Major Stockton’s Secret Unlocked after 240 years

Also:
- Private Daniel Swayze UE
- Major John Button’s Troop
- Ode to a Loyal Heart
- Old John Conklin UE of Sleepy Hollow
Attractive Ad Rates

Since the cost of postage has increased almost by half, the editorial team is very pleased that increased costs have not had to be passed on to you, the reader. We are, however, seeking advertisers at the attractive rates listed on page 14.

Our submission deadlines are: January 15th and August 1st. Please submit text as MS Word files and images in high resolution, including your phone number and e-mail address.

Proofreaders

Our sincere thanks to the proofreading team for this issue:

• Bev Craig UE,
• James Edgar UE
• Alex Lawrence UE,
• Bob McBride UE,
• Grietje McBride UE
• William Morrison UE
• Jacqueline Murdoch and
• Paul Thompson.

If you can help with this essential task, please send me an e-mail.

Doug Grant UE is the editor of the excellent UELAC e-mail newsletter, Loyalist Trails. To subscribe, contact him at: loyalist.trails “at” uelac.org. All paid-for advertising for the Gazette should also be sent to Doug.

The Loyalist Gazette, “the window to the world for the UELAC,” may contain viewpoints in some submissions that do not necessarily reflect the philosophy of the UELAC or this editor.

I am always thankful for your feedback and suggestions to ensure that we continue to maintain our high quality.

Remember:
Teamwork Encourages Active Members!

Loyally yours,
Robert Collins McBride (Bob)
UE, B.Sc., M.Ed., Editor.
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Looking back to those first Loyalists who fled to this untamed area of North America, I am in awe of their tenacity, work ethic and the staunch will that they possessed and utilized to the fullest extent to make a better life for themselves and their families. During those early days, whether landing in the Maritimes or areas in Upper or Lower Canada, there is no question that life was hard. Food was scarce, tools and equipment difficult to obtain, and oftentimes weather conditions not favourable to producing crops or the construction of shelter, but their faith in God and will to succeed held them in good stead as they forged their new lives.

Although the main themes of the Government of Canada’s vision for the 150th anniversary of Confederation are diversity and inclusion, reconciliation with indigenous peoples, the environment and youth, it would be a shame if we, as members of an historical association, did not put some focus on the history leading up to the British North America Acts that were at the core of the Constitution of Canada. During this year of celebration as descendants of United Empire Loyalists, we should remember and honour not only our own ancestors and their contributions to this great land, but also folks such as William McDougall QC and Samuel Leonard Tilley. Tilley was one of the Fathers of Confederation who was descended from United Empire Loyalists on both sides of his family. Another Loyalist descendant, William McDougall QC, was a lawyer and journalist, who attended all three Confederation conferences and dreamed of a transcontinental nation.

Our Mission, as members of the UELAC, is to preserve, promote and celebrate the history and traditions of the United Empire Loyalists. There are six points indicating how we will accomplish our mission, and, during this year, 2017, I am hopeful that each and every Member and Branch will look seriously at point number six, that is: participating in projects and activities that honour and celebrate the legacy of the United Empire Loyalists.

Let us take every opportunity to participate in Canada 150 events in our communities and hold our banner high! So many wonderful resources are readily available to us with great ideas to assist in this mission. The Teacher Resource books, as well as back issues of this publication, offer a treasure trove of information to assist in developing a display or presentation that will be both informative and interesting. Recently, while thumbing through the Spring 2005 edition of The Loyalist Gazette, I was reminded that Canadian writer and historian, Pierre Berton, was a descendant of Loyalist Captain Peter Berton, and I thought, “What a great theme for a program or storyboard.” Another interesting article that sparked my interest was in the Fall 2003 Gazette entitled Loyalists and the Fur Trade.

Marcus Garvey, a Jamaican-born political leader, wrote the following: “A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” During this year of celebration of Canada’s 150th anniversary of Confederation, please join with me at every opportunity to remind our fellow Canadians of the contributions of the United Empire Loyalists and their descendants to the history of our country, and push those tree roots deep into our Canadian soil...
Frans A. Compeer, B.Sc.
UELAC Pacific Regional Councillor
and member of Victoria Branch

Frans was born into a loving family in the Netherlands. It was there that he attended primary and secondary school. After graduation, he was unsure about where to continue his studies so he worked for a year in the computer department of an insurance company. He decided to go back to school to study architecture and engineering. In 1978, he received his Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering.

He started his career in the Netherlands, working for an engineering firm where he designed the structural components for buildings. He also did design work for a small aspect of the Eastern Scheldt Dam.

Frans had visited Ontario several times during the 1970s and was hooked on the wide open spaces found just outside the cities. He moved to Toronto in 1982 and was first employed by a contractor. Later, he joined an architectural design and development company. Frans started his own interior design firm in 1991.

After his first marriage ended, Frans met Betty in 1992 and they bought a home in Port Credit that instantly became a design and construction project for him.

During his career in Canada, Frans was involved in the design, planning and management of many different architectural, engineering and interior design projects. These projects ranged from: medical offices, retail spaces, industrial buildings, heritage building restorations, and work for universities, colleges, school boards and private schools. He also worked on large-scale condominiums, social housing projects and recreational & sports facilities.

While in Toronto, he continued his education by studying philosophy, photography, as well as project and facility management.

During his and his partner Betty’s time in Port Credit, they both discovered a new hobby: genealogy. This began after receiving some documents that Betty’s father had rescued, years earlier, from the basement of a building that was going to be razed for construction of the Pickering Power Plant.

Using the Internet, they were able to find out about the life of Charles Fothergill, the person named in the saved documents. That gave them the idea, “well if we can find out about this person, how about our own ancestors?” It opened the door to the ongoing learning about their own families’ histories.

In 2007, Betty and Frans moved to Hamilton, Ontario, where he accepted a job as projects manager for an architectural and interior design firm. They purchased a condo in an historic brownstone in the Durand area of Hamilton, which they later discovered to be the only actively-occupied residential National Historic Site in Canada.

The love of genealogy brought Frans a greater understanding of North American history by following the arrival and endeavours of Betty’s ancestors as they came from Europe to settle in the new world, some arriving as early as the 1620s. Pieter Casparszen Mabie van Naarden arrived in New Amsterdam around 1640 from Holland and, amazingly, the house he lived in is listed on the Costello map of 1660.

The book, The Iconography of Manhattan, page 254, describes the owner and his lot located at [BLOCK D] No. 19: Humble citizens, Pieter, from Naarden, a carman, and Claes Tijssen, a cooper, bought home plots here in October, 1653, from Willem Beeckman [Lots were 20 x 46 feet, on the Gracht.] Van Naarden built a substantial home on the corner of the Marckvelt Steegh. The book explains "Wall Street": In 1653 the war with England threatened the city. Peter Stuyvesant feared attack from European and Native forces. Stuyvesant ordered the construction of the wall, “to surround the greater part of the city...”
Another ancestor, Edmund Wood Jr., who arrived from Yorkshire and first settled in Watertown in 1635, had to ask permission from the Governor of New Amsterdam, Willem Kieft, in 1643 to negotiate the purchase of land on Long Island from the Indians. Permission was given and the negotiations were successful. Today some of those lands are Queens in New York City.

Meanwhile the ancestors on Frans’ paternal side in the Netherlands were operators of water mills and farmers in the 1700s near Gouda and remain in that area to this day. His maternal ancestors lived in and around Bergen op Zoom for centuries where they too were farmers.

On one of their trips west, Frans and Betty visited the birthplace of Betty’s father in Barons, Alberta, and learned of the town’s centennial celebration that would take place in 2010. While driving around in Alberta, they came across the Siksika Nation and found this saying: “We have to return to our past and learn of our beginnings. Only then, we will see clearly all that is ahead of us.”

This trip led to more research, that resulted in the publishing of the book, The Cooper Clan Chronicles, telling the story of the Cooper family after they moved from Aberdeenshire in Scotland to New Aberdeen in Nova Scotia and the subsequent move west by the family. During the research, the discovery of stories about the family in The Lethbridge Herald was a lucky find.

The Cooper family celebrated the town of Barons’ Centennial with a family reunion in Barons.

Frans and Betty first became members of the UELAC in 2008, joining the Hamilton Branch, where Betty received two certificates for her Wood ancestors. They also were members of the Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch. In researching the Wood family, Frans discovered a living Wood relative in Bedford, New York. Upon enquiring, he found that James was a fourth cousin, who invited them to visit. It gave them the opportunity to visit the family farm and the area where Samuel Wood and Peter Wood, the Loyalist ancestors, had lived.

Along came 2013, when Frans and Betty made the big move across the country and settled in Victoria, British Columbia, where he is enjoying an ongoing sabbatical; he is still reluctant to call it retirement.

After their move, they joined the Victoria Branch and become involved with the executive of the Branch. They co-chair Membership and Outreach. Frans assisted in the preparations for 2015 Annual Conference.

More genealogical research ensued and, as a result, Betty received two more certificates, this time for her Mabie ancestors, at the conference in Victoria.

Last year Frans was nominated and elected to serve as Pacific Regional Councillor. He was proposed (at the fall meeting in Toronto) and he accepted to volunteer to chair the newly-formed strategic marketing planning committee. Just last month he started a Facebook page for the Victoria Branch.

In addition to his volunteer work for the UELAC, Frans serves on the Awards Committee of the District of Oak Bay Advisory Design Panel.
London and Western Ontario Branch, assisted by Grand River Branch, will host the 2017 Dominion Conference a week prior to Canada’s Sesquicentennial birthday, showcasing our region to our UELAC guests. Being held at the end of the school year will allow Loyalist guests and teachers to bring children.

Take time before and after the Conference to explore 1812 to 1815 battle sites and local attractions within a one to two hour drive, such as the renowned Stratford Festival and see the Mennonites in and around St. Jacobs Market. Toronto and Niagara Falls are just two hours away. Our Delta Hotel will guarantee a special rate for 3 days before and 3 days after the conference. See details below.

venue for 2017 conference

The Delta London Armouries Hotel is a recently-renovated magnificent old 1905 Armoury, converted into a luxury hotel with a twenty-storey tower. It is centrally located downtown, close to conference events, shopping, and great restaurants. The main Armouries Ballroom will comfortably accommodate 200 seated guests, with The Gunnery Ballroom and Officers’ Club accommodating other receptions, genealogy and membership meetings. The first 200 guests attending the entire Conference will have priority reservations until April 1st, over those guests planning to just attend the Gala Banquet.

50 regular rooms are reserved at the special rate of $157.00 with 10 additional enhanced rooms reserved at $177.00. All rooms received a complete renovation earlier this year and rooms also include free parking. Check the Delta Hotel link at [www.marriott.com/YXUDL](http://www.marriott.com/YXUDL). Registrations may be made through the toll free number: 1-844-254-5055 (mention the UELAC Conference). These room rates are valid the nights of 19-27 June. If staying outside of those nights, ask about CAA discounts. Book early!

conference agenda

Most aspects of our agenda are either firm, or nearly firm. More formal period dress is encouraged for the Saturday Gala Dinner. Business suit and formal wear (Tuxedo, Military Mess Kit and Gowns are recommended at the Gala Banquet). Our Hospitality Suite, Elgin Parlour, will be open nightly from 9:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Thursday, 22 June 2017:

- **Membership Meeting** (9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in The Officers’ Club) followed by lunch.
- **Genealogy Meeting** (1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in The Officers’ Club).
- **Welcome Reception** (6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Gunnery Ballroom and The Officers’ Club).

Friday, 23 June 2017:

Excursion #1:

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Downtown London to include tours of the reportedly haunted Old Middlesex Courthouse and Gaol, The First Hussars Military Museum’s collection of cavalry WWI & WWII militaria, Museum London, with its 5,000 regional and Canadian works of art and 25,000 artefacts, and, finally, London’s oldest residence, Eldon House, built in 1834 by John and Amelia Harris UE, contains family heirlooms, furnishings and priceless family treasures from around the world.
Excursion #2:
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Downtown St Thomas including tours of the 1824 Old St. Thomas Church and Pioneer Graveyard, with its many significant historical grave sites from the War 1812 to 1815, US Civil War, and the Riel Rebellion, to mention only a few. Join us at The Elgin Military Museum, honouring Victoria Cross recipient, Ellis Sifton, and displaying over two hundred years of uniforms and weapons, as well as the statue of Jumbo, P.T. Barnum’s huge elephant killed by a locomotive. Lunch is planned at Trinity Anglican Church, followed by a tour of the St. Thomas Railway Museum, honouring the ‘Railway Capital of Canada.’

5:00 p.m. fellowship will precede the 6:00 p.m. Dinner with an entertaining presentation by WWI Major Reverend Canon Frederick Scott at the Armouries Ballroom.

Saturday 24 June 2017:
9.00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Annual General Membership Meeting in the Armoury Ballroom, followed by an afternoon of shopping, or visits

On Friday you won’t want to miss seeing CNR 5700 Engine at the St. Thomas Railway Museum.
to Banting House, Royal Canadian Regiment Museum, or Fanshawe Pioneer Village. Negotiations are being conducted with the City of London for complementary bus passes for our delegates.

5:00 p.m. fellowship followed by our 6:00 p.m. Gala Banquet with keynote speaker, Hon. Peter Milliken, and Pipes & Drums entertainment.

**Sunday 25 June 2017:**

10:00 a.m. Loyalist Church Service at St. Paul’s Cathedral that houses many great historical artefacts, four blocks from the hotel, followed by a light lunch, after which the Conference is complete.

Loyally yours,
G.T. (Greg) Childs, CD,
Chair, 2017 Dominion Conference Committee, London and Western Ontario Branch, UELAC.

E-mail: g.childs“at”sympatico.ca

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See Reverend Canon Nick Wells, portray Major The Reverend Canon Frederick Scott in his WWI uniform.

Saturday’s Keynote Speaker, The Honourable Peter Milliken UE, PC, OC, LLD, MA (Oxf), FRSC.

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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 than 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

---

**A National Song**

to commemorate United Empire Loyalist Day 2017

Written by Daphne Rogers Molson UE, Kawartha Branch.

[To be sung to the tune of God Save the Queen in the key of G. Tempo is 69 with a time signature of 3/2]

---

We are United Empire Loyalists of Canada.
We are her Patriots, King George the third’s new Kingdom,
War battles for that Kingdom be won,
God gave us Canada.

We are descendants of Revolution forced to leave,
By bateau, ship and sea, foot and ox-cart be,
New nation with rule but free,
Loyal now to our Queen.

We are French Huguenots, British, Scotch,
Indian, German, Irish, Dutch, American,
Farmers, fishermen, craftsmen, clerks, clergymen,
soldiers, slaves, lawyers, labourers,
Different of languages, culture and belief,
We are Canadian.

We, King George’s distinguished, UE marked,
Loyalists celebrate his reign.
It’s June 19th today, we raise our flag today,
May our United Empire’s flag wave, Glorious to Canada’s reign.
2018 Moose Jaw, Sask.:
07 – 10 June
Loyalist Ties
Under Living Skies,
hosted by
Saskatchewan Branch

Conference Chairs:
Gerry Adair and Pat Adair

The Temple Gardens Hotel and Spa will be the venue for this wonderful, prairie conference.
Enthusiasm has been building to showcase this new location for a Loyalist conference.

2019 Ottawa:
30 May – 02 June:
The Capital Calls,
hosted by
Sir Guy Carleton Branch

Conference Chair:
Sylvia Powers

This conference aims to show attendees some heritage highlights that the common tourist may never find, adding mystery to our Ottawa visit.
Check out the Dominion web site under “events” – “annual conference” and you’ll now see the dates, locations and themes of all upcoming conferences.
http://www.uelac.org/conference/conference.php
Ruth Nicholson UE, Dominion Conference Chair.

The 2018 UELAC Conference will be at the Temple Gardens Hotel and Spa, Moose Jaw, Sask.
The 2019 UELAC Conference venue will be the DoubleTree by Hilton in Gatineau, Quebec.
The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship

Awarded by The UELAC

The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship can be awarded to any graduate student researching the Loyalist era on a subject that will benefit the UELAC. Approved Masters (two years) and PhD (three years) applicants will be awarded $2,500 per year. Upon graduation, the thesis must be presented to the Association.

To be eligible:

a) the student must intend to use the award in the academic year following the receipt of the award and use the money for research purposes, fees and books;

b) the student must provide a succinctly-written research proposal to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Scholarship Committee in which they set forth their interest in the Loyalists. An interview may be scheduled.

Priority will be given to a student of proven Loyalist descent. The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada reserves the right to award the scholarship at its sole discretion.

Reference may be given to students who have taken an undergraduate degree in history and to students at universities in Canada.

For more information about this scholarship and an application form please see the UELAC website: www.uelac.org/scholarship.php.

Application must be received by 28 February each year by e-mail to scholarship@uelac.org or mail to United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, 50 Baldwin Street, Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario. M5T 1L4.

—Bonnie Schepers UE,
UELAC Scholarship Chair

Rates: Note Ad layout: V = Vertical, H = Horizontal
- Full page, V (8 x 10 in.) = $500.00
- Half page, H (8 x 5) = $300.00
- Quarter page, V (4 x 5) = $175.00
- Business card, H (3.8 x 2.3) = $100.00

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@uelac.org
S720 - 112 George St., Toronto ON, M5A 2M5 Canada.
"That Old Dutchman!" cried the Commissioners on Conspiracies, "He’s a diehard British supporter and a rabble rouser to boot! What can you expect from someone from Sleepy Hollow? It’s a lot of queer things happening out there on the edge of the Hudson River; unrest, skirmishes, fist fights and riots all the time. That old man is in the middle of it with his whole family such as his sons, Joseph, and Abraham, and his sons-in-law, Daniel Fraser, and Stephen Buis, and that’s not all the relatives involved. How many John Conklins have we arrested? Let me see. There’s Old John, John Conklin Jr., “Mud” John, young John A., the grandson, “Pukey” John, and cousins galore. It doesn’t seem to matter how many times we throw him in jail; in no time he’s out and carrying on just as before! We tell the Board he is dangerous and disaffected, we arrest him, he is fined, he is put on a new recognizance for good behaviour, all to no avail! We know he is in league with the scouting parties the Tories send out. He even claims he’s a friend of the King of England! We should throw him in jail and throw away the key, or hang him!

How frustrated the Commissioners were with this man, already old in those times of revolution.

John Conklin, referred to as “Old” John Conklin in the annals of New York, was a second-generation Dutchman born in the Province of New York. He was baptised in the Sleepy Hollow Dutch Reform Church where his baptism is recorded as No. 139, and took place on 25 March 1707. His father was Joseph “Canckely”/Conklin (many spellings) and his mother was Rebecca Heyart (Hiatt), both of Dutch descent. The witnesses to his baptism were Pieter Dron and Janneke Dron.
The area in which John grew to manhood was, in those days, equivalent to the "wild west," in that it was an area of lawbreakers and lawmakers with many violent rivalries. Sleepy Hollow was a small village near Tarrytown in Westchester County, New York. It was part of the Adriaen van der Donck patent, founded before 1664 when the British took over New Netherlands. In 1672 Frederick Philipspe acquired 52,000 acres of land in Westchester County that included Sleepy Hollow, and created the Philipspe Manor. Philipspe died in 1702 but by then the Conklin family was already established there. Frederick's great-grandson, Frederick Philipspe III, was a Loyalist and, in 1779, the Manor was confiscated and sold to numerous owners. John would have been a witness to those early days and probably many in Sleepy Hollow were Loyalists and Loyalist supporters because they were first of all loyal to the Philipspe family and may have been tenants on their land, as the Philipspe family offered generous leases to encourage tenant farmers to settle there. The first Philipspe had built a mill, a manor house, a church (Old Sleepy Hollow Dutch Reform Church), and so the village grew. By then, three generations of families had been raised in Philipsburg/Sleepy Hollow. Most of the families were Dutch, French Huguenot, Swiss and German.

John Conklin married Sarah Van Amburgh in 1728 in the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow. The Van Amburgh family was also Dutch and had come from Holland in 1651, where the first Van Amburgh, Hendrik Arents Van Amburgh, born in Almelo, Overyssel, Holland, came as a farm hand employed by Jan Everts Bout. On 11 May 1664 Hendrik married Aeltje Claes, in Kingston, Ulster County. By the time Sarah was born and baptised in the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow on 02 August 1709, her father, Abraham Van Amburgh, a descendant of Hendrik, was settled in Sleepy Hollow. John and Sarah had four known children:

♦ Joseph Conklin, baptised 29 March 1720, Baptism #643 Old Sleepy Hollow Dutch Reform Church. Joseph married Rebecca Robertson and served in the Batteau Service under Maj. Daniel McAlpine UE. Two of Joseph's sons, John A. Conklin and Abraham Conklin, served in the Loyal Rangers. All settled in Ernestown Township, (Addington County*), in 1784. *[Amalgamated in 1849 to Lennox and Addington County]

♦ Abraham Conklin, baptised 24 Apr. 1731, Baptism # 703 Old Sleepy Hollow Dutch Reform Church.

♦ Sarah Conklin, married Daniel Fraser Senior UE. Settled in Ernestown Township, Lennox and Addington County, in 1784. Sarah and Daniel Fraser are my ancestors.

♦ Elizabeth Conklin, married Stephen Boyce/Buis UE. Settled Ernestown Township, Lennox and Addington County, in 1784.

There are rumours of other children; however I do not have proof of these people. “Old” John Conklin, UE, a British supporter, did not make it to Canada, having died before 1783.

Sleepy Hollow is still a small village but it has a past. You can read all about it in The Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow by Washington Irving.

“To go along with the headless horseman legend, the Philipse Manor House is all decked out on Halloween as a haunted house.”

---

Editor’s Note: “Old” John Conklin UE was probably a neighbour of Sergeant Gabriel Purdy UE, third-great-grandfather of Grietje R. (nee Purdy) McBride UE, because Sgt. Purdy UE lived on 140 acres in the Philipspe Manor prior to the American Revolution, fought in the Battle of White Plains, and served as a Sergeant in the Guides and Pioneers, and also served in Colonel James DeLancey's Regiment. Following the Revolution, Sergeant Gabriel Purdy UE and his family settled in what he named Westchester Township, Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, in memory of his home in New York. Purdy sold two parcels of land in North Castle, West Patent, Westchester, New York, to Jacob Mott of the City of New York. That land included the 140 acres, valued at £300, left to him by his father, Samuel Purdy Jr., and his portion of 160 acres from his grandfather, Jacob Griffin, "to be divided into different shares" — Gabriel’s share being £75.

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First of all let's put this in perspective so there is no confusion as to the nature of the German Regular Troops in the American Revolution. They were veterans of the War, but not Loyalists, and numbers of them settled near to the Bay of Quinte Loyalists in Marysburgh Township in ‘The County’ afterwards.

The German Regulars were professional soldiers sent from Germany for the purpose of supplementing the British Forces facing the Rebels in America. Loyalists were resident in America prior to the War, hence the difference between the two groups. The German Regulars are often referred to as Hessians, but many of them came from areas other than Hesse. They’ve also been called mercenaries but this is somewhat inaccurate and a bit unfair. The term mercenary is sometimes used in a derogatory sense. Mercenaries are individuals who will fight for someone who is willing to pay. The German Regulars weren’t mercenaries because they were sent to America as part of regiments, and not by individual choice. They were not individuals for hire.

The German Regulars Collection was donated by Claus Reuter. He was born in Germany, has had a life-long passion for all things German, and he has been a re-enactor since the 1970s. Claus served in the King’s Royal Yorkers and later was a founding member of the re-enacted Brunswick Light Infantry. Looking for an appropriate home for part of his Collection he settled on our own Bay of Quinte Branch, to be housed at our UEL Heritage Centre and Park. The books are a donation and the artefacts and his re-enactment kit are at least on long term loan. The collection of books is quite extensive, including some early rare volumes, and some of the material is actually in German. It certainly fills a gap in our Collection. The artefacts centre on the kit and a full uniform of the Brunswick Light Infantry.

On August 17th, I had the pleasure of meeting with Claus, his wife Sonja and son Tom when they delivered the Collection to our museum staff at Adolphustown. We have been at countless re-enactments over the decades so it was also an occasion to reminisce.

Our sincere thanks to Claus for considering Bay of Quinte Branch for this important Collection.
An extraordinary event of the American Revolution took place on 13 December 1776 when, in a sudden surprise attack at Basking Ridge, New Jersey, a small troop of thirty-two British Dragoons, led by Lieutenant Colonel William Harcourt and Cornet Banastre Tarleton, captured the American General, Charles Lee, second-in-command to General George Washington. General Lee, while in command of 3,000 troops, had unexpectedly decided to spend a relaxing night with only a small guard at Widow White’s Tavern in nearby Basking Ridge just a few miles away. Due to a quick chain of events, the new location of General Charles Lee was soon conveyed by local Loyalists to a small patrol of British Dragoons that had been sent on a four-day reconnaissance mission to scout Lee’s army. Quickly realizing the vulnerability of General Lee, who had just a small guard, the British troops then made a split-second decision to change their mission to capturing Lee. This was done swiftly, with amazing precision, and it was not long before they celebrated the astonishing feat of seizing the highest ranking American officer to be captured in the American Revolution.

The capture of General Charles Lee was an incredible victory for the British who now believed that his abduction could even possibly mean a quick end to the war. So important was this event that it was later immortalized in a monument at Windsor Castle that still remains to this day.
British hopes, however, were soon dashed when American troops, just a few months later on 10 July 1777, captured the British General, Richard Prescott, of similar stature, in a surprise attack at Prescott Farm, Rhode Island.4

One of the biggest mysteries surrounding this momentous event was the identity of the main guide of Lieutenant Colonel William Harcourt 5 who had safely piloted these British troops over eighteen miles both in and back through American-controlled territory to successfully capture General Charles Lee at Basking Ridge, New Jersey. This troop of Dragoons who captured General Lee, having been in America just a short time, relied heavily on local Provincial Loyalist guides as they moved through the American countryside.

The identity of the Loyalist guide who had led Harcourt’s Dragoons to capture General Lee was never proven although the person deemed most likely at the time had been Major Richard Witham Stockton of the New Jersey Volunteers.6 He had a well-established reputation among British troops as the “famous Land Pilot”7 due to his abilities as a military guide. Major Stockton was captured just two months later, on 18 February 1777, while commanding a new British post at Bennett’s Island, also known as Lawrence Island, on the Raritan River near New Brunswick, New Jersey.8 Newspapers and documents at the time had immediately accused Stockton but he never admitted his involvement with the capture of General Lee, either during his imprisonment, or even following the cessation of the war.

To admit this at the time of his capture could have had dire consequences but, even so, his silence had still resulted in very harsh treatment and a lengthy imprisonment, as compared with the usual treatment of other captured officers. This was well documented in the letters of George Washington, who himself admitted that this was not the proper way to keep a captured officer and this cruel treatment should cease immediately.9

In January 1999, at Chilliwack, British Columbia, I received a United Empire Loyalist certificate for my fifth-great-grandfather, Loyalist ancestor, Major Richard Witham Stockton, of the New Jersey Volunteers. He was born on 19 May 1734 to a prominent Princeton, New Jersey, family and was a first cousin to Richard Stockton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Major Stockton was finally released by September 1779. Following the war, he, with his wife

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**Major Richard Witham Stockton and news of how he “betrayed his Excellency General Lee.”**

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Widow White’s Tavern, Basking Ridge, NJ
J.H. Van Horn, “Historic Somerset”

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**Lt. Col. William Harcourt**

**Banastre Tarleton**
Mary Ann Hatfield, and their family settled in Studholm Parish, King's County, New Brunswick, Canada, where he died 08 May 1801. My descendancy follows through the marriage of his youngest daughter, Jane Parker Stockton, 1769 – 1828, who married Peter Cougle, the eldest son of Captain John Cougle UE, also of the New Jersey Volunteers.

While undertaking my Loyalist research, I had found very little military information other than that Major Stockton was mentioned numerous times in the letters of George Washington regarding his capture at Bennett’s Island and that this event had even been read aloud to Congress. This coincidence I found to be fascinating but, other than mentioning his capture and following imprisonment, I could find absolutely no details as to what had led to his capture or any other reason as to why this had appeared to be so significant to American government officials.

In the years following the acquisition of my Major Richard Witham Stockton UE certification, I slowly discovered more interesting new facts regarding his capture at Bennett's Island, New Jersey. However, there had still remained many other mysteries regarding his life. An Internet search had found a listing at the Smithsonian Art Museum for an oil painting of Major Richard Witham Stockton by the American painter, Henry Benbridge (1743 - 1812). Noted by the museum as an important piece of early American art, the painting was believed to be in a private collection, its location unknown. It is very unusual for a Loyalist painting to have survived and was most likely originally saved by a family member for, had it been found, it would have most certainly have been destroyed. For over ten years, I had tried to track down this elusive painting with no success.

In 2012, while attempting another Stockton Internet search, I found a website where, to my total astonishment, suddenly appeared the painting of my fifth-great-grandfather, Major Richard Witham Stockton. Another descendent, H. Harvey Hildebrand, from Indiana, had also searched many years for this and eventually discovered an actual black and white photo of the painting in the 1932 book, Early American Painting, by Frederic Fairchild Sherman. The painting at that time belonged to art collector, John Hill Morgan, of New York City, who was the last known owner of this painting. To even find the original image was an incredible discovery and, although being in black and white, it had since been beautifully colorized by Harvey Hildebrand, a professional artist himself. Slowly my Richard Stockton story was now coming together.

I had never realized Major Stockton’s involvement with the capture of General Charles Lee until I had found on the Internet a review of the 2013 book, Kidnapping the Enemy, by Christian M. McBurney, a well-known and respected Revolutionary War author. I received a copy of this book as a Christmas gift in 2014, which told, in amazing detail, the story of the capture of General Charles Lee, as well as the following retaliatory capture of the British General, Richard Prescott. The author had presented considerably strong evidence in newspaper reports naming Major Stockton as the main guide. However, McBurney had summarized: "... apart from these references, there is no evidence in either British or American records of Stockton having served as a guide for Harcourt." The lack of any official military records could not prove that he was the guide to these troops or even the fact that he was actually involved.

I felt somewhat disappointed since I now believed that I likely knew more regarding the importance of the capture of Major Stockton yet was still unable to prove it. A short time later, I decided to review my many years of Stockton family notes and, much to my amazement, discovered a potential new source that just might provide the author's previous missing information. Major Stockton, in his claim to the British Government for his personal losses, had ended his letter with a note indicating several supporting letters from various superior officers. I had long known of these records for personal claims of losses following the Revolutionary War but, what other researchers had overlooked in the past were these letters of support from many of the highest ranking officers who had been associated with Major Stockton. It is important to note that nearly all personal claims submitted following the war also included these supporting letters which could provide many additional unknown details of a soldier’s military life.

Now feeling ecstatic, I managed to track down the author, Christian McBurney, in Washington, DC. I explained my discovery and he was extremely interested in my information as he was presently working on a follow-up to his book, Kidnapping the Enemy. A request was then quickly made to a British researcher in London, England, to look for any British Army War Office letters of Richard Stockton in the British Archives. The search for these documents soon revealed a treasure chest of official military documents confirming the exact role of Major Stockton in the capture of General Charles Lee. Included in Richard Stockton's claim file were additional letters of support from Cortland Skinner, William Harcourt, Banastre Tarleton, James Grant, and Charles Cornwallis, all influential officers associated with this event.

Using my family documents and newly discovered historical sources, McBurney and I then worked together for six months to piece together the incredible story of

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Richard Witham Stockton’s role as the main guide for the British troops who had captured General Charles Lee. McBurney then submitted the final galleys of his new book, *Abductions in the American Revolution*, to his publisher for final review. A few days later, I received an e-mail from Harvey Hildebrand, my Stockton cousin in Indiana, who had just discovered a similar story of the 17 February 1781 abduction, in Thomaston, Maine, of American General Peleg Wadsworth, taken by a Lieutenant Stockton of the King’s American Rangers.

Astonished and in total disbelief, I recognized this to be Charles Witham Stockton, the eldest son of Richard Witham Stockton. I immediately contacted the author, Christian McBurney, who was thrilled with this discovery but disappointed that it was too late to be included in his book.

McBurney knew of this particular story but had never realized the family connection. He decided to contact his publisher to tell them of this find. His publisher, also fascinated with this new story, remarkedently consented to halt the final review of the book to allow McBurney to add in this most fascinating story. With much stealth, similar to the capture of General Charles Lee, we quickly worked on assembling the similar story of Major Stockton’s son, Charles Witham Stockton. This unusual coincidence actually seemed like a Ripley’s Believe it or Not feature to discover that both a father and son were each the key individuals involved in the capture of prominent American Revolutionary Generals. General Charles Lee was second-in-command to George Washington while General Peleg Wadsworth was well-respected, not only as a General, but "perhaps best known as the Grandfather of, and responsible for, the Wadsworth in the name of noted poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.”

Incredibly, both of these long-forgotten stories of Revolutionary History are now told in full detail for the very first time in
Christian McBurney’s 2016 book, *Abductions in the American Revolution*, The mystery identity of the guide, Major Richard Witham Stockton UE, who had safely led the troops to capture General Charles Lee is now finally verified after two hundred and forty years by the determination and resolve of Stockton’s fifth-great-grandson, Chris Hay UE, of Maple Ridge, British Columbia, and Christian McBurney of Washington, DC, a respected historical author of the history of the American Revolutionary War. Major Stockton’s role in the capture of General Charles Lee has now been proven along with the significance of his capture at Bennett’s Island, New Jersey. Hopefully, this newly-opened window of history, will lead to the discovery of other lost and forgotten stories connected to these significant events.

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**British Columbia Genealogical Society Most Improved Genealogy Competition 2016**


**Mystery revealed after 240 years**

At the BCGS December Social, our own Chris Hay UE was awarded First Place in the 2016 “Most Improved Genealogy” contest. The story of his Loyalist ancestor, Major Richard Witham Stockton, uncovered a family mystery from 240 years ago. Chris reported this information to us at the November Fall Fleet event. Congratulations Chris! You do us proud!

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**Endnotes**


5. John Richard Alden, *General Charles Lee: Traitor or Patriot*, Louisiana State University Press, 1951, p. 332-333, Note 21. Alden, one of General Charles Lee’s best biographers, had noted here “If it were true other references to Stockton’s services to Harcourt would doubtless be available.” This statement by Alden has now been found to be true!

6. Extract of a Letter from an Officer at Morristown, 21 February 1777, in *Connecticut Courant* (Hartford, 03 March 1777 and *Independent Chronicle* (Boston), 08 March 1777.


11. Smithsonian Art Collections, located on-line at http://collections.si.edu/search/results.htm?q=record_ID:siris_ari_200577 as accessed 30 July 2016. May also search online under the title and Richard Witham Stockton to locate the listing.


14. Margaret Stockton, *William J. Stockton and Ann Nevers: Ancestors and Descendants*, Woodstock, Ontario. This book of Canadian Stockton history was privately published in limited numbers but a copy is available at both the Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, and at the latter-Day Saints Church Library, Salt Lake City, Utah. The memorial for Major Richard Witham Stockton, found transcribed on p. 35, contained the clue of other possible documents at the British National Archives.


17. List of officers belonging to His Majesties forces in North America, British National Archives, Audit Office, CO/5/111, 234.


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Dear Editor,

I have enclosed two variations of the Richard Witham Stockton painting.

The location of the original Richard Witham Stockton painting is not known but a photograph of the original portrait painted by Henry Benbridge was discovered in the book *Early American Painting* by Frederic Fairchild Sherman published in 1932, page 107.

The original black and white version was discovered by H. Harvey Hildebrand of Indiana a sixth-great-grandson of Richard Witham Stockton. It was later colorized in two versions by Harvey who is a professional artist. One was an identical version of the painting while another had the addition of a New Jersey Volunteer insignia.

This insignia was not in the original portrait but was just added to distinguish that this was the artist’s rendition of the original portrait. I have included both versions as I thought you might like to decide which portrayal you prefer for the article. This image of Stockton was published for the very first time in *Abductions in the American Revolution*, 2016 by Christian McBurney. As it has never been published in colour before, it might make a nice cover picture for your (next) issue.

It is not often that you discover a lost portrait of a Loyalist! —Chris Hay UE
Daniel is my first cousin six times removed, being the first cousin of Israel Swayze who came to Beaverdams, Thorold Township, in 1787, and from whom I am descended. Daniel was born on 18 October 1756 in Chester Township, Roxbury County, New Jersey, and died on 27 August 1843 in Washington Township, Morris County, New Jersey. Daniel was the son of Caleb Swayze Senior UE and Elizabeth Pitney. Daniel’s brothers were Col. Isaac Swayze UE, and also Caleb Swayze Junior, killed by the Americans during the American Revolution. I found this person to be an anomaly in the Swayze family, since they were known to be ardent Loyalists. Nevertheless, his declaration is a fascinating account of “the other side” of the American War from my ancestors, and I am in awe of his memory of events that he recounted fifty to sixty years after they occurred.

Pension Application of “Ardent Loyalist”
Private Daniel Swayze UE

By Judith Beliaeff UE
Grand River Branch, UELAC

This defent, the hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State, county, or that of the government of the United States. Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

We, Andrew, Day, and John Smith, residing in the county of Morris, State of New Jersey, hereby certify, that we are well acquainted with Daniel Swayze, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be about forty-five years of age; that he is reputed and believed, in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion, that the aforesaid applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier, and served as he states.
Declarators, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed 07 June 1832:

On this nineteenth day of April, 1836, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas now sitting, Daniel Swayze, a resident of Washington township in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, aged 79 years & 6 months, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

I was born on the 18th day of October AD 1756 (according to a record of my age in the family bible of my father, now in my possession) in the township of Chester, in the County of Morris & State of New Jersey. (Chester, was then a part of Roxbury township,) where I lived with my father, throughout the war. About 40 years since, I & my father moved to Washington township where he died, & where I have ever since lived.

When I was old enough to perform Militia service, I belonged to the Company of Infantry commanded by Capt. Nathan Luse, & in the Regiment commanded by Col Jacob Drake, in which

Company & Regiment I remained throughout the war of the revolution, & performed a considerable part of my revolutionary service under these officers. The Co. was divided into classes, each class taking it’s turn in the regular performance of guard duty along the lines of the enemy, who were stationed at New York & Staten Island, & who occupied New Brunswick & Amboy, & sometimes Elizabethtown also, for a considerable period of time. When a part only of our company was out on duty, we had our Captain sometimes taken from a neighboring company, & perhaps the lieutenant or Ensign from one also. A full co. being formed by a class from 3 or 4 neighboring companies, the officers would necessarily be often changed, & in this way it happened that my monthly tours were performed under different Captains. In the 2 or 3 first years of the war, the enemy made their incursions so frequently, into the interior of N. Jersey, stealing cattle & horses, burning villages & carrying off the inhabitants & lodging them in prison ships & jails in New York, that the whole body of Militia were under arms, & in active duty the greatest part of the time. And my Militia services were more frequent, & for longer periods then, than in the latter part of the war time. My first tour of Militia duty was performed in the first year of the war, about the time of wheat harvest under Captain Luse, above named. We were ordered out by our officers, & marched through Morristown, Chatham & Springfield to Elizabethtown & were stationed below the town, & employed in throwing up breastworks between the old point & the new point, opposite Staten Island, lodging in tents. It was about the time when the enemy were expected in N. York, & not long before the battle of Long Island. A large body of Militia was assembled there. Col. Jacob Drake I think, commanded our Regiment & General Heard commanded the whole. We spent a month in building forts & guarding the shores, & were dismissed & went home. Not long after the battle of Long Island, the whole body of Militia was ordered out. I went with the rest of our Company under Capt. Luse, or Brown, not certain which. We were again stationed at Elizabethtown, guarding the landings opposite Staten Island, & defending the inhabitants against depredations of the Tories & Refugees. – This I believe was early in the fall season, or in the latter part of August. At the expiration of our month, we were dismissed, & returned home. The Country was in great alarm, & companies of minute men, as they were called, were ordered to be ready to hold themselves in readiness to march at a minutes’ warning. I enlisted as a minute man, in Captain Daniel Bud’s Company, for three months, soon after my return from my last monthly tour, & early in October, we were ordered to march for Elizabethtown, where a large Militia force was co… & Colonel Drake again commanded our regiment & General Heard the Brigade. Our station & [duties?] the same as before. – It was said, that General Washington was retreating before the British a… the neighborhood of New York, and whilst we were guarding the Jersey shores below Elizth town, the American Army passed through, toward New Brunswick, & we were ordered to follow on in his rear. We did not join the main army, but followed it; and when we were within some 8 or 10 miles of New Brunswick, we were dismissed & returned home by way of Pluckemin & Vealtom. We did not reach home until cold weather, & according to the best of my belief, it was in December, there being snow on the ground & hard frost. We were out upon this town, more than two months – probably more than two & a half months, owing to the great emergency of the times & the distress of the Country. – In a few days, after we reached home, an alarm was sounded, that the enemy was out from Staten Island in great force, and overrunning the Country about Elizabethtown. Our company was ordered out immediately, with all the neighbouring Militia, & we marched under Capt. Starke, & Col. Drake through Morristown, to Springfield, when a large detailment of Refugees & Hessians was met, & a severe skirmish was fought. – Col. Ford of Morristown commanded a Regiment & Col. Drake had charge of our Regiment. General Heard, I believe had command. The enemy were driven back into Elizabethtown, & to Staten Island. We followed closely in their rear, & after arrangements were made for guarding the lines by stationing troops at Elizabethtown, & at other points at short intervals from each other. I was discharged & returned home, having been about 3 weeks. It was not long after the Christmas season, when I reached home. – The enemy held possession of N. Brunswick & Amboy & annoyed the inhabitants of that section by plundering & foraging parties, exciting constant alarm. Sometime in January of early in February, we were [called] out upon Militia duty, & [cow?] marched near Quibble town, & stationed at Van Muliner’s, a few miles west of Amboy & N. Brunswick. Here we found a considerable Militia force encamped, under command of general Winds, & Genl Dickinson. Some skirmishes were had, with parties of the enemy whilst we were here; viz. at Bonhamtown – Quibble town, Ashwamp. The foraging & plundering parties of the enemy were often attacked, & cattle & grain taken from them. A waggon load of clothing was intercepted & taken from them also. In some of these affairs, I was engaged, with my company. From this service, we were not discharged until about the middle of April, having been detained at last, two & a half months, before we were dismissed.

In the following summer, in hay season, I was ordered out into service under Capt. Stack, as I BELIEVE & THE Co. was stationed at Elizth town, & part of the time at & near Rahway, performing guard duty & protecting the inhabitants against Tories & Refugees. We remained on service one month & were discharged. It appears to me, that the Regiment was commanded by Col. Cook, or Ford.

Early in the fall following, about early seed time, we were again ordered into service under Captain Horton, & performed a month’s duty at Elizabethtown, guarding the lines. Upon the approach of winter, late in November, as I think, I performed a month’s service under Capt. Horton, guarding the lines along the sound between Amboy & Rahway. In the spring following,
before corn planting, I performed a month’s service by order from my officers, at Elizabethtown, under Capt. Horton or Capt. Luse, I cannot
tell which. We were employed in guarding the landings opposite Staten Island. An attempt was made to surprise and take a party of the army
on STATEN Island, which failed, & we were obliged to retreat, the enemy having been reinforced.

In June following, I was again ordered on service, with our Co. or a part of it, & while stationed near Elizabethtown, under Gen. Winds,
we were marched toward Brunswick. Next was said to be [...] that a bridge near Spotswood had been destroyed, which would prevent our
crossing, & we were marched back by Genl. Winds to Rahway & Elizabethtown, where we soon learned that a battle had been fought at
Monmouth. In this town, I think Captain Stephen Brown had command of our Co. We remained here a month & were discharged for home. – In
September & October following we were again ordered out on service under Capt. Horton, to Elizth town, & from thence to Aquakanonk & near
to Hackemack, under the order of Genl. Winds.

Near the bridge at Aquakanonk, there was a sharp skirmish with the enemy. Near this place, Jabez Bell, a neighbour & acquaintance of
mine, was accidentally killed by one of his comrades, picking his gun flint, his musket fired; & the charge entered his head, as he was leaning
against a tree. The Militia from Bergen, Essex, Morris & Sussex, were principally out on this tour, & General winds had the chief command,
assisted by Colonels, Frelinghuyse, Seely, Stark & others not recollected. We were kept in service till November, & were out not less than a
month & a half, the enemy being in great force, with the aid of Refugees & Tories. In the summer & spring following, I performed two tours of
one month each, under Capt. Horton at Elizabethtown, guarding the lines at Elizabethtown point & along the sound. The first of these tours
was at the beginning of warm weather, the farmers preparing to plant corn: & the latter was after wheat harvest. - In the fall of the same year,
I performed a month’s service by order of my officers, at Morris town, guarding the public stores, under the command of Lieutenant Pierson
of Morristown.

In May & June 1780, I performed a month’s duty, near Elizabethtown part of the time, & another part, near to Connecticut farms & Springfield.
The enemy came out from Staten Island & New York in strong force, & after a skirmish, with the Militia at Connecticut farm, they burnt the
village & the Presbyterian Church, & shot the wife of the Rev. James Caldwell through her window. They returned back to Elizabethtown & to
Staten Island, & in a few weeks returned with strong reinforcements – made their way through the Country as far as Springfield, where a severe
skirmish was had; & before they retreated, they burnt Springfield & the Presbyterian Church there. – A large Militia force was assembled at
Springfield from the neighbouring Counties commanded by General Winds – Co. Seeley, Col. Frelinghuyse & Col. Hays, with some Regiments
of the Continental Army, Colonel Angelis, & I think, Col. Dayton’s also. I was commanded by Captain Horton, & our Regiment by Colonel
Nathan Luse, as I believe, formerly Capt. Luse.

In September & October following, I was stationed with part of our Co. under Capt. Peter Salmon, near to Elizth town, guarding the lines
& protecting the inhabitants.

In the latter part of the war, an alarm was made & the Militia ordered out in consequence, as was said, of the revolt of the Pennsylvania
troops. Our Co. was ordered to march under Capt. Salmon, as far as Pluckemin where we were stationned two weeks when we dismissed &
returned home. I think it was in the spring season.

Whilst the war lasted, there were many alarms given, which called out the Militia for short periods – sometimes for a week & sometimes
for 10 days, in which I was on duty. There I cannot particularise more than I have attempted. And I am confident I have not enumerated all the
regular tours of month service which I performed. In every year of the war, I was actively engaged as a Militia soldier & promptly obeyed every
call of my officers. I conscientiously believe, I did actually perform more than two years of faithful service as a Militia man, altho’ I cannot not
now specify more than already stated. – I never received any commission, nor any regular written discharge. Our dismission from duty, when
our time had expired, was always verbal, as I believe, & my service was performed as a private.

My officers are all dead, & comrades most of them, either removed or dead.

I have made many enquiries for them, but have found very few of them living. David Ammuman, now of Somerset Co., I knew as a soldier
in the war, & he has some recollection of me in the revolution. He is entirely blind, and now so helpless & feeble by the infirmities of age, as
to be confined to his room & most of the time, to his bed. I hope yet to obtain his affidavit. I also know Robt. Young, & often saw him in the
Militia service, at Elizabethtown, at Van Mulinen, near Quibbleton, & along the Jersey shore opposite Staten Island & at Springfield. I hope
to have the benefit of his testimony. My memory is frail, in regards to dates & names especially. It is highly probable, that I may sometimes
have mistaken the names of my captain & other officers, in stating particular tours of duty: & that my remembrance of counts in respect to time,
may be erroneous. I have however stated them according to the best of my recollection & belief. The clergyman who officiated in the Church
near me (Revd Mr. Hunt,) is a young man, - has lived here but a year or two, & knows nothing of my history. - I am well known to Ephraim
March Esqr. my neighbour, a Judge of the Country Court & for several years a member of the Legislature from this County, & to Andrew Bay
Esqr. - To these gentlemen I refer, for my general character. I have sought diligently for testimony, but know of no living men who served with
me, except those whose affidavits accompany my Declaration. – In all the tours I have stated, my duties were faithfully performed, in constant
& active service; & I was never absent, unless with the consent of my officers nor was I engaged in any civil employment or pursuit. – For
several years after the passage of the Militia pension law, I was under the belief, that it’s benefits were confined to the poor & destitute, &
having a small farm of rough mountain land, & being willing & able to do some work, I was reluctant to ask for my Country’s assistance. – Old
age, with its many infirmities, has overtaken me; I can no longer labor with my hands, & I look to my Country to compensate my Revolutionary
Services, by allowing me a pension, for my remaining years or months of life, for which I shall always be grateful. I am acquainted with Col.
Jacob Drake, Col. John Starke, Col. Luse, General Winds & Col. Jacob Ford. My wife is still living, & is two years older than myself. I have
two daughters living – one with me. I have three sons living: one of them (Benjamin) lives on the farm with me. My son James, lives near me,
on my farm. My son Isaac, lives in the City of New York.

Since conversing with Robt. Young, I learn that Ephraim Carnes, & Isaac Beddle, are living, whose testimony I hope also to obtain. – I
cannot recall more of my services to mind than have mentioned, which amounts to but nineteen months. I am confident in the belief, that I
have not served my Country in the Revolutionary war, less than nineteen months, & for this service, I claim a pension. And I declare also,
that I should have claimed a pension at an earlier day, had I not supposed that pensions were refused, except in cases of extreme poverty,
& having as before stated, a farm of rough land, from which I raised my bread, I felt unwilling to tax my Country for my support, while I could
labor. But my days of labor are closed.
Ephraim Carnes the 19th day of April 1836: “I was well acquainted with Daniel Swayze, now an applicant for a pension. I knew him well from boyhood, through manhood, through the war of the revolution, to this day.”

Isaac Bedell the 19th day of April 1836: “In October 1776 … standing as a sentry or sentinel. I enquired next day, who was the man, that Stark brought as my relief guard, & was told his name was Daniel Swayze. I afterwards became well acquainted with Swayze, who I remember had then a large lump at the corner of his left eye, which rather disfigured his face & which is yet visible.”

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About the Author, Judith Beliaeff

I was born in “La Belle Province,” of parents who both were born in Galt, (now Cambridge) Ontario.

Our mother died in 1962, at a relatively young age, and my sister and I were really not old enough to have questioned her about her family’s past generations. Her parents both died in 1946, so I only saw them once, and I could hardly remember that single visit to Galt when they were alive.

One Christmas, my sister took the initiative to write to our mother’s uncle, who lived in Winnipeg, to ask him to provide what information he could about our family, the Stuarts.

Lo and behold, our Uncle Morley Herman Stuart wrote her a lovely letter in January 1975, three days after his 94th birthday. He provided many details, leading back to Elisha Stuart of Burford and his wife, “a Miss Howell.”

That letter was a precious document, which, when I finally had a break from my working career in accounting, gave me the basis to delve into our mother’s roots. And what roots they were! I found that Elisha Stuart’s mother was Joanna Swayze, a widow by 1825 with three very young children to raise. She was remarried to John Bray in about 1829, and they moved onto Lot 14, Concession III, of South Dumfries Township, where he built what is now today known as the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead. After arriving in Ontario, I was able to discover the grave site, in Troy cemetery, of John Bray and, with the help of a step-cousin in California, we were able to provide the curators with his history, that they used to provide him with a new tombstone, honouring his pioneering life in Norfolk, Elgin, Brant and Wentworth Counties.

Joanna’s Swayze ancestry was well documented in a family history, so it was with great amazement that I discovered that family had arrived in Salem, Massachusetts, in the early 1630s, onward from there to Long Island in about 1640, where they married with the Horton family, and finally moved to New Jersey in 1737.

Until I moved to Kitchener in 2007, I was slightly hampered in my research being at a distance in Quebec. I loved using my “attention to detail skills” however and did what I could. With help from new friends in the OGS, and the Grand River Branch UELAC, I have found other lines, who had nearly the same early roots in North America, descending to my mother. My mother would have been astonished, as she was a history buff, just like my father and my sister.

I haven’t formally “proven” my Loyalist Heritage and, although I have the links for one or two Loyalists, Israel Swayze has been the closest to my heart. No one has proven him to be a Loyalist, and I do not have all the “concrete” documentation to actually provide the “UE approved” links to me.
Local history buff, Lynne Cook, who passed away on 16 March 2016, collected years of Dundas County data in her home at 3 Augusta Street in Morrisburg, also referred to as the Loyalist Resource Centre. The Bible (shown) is one of the many artefacts being housed on site.

(The Leader Photos / Casselman)

South Dundas is steeped in history, but do its citizens know where to look to find it?

One Morrisburg woman made it her mission in life to document and protect the stories of her neighbours’ families, local churches, schools, newspapers, and more. Her dedication to preserving local history was so strong that she offered up her home to the mounds of paperwork, books, official documents, and artefacts that came her way. Her home became the Loyalist Resource Centre, open five days a week for the benefit of anyone, near or far, interested in learning more about the people who have lived in South Dundas and its neighbouring communities.

Lynne Cook had a clear passion for history, devoting her life to finding and capturing it on paper.

Now, the question for many is: what happens to the rooms jammed floor to ceiling with local history?

The Leader recently visited the Augusta Street home, where Larry Empey and Lorraine Reoch, President of the local branch of the United Empire Loyalists, were hard at work sorting and cataloguing the years of accumulated records, deciding what belongs where.

Empey was recently named one of South Dundas’ two representatives to the Dundas County Archive Committee. He and Gerald Thompson have joined North Dundas residents, Darlene Fawcett and Brianne Scott, along with Reoch and the mayors of North and South Dundas.

During the Wednesday, 31 August 2016 interview, Empey said the committee hasn’t met and a meeting has yet to be scheduled.

The question of whether Cook’s collection will be added to the Dundas County Archives has not yet been settled either, he said. The answer depends on many factors, but he wasadamant the items would remain in their current location at 3 Augusta Street in Morrisburg until he is satisfied with the long-term arrangements. Empey and Reoch said the collection will not be divided and sent to separate locations and it will not leave Dundas County, as per Cook’s wishes.

Part of Cook’s collection includes the genealogies of many of the county’s oldest families, from Berger and Brown to Shell and Seymour. In fact, there is one entire room devoted to the Casselman family history, officially named The Casselman Ancestral Society. Cook has an assortment of items from the last Casselman reunion held in Morrisburg in 1984, where Casselmans from all around the world came together.

Painstakingly gathered since roughly 1977, there are shelves of census information, data about all cemeteries in the surrounding area, decades of newspaper clippings and photographs, books, Bibles, memorabilia, and more, not to mention the loads of data stored digitally on the centre’s computers. In addition to gathering the information herself, much was donated. Families donated copies of their genealogies and, if a fellow-historian passed, leaving behind a store of data no one was willing to claim or protect, Cook was there to accept custody of it.

The process of sifting through Cook’s collection is slow-going for many reasons. It was hard to know where to start, as the house is overflowing with documents of all kinds, Reoch said. In addition, the dedicated duo were often interrupted by visitors looking for information. This, however, is not seen as an inconvenience, as Reoch and Empey explained: it is the reason the centre was opened in the first place – to ensure everyone has access to the history of the area. People come from across Ontario and from the United States, she said. Some come from as far away as Colorado, for instance, and many return for subsequent visits.

While the future home of Cook’s collection remains unknown, Empey was emphatically clear that it will remain intact and in Dundas County.

Note: Thanks go to the author, Sandra Casselman, for permitting us to republish this item from: Morrisburg Leader / Sandra Casselman, Cook historical collection is staying safe in Dundas, 07 September 2016, Editor News.

The resource centre is still open and we are cataloguing and documenting all books, family histories, application forms etc. We will be moving sometime in the spring but no location has been found.

...
Around 1810, in response to unrest, John Button of Markham Township organized a group of neighbours and friends into a cavalry unit that came to be called Captain John Button’s Troop of Markham Dragoons, also known as Button’s Troop. This was the first troop of cavalry raised in Upper Canada and was attached to the North York Regiment of Militia. The Troop performed admirable service in York, Niagara, and Detroit. John’s son, Francis, about age 18 at the time, was one of the ‘despatch [sic] riders’ between York and Kingston. Several of the Troop were taken prisoner in 1813 when the Fort at York fell to the American Troops.

Following the war, the Troop did not disband but was active during the 1837 Rebellion and the Fenian Raids in 1865. Tradition has it that command of the regiment was passed on to the eldest son. At some point, they became known as D Squadron of the Governor General’s Body Guard that is now known as the Governor General’s Horse Guards.

We first hear of John Button in a land petition dated 1798 in which he is asking for a lot in the Town of York, and 200 acres elsewhere. He says he has been in Upper Canada since ‘the 6th of February last’ and we know that the petition was made from Crowland Township in Niagara County, where he says he has ‘relatives that have been long settled in the Province’. He shortly had various pieces of property in Markham Township, York County, eventually acquiring 300 acres in Concession 4, Lots 14 and 15, where Buttonville Cemetery now is located.

Captain John Button gave a lot for a church and school to the local Methodists in 1830. He divided part of his land into quarter-acre lots and convinced his neighbour across the road to do the same, and so, in the late 1840s and early 1850s, we find the village of Buttonville coming into being.

As part of the celebrations for the War of 1812, the Federal government had a programme of recognition for those who saw service during the War of 1812.

Judi Tomlinson, cousin of Jo Ann Tuskin, organized a ceremony at Buttonville Cemetery for the Official Unveiling of two War of 1812 Veteran Plaques for Major John Button and his son, Colonel Francis Button.

This ceremony took place on Saturday, 25 June 2016, a beautiful sunny day. The City of Markham provided tents, tables, chairs, flags and planters with red geraniums (the flower of remembrance for the War of 1812) both for the podium and for the grave sites. Remarks were given by Mayor Frank Scarpitti, City of Markham; Lorne Smith, City of Markham Historian; Ruth Burkholder, Genealogist; and Jo Ann Tuskin UE, descendant of John and Francis Button. Also participating were representatives from the Governor General’s Horse Guards, including Trooper Kevin Joyce, also a descendant of John and Francis Button.
Following the unveiling ceremony, refreshments were provided during a time to socialize and review the Button family information and artefacts provided by Judi and Jo Ann.

Acknowledgements: information provided by Ruth Burkholder.

Remarks by Jo Ann Tuskin UE
During the Ceremony

Mayor Scarpitti, Councillors, Guests, Friends, and most of all, Family! As a representative of the Family, I thank you for participating in this special ceremony of Honour and Remembrance for John Button and his son, Francis, ancestors of many of us and the reason we are here.

The red geranium is the flower of remembrance for the War of 1812, and I thank the city for providing them here today.

You have heard from Ruth Burkholder a brief history of John Button and his contributions to Markham and Ontario – militarily, politically and socially. From this small community, our family has spread across Ontario and out into the world.

What I don’t tell my students, when I do History presentations, is that when I was in school, History was boring, until I started working on my family tree. I had not made much progress with my Munro family until a classmate, also working on her Munro family, came into class exclaiming that she had ‘Buttons everywhere’! I knew I had Button cousins also, did some research, and we literally put our family trees together like a jigsaw puzzle and discovered that we were third and fourth cousins! That’s when I found that my family was involved with early Ontario History and that made it personal.

Now, we have real connections to the events of 200 years ago. It is not just pictures and stories in books. Now the names on tombstones belong to real people that are connected to me and the events of that long-ago war had an impact on my/our family. Now we can come to know these ancestors of ours. We have their pictures, their letters, their signatures and their legacy of service to the community and the country. We have the town, the Troop and our family. We see what can be achieved with determination and vision, and we can carry on their legacy of service and contribution to our own local communities and organizations, and to our Country.

Last Remembrance Day, a cousin brought a wreath of remembrance to John Button’s grave marker and a note that I would like to share with you now:

“This Remembrance Day wreath is dedicated to Major John Button who was a big part of Canadian history. I have just been reading all about you recently and I am very proud of all your accomplishments. You have provided us with a rich family history. I’m very proud to be a Canadian.
Sincerely, Theresa Ormisher”

This is our family. We will remember them.

—Jo Ann Tuskin UE
Ode to a Loyal Heart

(Saint Lambert’s Legionnaire)
A Tribute to Okill Stuart

By Robert C. Wilkins UE, 10 March 2011

I know a man of loyal heart
In old Saint Lambert town.
His forebears brave, in days of yore,
Stood firm for King and Crown.

At Bishop’s College School, he learned
On playing fields to score.
His prowess, not in books but sports,
Caused cheering throngs to roar.

On Juno’s Beach, in that grey dawn,
He was so soon ashore,
That, with the help of two or three,
He won that last Great War!

Then when at last the guns fell mute,
He could no longer roam.
So to Saint Lambert he returned,
His one true “home sweet home.”

Now lands and buildings were his trade,
And widespread grew his fame;
The broker with the beagle-hounds –
A spirit none could tame!

At kennel clubs and field trials too,
His hounds won laurels fair.
Their master’s chest swelled big with pride:
His dogs, like him, had flair!

How many hungry boards at Yule
His Christmas baskets filled.
How many lads with new-found toys
At Okill’s kindness thrilled.

Saint Lambert flourished in his day;
They still his praises sing.
On curling rink and bowling green
This “Lambertois” is king.

Us UEL’s he joined, then led,
And used his old school tie
To pull a prince to Lennoxville,
To raise our profile high.

But as the years went slipping by,
His interests did evolve.
‘Round orders, honours, medals, arms,
His thoughts do now revolve.

A stalwart Knight of old Saint John,
He’s like a man reborn.
But “phoney orders,” great or small,
He treats with utter scorn.

At House-on-Beach, at Heraldry,
At forts with Frasers true,
With meetings, dinners, games and balls
There’s always more to do.

He’s on the “blower” all day long,
From morn till late at night,
Preparing plans and making deals
And setting problems right.

The reason why he’s in demand
Is not just ‘cause he’s fun.
It is that when he gives his word,
He gets the darn job done!

We wonder where he gets the pep
To take so much in stride.
The answer’s clear: one recent year,
He took himself a bride!

They’ve known each other many moons;
Their interests coincide.
So happy will their wedlock be
And thrive whate’er betide.

To Juno’s shore he oft returns
To greet his pals of old
Who lie beneath the sand and soil.
He tells their tales untold.

His dauntless spirit spurred him on
Through all that ghastly strife,
And energized his postwar dream
To build a fuller life.

Six decades from that D-Day din
He garnered France’s praise,
While worldwide legions of his friends
Rejoiced with voices raised.

Today within these ancient walls,
We contemplate his years,
Remembering, for auld lang syne,
His laughter and his tears.

So that is why we toast the man
From old Saint Lambert’s shore.
Today we hail his four score years,
To which add ten years more.

We wish him health and all good things
And happiest returns.
And we marvel how within his heart
That flame of youth still burns.

Yes, to this Legionnaire let’s drink,
Long may his name survive!
And may we learn, from one so rare,
To care, to serve, to strive!

Sometimes You Get Lucky

Mark Jodoin has completed the draft manuscript “Sometimes You Get Lucky: The Okill Stuart Story” for publication in early 2017. This biography tells the remarkable story of the Canadian WWII veteran from his early days in Montréal, to his British public school education alongside Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, to his D-Day heroics on Juno Beach in Normandy. Woven throughout his story are his interactions with a famous uncle, mentor, and fellow Montréaler, Sir Campbell Stuart, the second youngest man ever knighted in the British Empire and managing director of The Times of London for two decades.

Mark is the author of Shadow Soldiers of the American Revolution.

An authorship sabbatical led to the research and writing of a regional history of New Yorkers during the American Revolutionary War. Shadow Soldiers was published by The History Press of Charleston, South Carolina, and included a forward by the outgoing United States Ambassador to Canada. The book was launched via dozens of speaking engagements and book signings throughout New York State, Ontario, and Quebec.

For details on Mark Jodoin go to: https://www.linkedin.com/in/mark-jodoin-8072732.
Bay of Quinte

By Peter W. Johnson UE, Branch President

On 27 August, several Branch members attended ‘Roots 2016’ at Old Hay Bay Church near Adolphustown. The focus was on descendants of the twenty-two Founders in 1792, the majority of whom were Loyalists. I appreciated the chance to give a couple of presentations on those Loyalists and the Huff family.

In September, the Branch met, as usual, in Ameliasburgh Town Hall. Brian Tackaberry UE inducted Harvey J. McFarland UE into our Hall of Honour. Harvey was a successful construction company owner whose influence went far beyond Picton, and he was also the longest serving mayor of that town. His Loyalist ancestors were Jeptha Hawley UE and James Bradshaw UE.

Our speaker was Ernie Margetson, who talked about the history of the hamlet of Melville in Prince Edward County. This history was of special interest to me because my maternal grandfather was Minister there for a time, and my parents met there.

In November we met in Belleville and were entertained by C.W. (Bill) Hunt who spoke about the wartime air training fields at Deseronto and Tyendinaga. Sadly, Mr. Hunt passed away at the end of 2016.

Books were a definite focus in the later months of 2016. The anticipation for Peter C. Newman’s book on the Loyalists is well known and a review can be found in this issue. As well, there was the Keith Jamieson and Michelle Hamilton biography of Dr. Oronhyatekha, again reviewed in this issue. Last, but not least, our own Brian Tackaberry UE published a book about World War I Valour Award Recipients from the Almonte area of Eastern Ontario.

We look forward to 2017 with a Genealogy Workshop in April and a special re-enactment event centred on 30 June and 01 July, “Loyalist Roots on the Loyalist Parkway.” Details will be available in Loyalist Trails as the dates draw near.
With our October dinner meeting we tried a new approach. This involved having a feature presenter give a speech based on her published books. Shirlee Smith Matheson gave an overview presentation of air terminals in Calgary over the years and the life story of Fred McCall, a World War I war ace, who also participated in World War II. One of his civilian claims to fame was landing on a merry-go-round at the Calgary Stampede when his engine failed.

Shirlee has written a number of books for all ages on flying and Western Canada. Her books and further information can be found on her website: www.ssmatheson.ca.

Calgary Branch presented three certificates. Jacquie McGowan UE received a certificate for her Loyalist ancestor, Abraham Woodcock Sr. UE, who settled in Fredericksburgh, Upper Canada. Ivy Trumpour UE received her third certificate, this one for her Loyalist ancestor, Richard Ferguson Sr. UE, who also settled in Fredericksburgh. The third certificate was presented to Pat McAdoo UE for the Loyalist ancestor, Conrad Gunter UE, who is also connected to Angela Johnson UE and settled originally in New Brunswick. His son then moved to Northumberland County, Upper Canada.

Frederick Robert Gordon McCall (4 December 1896 – 22 January 1949), Canadian air ace during World War I, had 35 confirmed and two unconfirmed victories. Only seven Canadian WW I aces had higher counts including the famous Billy Bishop, who had 72 kills. After a career in civil aviation, McCall returned to service in WW II.

This fall I connected with the University of Calgary for the presentation of a history prize our Branch has sponsored since 1966. Unfortunately, the student receiving the award was not present, but it was interesting to see the other prizes awarded to a range of students in the History department. We hope to have the student, Emmanuel Mehr, at our spring meeting.

We continue to search out contacts to enquire about erecting a Loyalist plaque in Calgary.
Chilliwack

By Marlene Dance UE, Branch Genealogist, Vice-President and Newsletter Editor

The last half of 2016 got off to a grand start with seven branch members making the trek to Prince Edward Island for the Annual Conference. Attending were Shirley Dargatz UE, Marlene Dance UE, Wayne Dance UE, Judy Scholz UE, Arnold Fast, Jan Ouellet and Emily Thomason. Most flew, but Wayne and Marlene Dance drove there and back and explored many Loyalists sites on the way home. It was a wonderful conference and kudos go to a great committee for the amazing array of the events and entertainment that they organized for us.

Returning home, our next event was BC Loyalist Day on 22 July. The flag-raising ceremony was held at the home of Ken and Shirley Dargatz UE with special guest, Mayor Sharon Gaetz, doing the honours. A lovely informal luncheon on the patio followed. We enjoyed the company of three deer in the yard, no doubt looking for a lunch of their own.

The BC August long weekend saw a number of our members at the annual Fort Langley Fur Brigade days. An encampment was set up and the gates opened to the sights and sounds of the arrival of the fur brigade canoes to Ft. Langley from the early days of British Columbia. This three-day festival has been celebrated since 1979 and is well-attended.

September saw the passing of founding member and a signer of our 1990 charter, Art Keller UE. Art was featured in our 25th anniversary celebrations, delighted to be cutting the cake. He was proud of his heritage and loved it when his grandchildren received their certificates.

Long-time members, Irving Reid UE, and his wife, Marian Reid UE, placed a wreath on our behalf at the Cenotaph on 11 November 2016.

From left: Ethan Lyfogh UE, Jesse MacIntosh and Adam Houle all dressed in uniforms of an earlier era.

Welcome to 2017, Canada’s 150th Birthday. Who would have thought that we would have come this far in our lives? I remember Canada’s 100th birthday celebration. As a family we went to Expo ‘67. That was an exciting time.

As we start the New Year we have some changes to our Executive team. The existing executive is President, Carol (Clifford) Cox UE; Vice-President, Dale Flagler; Second Vice-President, Courtney Taylor; Genealogist, Rodney Craig; and Recording Secretary, Wendy Broda. New to the team is Treasurer, Linda Prytula, and Membership Secretary, Errol Wilson. We are looking forward to an exciting year in celebration of Canada’s 150th.

Janet Hodgkins has some interesting speakers scheduled for this year. So far she has Caroline McCormick, her third great-grandmother being Laura Secord, and Donna Ford who will talk about Richard Pierpoint UE.

Dr. Elizabeth Malone told the membership that, after seventeen years, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has purchased Lot 64, St. Andrew’s Glen, which was part of Colonel John Butler’s Homestead. She said that she would like the United Empire Loyalists and the Lincoln & Welland Regiment to fund a decorative plaque. She also hopes to hold a parade, as well as a reception at Navy Hall, hopefully on 01 July 2017.

Roy Johnson attended the Levee at Navy Hall on 01 January 2017.

Later that same month, we attended the Celebration of Life for another founding member, signer of our Charter and first President, Lois Dickinson UE. Lois retired to Ontario but spent her working life in Chilliwack as a teacher. We shall miss these dear friends.

05 November saw the Chilliwack Branch host the Fall Fleet celebrations at the Carman United Church Hall. Guest speaker was Matthew Francis, Executive Director of the Chilliwack Museum and Archives. The audience was enthralled with his presentation, entitled “The Indiana Jones from Chilliwack,” about Homer A. Thompson, a local farm boy who became an internationally respected archaeologist. This event included the presentation of certificates to James A. Morton UE of Chilliwack Branch and Craig Barracough UE of Vancouver Branch. A beautiful luncheon was catered by the Ladies of Carman United Church.

This ceremony was marked by one of the largest turnouts on record. The weather was cold and clear, but the snow held off. Members then adjourned to the Canton Garden Restaurant for lunch. We had a smaller turnout than usual, but a good time was had by all.

Keeping the Loyalist story front and centre has been a goal of the Branch for a number of years. Branch Genealogist, Marlene Dance UE, does presentations to local service groups, genealogy societies and seniors clubs in the area. In addition, she facilitates a three-hour, once a week, six-week Genealogy class at the UFV campus under the umbrella of Chilliwack Elder College. An important part of the syllabus is the Loyalist history in eastern Canada.

“Have Certificate, will Travel” has become the calling card of Chilliwack Branch these past few years. We have accommodated members by presenting their Loyalist certificates at places that have better suited the gathering of their families and friends. This also gave us the opportunity to recruit new members and network to a wider audience. These locations have included private homes, Strata residence meeting rooms, family picnics, Library workshops and restaurants as well as at our regular Branch meetings. We have included three of our most recent travel presentations here.

The England family members, who live in various parts of the Fraser Valley, were all together between Christmas and New Year’s. They had eight family members receive their certificates for their Loyalist, Samuel Anderson UE. The young boys in the group had lots of questions about their Loyalist and a great discussion took place. A lovely tea was served following the presentations.

We are looking forward to 2017 and celebrating Canada’s 150th Birthday.


dedoo}

\[\text{Colonel John Butler (Niagara)}\]

By Carol (Clifford) Cox UE, Branch President


LEFT: Col. John Butler Branch members, from left: Sherry Bell, Beverly Craig, Janet Hodgkins, David Ellsworth.
Edmonton Branch

By Betty Fladager UE & Earle Fladager, Membership Co-Chairs

The Branch fall and winter activities were somewhat limited. However, our Branch Secretary, Valerie Thornton, and Genealogist, Dave Rolls UE, continued with the weekly editions of the Loyalist Northern Lights, bringing interesting items along with specified dates for Branch activities.

A Social Christmas Brunch was held on 04 December 2016 at which the Executive discussed preparations for the Branch’s 30th Anniversary and Canada’s 150th Birthday in May 2017. The Gala event will be an evening of dinner and theatre, including an original confederation storyline set in Alberta and portrayed by CLOWN CARTEL, a popular theatre group based in Edmonton. This is a chance for members to wear period costumes and enjoy a great evening of dining and theatre.

Membership for 2017 is underway and renewals have already been received.

The Branch Annual General Meeting has been set for 18 February 2017. Notices to members will be dispatched in the near future.

Sadly, the Branch lost a long-time member, with his wife passing away just three days later. William Heman Hurlburt UE, QC, passed away on 01 November 2016 and his wife, Isobel Adelia, passed away on 04 November 2016. Bill died at aged 89 following complications from a heart attack. Isobel died at age 90 following complications from pneumonia. Bill was born in Vegreville, Alberta. He graduated from the University of Alberta with an L.L.B. in 1949 and had a long and industrious career in the legal profession, garnering many accolades and awards, including an appointment as Queen’s Counsel in 1969, an honorary Doctorate of Laws in 1997, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012. Bill was a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Alberta for many years and was appointed Professor Emeritus after he retired from that position. Isobel was born in Toronto and moved to Alberta to pursue a career as an occupational therapist. She married Bill in 1950 and retired to raise her children, later returning to the University of Alberta part time, graduating with a B.A. in Anthropology in 1969. Isobel worked on a number of excavations sites in Alberta. In 1977, The Provincial Museum published Isobel’s monogram of faunal remains found at the Fort White Earth archaeological site. Bill and Isobel had many interests in addition to their professional careers and their family. Bill was a longtime member of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada, Edmonton Branch. Bill and his daughter, Katherine, received their UEL certification together on 24 February 2003, their Loyalist Ancestor being Moses Hurlburt UE.

Kawartha

By Grietje McBride UE, B.Sc., Branch President

Kawartha Branch wishes everyone a happy Sesquicentennial Year. Two events kept us busy in November: Remembrance Day and our general meeting on 20 November.

It was a cold but sunny day when Bob McBride UE and Grietje McBride UE marched and stood at the cenotaph with Bill Atkinson UE and his wife, Carol, Frank Lucas and Daphne Rogers Molson UE with her son, George Molson UE. For the first time, the large crowd was honoured with a fly-past over the Cenotaph by Captain Troy White of 436 Squadron flying his CC-130J Hercules. It was truly impressive.

Our guest speakers for our General Meeting on 20 November, Peter Johnson UE and Angela Johnson UE, gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the changes in the application form for proving a Loyalist ancestor. This informative talk was well-received and raised many questions that Peter or Angela patiently answered.

Between meetings, a number of our members are working on other special projects, all leading up to our celebrations for Canada 150. Bill Atkinson UE has let our members know that the colourful Kawartha Branch UEL mugs are now in and available to order through him. They can be ordered by emailing Bill at: xpitcop “at” nexicom.net. Margaret Pulver UE, Joan Lucas UE, Pam Dickey UE and I met in January to begin compiling our second edition Loyalist Heritage cookbook. As well, steps have been taken to connect with the History Department at Trent University to support research by students working on Loyalist themes. As a new venture, in the spirit of looking forward, Kawartha Branch is supporting the Ontario Youth Parliament when it meets in Peterborough in February, 2017.

Our guest speaker on 19 February 2017 was retired Professor, John Jennings, speaking about the Loyalists and the formation of the RCMP in Canada’s west as compared to the establishment of law and order in America’s wild west. On 23 April, Elwood Jones talked about early transportation infrastructure in our fledgling country. Another Canada 150 venture for our branch is the upcoming bus trip to Black Creek Pioneer Village on 17 June 2017 that many of us are looking forward to. This experience is being organized by Branch Member, Wimpy Borland UE. This year will be a busy one as members celebrate Canada 150 through Loyalist and community events.

Kawartha Branch members marched in the Peterborough Remembrance Day Parade and laid a wreath at the cenotaph, Friday, 11 November 2016.
On 20 November 2016, Dominion Genealogists, Angela Johnson UE and Peter Johnson UE (centre), went over the new Application Form for proving one’s Loyalist ancestor, patiently answering questions posed by some of our members.

At the same meeting, during the break Daphne Rogers Molson UE serenaded the members with her rendition of a poem that she had composed for the 150-year celebration of Canada, based on the anthem, “Oh Canada.” Daphne’s son, George Molson UE, joined her at the piano.

On Sunday, 19 February 2017, Kawartha Branch held its Winter General Meeting where Patricia Staples UE received her UE certificate for her Loyalist ancestor, Captain Isaac Gerow UE, accompanied by her husband, Dr. Richard Staples, and her brother, Ken Spry UE. From left: Grietje McBride UE, Kawartha Branch President; Joan Lucas UE, Kawartha Branch Genealogist; Ken Spry UE, his sister, Patricia Staples UE; and Dr. Richard Staples.

Six-month-old, Autumn Elizabeth Richardson UE received her UE certificates for her eight Loyalist ancestors, accompanied by her brother, Benjamin Jeremy Collins Richardson UE (with his hand to his chin). Autumn was held by her mother, Mary-Elizabeth Olive (nee McBride) Richardson UE. Also present are other members of her family and (far left) Joan Lucas UE, Kawartha Branch Genealogist.
The focus of the Little Forks Branch members revolves around our restored one-room schoolhouse and all of the activities that encircle it. Since our school building is recognized as the oldest building in this area, I have applied through Parks Canada to have it recognized as a National Heritage Site and should be receiving news shortly. All fingers crossed!

We had a very busy summer having engaged, through Canada Summer Jobs, a marvelous summer intern student, Mark Freedman, who had been studying a double major in Secondary Education and Social Studies at Bishop’s University. Through this field of interest, he became enchanted with our one-room schoolhouse and was able to show his great enthusiasm to all the visiting tourists. Mark received front page coverage in our local Sherbrooke Daily Record. Excitement resulted in more participation as we have been asked to host another education class from Bishop’s University this coming semester. Of course, a few years ago, we welcomed fourth-year BU students completing their Bachelor of Education degrees. These students, upon visiting, were able to visualize what it must have been like to teach in this time period, with one teacher teaching eight grades in one classroom. Most claimed that they couldn’t imagine such a feat! We have also received a request from both Bishop’s University and the University of Sherbrooke to accommodate an intern student to do a project. I have suggested the creation of a website for our Branch and the continuation of digitizing our many photographs that Mark started to do during his employment.

We welcomed two bus groups from the Waterville Historical Society at which time we were presented with a copy of their recently published book, entitled The Legacy of Waterville, available in both English and French. Following this event, members attended a special afternoon function at which we were shown a portion of the three-part DVD entitled, “Threads of Our History—Living Memories of the Good Old Times.” The cover on the DVD cover contains a picture of our group sitting in the seats of our one-room schoolhouse.

All Branch members are extremely proud of Branch member, Joni Fraser, living in Sandspit, Haida Gwaii, Queen Charlotte Islands. Joni participated in both welcoming a Syrian family to the Island, and later welcoming Prince William and Kate, along with their children, when they landed in Sandspit on 30 September. She was able to present to their Royal Highnesses “A Short History of the United Empire Loyalists” and “The Armorial Bearings of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada” along with two UEL pins, whereby she wrote, “I give these to you in honour of the Loyalists’ Allegiance to The Crown.” She also presented chosen children’s books to both Prince George and Princess Charlotte along with four T-shirts. Prince George received The Salmon Forest by David Suzuki, and Princess Charlotte received Love You Forever by Robert Munsch. Both authors are Canadian as are the illustrators and their publishers. Prior to their visit, Joni was interviewed on television, speaking about the UELAC with great enthusiasm. Joni received a lovely letter from Kensington Palace thanking her for “the wonderful letters and selection of gifts.”

During the summer, much discussion took place regarding a project for Canada’s 150th anniversary and we have decided that, if we can raise sufficient funds, we plan to erect a Voice Activated Listening Station Interpretation Panel to accompany the Visual Interpretation Panel mounted a few years ago. Of course, this will depend on how successful we shall be at fund-raising. We have applied to the Legacy Fund and, if accepted, they will provide 50% of the $28,000 project.

On Remembrance Day, Mark, our intern student, placed our Little Forks Branch wreath at the Cenotaph in Lennoxville. (See photo.) We held our annual Christmas Dinner, Meeting and Draw on Sunday, 11 December 2016 following which the schoolhouse was buttoned down for the winter. If need be, it can be re-opened to accommodate the Bishop’s University students.
The Manitoba Branch UELAC was invited, in August, to join the Monarchist League of Canada, Manitoba Branch “as we merrily continue in our celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen’s 90th birthday.” They held the garden party at the home of their patron, The Right Honourable the Earl and Countess of Orkney. The Manitoba Branch UELAC was ably represented by Margaret Carter UE, Ken Swanston UE, Jennifer Swanston, Vera Ash, Marjorie McConomy UE, Wendy Hart, Cathy Darbell, and Lynn Francis UE. The Earl and Countess [also known as Dr. Peter St. John and Barbara Huck] were gracious and entertaining hosts and their charming English-country-garden-themed yard was the perfect setting.

**Loyalist Era Clothing**

Judy McPherson, of our local Living History Society, decided that she would like to divest herself of all her “Loyalist Era” clothing. Margaret Carter UE purchased the entire collection and donated it to our Branch. Cathy Darbell has undertaken to store and sell the clothing and accessories as a fund-raiser for our group. The end result has been a nice increase in our funds and some interesting additions to our group’s period attire.

**Steinbach Heritage Museum and Village**

September is the month of our annual “out of the city” meeting. This year’s location was Steinbach, which is the hometown of Branch Member, Robert Custance UE. The meeting, held at the Mennonite Heritage Museum, included a lunch of authentic Mennonite dishes in the Livery Barn meeting, held at the Mennonite Heritage Museum, including Arthur Conan Doyle, attended the seances. Dr. Hamilton’s extensive papers, including photographs from his experiments, are at the University of Manitoba Library Archives, and Linda included many very interesting examples in her presentation. October also brought our AGM with a new slate of officers being elected. Their installation was postponed until the November meeting when Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, attended and officially administered the oaths of office to Past President, Bob McConomy; President, Robert Campbell; Treasurer, Dianne Nerbas; Secretary, Mary Steinhoff; Genealogist, Alice Walchuk; and presented outgoing Branch President, Bob McConomy, with his Past President pin. We also welcomed three new members who will be working with our Genealogist, Alice Walchuk UE, to achieve their UE status. Barb Andrew delivered a presentation on her role as Dominion President and the changes that she has been a part of. We were all very interested in the changes that have been happening and the reasoning behind them.

**New Year Levee, 2017**

On 01 January our Lt. Governor, The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, hosted a Levee at our historic Legislative Building. The Loyalists were issued a special invitation and were presented to Their Honours, along with several other groups, before the event was opened to the general public. We were encouraged to wear period dress and mingle with the guests, giving us a grand opportunity to explain who we are and what our role in Canadian history was. We had a wonderful turnout and everyone enjoyed the visiting, the refreshments and the first class entertainment provided by the Winnipeg Police Service Choir, the Golden Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus, the World Village Gospel Choir, and the Esprit de Choeur Women’s Choir. The choirs performed on the Grand Staircase that made a magnificent backdrop as well as providing good visibility and great acoustics. Members of the Scouts and Guides assisted with serving the refreshments. Always nice to see young people involved! There were also complimentary horse drawn sleigh rides available on the Legislative Grounds for any hardy souls wishing to brave the minus 20 degree temperatures.

**Manitoba Branch AGM**

October’s meeting was very busy as we had Linda Horodeki of the Northeast Winnipeg Historical Society with a presentation on the Hamilton family. This prominent Winnipeg family conducted and recorded a great deal of very thorough psychic research at their home in the 1920s. Many visitors to the city, including Arthur Conan Doyle, attended the seances. Dr. Hamilton’s extensive papers, including photographs from his experiments, are at the University of Manitoba Library Archives, and Linda included many very interesting examples in her presentation. October also brought our AGM with a new slate of officers being elected. Their installation was postponed until the November meeting when Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, attended and officially administered the oaths of office to Past President, Bob McConomy; President, Robert Campbell; Treasurer, Dianne Nerbas; Secretary, Mary Steinhoff; Genealogist, Alice Walchuk; and presented outgoing Branch President, Bob McConomy, with his Past President pin. We also welcomed three new members who will be working with our Genealogist, Alice Walchuk UE, to achieve their UE status. Barb Andrew delivered a presentation on her role as Dominion President and the changes that she has been a part of. We were all very interested in the changes that have been happening and the reasoning behind them.

**Dominion Conference “2020-Eyes on the Heart of the Continent”**

We are beginning our plans for the Dominion Conference that we will host in 2020. Mary Steinhoff and Wendy Hart will be the co-chairs. The projected dates are 10 to 15 June 2020. This would allow the attendees at the conference to participate in Loyalist Proclamation Day at the Manitoba Legislature. There is much more planning to be done but the conference will certainly include a chance to visit our nationally acclaimed Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Mary and Wendy are assembling a committee. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for more information.
Nova Scotia

By Ann McConnell UE, Branch Secretary

On 17 September 2016, members of Nova Scotia Branch and guests met in Cornwallis for a Branch meeting at Felker Hall located adjacent to the Museum on the former Canadian Forces Base, Cornwallis. The meeting was followed by a tour of the Old St. Edward’s Loyalist Church and Cemetery in Clementsport. Twenty-seven members and guests attended the meeting, including several persons from the Clements Historical Society, a local historical group. Some of the Clements Historical Society members are descended from United Empire Loyalists who settled in the area, including those who completed the construction of the Old St. Edward’s Loyalist Church in 1795.

After the business meeting, members travelled the short distance to Clementsport where they were led on a tour of the Cemetery outside Old St. Edward’s Loyalist Church by former Curator and Anglican Priest, Adrian Potter. Father Potter then led the group inside the Church for a tour and also made an interesting historical presentation about the area and the participation of Loyalist families. When the presentation was finished, members viewed items in the museum at the Church that dated back to the early settlement of the area.

A video about Old St. Edward’s Loyalist Church has been produced by the Nova Scotia Branch, uploaded to YouTube, and can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/9qCwi3gd47M

Sir John Johnson Centennial

By Michel Racicot UE, Branch President

On 29 October 2016, our Branch held their semi-annual meeting at Cowansville with twenty members attending. At noon, we all gathered at the Restaurant O Patio where a delicious “Late Breakfast” was enjoyed by all. After the breakfast and preceding our business meeting, we were entertained by our guest speaker, Bee Santori, on “‘Nigger Rock’: What is it? Where is it? How did it get its name? Why is it so important to our history?” During a thirty-minute presentation, Bee Santori shared with us his knowledge and experience on “Nigger Rock.”

Born Egidio Santori in Italy, Bee Santori immigrated to Montreal, Canada, with his family in 1953. After obtaining a degree in Special Care Counseling, Bee worked for over thirty years with “special needs” individuals, both children and adults. His career did not prevent him from getting interested in storytelling and creative writing as early as 1970. Every autumn, Bee has been teaching Creative Writing at the Missisquoi Community School that takes place in Cowansville, Quebec. For more than ten years, he has also been very interested in the saga of “Nigger Rock” that took place in St. Armand, Québec, on the land of Loyalist, Philip Luke UE. Bee has written two books, under the pen name Grampa Bob, on that subject: Birdie: The Saga Of Nigger Rock in 2007, and Pilgrimage To Nigger Rock: In Search Of Miss Birdie in 2015.

Here is a condensed version of Bee Santori’s “Nigger Rock” presented at our semi-annual meeting.
“NIGGER ROCK!

Oh what a terrible word. This is what many people say. As a matter of fact, there is a woman (a McGill student), who has recently petitioned the province of Quebec government to have this name changed. According to her, there are 11 places, in the province, with the offending “N-word,” two of which are Nigger Rock, and Niger River,* and the government has agreed. It only took 1000 names on the petition, imagine this. [*Editor’s Note: Niger River near Sherbrooke, was officially spelled with two ‘g’s between 1986 and 2006.]

What is happening here, I believe, is that we are in the process of hiding history. As far as I am concerned, this is more than unfortunate: it is a discredit to the events of the past, and to the people who made these things happen. How sad.

How did I get involved in this issue? By coincidence, I happened to see the Nigger Rock poster and, next thing I knew, I had written a rhyme with the info that I had been given. Following this, a book came to fruition. Birdie: The Saga Of Nigger Rock. Because of my book, I got to know some of the people in Saint Armand who are part of the “Centre Historique De Saint Armand” and the rest is history.

In my attempt to help them with their cause, I published a second book, Pilgrimage To Nigger Rock: In Search Of Miss Birdie. Since then, some progress has happened, with regards to the rock, although the process is very slow going. Nigger Rock; What is it? Where is it? How did it get its name? Why is it so important to our history? What stories does it tell, if any? What is it that we want to do with it? How does it connect us to the past?

Before we answer these questions, let us turn back the time to 1775, the American Revolutionary War. During this war that was fought against the mother country, Great Britain, many people remained loyal to the king, George III. These people became known as the Loyalists. Amongst them were men like Sir John Johnson, and Philip Luke. Once the Rebellious Americans won the war, these Loyalists, along with their families, were expelled and, in return for their loyalty, the King granted them land in what is today Canada. Both Sir John Johnson and Philip Luke ended up in what is today the Province of Quebec.

When these Loyalists came north, they brought with them as many possessions as they could, and that included their slaves. Slaves were categorized as possessions; they were equated with chattel. Thus begins our story in the Segniorie of Saint Armand.


Philip, a man of means, had remained loyal to the crown during the American Revolution. He served with Butler’s Rangers. Following the defeat of the British, he, as were other Loyalists, was exiled to Canada, more specifically, Saint Armand, Quebec, where he was granted land by the king. It is here that Philip and his wife, Eystie, raised their large family.

Amongst the many possessions that Philip brought with him were his slaves. The land that Philip was granted needed to be cleared in order for it to be used for planting profitable crops. This became the work of the slaves. At the same time, the Luke family decided to get into the potash business. This went hand and hand with the clearing of the land. The Lukes were not the only ones to get involved in the potash business. Many of the other settlers did likewise. In the 1820s and 1830s, the ash trade was one of the most important trades in Canada, and worth a great deal of money. Along with farming, this is how the Luke family was able to stay financially afloat.

Although the Lukes did not treat their black workers badly, none of them received wages for their work. They were allotted clothing, a place to live, and a small parcel of land on which to grow their food for personal consumption. Having no money, nor education, these people had no other

Nigger Rock, Quebec: What’s in a name?

By Carmel Kilkenny, 04 October 2016, Radio Canada International

Nigger Rock is the name of one of eleven geographical sites in the province of Quebec that a group of mostly black people want changed. Understandably they find the name offensive.

But Dan Philip, president of the Black Coalition of Quebec, does not agree. He wants the name to stay. He wants a better memorialization of the location and its history, and he says retaining the word “nigger” is part of that.

The name ‘Nigger Rock’ developed as oral history at the location where many black slaves were buried in a mass grave, beginning in the 18th century. Several Loyalist families had moved north to escape the ravages of the American civil war around 1784. They brought their slaves with them and settled near Saint-Armand, about 80 kilometres south of Montreal.

“At that time, people from the black community, slaves, were treated as niggers. And this is the name that was used to define people who were taken from Africa into the Americas and elsewhere.” Dan Philip explains.

“It is to define what happened in time.”

“We have two dimensions of history which must be explained to the entire population; those who came here through the railway, the Underground Railway, and those who were brought here as slaves who were treated as slaves and continued to work and build this community and society as slaves.” Philip says. “This type of history must be known.”

Rachel Zellars is in complete agreement that the history of black people in Quebec and Canada must be known, but she is vehemently opposed to the continued use of the word “nigger.” A PhD candidate in education at McGill University, Zellars wrote: “It is the most hateful symbol, unequivocally, that has been used to deﬁle black people in North America since the 19th century. It is time to retire it for good from oﬃcial provincial use.”

For Dan Philip, “It is a matter of pride for us; it is a matter of knowledge for us, it is a matter of being part of this society and feeling a sense of self and a sense of belonging.” In a recent interview with CBC radio Mr. Philip said, “Changing the name won’t change its history.”
choice but to stay where they were, even once they were free. In fact, they were free on paper only. In the census of 1851, it was recorded that no fewer than 283 blacks lived in the area of Saint Armand. They were involved in various occupations.

Majestically standing on the Luke property, was a large limestone rock. This rock became and is still known as Nigger Rock. It was the setting for many a story. There it stands, mighty and proud, awaiting a human voice to unlock these stories. In the past, it was customary for a white family, especially land owners, to reserve for themselves a special spot on their land where their loved ones would be buried. These cemeteries were often surrounded by stone walls, iron and / or chain link fences, often with iron gates. These were not only meant to be decorative elements, but these barriers also helped to keep animals away.

Blacks, especially slaves, were not accorded such a dignity. They were usually buried haphazardly wherever the land was really not fit to be used for anything else. And so it was with the Luke household, at least until it was decided to give the slaves a specific place of rest, that is, at the base of Nigger Rock. Other than the rock, there were no markers such as grave stones, crosses, etc. Lore has it that the Luke slaves, including other black people who worked for the Lukes, are buried at the base of this rock. Thus a group was formed to see to it that the rock will be recognized as an historical, and I would add, sacred site. Nigger Rock is a huge limestone rock that sits majestically on the former Luke estate.

With the issue of Nigger Rock, there have been, and still are, many hurdles to cross, and many roadblocks to overcome. It has become a long and arduous battle that is slowly being won. This woman, who wants to have the name changed, has only set the process back a little. For me, there is no turning back. I aim to be part of the force that is demanding to give those former slaves and other blacks, who once lived, toiled, and, most likely, died in St. Armand, the respect and honor that they truly deserve.

How does Nigger Rock connect us to the past? It is a monument to PEOPLE, heroes of long ago, who were instrumental in setting the foundation for a most vibrant town, Saint Armand. Their contribution, their stories, their spirit, must be preserved. I, for one, will continue to be a crusader to have Nigger Rock keep its name, and to have its rightful name in history."

Asst. Editor’s Note: I agree with keeping accurate historical names if it shows the ignorance and racism of the past. Decades ago when the play, Showboat, was playing near where I lived in Toronto, there were large protests because they used the N-word. Meanwhile, a larger theatre in Toronto was running the play Romeo and Juliet, in which Friar Laurence gave a potion to fake Juliet’s death, which led to the two committing suicide. No protest was mounted about portraying a religious man conspiring in what many consider a deadly sin. Should the arts try to “sanitize” the words of the past? Should we portray Nazis speaking “nice words” to those in concentration camps? Keep history alive or we are likely to repeat it.

―Michael Johnson
Marlene Dance UE of the Chilliwack Branch was our guest speaker at our AGM and November meeting. Her PowerPoint presentation told the story of Marlene’s quest to reunite a son with the father he never knew: quite an incredible story. At the AGM, Diane Faris UE was elected the new President of the Vancouver Branch. Christine Manzer UE is the new Vice-President and also Branch Secretary.

Audrey Viken UE hosted our Christmas luncheon at her home in West Vancouver where Vancouver Branch member, Betty Anne Field UE, was presented with her Certificate for her Loyalist ancestor, Peter Grant UE. Our luncheon is always a good start to the Christmas season: good food and good friends.

Victoria

By Karen Borden UE, Branch Archivist and Historian

In 2017 we are celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the formation of Victoria Branch.

The 10 September 2016 meeting of the Victoria Branch was held in the Howard Johnson Hotel at Royal Oak. Vice-President, Mary Lou Rowbotham UE, chaired the meeting.

Our guest speaker was Gerry Buydens, Chairman of the Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria. His talk was on the goals and activities of the Society and he showed pictures of their recent restorations in Ross Bay Cemetery. He was accompanied by another member of the Society, Lynda Richards, who answered questions on my family members that are buried in Ross Bay.

Our Branch Genealogist, Maralynn Wilkinson UE, had certificates for Heather Theissen UE, (for her Loyalist Ancestor, John Jost Petrie UE), Grace-Ellen Capier UE, (for her Loyalist Ancestor, Joshua Gidney UE) and Catherine Enfield UE, (for her Loyalist Ancestor, John Wees UE). Grace-Ellen was present to receive her certificate.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on 12 November 2016. Our Branch President, Barry Curran UE, introduced a new member, Stephen Sawford.

Aurelie Stirling UE introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Simon Devereaux, from the Faculty of History at the University of Victoria. He gave a most interesting talk on the reign of King George III during the American Revolution. Past Branch President, Aurelie Stirling, presented Dr. Devereaux with a gift as a token of our appreciation. After this, the business meeting was called to order. A sub-committee of Frans Compeer and Aurelie Stirling was formed to explore ways in which the Victoria Branch can participate in the Canada 150 Celebrations.

Our Branch Genealogist, Maralynn Wilkinson UE, presented certificates to Mary Lou Rowbotham UE (for her Loyalist ancestors, John Wees UE and David Wees UE) and Barry Curran UE (for his Loyalist ancestor, Peter Etter UE). Maralynn and Barry, along with several others, were in period dress for the occasion.

Elections were held with most of the executive staying on, except for the position of Branch Secretary which is vacant. Kathleen Lynch UE agreed to be our new social convener. The officers were sworn in by the longest attending member of our Branch, Wilma Saville UE. She has been an active member for thirty-five years and served eighteen years as our Branch Genealogist.

Photos: Top:
Grace-Ellen Capier UE (left) receives certificate from Maralynn Wilkinson UE.

Middle:
Mary Lou Rowbotham UE (left) and Maralynn Wilkinson UE.

Bottom:
Dr. Simon Devereaux (left) is thanked by Victoria Branch Past President, Aurelie Sterling UE.
Died at Humber Heights Retirement Home in Etobicoke, Ontario, in her 92nd year. Beloved wife of the late Dr. Alan William Conn (1925 – 2010), eldest child of Alexandra Victoria (nee Hoard) and Douglas Hamilton Hart. Dear sister of Isobel (Hart) Davey, and predeceased by her brother, Don Hart (2014). Proud mother of four daughters: Nancy Heather (Doug Grant) of Toronto; Mary Ann (Dr. Robert Brody) of Shaker Heights, Ohio; Wendy Elizabeth (Bruce Weir) of West Bolton, Quebec; Heather Victoria (Frank McElroy) of Roberts Creek, British Columbia. Cherished grandmother of Elizabeth (Ahlgren) Matejka, Julia (Benton Foster) and Heather Ahlgren (Alex Jones), Matthew Hutchinson, Hartley and Ian Brody, Cameron and Corcoran Conn-Grant; great-grandmother of James and Claire Matejka of Cranbrook, British Columbia.

Born in Woodstock, Ontario, Marian graduated in Household Economics from Victoria College, University of Toronto, in 1947. She worked for two years at the Women’s Institute, Department of Agriculture, in Northumberland and Victoria Counties, Ontario. After her marriage in 1948, she volunteered at the Women’s Auxiliary (Hospital for Sick Children) for over twenty-five years, sewing and crafting items for sale in their 555 Shop. She was a lifelong member of the United Church of Canada and the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada.

She followed Al when his career took him to the northern Ontario town of Chapleau in 1949, to England in 1952-53, and then to the Toronto suburb of Mimico where they lived for forty-six years. They moved to the Village by the Arboretum in Guelph in 1999. Since 2013 she lived at Wellington Park Terrace, Guelph and Humber Heights, Toronto.

With her interest in history, art, old houses and antique furniture, Marian was always very proud of her Scottish and Loyalist heritage. As a child, she took piano lessons, passed her Grade VIII Royal Conservatory exam and appreciated classical music. She loved gardening, flower arranging, cooking, reading and sewing. CBC radio was the background of her daily routine, especially Morningside with Peter Gzowski. She taught herself to spin wool and to type, sending Christmas cards and letters to over 350 people. She also enjoyed foreign travel and journeyed with Al to five continents.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial service on Saturday, 12 November 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at Turner & Porter, Yorke Chapel, 2357 Bloor Street West (at Windermere, east of Jane), Toronto. Private interment at Park Lawn Cemetery, Toronto. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada or the Schlegel-University of Waterloo Research Institute for Aging.

A member of the Governor Simcoe Branch for many years, she proved her descent from Andrew Denike UE.

Don Grant passed away on 03 November 2016 at the Wellington Hospice in Guelph at the age of 95 after a short illness. Don loved his family, especially his wife, Peggy (nee Margaret Warner 1923-2011). They leave sons: Doug (Nancy Conn) of Toronto, Gord (Kathy) of Oakville, Ken of Campbellford, and Al of London. He enjoyed and was proud of ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Son of Bert and Jean (Stewart) Grant, Don was brother to: Stewart (Joy, Cathie), Earl (Margaret), George (Dorothy), June Hill (Bill) and Dr. Ross (Doreen) of Kitchener, and brother-in-law to Ross Warner (Shireen) and Joan Fox (Charles).

Don was proud of his family heritage and proudly displayed his Loyalist Certificate as a descendant of George Sutherland UE of Glengarry.

Don was raised and schooled in St. Mary’s. He enlisted in the RCAF in early days of WWII, was called up in 1940 and, in 1941, was preparing to embark to Europe when Pearl Harbour was attacked. He was immediately posted to the west coast of Canada where he served on numerous bases while doing anti-sub patrol. While on a leave, he married Peg on 04 September 1943 in Wesley United Church, Mimico (Toronto). A year later, when posted to Victoria as an instructor, Peg joined him. Don attained the rank of Flight Lieutenant before war’s end in 1945. Don and Peg then returned to Avonbank where they took over the family homestead farm which Don’s Taylor forefather had taken up from the Canada Company in 1845. They were active participants in the Avonbank community. Don became President of the Perth County Federation of Agriculture.

In 1962 Don took a position with the newly formed Farm Credit Corporation (FCC). They sold the farm and moved to Campbellford, then to Woodstock in 1971 and finally to Guelph in 1977.

While in Campbellford, Don returned to his love of flying, buying a four-seater airplane. In Guelph, being not far from the University, they rented basement rooms to students, developing lifelong friendships with several of them.

Don earned his designation AACI as an appraiser. He retired from the FCC in 1983 and focused on his hobbies: woodworking (he had an extensive knowledge of trees and wood), gardening and, later, needlework. He and Peg enjoyed extensive travelling; meeting many who became good friends from places such as Singapore, Hong Kong and Australia. They often gave hosts small wooden personalized gifts that Don had made.
Al was a dedicated member of the Victoria Branch of the UELAC, serving as Vice-President in 2003, President from 2004 to 2007, and Past President and Membership Chairman in 2007. Starting in 2004, he wrote the Branch Report for *The Loyalist Gazette*, created a Branch brochure, and led the executive in rewriting the Branch’s constitution with assistance from senior officers of the UELAC. He created a booth for the purpose of outreach and education that is still in use today. He was instrumental in establishing a garden project in the Victoria Inner Harbour, which includes specimens of the Loyalist Rose and plaques to identify them with a history of the Loyalists. Al was awarded the Phillip E.M. Leith Memorial Award by the UELAC Vancouver Branch in 2009. In 2014, the Victoria Branch Scholarship was named the United Empire Loyalist Victoria Branch Alvin Huffman Scholarship in Canadian History and Al was able to present it himself on several occasions before becoming ill.

**Honours and Awards**

- Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal
- Phillip E.M. Leith Memorial Award (2009)
- Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp
- War Medal 1939-45
- Defence Medal
- France and Germany Star

**Editor’s Note:** In my role as UELAC Dominion President, on the weekend of 17 November 2012, my wife, Grietje, and I visited Victoria Branch and were met at the airport by Al Huffman. Al graciously showed us Ogden Point on the Pacific Ocean and Beacon Hill Park where Mayor’s Grove is located. Al then took us to the location of Victoria Branch’s Centennial Project for 2014, which was to restore the plaque beneath the Loyalist Maple Tree planted by their Majesties: King George VI and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, in 1939. He then took us to the largest castle in Western Canada: Craigdarroch Castle built by coal baron, Robert Dunsmuir.

We are deeply saddened by Al’s death.

—Robert Collins McBride UE.

HUFFMAN, Alvin Donald
UE, P.Eng.

Alvin (Al) Huffman UE passed away in Victoria, British Columbia, on 30 January 2017, aged 92 years, as a result of Alzheimer’s disease. He is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Joyce (Smale) Huffman, three children and three grandchildren.

Al was born and grew up in Windsor, Ontario, and, upon graduating from high school, joined the RCAF in 1942. He served as a Flying Officer/Pilot with 415 Squadron Bomber Command, in Yorkshire, flying Halifax bombers. When the war ended, he enrolled in the University of Toronto and graduated with a B.Sc. (Honours) in 1949 in Chemical Engineering. After a successful business career, he retired as President of CSP Foods in Winnipeg and moved to Vancouver Island in 1992 to enjoy a milder climate.

In his retirement, he was involved in Professional Engineering and chemical industry associations and became greatly interested in genealogy where he was able to prove descent from five United Empire Loyalists.

Dad also volunteered, for twenty years for Meals on Wheels and the Red Cross.

In mid-September 2016, Don fell and broke his hip. After a hip replacement, unrecoverable complications ensued. He chose to enter hospice in early October. On 02 November, after a big smile while saying goodbye to a great-granddaughter and a seemingly normal bedtime routine, he passed away peacefully in his sleep.

Although the medication and his health made him tired, Don was always appreciative of the help he had received from staff at the seniors’ home in Wellington Park Terrace where he lived, at Guelph General Hospital and at Hospice Wellington. Staff consistently commented about how they enjoyed his company, his little stories, anecdotes, dry wit and, yes, even jokes, right until his last sleep. Don’s extended family appreciated that too. His family thank all staff, and that of the many visitors, for their kind assistance.

At Don’s request, cremation has taken place. Arrangements by Wall-Custance Funeral Home, Guelph and service on 09 November 2016 at Harcourt United Church, Guelph. Interment will follow later at Avonbank Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Salvation Army, Red Cross or a charity of your choice, would be appreciated.

Robert McBride UE (left) meeting Al Huffman UE.
LOWE, Libby, UE [1916 – 2016]

By Deborah Coleman

Remembering Libby Lowe UE

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our eldest member, Elizabeth Louise Burnham Lowe UE, on 25 July 2016. Libby, as she was called, was born in Saint John on 16 March 1916, the daughter of the late O. Arnold Burnham and Myrtle (Holder) Burnham.

A graduate of Saint John High School, class of 1933 and the Saint John Hospital School of Nursing, class of 1939, she enlisted in the army in 1940 and served as a nurse in England, Italy and Sicily before returning to Saint John in 1945. She attended McGill University for Public Health Nursing and later moved to Ontario. She returned to Saint John in 1959, became a school nurse at Saint John Vocational and initiated a training course for nursing assistants.

In 1964, Libby became Provincial Director of Health Services for Canadian Red Cross, New Brunswick Division. She retired in 1981 and in 1983 was awarded the International Red Cross Florence Nightingale medal for her work with wounded soldiers in Italy during World War II.

Libby was a charter member of our Branch when the charter was granted in 1967. She worked faithfully throughout the years as she fulfilled many executive positions. She was Branch President from 1975 to 1977. She fought for representation of the Atlantic Provinces on the Dominion Council and became our first Regional Vice-President. In 2015 I was honoured to present Libby with her Past President’s pin. Libby was loved and will be sorely missed.

POLLARD, Olive Johnston (1925 – 2016)

At Knowlton House (Town of Brome Lake, Québec), on 26 December 2016 at the age of 91, passed away Mrs. Olive Johnston Pollard, beloved wife of the late Eric Pollard UE of Brome. She leaves to mourn her brothers: Warren (Bill) Johnston of Halifax and Dorson Johnston of Brome, her nieces and nephews and many friends. She was predeceased by her brothers and sisters: Alice, George Clayton (Jean), Doreen, Gladys and Bruce.

For more than twenty years, Olive and her husband, Eric, were not only members of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch but they also took an active part in all our Branch activities. For several years they both served on our Branch executive. Olive will be sorely missed. Our deepest condolences to her family.
of bloody action: 1776 to 1784. Newman starts at the beginning of the 1770s and carries on through the evolution of not just the Republic, but also the Monarchy in Canada. Hostages to Fortune is a great book, lively written, with quotations and plenty of anecdotes.

L.F.S. Upton in The United Empire Loyalists: Men and Myths (The Copp Publishing Company, 1967) observed: "Because the Loyalists did not leave a body of literature indicating their hopes and aspirations, this left others to mould them to their own ends."

Newman looks at Loyalists from their points of view, and then from the opposite side, that of the Rebels. Perhaps with an American audience in mind, he uses the modern term, “Patriots,” which can become somewhat confusing.

Family history caught Newman’s attention, specifically the extensive genealogy of the Jarvis Family, which some would argue were an early form of the Family Compact. While Newman covers their story, those of some other figures are omitted, including that of the founder of my hometown of Brockville, William Buell. He was a first cousin of Hannah, Mrs. William Jarvis. Both were grandchildren of Reverend Samuel Peters of Connecticut.

While the Jarvises were so busy promoting themselves, Buell was responsible for creating that fine Brockville townscape, Court House Square, located on part of his land grant. The Law looks down toward the circular green, a space for “government by discussion,” to the churches located on each of the four corners, and then on toward the St. Lawrence River. This piece of New England is unique in Ontario.

Before looking at the best in Newman, allow me to first examine the worst. Several times he refers to “Hessian mercenaries.” The use of this term was a slander propagated by the “Patriots” who naturally wanted to paint German soldiers in the worse possible light. The truth is contained in an article, “German Regiments in Canada, 1776-1783,” by Herbert W. Debor, military historian, in the German-Canadian Year Book, 1975. In his article, Debor lists soldiers from many sources. One is of particular interest: the Hesse-Hanau Jaegers, meaning Hesse-Hanover Riflemen, who were specially trained for American conditions. In his journal on the Queen’s Rangers, published in 1778, John Graves Simcoe refers to detachments of these riflemen, led by Captain Johan Ewald. Simcoe also wrote about how much he admired Baron Wilhelm von Knyphausen, one of his division commanders. Debor also explained that “mercenaries would not do.” The German soldiers were regulars, from established regiments. Although most of the regiments listed were in Canada, many had also served against so-called “Patriots” in those colonies.
The monarchs of Great Britain, from 1776 to 1783, and up until 1837, were also rulers of Hanover. All four Georges had married well-born German ladies, but produced few offspring. By 1837, the only heir was Princess Victoria of Kent. She inherited Great Britain, but females did not rule in Hanover. Her uncle, Prince Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, became the next “king” of Hanover. Meanwhile, British royal dukes produced offspring of healthy English mistresses. Perhaps this was a matter of pride among descendants?

Now for the best of this book. We can sit back and enjoy the flowing words of that great Canadian story teller, Peter C. Newman, who calls that fine Loyalist city of Belleville home. How many of his neighbours will argue with him over their own ideas, as some did with me? If you do find the odd error, like a knighthood for J.G. Simcoe, forgive! It is indeed good news that such a high-profile author took up the Loyalists’ story. Read and enjoy Newman’s great style. I commend this book to anyone with an interest in our heritage, both to the newcomer to the subject, as well as the well-acquainted.

We are pretty much in agreement on the chapter on the War of 1812-14. If the outcome had been different, we might not have had anything to call Canada!

Mary Beacock Fryer UE has written over twenty books dealing with the history of Upper Canada, including several on the Loyalist period. Born in 1929 (just fourteen days after Peter C. Newman), she grew up in Brockville, Ontario, in what she describes as an “upside down family” consisting of five related adults and just two children. She holds a B.A. in Historical Geography from the University of Toronto and an M.A. from Edinburgh University. Her interest in her Loyalist roots was kindled when she was given a genealogy of a Loyalist ancestor, Caleb Seaman UE, whose 1789 flight from Long Island with his wife and eight children she later fictionalized in Escape: Adventures of a Loyalist Family. She joined the Toronto Branch of the UELAC in 1964 and has written about Loyalists ever since, including histories, historical fiction and biographies. Her other titles include King’s Men: The Soldier Founders of Ontario and Buckskin Pimpernel: The Exploits of Justus Sherwood, Loyalist Spy. She has enjoyed interesting letters from people who have read her books from as far away as Australia. For fifty-eight years, she has been married to Geoff Fryer, an architect/town planner from England, with whom she has three children and four grandchildren.

After Yorktown

The Final Struggle for American Independence

Author: Don Glickstein

Publisher: Westholme Publishing, LLC Yardley, Pennsylvania © 2015

Hard cover 432 pages
Price: $29.95

Reviewed by Grietje McBride UE, B.Sc.

Why did it take so long for the American Revolution to end after the Battle of Yorktown? Don Glickstein’s first book is based on years of accumulated knowledge about the diverse theatres of war in the American Revolution and the lives of the protagonists and ordinary people who waged war or were affected by it. This book answers that question and many more about this worldwide conflict waged in North America.

The book is organized into eight parts, beginning with the events leading up to the Battle of Yorktown in 1781 and its aftermath. From this event the author traces the fortunes of Britain, France, Spain, and native tribes and African slaves in America and around the world after the fall of Yorktown. He describes the action in the South, the Frontier, and Mohawk Valley, The Caribbean and West Indies, sea battles along the New England coast, Spain and the Mediterranean, battles in India, and finally back to the final evacuation of the British and Loyalists from New York.
Glickstein, in conversational, engaging style, and with obvious enjoyment in the telling, explores and interprets how and why the war continued for another twenty months. He offers mini-biographies of the generals, captains or admirals whose fortunate actions or calamitous mistakes, motives or intrigues, influenced the outcome of conflicts around the globe. Going beyond the story, the author often "follows the trail," recounting what happened to leaders on both sides of the conflict after the American Revolution ended. Glickstein notes conflicting accounts of heated battles with different descriptions of events and outcomes of the same historic event. History is written by those who leave a written record.

The book is organized so that students of history can read the whole account of the conflict or zero in on geographic regions. Glickstein's thorough knowledge of his subject allows him to cross-reference people and events so that we see, for example, what was happening around the world, year by year, month by month.

A detailed bibliography of primary and secondary sources, as well as extensive notes and an index are listed at the end of the book. These are augmented by seven pages of images in the middle of the book as well as several line maps at the beginning, depicting the geographic locations of places where significant action took place globally. For the student, these references create an exhaustive list of places to search for information about almost any subject concerning the American Revolution. In the author's words, "I couldn't have written it even ten years ago. One of the more valuable sites I used is Archives Canada and the US Archives site, Founders Online. The amount of original sources that have been digitalized and put online is mind-boggling." After Yorktown came out in paperback this past fall; ISBN number 978-1594162619. Background information and a few corrections from the hardcover edition are found on the author's website: donglickstein.com. You may also like to read Peter Johnson's review of this book found in Loyalist Trails, on 24 January 2016, and in The Loyalist Gazette, Volume LIV, No.1, Spring 2016, pages 45 and 46.

Dr. Oronhyatekha is hardly a forgotten figure but, for those who think they have a grasp of his story, this book offers so much more. One is left wondering how he had the time and energy to be successfully involved in a medical practice, and numerous organizations, especially the Foresters. This barely touches on his achievements, but the book follows others up.

Peter Martin, or Dr. Oronhyatekha as he preferred, was born in Brantford in 1841 and died during a visit to the United States in 1907. While he lived in a variety of locations over the course of his career, he considered Tyendinaga to be his home base, and indeed his wife, Ellen Hill (1843-1901), came from there and was a direct descendant of both Joseph Brant and John Deseronto.

Dr. Oronhyatekha’s big break came in 1860 when he had the opportunity to represent the Haudenosaunee and meet the visiting Prince of Wales. He had the intelligence and drive to make the most of this opportunity. Not surprisingly, he encountered racial bias over the course of his life, and very capably countered such slurs with intelligence and even humour.

Aside from his links to Tyendinaga, what interested me was his time spent in Frankford, not far from my home. After graduating from Medical School in Toronto, his first practice was in Frankford. He was already a Mason, and the authors speculated that he could have belonged to the Masonic Lodge in Frankford. In fact, he did, joining in 1867, and he was a member there until 1871, when he moved elsewhere. While he belonged to several fraternal organizations, he is best known for his twenty-nine years of leadership in the Independent Order of Foresters.

He turned the IOF from a struggling and fractured organization into an international company that merged Haudenosaunee and fraternal values with commercial insurance.” (page 250).

Of particular interest to Bay of Quinte Branch members is the reference on page 272 to the induction in 2007 of Dr. Oronhyatekha into the Branch’s Hall of Honour. The authors then proceed to refer to the aims and objectives of the UELAC: it’s nice to be noticed.

I felt it appropriate to approach David Hill Morrison UE regarding this book and he didn’t disappoint when he provided the following remarks that nicely sum up the legacy of Dr. Oronhyatekha:

At a time when contemporary generations of First Nations people are becoming more commonplace in the various professions of laws, the medical field and politics, this makes the accomplishments of Dr. Oronhyatekha even more poignant. A pioneer in his own right, his fame and respect set a standard which undoubtedly inspired and compelled future Natives to achieve goals far beyond the expectations of a dubious and sometimes jaded non-Native society.

The book makes for entertaining reading and it is also well sourced with almost a hundred pages of notes plus an Index. Worth checking out.
Above the Glebe: A farming family’s heartbreak during the American Revolution

Author: Pamela Gilpin Stowe

Publisher: iUniverse, 1663 Liberty Dr., Bloomington, Indiana, 47403
Paperback 291 pages © 2015
Price: USD$18.95
Suggested Reading for high-school age and mature audiences.

Reviewed by Grietje McBride UE, B.Sc.

M any colonial families who settled in the Thirteen Colonies for several generations faced divided loyalties in the years leading up to the American Revolution. From the French and Indian Wars to the final evacuation from New York, families who grew up tilling the soil and developing deep attachments to their communities were caught up in the vortex of politics and divided loyalties that morphed into the American Revolution.

Above the Glebe begins in April 1758 with the influx of strangers mixing with village inhabitants in New Rochelle. The series of events that destroyed the life of young Virginia Poore and produced an orphan son are part of the disturbing fallout that impacted members of the Poore and Holmes families throughout the Revolutionary War. As families’ members grew and married, the author demonstrates how, through family correspondence, pub meetings and the dissemination of political pamphlets, new ideas infiltrated and galvanized strong viewpoints. Through family debate, the fear of the French Navy supporting the Rebels and Washington’s Continental Army further divided opinion about the impending war. Early defeats of the British by Revolutionary forces at Princeton in 1775 and Harlem Heights in 1777 escalated the Revolutionary rhetoric, especially near Boston. The Holmes family, now divided, witnessed the sons joining Loyal American Regiments and the sons-in-law supporting rebellion.

Of great interest is the detailed account of the adventures of the youngest Loyalist in the Holmes family, 13-year-old Joseph, who joined a Loyalist Regiment as a scout. It is an eye-opener to read about the modus operandi of scouts and spies during the war through this child-soldier’s eyes. As Stowe asserted: “Going under cover brought the complexities and hypocrisies of war up close” (page 119). Her description of Joseph’s service also reveals the internal politics that favour one soldier over another or one leader against another.

The author focuses on the battles that the British decisively lost: Stoney Point and York Town in October 1781. Following the Loyalist Holmes brothers in their different regiments demonstrates the experiences of forced marches to notorious prisons and also to farm prisons, wherein prisoners were paroled to Rebel farmers with orders to grow crops for the Continental army, a fact that was unknown to me. In communication with Stowe, she states that “the characters and their reactions are fictional, although very realistic. My characters are placed in real-life settings in actual historical events and we see the events through their eyes.”

The confusing aftermath, when the war was over and Loyalists made their way home to await the hoped-for pardons, lasted close to two years. The Articles of Peace didn’t arrive until February 1783, when those in the Holmes family received news of the harsh terms in the treaty. Loyalists had to go to New York to register with their regiments to meet at an appointed time and board a certain vessel for Nova Scotia. Stowe doesn’t describe too much of the Loyalist experience when Loyalists arrived on the three different fleets to the wild lands that were to be their homes. She does, however, give a fair account of the process of gathering and boarding ships in New York and the accompanying documentation of Loyalists and their property.

There has been an historic link between the Maritime inhabitants of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia and the northern Thirteen Colonies. Family ties often deepened in the years after the Revolution. Trade and jobs were often shared across the national border. No matter where the reader’s loyalties lie, you will find this story one you won’t want to put down. It is well written, with accurate facts and believable characters. Seeing the Revolution pass before your mind’s eye through the “live” experiences of the characters in this historical fiction is like looking up at the battles played out in the Revolution from “under the Glebe.”

"..."

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Please see the book editor’s contact information at the beginning of the book review section.

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When ‘The Good Old Days’ Weren’t So Good

By Peter W. Johnson UE

O
n occasion I’ve mentioned that harsh attitudes by residents of the United States toward Loyalists have softened in recent decades. This is not to say that the assessment of our Loyalists is where we would like it to be, but any progress in that regard is welcome.

Perhaps readers have not encountered the more traditional ‘trashing’ of the Loyalists in earlier publications in the U.S.A. For that reason, I’ve selected a family history published in 1919 that will give you that flavour. It’s the History of the Kuykendall Family by George Benson Kuykendall.

To begin with, the earliest generations of the Kuykendall family are my ancestors, but I add that descent through female line took me to other surnames so I have no Rebel Revolutionary War veterans by that name. The Kuykendalls arrived from Holland no later than 1650 and have spread across North America since then.

In a quick glance through the book, you know that there’s trouble to be had when Chapter 37 is entitled, “Pests, Outlaws and Tories.” Author, George Benson Kuykendall, states his position on “Tories” very early in the book, and his hatred passed down through the generations, and second only to his hatred of “Indians.” He writes:

She (his grandmother) told of the Tories, British and the Hessians, and the brutalities of the soldiers of the British, and I was very much impressed by her accounts of early Indian atrocities. I can remember in my childhood, that grandmother and the older ones, when wanting a term to express the utmost depths of human depravity and meanness, would say, “as mean as a Hessian.” (page 5)

In the aforementioned chapter, the author relates:

... our people disliked the Tories more than they did any of the others, for they acted as spies and informants, sneaking around in the different neighborhoods, prying into all the movements of home troops and scouts, and then reporting everything to the nearest British headquarters or officers. The wrongs and indignities suffered on account of the Tories brought down upon them severe punishments. These punishments were various, ranging from whipping to branding, tarring and feathering, hanging or shooting. (page 498)

The author goes on to describe several occasions where Loyalists were tarred and feathered, without any sense of the barbarity of the actions. Two of the victims were a Westbrook and a Van Vliet.

The viewpoint is that any punishment of Loyalists was justified.

If the attitude towards Loyalists is discouraging to us, the author’s take on “Indians” is sickening. He relates the killing of one Arie Kuykendall and the mission by his son, Thomas, to exact revenge, and again all seemingly justifiable according to the author:

When old and upon his death bed, he (Thomas), expressed regret that he had not be able to kill an even hundred Indians in his lifetime. It was said he had killed over ninety. (page 123)

The “Loyalists-as-vermin” theme and the hatred of our First Nations Allies run throughout the book. Perhaps the ‘good old days’ weren’t so good with regards to family histories in the United States.


...
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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. However, the name of the ancestor and branch remain. They may reconsider by notifying Dominion Office in writing.

Editor's Note: UELAC privacy policy dictates that individuals’ personal information will not be shared. 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>Abraham Maybee</td>
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This year’s recipient of the Dorchester Award received her first certificate early in 1980. In 1981 she became Vice-President of Kawartha Branch UELAC and in June she became Acting President for the remainder of the term of office. In 1982 she was installed as President of the Kawartha Branch.

She was a member of the team who built a display with the “Storyboards,” a continuous slide presentation that was taken to the AGM in Kingston for the 200th year of the Loyalist settlement in Ontario.

In 1988 she became “Branch Genealogist” and continues to assist in every way when a new member applies for a membership and UEL certification.

She was one of the four ladies who presented an “In Memoriam Book” to the UELAC in which to record the names of members who have died.

At the February 1997 meeting our recipient was re-elected President of the Branch while continuing as the Branch Genealogist.

She has shown exemplary service to the Kawartha Branch and always, with her cheerful disposition, has been part of the team who speak to school children. She also attends Heritage Day events around the District.

Joan faithfully attends Executive, Regular, and Dominion Council meetings and conducts the Genealogists Workshop at each of the UELAC Conferences, in her role as the Association Genealogists’ Support.

This lady has shown dedication to the UELAC, as she did in her nursing career, and with her devotion to her family, young and old.
Prince William and Kate, with their children, George and Charlotte.

Photography of the royals “catches the moment” unlike a formal painting. Compare the similar composition of the two royal family portraits.

King George III

Queen Elizabeth II, Prince Philip and their children, Charles and Anne.