of Thompson – Okanagan Branch, BC.
Last July, the Hamilton Branch celebrated the 100th anniversary of the UELAC with a bus tour to Essex & Kent Counties. The passengers received an education in the history of the area and especially its involvement in the War of 1812. The local militia, the Essex 1st, Caldwell’s Rangers and British regulars were at the major Battle of Fort Detroit on 16 August 1812.

On 23 May 2015, my sister, Susan Hutchins, and I honoured ancestors from both sides of our family. They were on the same Fort Malden pay list and took part in the Battle of Fort Detroit. Isaac Ferriss, on our maternal side, was just 17 years old at the time. The local paper in 1936, records that Isaac Ferriss was a big and strong man. He volunteered to swim across the Detroit River to spy on the Americans who were on Bois Blanc Island, leading up to the Battle of Fort Detroit. William Hutchins, on our paternal side, was 65 years old and had worked at the King’s Navy Yard, next to the fort, as a ship builder and a seaman. He would have been knowledgeable about the river, the islands and navigation in the area.

Reverend Jon Forbes, pastor at St. Andrews’ Anglican Church in Harrow, officiated at both cemetery locations. My eldest son, Paul Nicholson, commented on the new Veterans of 1812 plaques project. He explained that it is supported by the Federal Government’s fund for War of 1812 initiatives. Hopefully, a large data base can be built that will show the resting places of these veterans. The Canadian government has never officially recognized these soldiers, and they are not represented on cenotaphs at Remembrance Day despite having fought for this country fifty-five years before its formation.

Chris Carter, vice-president of the local heritage society, HEIRS, told us who the militia were at the time, and spoke about the Caldwell’s Rangers. He noted that they were the rough and tough men who did the “dirty work” that the British did not want to do or be linked to. Chris asked our three re-enactors to explain their kits: Jeremy Parsons, a member of Brock’s 41st regiment; John McLeod, a member of the Caldwell’s Rangers; and Mike Danaher, a member of the British Indian Department. They fired a three-musket salute, the veteran’s salute, to recognize these veterans at both cemetery sites.

My second son, Jonathan Nicholson, spoke at the Hutchins’ Pioneer Cemetery site about the land. This was the original New Settlement, Lot 97, granted to our Loyalist ancestor, John Cornwall UE, after the American Revolution. William Hutchins, the War of 1812 veteran we recognized, was granted 83 acres of this lot after it had been sold by Cornwall. The cemetery site is in a small grove of trees between Cornwall Beach Road and Lake Crest Beach Road so the Cornwall name is still recognized today.

Ken Turner, President of Pioneer Cemetery Preservation in Ontario, spoke about clearing this property nearly twenty years ago, when it had been forgotten and abandoned. In 1999, the Hutchins family erected a large, red granite marker to help preserve the site. There are only a few of the old marble markers still standing. The marker for William Hutchins was broken into several pieces, all lying on the ground. This day, a new grey granite marker was unveiled for him that included his name, dates, the inserted plaque and the words “1812 Veteran.”

Susan and I each read the stories of both our ancestors. Susan’s children, Bryce and Gwendolyn McCloskey, unveiled the marker. My daughter, Sarah Nicholson, invited all present to a social time at one of the local wineries where appetizers and beverages awaited them.

It was a remarkable day with favourable weather and about sixty-five people present.

To learn more about the War of 1812 veteran plaques visit http://1812veterans.ca/en/index.php.

We encourage everyone to recognize these early ancestors who preserved the land that became Canada.

There has been a lot of local enthusiasm for this plaque project. I have been asked to speak at the HEIRS meeting in September to explain our event and the application process. Best of all, Chuck MacDonald, of the local Harrow Legion Branch, has erected Canadian flags at both cemetery locations. We are all truly proud!
Bay of Quinte

By Peter W. Johnson UE

It’s no secret that our Branch’s focus for 2015 has been the re-dedication of the UEL Monument at Adolphustown, an event covered in a separate article. Nevertheless other activities have also taken place at the Branch.

Our year began with our annual pot luck and show ‘n’ tell at Napanee. The earliest item on display was a 1761 token from the Coronation of H.R.H. George III, courtesy of Brian Tackaberry UE.

In March the Branch made use of the Masonic facilities in Frankford where we were entertained by Deseronto Archivist, Amanda Hill and Norman Clark, Mayor of Deseronto. It was a well-received and informative presentation, supplemented with a lot of visual images.

On 09 May, we were back at Adolphustown for our AGM, with featured speaker: author and historian, Roy Macskimming, who is currently researching the early life of Sir John A. Macdonald. Sir John had a number of connections to the Quinte area. Some of his younger years were spent at Hay Bay, and his first court case was in Picton. He had been accused of assault and he defended himself. He won but, had he lost, he would not have been able to continue as a lawyer, which in turn means he would not likely have ventured into political life. It was a small case but the implications for the history of our country were enormous!

This fall we look forward to meeting in the Ameliasburgh area in September and back in Belleville to close out the year.

Calgary

By Linda McClelland UE, Project Manager

The AGM and Banquet was held on 03 May at the Sheraton Hotel. Forty people attended. After dessert, Neil Lund spoke to us about his ancestors who settled in Glengarry. He gave a succinct, yet detailed, account of his Scottish ancestors and why they left for New York and the Glebe, in the Ottawa area.

Books of Loyalist content that have been donated to the Calgary Branch have been housed in the Alberta Family Histories Society Library.

Congratulations to George Tapley, Treasurer of the Calgary Branch, who received the Masonic Order of the Purple Cross with the Free Masons in Louisville, Kentucky, on 01 August.


Calgary Branch members attended the Loyalists Come West 2015 Conference that was held this year in Victoria from 28 to 31 May at the Coast Victoria Harbourside Hotel.
Our first newsletter of 2015 celebrated the coming events for our Branch; of special note was the 90th Birthday of a founding member, Art Keller UE, held just after Christmas. The whole family gathered for a lovely dinner at the Royal Hotel in Chilliwack. The highlight of the event was when daughter, Maralynn Wilkinson UE, (Victoria Branch) presented Loyalist certificates to Art’s grandson, Ross Keller and great-grandson, Tre Angus Keller, (son of Ross).

Our Spring Fleet meeting, held on 21 March, celebrated Heritage Day and St. Patrick’s Day as well. A presentation on Irish Palatine Loyalists was given by President, Shirley Dargatz UE. A Loyalist certificate was presented to Leon Merchant UE for Loyalist, Caleb Powell UE. Member Chris Hay UE showed us a portrait of Major Richard Witham Stockton of the New Jersey Volunteers that he had obtained from Stockton family descendants who remained in the United States. A book, entitled Early American Painting, by F.F. Sherman, published in 1932, is the last known reference to its existence, but its whereabouts now is unknown.

Chris also uncovered a great story about Major Stockton written in the book, Kidnapping the Enemy, involving the special operation to capture Generals Lee and Prescott of the Revolutionary Army. Major Stockton played a key role. Great sleuthing Chris!

02 May 2015 saw the branch participate in the Abbotsford LDS Family History Day. Our display elicited quite a few enquiries and we have gleaned a few new members due to our participation.

Chilliwack Branch had eight branch members attend the Annual Conference in Victoria over the 28 – 31 May 2015 weekend. Highlights included the Government House reception, the “Loyalist Fare” dinner, Gala Banquet with the Greater Victoria Police Chorus and the Sunday Church service officiated by our own President, Shirley Dargatz UE. Special congratulations go to Carl Stymiest UE for being recognized with the Dorchester Award. A number of Chilliwack Branch members served on the Conference organizing committee and enjoyed seeing all their plans come together. What a wonderful event, even if we do say so ourselves.

Chilliwack Branch will celebrate its 25th anniversary in October

At our Triple Berry Social on 27 June, it was announced that member, Chris Hay UE, had been presented with the City of Vancouver Heritage Award in recognition of his rediscovery of the Stanley Park Rock Garden, his promotion of its existence and his advocacy for its restoration. The Rock Garden was created in 1911 by his great grandfather, John Montgomery.

Loyalist Day in British Columbia was on 22 July and Chilliwack Branch celebrated with a flag-raising ceremony on the steps of the Chilliwack City Hall. Her Honour Mayor Sharon Gaetz was in attendance together with Desmond Devnich, Constituency Assistant to MLA, John Martin.

Ninety-six year old member, Dorothea Hankin, who lives about one hundred kilometres from Chilliwack, does not get out much these days. Her family arranged a get-together in Chilliwack so that she and her niece, Pat Huth UE, could be presented with their certificates for their Loyalist, Jesse Bigelow UE. A few family members joined the occasion and a beautiful luncheon followed.

We are planning a couple of special events to present certificates at family reunions in August and October. As well, Chilliwack Branch will celebrate its 25th anniversary in October with a special gathering. Stay tuned!
By Paul Preece UE, Branch President

It was a busy and exciting year for our Branch, as many of our members took part in celebrations that honoured those who made a positive contribution to our society and brought about change. Change can be defined as transforming something to make it different, “as in to change history.” Sometimes change can be difficult and have varying degrees of success or failure. Many of us do not like change and become set in our ways but I try to look at change as something that adds value to whatever it is we are trying to improve.

As we move closer to a Federal election, we know that change for the sake of change is not always the best solution. However, if one changes to make a difference, it becomes worth doing. For our Branch, this was the year in which one of our members was honoured for making a difference and making a change in a positive manner. At this year’s UELAC AGM and Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, David Ellsworth UE was honoured for his dedicated service as Standard Bearer for the Association over the past fourteen years. Along with this service, he generously donated full sets of Canadian, Provincial, Territorial and Loyalist flags to each UELAC Region. He was presented with a Leyda Campbell print of Lake Louise. Thank you, David, for making a difference in a way that honours our heritage.

Other members were involved with events for those ancestors who made a difference and served in the War of 1812. A ceremony to honour the Loyalist, Aaron Doan UE, and his son, Levi Doan, for their service in the militia during the War of 1812 was held on 23 May. Aaron Doan is one of a very few men who served in both the American Revolution and the War of 1812. On 13 June, Bill Young UE assisted in the unveiling of an Interpretive Plaque and a Memorial Stone that highlighted the service of Daniel Young UE in the War of 1812. The ceremony took place at Ryckman’s Park, part of the Young Family Homestead. The next day, 14 June, the descendants of Burris Dell gathered at his grave on Grassy Brook Road at the Young-Misener Cemetery, for a ceremony honouring his service in the War of 1812. Along with Burris, brothers Henry, Martin and Peter Dell were also honoured for their service. Brenda Denyes UE planned the unveiling of a War of 1812 grave side Plaque for Private Isaac Corman, 2nd Flank Company, 5th Regiment, Lincoln Militia, on 22 August at the Stoney Creek Municipal Cemetery.

The Annual Flag-Raising Ceremony took place in Niagara-on-the-Lake on 20 June. About twenty-five of our members, many in period attire, came out to help commemorate the raising of the Union Flag. As well, Councillor, Terry Flynn, on behalf of the Lord Mayor Pat Darte, was in attendance to proclaim Loyalist week and assist in the flag-raising. Three members of the Fort George Fife and Drum Corps provided music. Following the ceremony, we were treated to a very nice lunch at the Strewn Winery. After lunch, about ten of our members went on a wine tour.

Thanks to the efforts of our members, the Branch will continue to grow and make a difference in the promotion of our heritage.

A letter sent after the event.

To be recognized by the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada was a great compliment, but it should be me that is thanking you.

David hasn’t had it easy being in a family where your brother and cousins all excelled in school, but the one thing that David learned that they didn’t, was how to put forth his hand and help others and not forget to say thank you. Being handicapped makes it hard to be accepted into organizations, but the one thing that I can say about the Loyalists is that he was welcomed with open arms and I am very grateful for that. I know that he isn’t the greatest flag bearer, stabbing the ceiling a couple of times and tripping up the stairs, but the one thing that he is, is being dependable.

Thank you for recognizing him and, as you could see, he was greatly surprised.

Sincerely and loyally yours,
Betty Ellsworth UE
Edmonton

By Betty Fladager UE and Earle Fladager

The Edmonton Branch held the Annual Meeting in February 2015 at the First Presbyterian Church. Prior to elections, discussion centered on the completion of the Branch Book Project. All forty copies were sold and it was moved that a second edition be prepared. Bob Rogers UE agreed to take that on with some assistance from Earle Fladager. Fifty copies were printed and will sell for the price of $20.00 each plus handling and shipping. Anyone interested can contact Bob at rogersclann"at"gmail.com.

The elections proceeded with Len Thornton remaining as President; Val Thornton as Secretary; Earle Fladager Treasurer; Dave Rolls UE Genealogist; Betty Fladager UE and Earle Fladager co-Chairs for Membership; Martie Workman UE as Financial Consultant. The Vice-President position is vacant. It was decided that the Branch Annual Banquet would be held this fall. Earle Fladager contacted the Mayor’s Office and obtained Mayor Don Iveson’s Proclamation for the UEL date of 19 June. Thank you to the City of Edmonton.

Two social meetings were held in the spring with the last one in May. Bob Rogers UE advised that he and his wife Dorothy would be attending the UELAC Conference in June at Victoria, B.C., and they would have some of the branch books, Descendants to Alberta, for sale. Another event was the presentation of UEL Certificates to Kristina Harrison UE, her son, Joshua UE, and daughter, Skylar UE. Their Loyalist ancestors are Andrew Ritchie Sr. and Jr. Another Certificate was presented to Alan Miller UE for Captain Garrett Miller. All certificates were presented by Branch Genealogist, Dave Rolls UE. Alan Miller UE went to the UELAC Conference where his Certificate was presented again by Dominion President, Bonnie Schepers UE.

Zoe Thornton and Adara Thornton

Some of the Branch young members were involved in activities during the spring. Zoe Thornton, Adara Thornton and Melanie Fladager UE all received Gold Medals in both individual and group dancing competitions in Banff, Alberta. These competitions were at a very high level.

The Branch has been submitting acceptable historical documents for five or six years now to the Provincial Archives and just recently the fourth box of Membership Records, Minutes of Meetings, etc. was taken to the Archives for retention. The records must be historical and not genealogical. This procedure will be carried out annually.

Hamilton

By Pat Blackburn UE & Ruth Nicholson UE

The February Annual Meeting was well attended. Since February is Black History month, we were privileged to have Nerene Virgin and her husband, Alan Smith, give their talk about a local Dundas black doctor, Dr. Roman, who gained prominence internationally as a physician, philosopher, civil rights advocate and educator. Nerene Virgin is a Canadian journalist, actress, and television host, best known for her role on the children’s television series, Today’s Special.

We supported the Heritage Fair at Burlington Central Library, setting up our exhibit table outside the speakers’ room. We were very appreciative of our seven members who gave of their time telling the Loyalists’ story and providing information on our Branch.

The following weekend was the Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association Recognition Awards at Hamilton City Hall. Our members who received awards were Martha Hemphill and Frank Rupert. The Branch exhibit board was also on display in the hallway outside the Council Chambers.

It should be mentioned that in February one of our Education Committee members, Jean Rae Baxter, was in Vancouver for a book tour. She also found time to complete presentations at three Secondary Schools in the area, a public library, Arts and Letters and attended the Vancouver Branch UELAC to talk about The Black Loyalists. Outreach does not mean just in our home territory as Jean showed us in February. Jean launched the fourth book in her Loyalist heritage series in August. It is entitled Hope’s Journey. Each book is fascinating in the amount of background research that has been accomplished to create remarkable narratives that are fast paced and very enjoyable to read.
Several executive members attended the Regional Meeting in London in April. This is a once-a-year opportunity to network with people from all our local Loyalist Branches in Southern Ontario. This year our incoming Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, came from Brandon, Manitoba, to meet us and to encourage us to bring in new members. Regional Councillor, David Hill Morrison, gave a wonderful Power Point presentation on social media and Facebook in particular. There is something new to learn at each meeting.

On Saturday, 25 April, a Wampum Belt Ceremony – Remembering the Pledge of the Crown, was re-enacted for the 200th Anniversary. Many of the Iroquois Confederacy chiefs from as far away as Thunder Bay, Grand Island, New York and eastern Ontario were present. Bob Rennie, re-enactor, took the part as William Claus, the Indian Agent at the time. Marilyn Hardsand and Pat Blackburn of the Hamilton Branch were in attendance.

Five members attended the Dominion conference that was held in Victoria, BC, this year. It was a superlative experience in a beautiful part of Canada. Bonnie Schepers handed over the Dominion presidency to Barb Andrew at the annual meeting held on 01 June. We are indeed fortunate to have gifted people give of their time to lead our Association.

On 23 June, Pat Blackburn, Marilyn Hardsand and Ruth Nicholson attended the unveiling of the interpretive panel, illustrating the early settlement of Daniel and Elizabeth Young at Ryckman’s Park, in Hamilton. Daniel received his land grant for his service during the War of 1812. His wife, Elizabeth Windecker, received her land grant as a daughter of the Loyalist, Henry Windecker. Branch member, Dr. David Faux, has actively sought the preservation of the Young family settlement and cemetery locations over many decades. Dr. Faux, Bill Young and Tom Nelson worked together to document and preserve the location of this homestead site.

During the spring all Committees were busy behind the scenes. Some of the Cemetery Plaquing team met at the Milton Historical Society archives to go over possible Loyalist families who could have a UEL buried in one of the local cemeteries. We will be plaquing the Abraham DeForest Cemetery at the end of August. The town of Milton is busy grooming this abandoned-looking cemetery.

The Executive agreed to hire someone to assist us in preparing educational panels for our new exhibit board. Linda Stanley, of Canadian Art Cards, was chosen and people were involved in providing ideas as to how we should proceed as well as picture choices, family stories, etc. It took two months of planning and discussion to complete our new display board.

The first place of use, for our new presentation board, was at Battlefield Park, in early June, for the school children who attended the Battle of Stoney Creek re-enactment. Secondly, we had the board on display for Loyalists’ Day at the Hamilton Art Gallery. Comments were very favourable: most had not seen such an informative display board.

The Education Committee completed fifteen in-school presentations this past spring. Talks were given at a Mountain public library to about sixty adults and children and to approximately thirty adults at the Joseph Brant Museum.

29 April was the Provincial Volunteer Awards held at Liuna Station in Hamilton. Members of our branch who received awards this year were Martha Hemphill (20 years), Michele Lewis (10 years), and Ruth Nicholson (15 years).

Towards the end of July, the Branch held a picnic supper at Crawford Lake Conservation Area. It is an interesting heritage site with three Iroquois longhouses, built on their actual earlier locations. There is also a wonderful wooden walkway around Crawford Lake, a meromictic lake [a lake having waters that do not intermix] that was inside a cave prior to glaciation. Limestone walls border most of the lake. Large wooden carvings introduce those who enter the wonder of this site.

Finally, we participated in outreach on Joseph Brant Day, in early August, at LaSalle Park in Burlington. Our table was set up at an open pavilion and many came to visit. We are fortunate that several members enjoy being at our table, speaking to those who visit us during this community time in Burlington.
Heritage

By Robert Wilkins UE, CMH, Heritage Branch President

Since the Branch’s autumn Charter Night Dinner, scheduled for 22 October 2014, was cancelled without warning that very day, by order of the Department of National Defense, owing to the terrorist attack in Ottawa, the Branch organized, as a replacement, a special Spring Dinner, held at the same venue, the Officers’ Mess of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada’s Armoury, on 22 April 2015.

The guest speaker was Hon. Lt. Col. Colin Robinson, a former C.O. of the Royal Montreal Regiment, which had celebrated the centennial of its foundation in November 2014. Col. Robinson delivered a fascinating illustrated talk about the history of the RMR (Canada’s first bilingual regiment), focusing on its involvement in World War I, especially at the Second Battle of Ypres, which began exactly one hundred years before the Spring Dinner, on 22 April 1915. It was the first time that nerve gas was used in battle.

Heritage Branch was delighted that the Spring Dinner 2015 was attended by the then Dominion President, Bonnie Schepers UE, and her husband Albert, who, having come to Montreal in October for the Charter Night Dinner that was cancelled at the last minute, graciously agreed to return in April. Several members of the executive of the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch also attended, as they traditionally do, their participation being highly appreciated. Total attendance at the Dinner amounted to forty-nine people, a record number in recent years. That number included Branch members and a guest speaker.

The Branch’s Annual Meeting was held during the course of the Spring Dinner. The financial statements for 2014 were approved, the Branch auditor was re-appointed and the Branch executive officers were re-elected to serve until the next Annual Meeting. Two positions in our Branch remain vacant: Mark W. Gallop UE resigned from the Branch Genealogist’s post in the fall of 2014 owing to his relocation to New Brunswick, and the Branch Librarian, H. Gordon (Gary) Aitken UE, died unexpectedly on 20 February 2015.

On March 28, Branch President, Robert Wilkins UE, delivered a talk about the Loyalists to the Quebec Family History Society at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Beaconsfield, Quebec. A new member joined the Branch on that occasion.

The Loyalist banner was displayed at the memorial service in honour of the late Branch Librarian, Gary Aitken UE.

Heritage Branch is attempting to find a suitable person to assume the duties of Branch Genealogist, without which no Branch can operate effectively. One Branch member has been approached and appears willing to take on the job but the formal appointment has yet to be made by the Branch Executive, probably in the autumn. Mr. Gallop, although out of his death in writing the official history of the Grace Dart-Montreal Extended Care Hospital. As well, he was a keen researcher, a respected Branch officer renowned for his good judgment and cooperation in all things. Gary was a most congenial ambassador for the Branch and the UELAC wherever he went. It is not clear at present whether anyone will be found to continue his dedicated involvement as Branch Librarian.

The Branch continues to sell copies of The Loyalists of Quebec 1774-1825: A Forgotten History, as well as copies of its collections of Loyalist-related poetry and essays compiled by Branch member, Adrian Willison from submissions received from other Branches across Canada.

The UELAC’s Centennial Book, released at the Centennial Conference in Toronto in June 2014, is also available from the Branch, as well as copies of many back-issues of The Loyalist Gazette.

Other commitments in Montreal unfortunately interfered with the usual attendance of the Heritage Branch President and his wife at the Annual Meeting and luncheon of the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch in Philipsburg, Quebec, on 20 June.

Branch officials continue to attend events of a host of other organizations, associations and societies in the Greater Montreal area and to network extensively with them, as in the past, promoting where possible the Loyalist heritage and the UELAC, and seeking new members. Most recently, the Branch President and his wife Maura and the Immediate Past Branch President and his wife Sylvia attended the Montreal Highland Games in Verdun, Quebec, on 02 August 2015.

Branch President Wilkins and wife Maura hope to attend the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch’s picnic in Dunham, Quebec, on 06 August, possibly together with the Immediate Past Branch President, Okill Stuart UE, and wife, Sylvia. The Branch President also intends to be at the rededication of the Paul Holland Knowlton House in Lac-Brome (Knowlton), Quebec, on 15 August. The next Heritage Branch Charter Night Dinner is also being planned for Montreal in October. These events will be reported in due course.
On Sunday, 19 April 2015, renowned author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, was the guest speaker at Kawartha Branch, talking about her third novel, Freedom Bound (2012), dealing with the Black Loyalists. Jean, from Hamilton Branch, is the author of a number of historical fiction books including: The Way Lies North (2007); Broken Trail (2011); Freedom Bound (2012); The White Oneida (2014); and Hope’s Journey that was released in September 2015, in what has become known as the “Forging a Nation” series.

As well, the Annual General Meeting, held the same afternoon, resulted in the election of the Officers of Kawartha Branch for 2015 – 2016.

On 29 May 2015, Kawartha Branch members, Keith Borland UE, Wimpy Borland UE, Joan Lucas UE and Roxey Tuckett UE, received the Ontario Volunteer Awards in Peterborough while Isabel Wessell UE received her Ontario Volunteer Award in Lindsay.

Several members of our Branch were able to attend the Annual Conference and AGM in June in Victoria, British Columbia. Attending a National Conference makes one appreciate the diversity across our country and to marvel at the distant places many of our ancestors called home. Having hosted the National Conference twice in Peterborough, the last in 2004, I know how much energy goes into organizing the many details that make a conference a success. Congratulations on an outstanding conference, BC Branches! Many in our Branch are now looking forward to next summer’s conference in Prince Edward Island.

Kawartha Branch has been very fortunate to benefit from the experience and dedication of many Past Presidents who have contributed to the growth of the Branch over the years. Immediately upon becoming Kawartha Branch President, I organized two flag-raisings: one in Peterborough and the other in Lindsay, on 19 June 2015. This year we were able to involve classes from nearby schools at both locations. The music provided by the enthusiastic students greatly enhanced these events as did the picture-perfect clear blue skies and active participants.

Our first general meeting was held on 20 September and celebrated the recipients of six certificates. At our October banquet, we had the opportunity to hear Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, our special guest on this occasion.

Together we are stronger!
Members of Little Forks Branch UELAC are happy to announce that we have finally got the Little Hyatt One-Room Schoolhouse freshly painted, or rather stained, with much thanks to the financial grant received from the UELAC. It looks lovely, glowing in Country Red with white trim, standing on the well-groomed green lawn!

We were most happy to have been able to engage “professional” students through College Pro who are earning their tuition fees to return to college this fall. Three of the four students are returning to Champlain College (Bishop’s University Campus) in Lennoxville. These students were immaculate. They pressure-washed the building beforehand and never dabbed white on red nor red on white. Quite a challenge! They used drop sheets throughout the procedure so as not to mess up the lawns, respecting the possibility of visitors arriving to view the school classroom and the heritage site. We feel that it was most appropriate to have been able to help students returning to further their education, all
The while allowing them to observe how their ancestors may have received their education. They rather thought that it was amazing!

Having re-shingled the main roof three years ago, repaired the culvert and added crushed stone to the driveway last year, everything looks very appealing! Now we just need to re-shingle the shed!

With the Interpretation Panel being accessible at all times, we were elated to read beautiful comments in the guest book written by a descendant of Dr. William Wilson of Milby (originally called Wilson Mills). Dr. Wilson is well noted on the Panel for being instrumental in building the St. Barnabas Anglican Church, located just across the road from our schoolhouse, and his son, John, who helped build several of the local Covered Bridges in this area is also noted. The descendants were visiting from England.

The Loyalist Gazette

The meeting was followed by two presentations. Loyalist Historian, Stephen Davidson UE, demonstrated how The Book of Negroes can be used as a tool by historians and genealogists to learn about the Loyalist period and also assist persons in family research. Kerry Delorey, President of the 84th Regiment of Foot, 2nd Battalion, Regimental Association, dressed a volunteer in the uniform of a member of the 84th Regiment that included the highland great kilt to show how a soldier in the Royal Highland Emigrants, based in Nova Scotia during the American Revolution, dressed and the equipment he carried.

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The Branch has started to hold meetings in different locations around the province and invite a guest speaker to each meeting. This was the second meeting, following upon one held in Shelburne in September, 2015. The next meeting will be held at the Tusket Court House and Museum on 19 September 2015 with Peter Crowell, Municipal Historian and Archivist, as guest speaker.

Current and future news of the Branch is now being posted in its Facebook Group known as “Nova Scotia Branch – UELAC” and all who are interested are invited to join. As well, the Branch has a Facebook page that has photos and information added to it regularly called “Nova Scotia Branch United Empire Loyalists’ Association.” The new Branch website also has links to more information and is found at http://www.uelac.org/NovaScotia.

Sir John Johnson Centennial

2015 AGM and Luncheon

By Evelyn B. Lewis

On Saturday 20 June 2015, at 11:30 a.m., members and friends of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch gathered in All Saint Anglican Church Hall, in Dunham, Quebec, for the Annual General Meeting and Luncheon. Reverend Sinpoh Han, Rector of the church said Grace. The members, seated at tables of eight, decorated with vases of spring flowers were treated to a delicious dinner. During the meal, Fred Gilman proposed a Toast to the Queen. Edwina Bougie, on behalf of the members, thanked the ladies of the church for a meal enjoyed by all. Adelaide Lanktree then introduced Michel Racicot who presented a very informative and interesting Power Point presentation of the restoration of the vault and the burial of the remains of Sir John Johnson ceremony held on 23 August 2014 at Mont Saint-Grégoire, Québec. Heather Larocque thanked the speaker.

Past President Roderick Riordon, in the absence of President Gerald Thomas, asked Flag Bearer, Wesley Larocque, to present the flag and the members sang God Save the Queen. He then welcomed everyone especially visitors from Vermont, New York and Ontario. Gene Hicks from Vermont spoke about the launching of the Royal Archives Project...
to digitize and catalogue more than 250,000 papers of personal documents of King George III. The results of this project will likely transform our understanding of the Georgian Period, especially events during the American Revolutionary War. Anne Redish, UELAC Central East Regional Vice-President from Ontario, addressed the members with greetings from central office. The greetings were followed by a short business meeting that included the election of the Executive for 2015-16: Past President Roderick Riordon, President Gerald Thomas, First Vice-President Michel Racicot, Second Vice-President Marven J. Beattie, Treasurer Louise Hall, and Secretary Evelyn B. Lewis. The meeting closed with the members standing to sing “O Canada” and the flag was retired by Flag Bearer, Wesley Larocque.

The Gravestone of Sir John Johnson Repaired in 2014

By Michel Racicot

In 1969, the Missisquoi Historical Society granted permission to have the gravestone of Sir John Johnson placed in a niche in the wall of the Missisquoi Museum when the new section of the museum building was to be bricked the following spring. The gravestone, that had been removed by vandals some years past from the door of the Johnson Family funeral vault, had lain for several years under a tree near apple storage at Mount Johnson, now Mont Saint-Grégoire. The stone, that bears the barely-legible inscription, Sacred to the memory of the Honourable Sir John Johnson who departed this life of the 4th Jan. 1830, aged 88 years, was installed in 1970 in the outside wall of the Missisquoi Museum at Stanbridge East, where it remains today, but the old stone was in such bad condition and much of the lettering was hardly discernible that re-lettering of the stone was practically impossible to do. It was therefore decided that a plaque would be placed beside it. This bronze plaque reads as follows: 1742–1830 – Sir John Johnson – Indian Commissioner and a foremost Loyalist from New York State, who led the Loyalist Regiments during the Revolutionary War. Buried at Mount Johnson, Que. – Erected by the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch of The United Empire Loyalists.

Over the years, the niche where the gravestone is housed, had crumbled and began to pull away from the museum wall and, if nothing was done to repair it, the gravestone would eventually fall and break. During the summer of 2014, Branch President Gerald Thomas undertook the project of having the niche repaired. That was done successfully.

The Gravestone of Sir John Johnson is also part of QAHN’s Identity of English-speaking Quebec in 100 Objects. For more information on the history of the gravestone, please visit QAHN’s website: http://100objects.qahn.org/content/gravestone-sir-john-johnson-1830.

Toronto

In January we enjoyed a visit to the studio of artist, Charles Pachter, along with Governor Simcoe Branch. This was a wonderful opportunity to view the works of one of Canada’s leading artists. Mr. Pachter gave a talk explaining how the Simcoe period of our Canadian history has impacted his work, and gave examples using his works.

Patricia (Trish) Groom UE was elected President of Toronto Branch at our AGM in February. In April, local historian, Bill Genova, took branch members on a walking tour of old Yorkville. Some of you may remember Jonathan S. Loftt from the church service at St. Albans during the 2014 UELAC Conference. At our May branch meeting he expanded on the life of Edward Marion Chadwick and the role that Chadwick played in the formation of the UELAC. Jonathan has been back several times since to use our branch archives and has found some interesting material on Chadwick.

Linda Young and Martha Hemphill took part in the Ontario Genealogical Society Seminar in Barrie at the end of May. It was a great opportunity to see some of our members who live in that area, to attract new members, and to promote the Toronto Branch.

Linda Young and Trish Groom represented the Branch as judges at the Toronto District School Board Heritage Fairs both West at Fort York and East at the Scarborough Civic Centre. They were pleased to present the Toronto Branch UELAC Award to two students from North Kipling Junior and Middle School for their project relating to Early Ontario History.

As in previous years, we joined forces with Gov. Simcoe Branch for Loyalist Day ceremonies at Queen’s Park. We were honoured to have Lt. Gov. Elizabeth Dowdeswell address to our group. She is a very gracious lady who made time to speak to everyone after the formal part of the programme ended.

Vancouver

By Linda Nygard UE, Branch Genealogist

At our first meeting of 2015, Christine Manzer UE, Vancouver Branch Secretary, showed members how to enter their Loyalists in the Directory of Loyalists at UELAC.org. Then it was time for our annual slide show: A Year in Review.

In February we had a special Guest Speaker in honour of Black History Month.
Jean Rae Baxter UE is an award-winning Canadian author who has written a number of books depicting life during the American Revolution. Freedom Bound (2012) “explores the history of black Loyalists.” Jean was joined by members of her family and had prepared a power point presentation. Later Dr. Peter Moogk UE gave an interesting presentation on the history of the Canadian flag in honour of its 50th Birthday.

The St. Patrick’s Day Parade was our big event in March. Although the Vancouver Branch was well represented, once again, the Little Family “Loyalist dog” was the only one to make the evening news.

At our April meeting, we had a “Clothing Loan and Sale” for those attending the May conference in Victoria. We would like to extend congratulations to Dr. Peter and Susan Moogk on their 50th Anniversary.

April and May celebrated BC Heritage Fairs in many Metro Vancouver elementary schools. A number of Vancouver Branch members serve as adjudicators to select presentations that best represent our Loyalist Heritage. Those students receive special awards from the Vancouver Branch and many of those students will bring their presentations to our September meeting.

We were well represented at the UELAC Conference in Victoria. Some of our members were very involved in the planning and implementation of this conference. What a wonderful time with good people from all across Canada. Three friends of Carl Stymiest UE, sisters Carol Kelly, Elaine Kenney, and Margaret Hay, received their Loyalist certificates for their Loyalist ancestor, John Kelly UE.

Our June meeting was dedicated to a Slide Show and review of the conference in Victoria.

In June, our branch display is always a familiar site at the BC Highland Games in Coquitlam. We have participated in this popular event for a number of years: a fun day with Scottish dancers, Scottish games and pipers in kilts.

On 19 July, four Chilliwack members joined the Vancouver Branch for the 4th Annual BC Loyalist Day celebration in Queen’s Park, New Westminster. Mary Anne Bethune UE presented a new Loyalist Flag to the Vancouver Branch on behalf of her cousin, Anne Grierson UE. Anne passed away in 2014 and bequeathed money for the branch. Linda Watson UE did the research to make this flag a reality.

We finished our summer activities with a picnic at Brigade Days, Fort Langley. It was 03 August, the BC Day holiday Monday. Each Brigade Day, the weather has been extra hot so we meet under the shade of a large tree just inside the main gate. Some walked behind the Piper, through the historic town to the river, to watch the canoes come down the river.

The first meeting of 2015 was in February. Our guests were the Belleville Greeters. They modeled clothing from 1800. Kathleen Burton wore an authentic gold silk dress. Linda Witham modeled a yellow cotton print dress. They both had petticoats and hoops, and their hats were from the same era. It was a very enjoyable demonstration.

In April, Emily Carr, played by Molly Newman, was our guest. She did a reading from The Book of Small by Emily Carr, played a banjo, and sang.

Our UELAC Conference, Loyalists Come West 2015, was a great success with one hundred and forty people in attendance. It was held at the Coast Harbourside Hotel and Marina in Victoria from 28 to 31 May 2015.

Co-chairpersons were Carl Stymiest, Vancouver Branch, along with Aurelie Stirling and Robert Ferguson from Victoria. Catherine Fryer, Victoria Branch, was the registrar and did a fantastic job. Registration was held on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There was a genealogist and membership meeting that afternoon. In the evening a welcome reception was held at Government House where we were received by the Honourable Judith Guichon OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.

We were welcomed by the Town Crier and treated to a wonderful array of appetizers.

On Friday there were two workshops:
- A Day in the Life of a Fur Trapper and
- Adding DNA to Your Genealogy and Family History Tools. That was followed by a buffet lunch. In the afternoon, there was a tour of UEL graves in Ross Bay Cemetery, by John Adams of The Old Cemeteries Society.

A tour of Government House Gardens was also held where a blooming Loyalist Rose was discovered. There was as well a tour to Church and State Winery in Central Saanich. Each evening the hospitality suite was open until midnight with Jan Ouellett catering and other members helping. There was an exhibit room with many items on display and for sale.

The Friday night social was in the Coast ballroom. A Loyalist Fare menu and drinks from the 1700s were served. UEL certificates were presented to Alan Miller, Edmonton Branch, and Betty Compeer and Kirsten Schrader, Victoria Branch. The Leith Award was presented to Pat Kelderman UE, Thompson-Okanagan Branch. John Adams gave an interesting talk to finish the evening.
Saturday morning, the AGM was held, followed by the Dominion Council Meeting. Self-guided tours were available. Many people took the Harbour Walk and a trip to Fishermen’s Wharf, where the best fish and chips can be bought. There was also a walking tour, led by John Adams.

The Gala Banquet was at 6:00 p.m. with a piper leading the colour party and parade of dignitaries. Musical entertainment was by the Greater Victoria Police Chorus. Barb Andrew was welcomed as our new UELAC President. Bob Ferguson presented a picture to David Ellsworth for his many years of being a flag bearer and giving flags to the UELAC Branches. Aurelie Stirling presented Bonnie Schepers, retiring UELAC President, with a native flute. A Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Confederacy Flag was presented to Carl Stymiest on behalf of David Hill-Morrison who was unable to attend. Bob Ferguson presented Albert Schepers with a picture. Carl Stymiest was presented with the UELAC Dorchester Award by Gerald Adair.

On Sunday, a church service was held in James Bay United Church with Shirley Dargatz officiating. Some UE attendees arrived by horse and carriage and most were in period outfits. Group photos were taken after the service and we returned to the hotel to disembark for home with many happy memories.

The last event until the fall was our Loyalist Picnic in Beacon Hill Park on 22 July. A total of thirteen members gathered for lunch and a social time.
AGM in Victoria

Middle Left:
At the UELAC conference in Victoria are, from left: Dominion President, Barb Andrew; Alan Miller, Edmonton Branch; Aurelie Stirling and Kirsten Schrader of Victoria Branch; Genealogist, Maralynn Wilkinson. (Alan and Kirsten are related to Aurelie.)

Middle right:
Pre-Banquet Meet and Greet: Rebecca Fraser, Vancouver Branch. Both of these photos and the top photo taken by Karen Borden UE.

Bottom two photos:
The men and ladies who attended the James Bay United Church service on Sunday, 31 May 2015.
HANCOCKS, Elizabeth

Elizabeth (Libby) Hancocks UE, AOCA, CG

Elizabeth Hancocks UE, for nearly a quarter of a century Dominion Genealogist of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada, died at Grace Hospital in Scarborough on 13 February 2015, after a short illness. She was 87.

Elizabeth was a research genealogist with more than a half-century of experience. A graduate of the Ontario College of Art in 1951, she first became interested in genealogy in 1962 as a result of the accidental excavation of a family cemetery during a construction project at Finch and Dufferin Avenues in northwest Toronto.

She was a founding member of the first branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society in Toronto, and has been a member of the UELAC since 1962.

Libby, as she was known to friends and colleagues, served the OGS publication Families as its Queries Editor from 1969 to 1978, and was fully familiar with the ins and outs of query genealogy.

She was the first non-USA citizen, ever to be certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists in the United States.

As she gained genealogical expertise, she became a member of the National Genealogical Society of Washington, D.C., and held the rank of Certified Genealogist for the Board for Certification of Genealogists in the United States. She was the first Canadian, indeed the first non-U.S. citizen, ever to be certified by that century-old organization. In 1985 she was elected to its Board of Trustees where she represented a Canadian professional voice in North American genealogical research matters.

The descendant of a Loyalist, William Casey UE of Rhode Island, she has always been vitally interested in Loyalist lineages, and played an active role in the affairs of the UELAC.

She was Branch Genealogist for the Governor Simcoe Branch (Toronto), 1965-1972, then Assistant Dominion Genealogist at the UELAC headquarters for several years. In 1972 she was named Dominion Genealogist, a post that she held until 1986. In 1977 she was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Medal for her work on Loyalist pedigrees. She was again nominated Dominion Genealogist in 1998, a post she held until her death.

A professional researcher for hire, her work was accurate and methodical. She was researching in the 1970s when the Ontario Archives was just a room over the Sigmund Samuel Museum in Toronto, a time when researchers were handed original documents to check (no microfilm), and was indexing by hand long before computers gained ascendency.

She has many genealogical books to her credit. She wrote the preface to Scottish Roots. She was compiler of Loyalist Lineages of Canada, 1783-1983. Her series County Marriage Registers of Ontario and Surrogate Court Index of Ontario, Canada, 1858-1900, compiled with June Gibson, are essential tools for the study of genealogy in Ontario.

Her personal interest in Prince Edward County, in particular, has led her to publish much information on that area, including census and cemetery data.

She is also the author of the chapter on Famous Ontarians and The Shaping of Ontario for Loyal She Remains. The standard research map set of Ontario, one of a genealogist’s most useful briefcase research tools, was compiled by Libby.

Her later interests all revolved around Loyalist genealogy. She remained an active participant in the Association, and was recently given the Dorchester Award by the UELAC for her contributions to Loyalist history. She is survived by her husband of sixty years, George; son, Seaghan, and wife, Sandi; daughter, Shannon, and husband, Arastou Rafizadeh; son, Casey, and wife, Kim; grandchildren, Cristiona and husband, Bill McKay; Alex, Stephan, Coral, Roya, and Emma; and great-grandchildren, Brydon, and Mikayla. She was loved and will be missed by all. Interment took place at Glenwood Cemetery, Picton, Ontario, on Monday, 24 August 2015, along with the 1812 Veteran plaque ceremony for her ancestor, William Johnson. Condolences may be sent to George Hancocks at george@atirogers.com.

JONES, Orlo

Submitted by Peter Van Iderstine, President Abegweit Branch UELAC.

Orlo Jones grew up in rural Prince Edward Island and comes from good Loyalist stock. She believed that her interest in Loyalist history and genealogy originated from the time that she was a little girl and often listened to her great uncle recount tales of the trials and tribulations of the Loyalist pioneer settlers. She grew up to become a medical technologist in various Canadian and United States centres. With a degree from Douglass College, Rutgers University, she taught first in Linden, N.J. and then
at Summerside High School (1964-1977). However, over the years, she continued to strengthen her knowledge of Loyalist genealogy. She studied P.E.I. genealogy whenever she could, to the point where she attended courses with the Mormons at Brigham Young University and subsequently she was granted the title of Certified Genealogist.

She is most proud of being instrumental in the standardization of genealogical procedures within our country. For many years, Orlo has planned, organized and conducted genealogical seminars and workshops throughout the Maritimes and New England – once venturing as far west as Manitoba. She became a good friend of the renowned Maritime genealogist, Terry Punch.

Orlo evolved into an authority on matters related to genealogy, particularly on P.E.I., where she was the Abegweit Branch genealogist for more than ten years. She is widely known and respected for her encyclopedic knowledge of genealogy and her forthright manner throughout Maritime Canada and beyond.

Orlo co-authored the Abegweit Branch’s reference book The Island Refuge and she has been a contributing author to many other books and pamphlets. Over the years she has helped countless descendants of Island Loyalists flush out their family tree.

In retirement, she remained an enthusiastic supporter of all things Loyalist and was a valued member of the Abegweit Branch.

Honours and Awards
- 1981 - Who’s Who in Genealogy and Heraldry
- 1983 - 5000 Personalities of the World, American Biographical Institute
- 1985 - Foremost Women of the Twentieth Century, Cambridge, England
- 1987 - Two thousand Notable American Women, Raleigh N.C.,
- 1987 - Biography International, Delhi India
- 1987 - Orlo Jones Trust Fund Established
- 1988 - UELAC Honorary Vice-President
- 1989 - Mary Cornfoot Brehaut Award
- 1992 - 125 Commemorative Medal

Ruby Glenna Laduke Moore (1908-1990)

Twenty-five years ago, Ruby Moore left us for a better world. Today, let us remember her as the moving spirit behind the formation of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch in 1967.

“It is Ruby Moore that we have to thank for having the initiative in 1966 to respond to the request of the representative from the Dominion Headquarters in Toronto, Mr. E. John Chard, that a United Empire Loyalist Branch was formed here in the Townships. Ruby Moore had the foresight to see that Missisquoi County was the natural place to start such a movement since so many of the early settlers here were Loyalists.” —Marion L. Phelps, the late curator of the Brome County Historical Society.

During the summer of 1967, E. John Chard UE, UELAC Dominion President, visited the Missisquoi Museum at Stanbridge East, Quebec, where he met Ruby Moore, genealogist of the Missisquoi County Historical Society. He soon realized that Mrs. Moore had a remarkable knowledge of the history of the region. Several years later John Chard made this comment on his first visit in Missisquoi: "It soon became evident that there was now support for a gathering of the Loyalist descendants, but according to a universal custom, they relayed the work of finding prospective members onto one person, Ruby Moore. They could not have made a better choice."

In 1975, Ruby Moore retired as Genealogist of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch. She had served the Branch as Genealogist since its inception in 1967. In a newsletter dated 01 October 1975, Branch President Gwendolyn Fuller wrote: “Perhaps some of you may have heard that we had a dinner party in honor of Ruby Moore, on July 21 at my home and Ruby was surprised by a presentation of a purse, by all present. Perhaps this is a good opportunity to praise our great and noble worker, Ruby Moore, for, without her ability, her enthusiasm and her willingness, there probably would not be such an important branch as the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch. We can never forget all she has done for the branch – not only as Genealogist, but throughout."

Ruby Laduke Moore died on 18 May 1990. She was a descendant of Loyalist, John Fordyce UE, a pioneer settler of Fordyce Corner, a small hamlet today part of the town of Cowansville, Quebec, where Ruby lived for years. —Michel Racicot

Lola Jean TIMSON UE (nee Norsworthy)

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, 22 February 2015 at the Stedman Community Hospice in Brantford, Ontario. Predeceased by husbands, David H. Young and Roy Timson. Loving sister of Doris Thompson, Mable Fisher and Barbara Lalonde (Larry). Predeceased by siblings: Ina Herod, Slim Norsworthy, Howard Norsworthy and Margaret Hunter. Will be sadly missed by her children: Patricia (Rob) Kelderman, Beverley Balch, Jane Pettigrew, David (Denise) Young, Ken (Jenn) Young and Frank (Kim) Young. Dear grandmother of twelve, great-grandmother of eighteen and second-great-grandmother of two. Cremation has taken place as has a memorial service and interment of her ashes in Caledonia Cemetery.

Lola Timson UE was a valued member of the Grand River Branch and mother of the Branch’s Past President, Bev Balch UE, and Patricia Kelderman UE, Past President of the Okanagan Branch. Lola was proud of her Loyalist heritage and served the Branch well.

...
The United Empire Loyalists

Author: Sara Mitchell
Pubisher: Weigl Educational Publishers Ltd.
Paperback, 24 pages © 2015
pbk., hc. & ebook, $11.95 (pbk.), $23.95 (RLB), $34.95 (ebook).
Grades 3-6 / Ages 8-11
Reviewed by Christine E. Manzer UE

This colourful book will be a welcome addition to all school libraries and to the home collections of UELAC members with young children or grandchildren. The book provides a simple and accurate overview of the Loyalists and is one of six titles in the publisher’s series called Coming to Canada.

Families and students in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes will find easy to read segments about the Loyalists’ arrival in these provinces (or soon-to-be provinces). The Black Loyalists and First Nations are also represented in the book. There is an attractive half-page on the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada (UELAC).

The page of key words, the Loyalist quiz, and the index make this book ideal reference material for middle school student essays — particularly for Heritage Fair projects. It concludes with an encouragement to find other books in libraries and provides three web-site addresses for further interesting facts. The book can be purchased in a durable bound edition, paperback or an electronic version.

Loyalist Descendants to Alberta: In recognition of the 100th Anniversary of The UELAC 1914 – 2014

Edited by Earle Fladager UE and Robert J. Rogers UE
Publisher: Edmonton Branch UELAC
$20.00 plus $15.00 shipping. Orders can be made through the Edmonton web site: http://members.shaw.ca/edmonton_uela/
Reviewed by Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc.

Almost every time we catch a moment to read about Loyalist ancestors, we obtain new perspectives about the people, places and events that made up the 18th century world and the life-altering politics of the American Revolution and its aftermath. The value in pulling together collected stories about how and why Loyalists migrated west is the connection we make “between the lines” in the printed text. The reward of a great deal of diligent research has paid off in the production of this fine book. How proud the contributors must be to see the collective anthology of generations who lived through all of the major events that shaped the West and the development of our nation!

How did this or that family serve as Loyalists? What prominent events did they survive? Where were they in the hungry years? Who helped families start again in Canada? Why did families split up? Why did some migrate westward? These are questions that Edmonton’s centennial project answers.

Lovalist-era history is being presented to the public in a variety of avenues ranging from university textbooks to historically-based fictional novels and television documentaries. The Loyalist Gazette invites publishers to send publications for review to: The Loyalist Gazette Review Editor, Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc., c/o Maple Grove Farms, Indian River, Ontario. K0L 2B0. Phone: 1-705-295-4556. E-mail: gazette.editor@nexicom.net.
through well written and illustrated stories. As if to anticipate your interest, the editors have included an alphabetical index of the Loyalists who are described in the collected stories.

As Heather Traub states in her acknowledgements, thank goodness for the many resources available to our ancestor-hunting sleuths! She was also grateful for new connections in family, a formerly unknown cousin, and the opportunity to share what we know about our Loyalist past.

This book would be very useful as a study aid in schools where first person accounts about life in the old days are part of the curriculum – a worthy centennial project!

### Moving Ever Westward: The Loyalists Descendants come to British Columbia

**Edited by Dr. Peter Moogk UE**

Publisher: Vancouver Branch, UELAC

Soft cover, 150 pages. © 2015.

Books are available from the Vancouver Branch for $35.00, including postage.

Order from: Carl Stymiest UE, cstymiest@**gmail.com**.

Reviewed by Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc.

In his foreword, Dr. Moogk reminds the reader that the descendants of Loyalists were at the front of each stage in Vancouver’s growth since the 1790s. On a grander scale, they laid the foundation of English-speaking Canada: its government, its laws, and its growth as a nation.

Dr. Moogk begins by pointing out that descendants of American Loyalists came to British Columbia from Eastern Canada, a region that was settled by Loyalist refugees over 200 years ago. He introduces the term “Chain Migration,” meaning that one intrepid Loyalist sets out west to make his living and at some point brings relatives to live near him.

With a concise and informative introduction about the Loyalists, this spiral-bound book is divided into four distinct time periods of migrations westward: exploration and the fur trade, the mining era, world wars and hardship, the post-war era. Twenty-four stories written by Loyalist descendants in the Vancouver UELAC Branch provide a glimpse of the indomitable spirit of the Loyalist and their descendants who settled in this country. The stories are carefully documented and are carefully laid out for the ease and enjoyment of the reader.

To members of the UELAC, this book represents one of the finest examples of the mandate of our organization: to preserve the memories and the records of our Loyalist past and to publish information about Loyalist experiences.

Dr. Moogk concludes by hinting that this book represents a part of our history that we have only just begun to explore. Indeed, this is a worthy project to commemorate the centennial of our UELAC; reading it is time well spent.

### The Book of Negroes

**Author: Lawrence Hill**

Publisher: Harper Collins Publishers Ltd.


Hardcover, 486 pages. © 2007

$34.95 when first published

Reviewed by Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc.

In January 2015, I watched the CBC mini-series, The Book of Negroes, directed by Clement Virgo and starring Aunjanue Ellis as Aminata Diallo. The six episodes put a spotlight on a neglected part of the Loyalist story – the story of the Black Loyalists. The story of Aminata, an enslaved African, was very compelling. At times, it was difficult to watch the relentless violent images of white injustice and the hardships of slavery that were filled with raw emotion. Yet the viewer still hoped for Aminata to find her way home and return to a normal life in Bayo, her African village. This desire to return to Africa is the central theme of the novel. That was the fast-paced series.

Then I read the book.

Reading the fine prose of Lawrence Hill’s historical novel slows down the action to reveal the depth of culture and life experienced by the villagers of Bayo. This was the world that Aminata knew until she was eleven years-old. Hill has superbly and mindfully revealed this child’s will to live; he recounts the story about the horrors of the very cruel treatment
that slave traders inflicted upon an innocent and proud people. Aminata realized soon after her captivity that it was her duty to live and remember, to be a story-teller so that one day she might give an account of all that happened. The characters created by Hill – especially Aminata – are so authentic and life-like that the reader feels their presence, their will to survive, and their desperation to return home.

Lawrence Hill ... used maps, ships records, diaries, memoirs, food, religion, and personal contacts in order to understand the time, places, and people

This novel brings to life the facts and meagre details of the people who are recorded in the real Book of Negroes, the emancipated slaves who came as Black Loyalists to British-held Nova Scotia. Lawrence Hill includes four pages that list the sources he studied and explored. As well as drawing on the story of the Loyalist expulsion at the end of the American Revolution, he also used maps, ships records, diaries, memoirs, food, religion, and personal contacts in order to understand the time, places, and people who lived in the 18th century. Chief among these, of course, were the enslaved Africans who endured so much hardship.

This book is built upon the historical facts that shaped Aminata’s life experiences. One of the greatest disappointments was the treatment suffered by the Black Loyalists in Birchtown, Nova Scotia. There white Loyalists’ bigotry that led to racial unrest is clearly documented through Aminata’s eyes; and what she saw unfortunately contained more truth than fiction.

After reading The Book of Negroes, I am convinced of its great value. The story it contains fulfils one of the aims of the UELAC – sharing Loyalist history with a wider audience. Where would the writer/researcher be if he could find historic sources? If the diaries and memoirs no longer existed? If he could not access original sources? We are mandated to preserve and keep records of the past, particularly of the Revolutionary period. If one ever need ask why, this historic novel is a very clear demonstration of the value of historic records, the importance of the Black Loyalist story, and the need to make this heritage known.

The Road to Canada: The Grand Communications Route from Saint John to Quebec

By W.E. (Gary) Campbell


Reviewed by Mark W. Gallop UE

Every time regional or global tensions rose, the Grand Communications Route returned to prominence for the military and colonial administrators. For example, in the fading days of the French Regime, the British Navy’s potential to attack supply ships from France prompted Governor La Jonquière to cut a road over portages to facilitate troop movement and to allow the passage of pack animals.

By contrast, the period from 1760 to 1775 was one of the few where the Route lost importance because both the Thirteen Colonies and Quebec were under the same master. The easier winter communication link up the Hudson and Champlain Valleys between New York and Montreal and Quebec took precedence, at least until the fall of Fort Ticonderoga to the American Rebels in 1775.

The Revolution and its aftermath brought the route back to prominence. The Treaty of Paris of 1783 did little to lessen the need for it, in part, because few felt the treaty would last, and because ambiguous wording left the precise border in doubt. The arrival of civilian Loyalists and the Loyalist regiments provided the opportunity to better secure the St. John River Valley through land grants. At the same time, Acadians, who were the most experienced couriers along the route, petitioned Governor Haldimand for land grants in the upper reaches of the river system. Many of them felt insecure in their land titles in southern New Brunswick (as it became in 1784). Eventually, they sold or abandoned


their land to take up the grants in the Grand Falls area where their settlement would “contribute much to facilitate the communication so much to be desired between the two provinces.”

From the Revolutionary War through to the American Civil War regional and international tensions kept underlining the importance of the Grand Communications Route as vital to the protection and prosperity of British North America. Most famously, in the winter of 1813, the 104th Regiment of Foot travelled along it from Fredericton to Kingston, coming to the defence of Upper Canada. This 52-day journey was completed by 550 men and 20 officers, mostly on snowshoes.

By 1840 a road to accommodate wagons and sleighs was opened up as far as Grand Falls, New Brunswick and eventually to Rivière-du-Loup in Lower Canada. A decade later a telegraph line would follow the Grand Communications Route. The route was of such strategic importance to British North America that the Maine-New Brunswick border remained under dispute until settled by the Treaty of Washington in 1871.

My great grandfather came to Montreal to earn his fortune. I don’t know when he first returned to Nova Scotia with a bit of prosperity to show for himself, but it would likely have been by steam ship or rail. A railroad to the Maritimes was a condition of Confederation. The last link of the Intercolonial Railway was completed in 1876, joining with the Grand Trunk line that ran up the St. Lawrence to Rivière-du-Loup.

The Road to Canada is the fifth volume in an on-going series, sponsored by the New Brunswick Military Heritage Project. Another book in this series is Hope Restored: the American Revolution and the Founding of New Brunswick by Robert L. Dallison. As such it focuses primarily on the military development and strategic use of the route through the centuries, with less comment on trade and migration. This little-known story is compellingly and concisely told and is crucial to how our country developed.

This little-known story is compellingly and concisely told and is crucial to how our country developed.

The second portion of the book features the Master Roll covering all known soldiers who served in the King’s Rangers. Details include surnames with alternate spellings, ranks, enlistment dates, company within the regiment, service details, age, height, where from, trade, and known family details. Of course information varies from man to man.

With the focus on Adolphustown and the Associated Loyalists’ landing site, it is easy to forget that the King’s Rangers settled immediately east of there and would have had a disembarking spot of their own – along with the 2nd Battalion King’s Royal Yorkers with whom they shared Fredericksburgh Township.

The Master Roll of the Regiment will prove very useful for descendants, and many will find an ancestor whom they didn’t realize served in the Corps. The only change I would offer is there appears to have been two John Diamonds who served, not one. One married a Loyst and the other married a Gordonier. The latter was the son of Jacob Diamond UE who also served. Once again Gavin Watt has served up a valuable offering that will prove useful for historians and genealogists alike. It’s available through Global Genealogy. Costs are: Coilbound $25.95, Book on CD $14.95, Book on PDF download $9.95. To order, visit their website at www.globalgenealogy.com.
Loyalist historians can be so immersed in the people and events of the American Revolution that they find it difficult to step back from their research and see the “bigger picture.” They see the Revolution from a North American perspective and fail to appreciate what was going on within the British Empire between 1776 and 1783. When they try to determine why the British “lost America,” blame is quickly directed at incompetent officers and over-confident politicians.

Andrew Jackson O’Shaughnessy’s 2013 book, The Men Who Lost America: British Leadership, the American Revolution, and the Fate of the Empire, shatters the myths surrounding Britain’s loss, providing a larger perspective on the events of the War of Independence. It is a book that should be in every Loyalist historian’s library.

In his introduction, O’Shaughnessy states, “The men who lost America were able and substantial individuals who nevertheless failed.” The author then describes how he will look at the Revolution through the lives of ten prominent British officials, evaluating his “subjects in terms of the constraints and the obstacles that contributed to their failure.”

Over and beyond the ten biographies, O’Shaughnessy provides a rich description of the era. “Britain had the advantage of a professional army, the largest navy in the world, officers who were veterans of many campaigns, the availability of military supplies, and ready access to credit. Britain had a vibrant economy that was leading the way in agricultural innovation, commerce, banking, credit, and canal building, and was fast becoming the first industrial nation in history. It is little wonder than many contemporaries imagined that the war would be an easy triumph for Britain.”

North American historians often assume that the only concern of the British government at this time was the war in America. O’Shaughnessy points out that after 1778, Britain was fighting in a global conflict with France, Spain, and the Netherlands. It was “engaged not only in the war for America, but in the protection of British possessions in the West Indies, the Mediterranean, Africa and India.”

The author demonstrates that “the eventual defeat may be ascribed to factors other than the quality of the leaders who were contending against major constraints.” Separated by the Atlantic Ocean, military orders took months to reach America. There were chronic shortages of horses, food for refugees as well as troops and lumber in addition to a fractured system of command, and the need to keep costs down. The British army and navy were overstretched in global war; they had no allies, and there was growing parliamentary opposition in England.

One finding by O’Shaughnessy will generate much discussion among Loyalist historians: “The most fundamental miscalculation of the men who lost America was the assumption that the Loyalists were in a majority and that they would rally in support of the army. This was the error that led to their most disastrous decisions: the attempt to solve the imperial crisis by coercion, the slow buildup of military forces at the beginning of the war, the failure ... of Generals John Burgoyne and Sir William Howe ... and the planning and conduct of the southern campaign.”

“... the men who lost America were also the ones who saved Canada, India, Gibraltar and the British Caribbean.”

O’Shaughnessy’s research is not all doom and gloom. In his conclusion, he reminds his readers that the men who lost America were also the ones who saved Canada, India, Gibraltar and the British Caribbean. British commerce with America not only revived, but exceeded the volume of trade before the Revolution. At the death of George III, the British Empire comprised one-twentieth of the global population, and was already the largest empire in history, upon which “the sun never set.”
Sometimes it feels like ‘two steps forward, one step back.’ I’m referring to our progress in spreading and promoting the word about the Loyalists. Here are some recent examples of this process.

On 11 May, Angela and I drove to Watertown, New York, where we had been invited to speak to the Jefferson County Genealogical Society, a group that wanted to hear about the Loyalists. More significantly, the organizers of the event included members of the DAR and SAR. This would have been unheard of not too long ago. The event even got positive promotion in one of the local newspapers.

We did not go down there expecting to convince the audience that the Loyalists were the ‘good guys,’ but I did warn them that referring to their beloved Patriots as the ‘Rebels’ was the norm for us. Rather, the focus of our presentation was to inform them about the types of documents available to those researching Loyalist ancestors. In Upper Canada, at least, the focus is on the rich **Upper Canada Land Petitions**. For those researching Rebel ancestors, the focus is more on U.S. Pension Files. Just about every question following our presentation was posed by members of the audience who had, one way or another, some connection to a Loyalist in Canada. They are out there!

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It’s a reminder that we are not on the heritage “radar”

I’ve long felt an American UEL Branch would be an interesting concept, and it might be very beneficial in terms of promoting the UELAC south of the border. As an aside, we were in Watertown early enough to have a look at the old cemetery. Once again, I was struck by the links between families there and here. Quite a number of old markers were of the Massey family. Of course, some of the Masseys were post-war emigrants to Upper Canada and founded the farm equipment empire.

In April, H.R.H. Queen Elizabeth II hosted an event at Windsor Castle to formally launch an ambitious digitalization project involving the papers of H.R.H. George III. When completed, this will make available to researchers, a source that earlier was difficult to retrieve. One might be forgiven in thinking that an invitation would have been extended to the UELAC as we are the descendants of the loyal American subjects from that tumultuous time. Instead, the invitations were extended to the current presidents of the SAR and DAR, descendants of the Rebel side who certainly made good use of the event in their own magazines. True, the DAR and SAR are much larger organizations with a larger profile, but the UELAC was either overlooked or not deemed important enough. It’s a reminder that we are not on the heritage “radar” as prominently as we should be.

Closer to home, a lot of work and promotion went into the rededication of the UEL Monument at Adolphustown. One downside of an otherwise successful event was the lower than expected number of spectators. It’s hard to take our rightful place as an equal with the SAR and DAR when our own Canadian public is so often ambivalent when it comes to our heritage.
Donations to UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS CHARITABLE TRUST are now possible electronically through www.canadahelps.org. A link is made for key words such as United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada, UELAC, or UEL. CanadaHelps issues a tax receipt for the donation. When UELAC is notified, an appropriate acknowledgement is made, based on the information given.

- Make donation cheques payable to the UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS CHARITABLE TRUST and indicate on the cheque for which Branch, Fund or Project the donation is intended: i.e. Memorial Fund; Scholarship Fund; or Branch Projects.
- Any cheque with no donation specified will be deposited in the General Use Fund.

Mail donations to: UELAC Dominion Office, 50 Baldwin St., Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1L4

- Donate Shares to UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS CHARITABLE TRUST. When a donor wants to make an "in kind" donation of shares, the UELAC provides detailed information to Wood Gundy who completes the process for the UELAC.

- Tax receipts will be issued for all monetary donations. The receipts will normally be issued when the donation is received.
- For donations to branches, the tax receipt and a letter of appreciation will be sent to the donor. The treasurer will send a cheque to the branch treasurer.
- For donations to branch projects, the tax receipt and a cheque will be forwarded to the branch. The branch will send the tax receipt and a letter of appreciation to the donor.
- For further information contact: donation “at” uelac.org.

In Honour of Anne M. Grierson
Vancouver Branch

In Honour of Gwendolyn Smith, UELAC President 1984-1986
Fred H. Hayward

Sir Guy Carleton Ruch Bursary
George Anderson

Sir John Johnson
Burial Vault
Charles Harbéc

Loyalist Scholarship Fund
Grand River Branch
Gov. Simcoe Branch

UELAC
William J. Patterson
Douglas Grant
The following received certification from the UELAC on the dates indicated and from the branches shown.  Note 1 indicates members who requested on the certificate application form that their names be unpublished. If one wants to contact any member listed below, please indicate whom and contact their branch via e-mail. Branch contact persons can be found on the UELAC website: http://www.uelac.org/branches.html. The branch contact person will then notify that branch member on your behalf, and the member will then be able to respond to you.

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<td>Margaret Susan Hay</td>
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<td>Joseph Wardell</td>
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Jonathan Iain Miller Adair       | John Carscallen       | Saskatchewan | 2015-02-17   |
Sharon Edna Dixon                | John Carscallen       | Saskatchewan | 2015-02-17   |
Sharon Edna Dixon                | Daniel Fraser         | Saskatchewan | 2015-02-17   |
Richard Paul Cameron Adair       | Valentine Detlor      | Saskatchewan | 2015-02-17   |
Note 1                         | James Stewart Sr.     | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-17 |
Note 1                         | James Stewart Sr.     | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-17 |
Note 1                         | David Bertran         | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-17 |
Note 1                         | David Bertran         | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-17 |
Ira May Catherine Peters        | Joseph Haines Sr.     | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-17 |
Rosalyn Margaret MacTavish      | George Woodley, Sr.   | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-18 |
Timothy William Earl Noble      | John Alexander Quick   | Bicentennial  | 2015-02-18    |
Roberta Leigh Metcalfe Casella  | Bartholomew London    | Hamilton      | 2015-02-21    |
Linda May Stewart Slote         | James Milton Vernon Stewart Sr. | Hamilton | 2015-02-21 |
Leon John Merchant               | Caleb Powell          | Chilliwack    | 2015-02-21    |
Martin David Mills               | Jesse Mills           | Nova Scotia   | 2015-02-21    |
Wayne Maurice Garr               | Jacob Beam            | Col. John Butler | 2015-02-21 |
Yvonne Marie Diamond Hamn       | John Diamond          | Bay of Quinte | 2015-02-22    |
Grace Elizabeth Compeper        | Jacob Mable           | Victoria      | 2015-02-22    |
Grace Elizabeth Compeper        | Solomon Mabee          | Victoria      | 2015-02-22    |
John Joseph Noble               | Issac Carner          | New Brunswick | 2015-02-22    |
Lorie Jane (Quick) Neufeld      | John Alexander Quick   | Bicentennial  | 2015-02-22    |
Linda Lee (Quick) Townsend      | John Alexander Quick   | Bicentennial  | 2015-02-22    |
Laura Jean (Quick) Bartel       | John Alexander Quick   | Bicentennial  | 2015-02-22    |
Michael Prescott Gleason        | Henry Bulysa          | Little Forks  | 2015-02-22    |
Viola Patricia Huth             | Jesse Bigelow         | Chilliwack    | 2015-02-22    |
Reginald Edward Hickmott       | Simon Girly           | Manitoba      | 2015-02-22    |
Irvin Francis Diamond           | John Diamond          | Bay of Quinte | 2015-02-22    |
Stuart Eric Denyes              | John Conrad Sills     | Bay of Quinte | 2015-03-10    |
Lesley Sarah Denyes Linville    | John Conrad Sills     | Bay of Quinte | 2015-03-10    |
Marcia Marie Lowe Byrd          | Thomas Everett        | New Brunswick | 2015-03-10    |
Joan Loretta Featherstone      | Cornelius Vollick     | Kawkawlin     | 2015-03-10    |
William Dean Hitchcock          | William Van Koughnet   | Hamilton    | 2015-03-10    |
Alan Cecil Norton               | Evert DeWitt          | Hamilton      | 2015-03-10    |
Janice Louise Stokes            | Martin Algire         | Hamilton      | 2015-03-10    |
Shawn Edward Stewart            | James Milton Vernon Stewart Sr. | Hamilton | 2015-03-10 |
Norman Douglas Quick            | John Alexander Quick   | Bicentennial  | 2015-02-22    |
Lana Judson Rayner              | John Garner           | Hamilton      | 2015-03-10    |
Lana Judson Rayner              | Isaac Van Sickle      | Hamilton      | 2015-03-10    |
Marion Isabelle Smith Tail      | Christian Price       | Col. John Butler | 2015-03-10 |
Dean Michael Troup              | Christian Price       | Col. John Butler | 2015-03-11 |
Brenda Ozoz                    | Abel Gilbert           | Bicentennial  | 2015-03-26    |
Lorraine Nadene Cook            | James Van Alstine     | Saskatchewan | 2015-04-08    |
Lorraine Nadene Cook            | Lydia Larroway        | Saskatchewan | 2015-04-08    |
Hannah Marie Rogers             | George Henry Player    | Edmonton     | 2015-04-23    |
Hannah Marie Rogers             | James Rogers          | Edmonton     | 2015-05-05    |
William Donald Campbell Bailey  | Andrew George Ritchie  | Edmonton     | 2015-05-06    |
Anne Moira Patterson            | Peter Ferguson        | Edmonton     | 2015-05-06    |
Laura Joan Pattison             | Peter Ferguson        | Edmonton     | 2015-05-06    |
Randy James Ewen                | Allan Nixon           | Col. John Butler | 2015-05-06 |
Russell John Thomas Beare Hicks | Benjamin Hicks        | Col. John Butler | 2015-05-06 |
Priscilla Joy Hicks Newman      | Benjamin Hicks        | Col. John Butler | 2015-05-06 |
Harry Richard James Newman      | Benjamin Hicks        | Col. John Butler | 2015-05-06 |

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New UE Certificates Issued has been included in an on-line directory within the UELAC web site where the information can be quickly and easily accessed by name or date. These New UE Certificates Issued will be up-dated regularly at www.uelac.org/certificates.php. However, by popular request, New UE Certificates Issued will also continue to be published in each issue of The Loyalist Gazette.

The Loyalists Came to Celebrate and Offer Support

By Ann Davidson

“The Loyalists came to celebrate and offer support.”

New UE Certificates Issued shows up on the grounds of the BCHS [Brome County Historical Society] Museum on Saturday and were among the honoured guest speakers for the official celebration of the opening.

While Donald Gray-Donald graciously accepted the gift of a Loyalist flag from Gerald Thomas, President of the Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch of the UELAC, Anne Redish, Central East Regional Vice-President from Kingston, spoke about their continued presence in Canadian society.

Redish introduced other members of the UELAC contingency: Robert Wilkins and his wife Maura, President of the Montreal Heritage Branch of the UELAC. She also thanked Gerald Thomas and Adelaide Lanktree of the UELAC for their kind assistance. She proceeded to explain that the mandate of her organization is to support preservation of Loyalist history and presence in Canada, protect the artefacts related to Loyalists’ lives, and to promote understanding of their heritage.
Tamer Abdalla, dressed as a private in the Glengarry Light Infantry, at the soldiers’ barracks of Historic Fort George where he worked for Parks Canada. Photo by Cosmo Condina, www.cosmocondina.com, who wrote: The British military did not normally segregate soldiers based on ethnicity. Richard Pierpoint, a Black Loyalist, formed the “Coloured Corps” that fought at Queenston Heights and Fort George and, in 1814, helped build Fort Mississauga. Men of African descent, who fought in the War of 1812, knew that, if captured by Americans, they could be sold into slavery even if they had always been free men.