THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS’ ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

The Loyalist Gazette
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The Good Americans: Film maker partners with UELAC Scholarship Fund
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Some of us know about the Loyalists through casual family references to “You come from Loyalist stock” and become curious enough about this reference to their distant past to join an organization that focuses on ancestral research such as the UELAC. Others inherit the research already done by dedicated family members. The common denominator is curiosity: the desire to know more about the life and times, the desires and motives, the difficulties and dangers faced by our generations past. To satisfy our appetite for knowledge and understanding, we feel an urgency to capture as much information as we can gather before it disappears. True researchers advocate for the preservation of historical data, monuments, and buildings: the footprint of lives past. “Living the History” is the emerging theme of this issue of The Loyalist Gazette.

In book format, we see writers, like Cynthia Young UE, Tom Raub UE, and Kathie Ryckman Anderson, exploring print records of family members in the pursuit of accurate information. You will meet Mark Gallop of Heritage Branch proudly announcing a distinguished home and repository for Loyalist books and materials.

In monument format, we will read about Jim McKenzie’s passion for refurbishing the gravestones of his ancestors, or Stuart Manson’s Loyalist Burial Site Commemoration project: an outreach project of the St. Lawrence Branch. We see opportunities to become involved in the Johnson Hall Restoration project as Friends of Johnson Hall restore this historic Loyalist landmark.

In digital format, sometimes overlapping with an immersive format, the reader can learn about the new film maker partnership with the UELAC Scholarship fund to produce The Good Americans. This is a project that you and your Branch may be able to be a part of.

Lastly, give yourself the opportunity to attend a UELAC conference and meet many people like yourselves. Immerse yourself in the Loyalist experience and the history of our Capitol City, Ottawa.

I hope that you are inspired by the articles that you read in this issue of The Loyalist Gazette, written by people just like you who have something to celebrate or inform our readers about. Take up your “Loyalist Quill” and send us your stories, anniversaries, new Certificate recipients, Branch celebrations, books that helped you in your research ... we welcome your submissions.

Jennifer De Bruin UE, is the Publisher, responsible for the production, design and layout, of The Loyalist Gazette, and the Designer of the Gazette is Amanda Fasken UE, while I continue to be its Editor, responsible for gathering and editing the content of each issue of the magazine, before sending it on to the Publisher and Designer, then doing a final proof-reading before it goes to the printer.

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 of The Loyalist Gazette and UELAC Publications Chairperson.
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We are now halfway through what has been a very stark reminder for most of us that winter in Canada is both unpredictable and, at times, very hazardous. I can’t help recalling the writings of Mrs. Simcoe in which she talked about being in a tent at Niagara over the winter until their accommodations were completed. Even with all the down sleeping bags and other winter camping equipment today, I can’t say that there has ever been an appeal to be out overnight in this weather. This is one more thing to remind us of the hardy nature of our ancestors, especially when, for many, they lived the winter months under very rude conditions and, even moving into a cabin, might have found it drafty and not ideal.

There have been several things happening since the fall of 2018. As many of you will be aware, we received confirmation that the Governor General was prepared to be a Patron of the UELAC. Our Past President, Barbara Andrew, worked very hard to receive an answer on this when the new Governor General was sworn in. It was not until a newspaper article identified that we were not the only organization who had received no response that something began to happen.

In early January 2019, an invitation was sent to the Office of the Governor General inviting her to attend the June Conference, but to date we have received no reply.

In early January we received word that, following the death of her husband, Mette Griffin would be moving north to live closer to her children. We have entered into a three-month contract with Mette for five hours a week, which will provide some assistance to Jim Bruce regarding membership and certificates. During the three months we will re-evaluate this and the needs of the office.

As a result of Mette’s departure, we have entered into a further contract with Jim Bruce who is now our office manager, working twenty hours each week. The current plan is that Jim will be in the office each day, from Monday to Thursday. He has also taken on some financial duties to ensure that our transactions can be completed in a timely fashion. It is our plan to have the information about the office opening times posted on the website. As we transition to the new website it is our plan to be able to update this re: weather, illness and vacation, as needed.

There are some exciting things happening in a variety of areas and the details of these projects will be shared via Executive Notes following the Board Meeting.

I am looking forward to several upcoming visits this spring and early summer. There is a calendar on the UELAC website should you wish to check a date. I hope that this finds all of you well and beginning to see a return of spring with lots of Branch activities and family research. Thank you to all of you who have worked so hard on behalf of the organization and I look forward to meeting you in Ottawa in the spring.

Loyally,
Suzanne Morse-Hines UE
UELAC Dominion President 2018 – 2019
In 1982, I joined the New Brunswick Branch of the UELAC in Saint John, New Brunswick. I then worked to get my UE designation.

My grandfather, Moses, sometime after his wife, Annie Kerr, passed away from cancer, married a cousin, Alice. Alice cleaned out an old family desk and found a packet of letters that were written to Nellie MacPherson, wife of the Loyalist, Malcolm McKenzie UE. The letters were from Nellie’s brother, Patrick, who was a goldsmith in Paris during the Napoleonic wars. Alice took these letters, as well as the family sheets from the bibles of my second great-grandfather, John, my great-grandfather, David, and my grandfather, Moses, to the Saint John Regional Library for safe keeping.

Like many other members I paid my dues but did not participate in Branch activities until I received a phone call and a letter advising they were having a meeting to decide whether to close the branch or not. I went to the meeting and was elected President.

My Loyalist ancestors, Malcolm and Nellie, and their son, Peter, settled on the beautiful Belleisle Bay, a tributary to the Saint John River. When I was quite young, my parents purchased an old home with a very nice beach on the Belleisle Bay. Dad took me down the Bay to see the old McKenzie Cemetery where my ancestors were buried.

Many decades later, I approached...
the owner and he sold it to me. He felt it should be owned by a McKenzie. We cleaned up the Cemetery and stood many of the tombstones up that had been flat on the ground. Two white stones were for my second great grandfather, John, and his wife, Mary Northrup McKenzie, daughter of Benajah Northrup. Her mother had eight boys and four girls.

We could not find a tombstone for Malcolm McKenzie. A few years later, my son, David, and I turned over a flat field stone and on the underside was: M. A. McK, scratched into the stone. Malcolm died relatively young. His wife, Nellie, lived until she was age 97, with no doctors or hospitals nearby.

We purchased a cottage and had it moved to the edge of the land where the Cemetery is located. We plan to be buried there. We have installed a Funeral Bench with our names, etc., on it. Date of death will be added later.

Jim continues to enjoy his participation in the UELAC. He has decided to step down from the Atlantic Vice-President’s role. However, he continues to be the Membership Chairperson for the New Brunswick Branch. He has enjoyed the many people he has met and worked with both nationally and in the Atlantic area.


Members and branches are encouraged to use the PR Committee to help secure media coverage for their events. Send along content for posting on social media to help promote and help to encourage a wider public reach.

We’re currently looking for a few new committee members to contribute to Public Relations.

UELAC members and others are encouraged to send content for posting to: public.relations@uelac.org or uelacpr@gmail.com

Amanda Fasken UE, PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR

Presentation of UE certificate to Barb Craig.
World-class attractions to absorbing speakers and intimate details of the Ottawa region awaits those attending *The Capital Calls – The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada’s Conference* this year.

Hosted by Sir Guy Carleton Branch, the 2019 Conference will take place from Thursday, 30 May to Sunday, 02 June in the National Capital Region, comprising Ottawa, Gatineau in Quebec, and surrounding communities. With a total population of 1.4 million, the National Capital Region is noted for its historic architecture and a plethora of attractions including outstanding museums.

The headquarters for Conference 2019 is the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Gatineau-Ottawa. Located in the Ottawa suburb of Gatineau, on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River, this hotel, with an adjacent golf course, is near major Ottawa attractions. Further details are available on the conference website at UELAC.org.

Conference 2019 will also feature organized tours of the region, interesting workshops and a musical presentation of traditional songs familiar to the country’s early settlers.

**THE TOURS**

Three bus tours are planned at Conference 2019, with all excursions starting from the conference hotel at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, 01 June. Depending on which tour they select, conference participants can travel along the historic Rideau Canal, visit museums or do research at the Ottawa City Archives.

**Tour A – Rideau Valley Tour:** Long before the Rideau Canal System was constructed, some enterprising Loyalists settled along the Rideau River and established communities still in existence. This full-day tour will be conducted by retired high school teacher and professional genealogist, Brian Tackaberry UE, of Almonte. The tour traces the route of the Rideau River and Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, built between 1826 and 1832 by Colonel John By, that ultimately opened the Rideau Valley and Ottawa to settlement.

Beginning in downtown Ottawa, the tour will proceed on Colonel By Drive along the Canal, past Hogs Back Falls, and continue to Manotick on the Long Island Locks, including a tour of historic Watson’s Mill constructed in 1860. It then continues along the...

The next stop, including lunch, is at picturesque Merrickville, established by William Merrick in the 1790s, with a tour of the shops in town and museum located in the largest blockhouse along the Rideau Canal system. Finally, the tour proceeds to the Goulbourn Museum in Stittsville, that tells the story of the Richmond Military Settlement of 1818 by disbanded soldiers following the Napoleonic Wars.

Tour B – Ottawa Tour to War Museum, Rideau Hall, and Museum of History: This tour will first visit the Canadian War Museum, Canada’s national museum of military history and one of the world’s most respected museums for the study and understanding of armed conflict.

The War Museum traces its origins back to 1880 when it consisted primarily of a collection of militia artefacts. The museum opened at its new location on the LeBreton Flats site in downtown Ottawa on 08 May 2005. Since its opening, the museum has welcomed approximately 500,000 visitors every year. The museum’s total collection features rare vehicles, artillery, uniforms, medals and memoirs.

Following the visit to the war museum, the tour bus will proceed through Ottawa’s downtown core where it will pass the Parliament Buildings, now under reconstruction, Canada’s Supreme Court and the National War Memorial before arriving at Rideau Hall.

The official residence and workplace of every Governor General since 1867, Rideau Hall is a national historic site on 79 acres that includes trees specially planted by a visiting head of State, a member of the Royal family or other dignitaries to mark an important event or anniversary. Among the highlights of this tour are viewing of the State rooms where the Governor General fulfills official duties.

Tour B will finish at Canada’s National Museum of History in Gatineau. The museum explores this country’s rich cultural heritage.

Tour C – Ottawa City Archives: Those participating in this tour will have the morning for research at the City of Ottawa Archives followed by lunch. The archives has church records, information about individuals, families, businesses, organizations, British Isles records and historical information on Canadian railroads. The collection includes over three million photographs, along with many maps.

THE PRESENTERS

Several noteworthy presenters will be featured at Conference 2019.

Presentation: Loyalist Land Grants along the Grand (Ottawa) River in 1788 – To be presented by George Neville UE on Thursday afternoon, 30 May, at the conference hotel. A descendant of the Loyalist, Daniel Shipman UE, George will
describe how his ancestors came to the St. Lawrence River front in 1784. This presentation, including the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, will complement the conference’s Rideau Valley Tour A to Merrickville.

Presentation: Capital City Treasures – A second presentation, on the afternoon of Thursday, 30 May, will be an armchair guided historical and cultural tour of the streets of downtown Ottawa to be presented by Marilyn Schwartz. Through her slide presentation, Marilyn will describe statues and memorials in downtown Ottawa.

Keynote speaker: Albert Dumont – Welcome to the Land of the Anishnabeg – Algonquin Elder and spiritual advisor, Albert Dumont, will be the keynote speaker at the conference’s opening ceremonies on Thursday evening, 30 May. Elder Dumont, a poet and storyteller, has dedicated his life to promoting Aboriginal spirituality and healing.

Presentation – Jonathan Sewell: Chief Justice of Lower Canada, Hotel Frontenac Room, Friday, 31 May by Valerie Knowles – Montreal-born, Valerie Knowles, is an Ottawa writer and direct descendant of Chief Justice Sewell. She will speak about her ancestor, Jonathan Sewell, a multi-talented judge and political figure in Lower Canada.

Banquet followed by A Traditional Musical Retrospective will highlight a medley of songs popular with early settlers. To take place on the evening of Friday, 31 May, in the hotel’s Chaudiere Room, the evening will feature performances by singer, Carolynne Davy, accompanied by Edith Troup. Miss Davy has had a distinguished music career, including performing at Carnegie Hall, and Miss Troup has accompanied choirs, singers, instrumentalists and dancers in concerts and festivals.

Workshop: Writing Loyalist Family History, Saturday afternoon, 01 June – Retired teacher, Jean Rac Baxter’s workshop will help those attending to write a narrative that people will want to read. Participants will learn how to organize their writing project and use the tools of fiction to make the true story come alive.

Presentation: Traitors, Spies and Heroes: Loyalist Espionage during the American Revolution, Saturday afternoon, 01 June – Jennifer DeBruin UE is an author of three, fact-based historical fiction novels. She also writes historical articles that have appeared in various publications.

Presentation: Researching Your Loyalist Roots on Ancestry – Also on the afternoon of Saturday, 01 June, there will be a presentation by Lesley Anderson who has worked for Ancestry.ca for more than ten years as their Canadian spokesperson. She has done numerous presentations for genealogical societies and conferences across Canada about the endless research possibilities on Ancestry.ca.

Gala Banquet Keynote Speaker: Glenn Wright – Controversy and Compromise: The Origins of Canada’s National Flag – Many UELAC members are old enough to remember the controversy surrounding the proposal by the federal government to introduce a new Canadian flag during the country’s Centennial Year in 1967. The thorny issues surrounding the development of the flag we have today will be the focus of keynote speaker, Glenn Wright, historical researcher, archivist and author. Hear him at Conference 2019 Gala Banquet on Saturday evening in the Chaudiere Room.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Conference 2019 will also feature a vendors’ room, silent auction and a hospitality suite. A Sunday service will be held in Christ Church, near the hotel, in Aylmer.

Those attending the conference may wish to extend their stay in Ottawa and visit other attractions in the region. In particular, the city has many fine museums including Bytown Museum, the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Canada Science and Technology Museum, the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum, the Canadian Agriculture and Foods Museum, the Bank of Canada Museum, and the Diefenbunker Cold War Museum. World class art is displayed in the region’s art galleries including the National Gallery and Ottawa Art Gallery. Among other attractions are the Royal Canadian Mint and Library and Archives Canada.
### Conference Schedule

#### Thursday
- 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — **Registration** (Hotel - Foyer).
- 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — **Genealogist Meeting** (Hotel - Artiste Room).
- 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. — **Membership Meeting** (Hotel - Artiste Room).
- 1:00 p.m. - 4 p.m. — **Registration** (Hotel - Foyer).
- 2:00 p.m. - 3 p.m. — **Presentation: “Loyalist Land Grants along the Ottawa (Grand) River in 1788,”** by George Neville (Hotel - Frontenac Room).
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. — **Presentation: “Capital City Treasures,”** by Marilyn Schwartz (Hotel - Frontenac Room).
- 4:00 p.m. - 5 p.m. — **Hospitality Suite** (Hotel - Artiste Room).
- 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. — **Reception featuring Algonquin Elder** Albert Dumont

#### Friday
- 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. — **Registration** (Hotel - Foyer).
- 9:00 a.m. — **Board tour buses for Conference 2019 tours:**
  - **Tour A: Rideau Valley Tour,** led by Brian Tackaberry— with lunch at Merrickville
  - **Tour B: Ottawa Tour to War Museum, Rideau Hall, and Museum of History**
  - **Tour C: City of Ottawa Archives Tour,** featuring research 9:30 a.m.–12:00 noon, with lunch (12:00 –1:00 p.m.)
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. — **Presentation: Jonathan Sewell: Chief Justice of Lower Canada,** by Valerie Knowles (Hotel - Frontenac Room).
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. — **Registration** (Hotel - Foyer).
- 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. — **Banquet with entertainment** by Carolyne Davy & Edith Troup, a medley of songs popular among early settlers (Hotel - Chaudiere Room).

#### Saturday
- 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. — **Buffet Breakfast** (Hotel - Foyer)
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — **UELAC Annual General Meeting** (Hotel - Chaudiere A Room).
- 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – **Vendors, Silent Auction** (Hotel – Chaudiere C and Artiste Rooms)
- 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. – **Lunch** (Hotel – foyer and Chaudiere Room)
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – **Workshop: Writing Loyalist Family History** by Jean Rae Baxter UE (Chaudiere Room)
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. – **Presentation: Loyalist Spies** by Jennifer DeBruin UE (Hotel – Frontenac Room)
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – **Presentation: Researching Your Loyalist Roots on Ancestry** by Lesley Anderson (Hotel – Frontenac Room)
- 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. — **Gala Banquet with presentation:** From Controversy to Compromise: The Origins of Canada’s National Flag by Glenn Wright (Hotel – Chaudiere Room)

#### Sunday
- 10:00 a.m. – **Buses leave** for Christ Church in Aylmer
- 11:00 a.m. – **Sunday Church Service** at Christ Church Aylmer (101 rue Symmes, Aylmer sector, Gatineau, Quebec)

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Merrickville Blockhouse was built by the Royal Engineers, commanded by Lt. Col. John By, R.E., in 1832-3. The Merrickville Blockhouse Museum is a part of the Rideau Valley tour.
Størmerlige Films is making a feature-length documentary about the Loyalists of the American Revolution and their legacy. Entitled “The Good Americans,” from a quote by British General, James Robertson, it is based on a new book, to be published in February 2019, called The Consequences of Loyalism: Essays in Honor of Robert C. Calhoon, edited by Rebecca Brannon and Joseph Moore. Produced and directed by Taylor Stoermer, a Johns Hopkins University lecturer and documentary filmmaker, the movie uses primary sources, artefacts, interviews with scholars, and innovative graphics to tell the diverse, multicultural story of the Loyalists: what drove them and what they made of their worlds after the American Revolution, especially in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and Ontario. It is also about what their absence meant for the nation that they left behind: the United States, that was changed forever by the loss of as many as one-fifth of its pre-war free and enslaved population.

Originally conceived as a short film to promote the book and the inspiration behind it, the career of the premier historian of Loyalists, Bob Calhoon, the project quickly grew beyond that limited scope as video content from nine of its authors, both editors, and several leading scholars were received in the production offices. The videos include a lengthy, wide-ranging interview about Loyalists and Calhoon, with one of the world’s foremost historians of the American Revolution, Jack P. Greene, who has never before appeared in a documentary. The videos were also remarkable for revealing the breadth of the Loyalist experience, from the perspective of women to that of free and enslaved blacks. It breaks down the rigid stereotypes assigned to Loyalists by generations of Canadian and American historians, a subject of one of the book’s essays. Although several popular works about Loyalists have been recently published, most notably those by Maya Jasanoff and Simon Schama, whose Rough Crossings was made into a BBC documentary, neither Jasanoff nor Schama are historians of the Loyalists. They more broadly study the British Empire. For them, their Loyalist work is one among many subjects that draw their interest.

“Even as an historian of the Loyalists, I was amazed by the richness and depth of the stories that were shared with us by the extraordinary historians in the new book,” Stoermer said. “Because people express themselves so differently when speaking, compared with writing, they effectively brought to life the words in the book, recreating the experiences of all kinds of Loyalists in so many different circumstances, and also what the study of Loyalists means for them, personally. It was well beyond what we could represent in a three-to-five-minute short. Those stories practically demanded to be represented in a bigger, more meaningful
way. We felt we had no choice, then, but to switch from the movie we were making at the time and expand this one into a full feature. I mean, if one image is worth a thousand words, then just imagine what 24 images per second can achieve.”

The UELAC’s stamp on the project was clear from the very beginning. Stoermer, whose essay on Virginia Loyalists leads the book, is a member of the UELAC Scholarship Committee and several other authors, such as the Nova Scotia Museum’s, Katie Cottreau-Robbins, and the Massachusetts Historical Society’s, Christopher Minty, are beneficiaries of UELAC support for their research. As the short expanded into a feature, the UELAC connections expanded, too. Tim Compeau, a leading Loyalist scholar and another member of the UELAC Scholarship Committee, was enlisted as a commentator, along with the UELAC’s own Bonnie Schepers UE, Jennifer DeBruin UE, and scholarship-recipient Stephanie Seal Walters. The story of the UELAC itself, a major element of the Loyalist legacy, naturally became part of the film’s narrative.

As the script continues to develop, UELAC members are increasingly involved in the production, given the need for both insight and images. Carl Stymiest UE, UELAC Dominion Archivist, and Brian McConnell UE are finding and contributing sources, and Bonnie Schepers is providing valued advice and contacts as the UELAC’s de facto coordinator on the project. Consequently, archival UELAC images, and the organization’s modern influence, will be prominent features in the film.

“What became crystal clear to us, as we’ve developed the project, is the importance of telling the story of two nations that were created by that one Revolution,” Stoermer said. “The UELAC is now at the forefront of not only preserving a major part of that story, but also in promoting new scholarship about it. So there is really no way of separating the UELAC’s story from that of the film.”

UELAC will also benefit from the film’s distribution, given Stormerlige Films’ policy of donating all net proceeds of its films to non-profits related to the subjects. For “The Good Americans,” the UELAC Scholarship Fund, along with the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre of the Nova Scotia Museum, will receive those proceeds, along with promotion through the film itself.

Stoermer said, “We really see our films as ways to begin important discussions, rather than to provide definitive answers. We’re not filming lectures to stick in front of people. But our goal comes with an obligation to help spark those discussions and, as importantly, to keep them going, which is why we make sure that we use our resources to create greater opportunities for others. Given the sheer ethnic and cultural diversity in loyalist
studies, and what it could mean for a better understanding of both Canada and the United States today, that work couldn’t be more timely, or exciting.”

The film’s budget is currently $58,000, with a production schedule that targets release by the end of this year. Currently, those costs are being born by Stormerlige Films, but creative partnerships are helping the production team leverage other resources. For example, Tourism Nova Scotia is providing film footage and photographs of modern Nova Scotia, including its historic sites, as the film will certainly boost an interest in heritage travelers to visit loyalist-related sites in Canada, particularly in the Maritimes, a happy and intentional byproduct of the film. Also, the team’s choice of the New Brunswick folk duo, Tomato Tomato, to provide an authentic and traditional, yet modern, sound for the film, has drawn support from New Brunswick performing arts and tourism groups eager to promote the province’s culture.

“The Good Americans” feature film, however, is only one product of the process. Stormerlige Films plans to create three shorter films, along with a number of brief, subject-oriented clips, along with it: the original three-minute promotional video for the book, a five-minute “sizzle reel” that essentializes the film, and a promotional trailer. Each of these products can be used in a number of marketing and educational ways and will be released at earlier points in the process, along with shorter behind-the-scenes and “sneak peek” clips for use on social media. The sizzle reel, for instance, is targeted for a 02 March 2019 release.

“Making the shorts are a sort of test run for the story we want to tell in the feature,” Störmér said. “It’s a guess at best, because, while our films have to have endings, they are always ongoing projects. But something like a sizzle reel can be the best business card we can hand out for the film, the subject of Loyalists, and for groups like the UELAC that are such key parts of it.”

Störmér, himself, is no stranger to filmmaking or the creative arts. When he was in college in California he began working for Disney as a performer, portraying the character of “Gaston” in the first-ever stage production of “Beauty and the Beast,” at Disneyland. He also appeared on Fox’s “Beverly Hills 90210” for parts of two seasons. After gaining his PhD in History from the University of Virginia, he reconnected with the Walt Disney Companies as a production advisor during his time as chief historian of Colonial Williamsburg, where he received an Emmy award for educational filmmaking in 2014, and worked as an instructor at Harvard University, assisting with everything from movie scripts to the new Hall of Presidents attraction at Walt Disney World. It was the encouragement of Disney colleagues that resulted in the creation of his own film company, as Disney does not directly produce non-fiction documentaries.

“The most important part of filmmaking is immersive storytelling, which is something I learned from the absolute best at Disney,” said Störmér. “But historical documentaries come with an extra responsibility: the stories must be true. There’s an implied contract between the filmmaker and the viewer that what you’re going to show them isn’t fantasy, but fact, or at least the best kind of informed speculation. A documentary filmmaker can never let down an audience in that way. So it’s exciting to come at filmmaking as an historian, rather than the traditional way, which is as a filmmaker to history. Being able to start a project with an historian’s perspective can quickly get us to the heart of stories that really need to be told.”

The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship is available to Masters and PhD students undertaking a program in research that will further Canada’s understanding of the Loyalists and our appreciation of their, or their immediate descendants’ influence on Canada.

The award is for $2,500 per year and, on approval, will be provided for each of two years for Masters and three years for PhD students.

Preference may be given to students who have taken an undergraduate degree in history, to those who are of proven Loyalist descent, and to students at Universities in Canada. The UELAC reserves the right to award the scholarship in accordance with its sole discretion. Upon completion, a copy of the thesis must be presented to the Association.

The application requirements are available at www.uelac.org

The deadline for applications is 28 February 2020.
The Annual General Meeting of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada will be held on Saturday, 01 June 2019, at 9 a.m. at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 1170 chemin d’Aylmer, Gatineau, QC, J9H 7L1.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider the financial statements of UELAC; to elect directors; to receive the report of the auditor; the appointment of an auditor; and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada By-laws, Article III, Section 3.4 allows for each Member to have one (1) vote.

UELAC Members unable to attend the Meeting may vote by proxy. A proxy form will be available on-line or on request from Dominion Office. By completing, signing and dating this proxy form, any member of the UELAC may appoint a proxyholder to attend and act at any Meeting of the Members in the manner and to the extent authorized by this proxy.

NOTE – To be valid, proxies must be deposited with the Dominion Secretary using the following guidelines. (See address below)

(a) A proxy that nominates as proxy holder a person who is not a member of the Association must be deposited with the Secretary at least 20 business days prior to the meeting in question; i.e. on or before 3 May.

(b) A proxy that nominates as proxy holder a person who is a member of a branch of the Association other than the branch of the appointing member must be deposited with the Secretary at least 15 business days prior to the meeting in question; i.e. on or before 10 May.

(c) A proxy that nominates as proxy holder a person who is a member of the same branch of the Association as the branch of the appointing member must be deposited with the Secretary at least 10 business days prior to the meeting in question; i.e. on or before 17 May.

Copies of the Meeting agenda, financial statements, reports, and motions to be brought before the meeting will be available on the UELAC website by May 10 (Access instructions will be distributed by that date) and on request from Dominion Office.

Completed proxy forms or submissions revoking a proxy may be submitted by email to dominion.secretary@uelac.org or by post to: UELAC Dominion Secretary, J. Tuskin, 78 - 24 Fundy Bay Blvd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M1W 3A4.

NEW UELAC PROMOTION ITEMS!

We are very happy to have our newest item now available for $20 - Bar $2 each (you have them engraved)

The ribbon can hold up to 5 of your ancestors’ surnames engraved on the plate.

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The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada Supports the “Majesty on the Frontier” Fundraising Campaign for the Restoration of Loyalist-Significant Site, Johnson Hall

The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada (UELAC), submitted a grant request in Fall 2018 to help support the restoration of Johnson Hall, currently undergoing an extensive restoration to ensure it survives for future generations. In a unanimous decision, the UELAC Board of Directors, on recommendation of the Grants Committee, granted a sum of $4,000 (CAD) to the project. The Friends of Johnson Hall, who are spearheading this project called, “Majesty on the Frontier,” are to be commended for their success to-date. According the Site Manager, Wade Wells, “This was a large project and a heavy lift for a small Friends organization and a Site with limited discretionary spending...” In an effort to further support this important project, Bridge Annex wanted to provide the UELAC membership and friends in Canada with an opportunity to support this worthy project. As such, an online fundraising campaign was started, and raised $805 (CAD) by the end of December 2018. While Bridge Annex is the fundraising manager, all monies were donated on behalf of contributors under the UELAC banner.

Once the restoration project is complete, UELAC, along with other contributors will be given recognition at the site.

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of war, a war that saw many of our Loyal ancestors facing the known enemy, once called family and friends. To label this a "civil war" would not be overstating the dreadful situation our ancestors faced. In order to understand their life in America, the experiences of the men, women and children before, during, and after the American Revolution, must be interpreted. Places such as Johnson Hall are an integral part of the education and outreach opportunities for not only descendants of the UE Loyalists, but those who are just discovering this part of our North American story. Along with the work UELAC continues to put into ensuring Loyalists are not forgotten, it is places such as Johnson Hall that are our partners in ensuring the places they once called home, the places they saw in their lifetimes, yet exist. Tangibility is a powerful tool to helping people connect with a past that seems very far back until they can touch, see, and explore the places of that time. Suddenly, they might imagine themselves in that time and place, and they are "hooked." A visit to Johnson Hall is a powerful experience for descendants of the area. While all are made to feel welcome, UE Loyalist descendants are made to feel as though they are "home," and share in the story. Helping to ensure that the places our ancestors came from are preserved by groups and organizations dedicated to a multi-faceted telling, provides invaluable educational opportunities not only for the descendants of UE Loyalists, but also the public at large, that enhances the UELAC’s ability to engage and interest others in preserving our complex and fascinating history.

HISTORICAL ACCURACY IN RESTORATION

Artisans working with traditional materials and methods have been secured to ensure the restoration provides an accurate portrayal of what Johnson Hall would have looked like in its early years. In detailing the work that has thus far been completed and ongoing, Mr. Wells added that “…with the work properly completed and with proper care, we can easily expect our efforts to last for the next 50 to 75 years and possibly longer.”

For more information about Johnson Hall, visit Friends of Johnson Hall: www.friendsofjohnsonhall.org

Jennifer DeBruin UE, UELAC Public Relations Chair, presenting a cheque for $4,000 (CAD) on behalf of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada (UELAC) to Bernadette Weaver, Secretary, Friends of Johnson Hall. An additional cheque for $805 (CAD) was also presented as part of the ongoing UELAC fundraising campaign, managed by UE Loyalists Bridge Annex, to assist the Friends of Johnson Hall with their “Majesty on the Frontier” fundraising efforts. – December 2018
After three decades in the financial services sector, Mark Gallop now devotes his time to historical research and writing. He divides his time between New Brunswick and Quebec.

Walk up the front path and steps to the Simon Fraser House on the western tip of the Island of Montreal but, before you reach for the latch on the wooden door, turn around. Take in the view over the narrows where the Ottawa River flows into Lac Saint-Louis and the St. Lawrence River, just as the fur trader would have done in his retirement two centuries ago. This passage was the gateway to the voyageur routes west and Fraser could have waved adieu to his old colleagues from these steps, or been the first to welcome their fur-laden canoes back to Montreal. Now head inside this historic and welcoming space. Thick fieldstone walls and exposed ceiling beams catch the eye but, instead of cast iron kettles, spinning wheels and other implements of the pre-industrial age, the ancient rooms contain what could be a modern office. To the right is a boardroom table and to the left are filing cabinets and computer terminals with researchers intent on their screens. Directly ahead is what we have come to see, the new home of Montreal’s United Empire Loyalist Heritage Branch Book and Document Collection.

This fieldstone structure was built over two centuries ago and is known as the Simon Fraser House for its most prominent resident, who purchased it in 1810. This was not the Simon Fraser, famed explorer of western Canada. The appropriateness of the collection’s new home would have been even more striking if it had been because the more illustrious man of that name was the son of Simon Fraser UE who joined General Burgoyne’s forces during the rebellion of the thirteen colonies and died in American captivity at Albany.

Although not of Loyalist stock, the Simon Fraser associated with the house was still an important historical figure. A family source claimed that his father was an officer of the famed 78th Fraser’s Highlanders regiment and present at the capture of Quebec, but this has not been fully substantiated. Not surprisingly, there were numerous Frasers recruited to the eponymous regiment. It is more certain that Catherine McKay, the woman Simon Fraser married in 1804, was the daughter of a non-commissioned officer of the 78th. Fraser was Scottish-born and came to Canada in 1789 under the sponsorship of Simon McTavish. He became a partner of the North West Company in 1795 and retired as a wintering partner about 1789.

The couple raised a family in the house while he prospered as a landowner and trader. It remained Catherine’s home after Simon’s death in 1839 and stayed in the family for a
The Simón Fraser House served as a branch of the Bank of Montreal from 1906 to 1954 and was then reclaimed by a great granddaughter of Simón Fraser as her residence.

Industrial progress menaced the house on multiple occasions. When passing the house, voyageurs navigated the St. Anne’s Rapids. These were bypassed in 1843 with the construction of a canal directly in front of the property. A decade later a Grand Trunk Railway bridge was constructed fifty metres west of the house. In 1923 construction of the Galipeault Bridge for automotive traffic loomed even closer. The Simón Fraser House sits in the shadow of the approach to this bridge and a 1961 proposal to double its span called for the demolition of the house. Concerned citizens rallied and the property received provincial historic site status in 1962.

Conservation was assured with its acquisition in 1965 by Canadian Heritage of Quebec (CHQ), a national non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of heritage sites and buildings of historical or natural interest in Quebec. The Simón Fraser House was an early acquisition by CHQ following its 1960 founding. The organisation has invested in the restoration and preservation of the structure at regular intervals. For a number of years a local chapter of the Victorian Order of Nurses operated a fund-raising tea room but it has sat empty recently.

How did the Heritage Branch collection end up in such an age-appropriate setting? Through good friends and good fortune. As a smaller branch, we often depend on cooperation and assistance from like-minded heritage societies and have collaborated for several decades with the Quebec Family History Society (QFHS), that houses the collection in their library on a long-term-loan basis. The QFHS maintained its library in a modest but easily-accessible commercial property in the Montreal suburb of Pointe-Claire.

However, in the autumn of 2018, the organization relocated to the wonderful heritage property in Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.

Heritage Branch’s collection has grown over the decades to more than three hundred volumes on Loyalist topics, thanks mostly to the generosity of branch members. It includes a number of nineteenth and early twentieth century volumes that would be difficult to find elsewhere. The collection is available for research by the members of the QFHS. The society also welcomes visitors to its library for a daily fee. While perhaps not as enjoyable as a simple browse of the shelves, the most efficient way to review the holdings of the collection is via the QFHS website. On the main page, go to “Library” then to “Catalogue”. Under the “Collection” drop-down menu, select “United Empire Loyalists”. This will list all volumes in the UEL Collection.

The bookshelves containing the Loyalist collection stands as a testament to the value of cooperation between smaller like-minded heritage organizations, not just between Heritage Branch UELAC and QFHS but between QFHS and the CHQ. I happen to be a proud member of all three organizations and Branch Librarian for Heritage Branch and, although I can take no credit for the turn of events that brought our collection to its new, and very old, home, I do take satisfaction in seeing them so well-situated and available to inform researchers of the history of the Loyalists.

Quebec Family History Society: www.qfhs.ca
Canadian Heritage of Quebec: www.hcq-chq.org
Alida Vrooman UE, one of the few women to be acknowledged as a Loyalist on the Executive Council List, descended from a long line of resilient Dutch immigrants. Her maternal second great-grandmother came to the New World in 1638.

Around 1710, Alida’s paternal grandfather, Hendrick Vrooman, and his brother, Barent, were contracted as carpenters by Queen Anne to build Fort Hunter in the Mohawk Valley (New York) at the place where Schoharie Creek intercepted the Mohawk River.2

Alida was born in Schenectady, more than 100 years after her maternal ancestors settled at Beaverwyck, a Dutch West India Company fur trading settlement, near Fort Orange on the Upper North River. The baptism entry from the Dutch Reform Church recorded her birth as 17 June 1747. Further church records from Schoharie confirm her marriage to Henry Hare3, on 15 April 1765, shortly before her eighteenth birthday.

Henry, born in 1742 to John Hare, was employed by the Indian Department under Sir John Johnson and various accounts suggest Henry was fluent in many Indian dialects. Johnson is remembered for his collaborative work with the native population.

Henry made his allegiance to the Crown known as early as 1775 when he was one of just two people who refused to sign an association compact with the ‘Patriots’ in a place now known as Florida, New York.4

The Patriots kept a watch on Henry and his family. In September 1776, Henry was captured by the Whigs, and imprisoned in Hartford, Connecticut. He was held for seven months before he managed to escape. A later record reported that his family was kept under arrest in 1778, and listed one woman, four boys and three girls (Mrs. Jane, Ally, Johon, Faulky, William, Peter, Barent, and Caty).5

Working from a base in Canada, Henry travelled back and forth behind enemy lines, scouting with the Indians to gather intelligence for the Tories/Loyalists. He joined with Butler’s Rangers and became a Lieutenant.

CYNTHIA YOUNG UE

Persistant and curious, Cynthia spent the first few years of her retirement researching her genealogy. Her mother came from many lines of Loyalist ancestors. Her great-uncle worked for decades sifting through records in church offices, cemeteries, archives and municipal offices to trace lineal descent to a number of their Loyalist ancestors, creating a roadmap for the family. Through his efforts he proved descent to seven Loyalists. Assisted by the depth and speed provided by today’s technology, Cynthia adds depth to his research and is now transforming the data into narrative non-fiction stories for her children, grandchildren, cousins and their families. Cynthia joined the Governor Simcoe Branch of the UELAC and has proven her lineal descent to four Loyalists: Jacob Van Allen UE, Jacob Weegar UE, Henry Hare UE, and his wife, Alida Vrooman UE.

TOM RAUB UE

I was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania. My maternal grandfather grew up in Smiths Falls, Ontario. I taught mathematics in Allentown for thirty-one years. I do volunteer tutoring at a community college. My parents and I started working on genealogy in about 1981. I have ancestors who fought in the Revolutionary War on both sides.
Various stories and testimonies describe Henry’s exploits. One incident describes a hot pursuit over several days when he finally had to destroy important correspondence destined for Sir John Johnson. Another described Henry’s involvement in raids alongside Indian warriors participating in attacks against Patriot settlements. He was also accused of a brutal killing of a young woman at Fort Stanwix.

In June 1779, Henry secretly returned to the family home near Fort Hunter. As quoted in the Frontiersman of New York, Jeptha Simms writes, “He brought home for his wife several articles of clothing, such as British calicoes, dress-shawls, Indian moccasins, etc., and on the very day he set out to return to Canada, she was so imprudent as to put them on and go visiting.” Alida had turned 32 that 17 June.

On 19 June 1779, Henry left his family home to meet up with Sergeant Newberry for his trip back to Canada. They were confronted, arrested and were taken to Roof’s Tavern where General Clinton had established a camp. The next morning a trial was held in the tent of Colonel Gansevoort. The Patriot camp was situated in Happy Hollow, one and a half miles east of Canajoharie, New York. Henry Hare was found guilty and was sentenced to hang by his neck until dead. Alida pleaded with the Patriots to spare her husband’s life. She reminded the accusers that he had a wife and many small children to support. Her attempts to influence the commanders fell on unsympathetic ears.

Alida’s loyalty to the Empire was confirmed by the Court Martial testimony of Sergeant William Newberry. “Question 12 posed to William Newberry was ‘Who were the persons that gave you the Intelligence (sic) of our movements?’ Newberry answered “Thomas Plato, Wilham Rombauch and Henry Hairs wife - said Hairs wife went backwards and forwards every day to gain Intelligence for us.’”

Henry Hare was hanged on Academy Hill in Canajoharie, New York on 21 June 1779 at 9 o’clock in the morning. His body was released to friends for burial. General Clinton, it is reported, had left the camp at the time of the execution to avoid any recriminations the Breaking out of the present Rebellion and Entered into his Majesties Service. One of the said Brothers, a Capt in the Indian department, was killed at Fort Stanwix in 77, (1) the other, is now a Capt. in Leuit. Col. Butlers Rangers, (2) and the nephew a Leuit. in said Corps. (3) Your Petitioners, Husband and three Brothers served during the last War, in the Indian Department, under the late Sir William Johnson Bart. And your petitioners said Husband being Ordered on a Scout, last Summer, was taken by the Rebels: who Charged with being a Spy - Tried him for the same. an Unjust Tryal Condemn’d him, in Consequence of which, he was Executed, whereby your Petitioner is Rendered Miserable, poor and Needy - her Situation emboldens her to Crave your Excellency Support and Protection Humbly praying, Your Excellency will take the same into Consideration, and Allow such a Yearly supply or Aid, as your Justice may see fit, in Order to Assist her and her Distressed Children.

“To his Excellency Frederick Haldimand Esqr. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Quebec &c &c &c

The Petition of Abigail Hare, Widow of the late Leuit (sic) Henry Hare, of the Indian Department. Humbly sheweth,

That Your Petitioner, is a Poor Widow, with six small Children, without any means to support them, the want of Every necessary of life and the Continual Insults of the Rebels obliged her to leave the Province of New York and Come off to this.

Your Petitioner’s Husband, two Brothers and nephew, distinguished themselves as friends to Government, On Montreal the 10th May 1780

You are hereby authorised and directed to pay to Mrs. Abigail Hare, Widow of the late Henry Hare, a Lieutenant in the Indian Department, in Consideration of her Misfortune and Distress, above related, the Sum of
Twenty Pounds Sterling, as a yearly Pension to be continued to Her during Her Life, for the Maintenance of Her and Her Children, which Sum is to be charged in the Contingent Account of Expenses of the Six Nation Indian Department.-

Given under my Hand at Quebec this 25th day of May 1780
Fred. Haldimand
To Colonel Johnson
Superintendent of Indian Affairs
By His Excellency’s Command -- R Mathews Sec
[On Reverse Side]
Authority to Pay to the Widow Hare a Yearly Pension of 20 Ster &

Alida married First Sergeant Adam P. Empey sometime around 1780. They lived in Soulanges, Les Cedres, Lower Canada, and together they had more children. Later, Adam Empey was granted land around Cornwall, in the Eastern District.

Alida and her children appear in multiple Land Petitions including:

- In 1798, Alida petitioned on behalf of five children: John, Barnabas, William, Mary and Katherine, all married and living in Eastern District.9

- In 1807, Alida (Allada) further petitioned the government, with the assistance of her son-in-law, Jacob Weegar, to have her late husband, Lieutenant H. Hare, added to the List of UE. She now names only four children, John, Barney, Mary and Catherine, to benefit from Lord Dorchester’s decree and become eligible, as children of those who joined the Royal Standard before the Treaty of Separation in 1783, to receive land grants.10

My fourth great-grandmother, Mary Hare, married Captain Jacob Weegar UE and together they had twelve children. In the family bible currently held in the archives at Upper Canada Village, the sponsors noted for their eldest child, Caty, were Mary’s mother and stepfather, Alida and Adam Empey.

Mary Weegar, née Hare, submitted her own petition, as the daughter of Lt. Henry Hare, in 1807.11 Her sister, Catherine married David Summers and then settled in Eastern District. Mary’s brothers Barnabas and William filed a Land Petition Claim with Allada Vrooman in 1802.12

The Hare family members were early settlers in the place we now call Ontario. Numerous entries, seventy-six in my most recent query, appear on the search results for the name Hare in the “Land Petitions of Upper Canada, 1763-1865.” The petitioners include children of Lieutenant Henry Hare, and also his brothers, Captain John Hare, who was killed at the Battle of Oriskany in 1777, and Captain Peter Hare, head of the pioneer family that settled outside Niagara in a town known today as Lincoln. They paid a price for their beliefs and their loyalty to their monarch. Yet, we so often overlook the contribution of their spouses and children, making this most recent acknowledgement confirming the loyalty of Alida Vroomen, my fifth-great grandmother, so special.

The descendants of Henry and Alida may claim the mark of Honour, U.E. – Unity of the Empire.
In late April 2018 we embarked on a journey back in time to see Grand Lake New Brunswick.

Looking back we were fortunate to get away before the extensive flood happened!

The historical angle of this trip was well-satisfied with ‘seeing’ the places associated with my Sypher & Albright Loyalist Families. Historically, John Albright UE had been a member of the 3rd New Jersey Volunteer Loyalist Regiment. The New Brunswick Archives held evidence of John being a POW following his being taken at Fort Ninety Six, South Carolina, on 28 August 1781, as illustrated in Bobby Gilmer Moss: The Loyalists in the siege of Fort Ninety Six. Muster Rolls indicate John was held by the Rebels until the end of the Revolution.

Coming forward somewhat in John’s life, he held property at what is now the Red Bank Cemetery just north of Chipman, New Brunswick. The 28 October 1818 Quit Claim, his Family executed for his property, lined up perfectly with the physical location of the Cemetery. Evidently John was buried on the land he farmed and at some time gave way to the inception of the Cemetery. John’s descendents are spread across Canada to this day.

Lodewick Sypher UE was my Loyalist Ancestor too and left a trail of development in the Grand Lake area. He was a notable Grand Lake figure and, from the terms in his 1820 will, some things came to light about his life. Although not specified, Lodewick had to be operating a Trading Post or Store. At his 1823 passing, Lodewick had in excess of 470 pounds ‘owing’ to him in his accounts!

Also noted in his Inventory taken was ‘8 beds’ and ‘scales & weights’ which sort of things suggest he operated lodging as well as a store. His land location on the Northwest shore of the Grand Lake would have made it feasible to traverse the waterways to Gagetown or even St. John to outfit his enterprise.

Lodewick was an industrious sort as several Lots of Land were held not only by him but also his collective Family from the late 1700’s into the 1900’s.

Much like his contemporary Loyalist, John Albright UE, Lodewick Sypher UE had lost a great deal of property in the Revolution, both real estate and cash, according to the compensation claims. Evidently Lodewick had even spent time in a Rebel Provost in the early part of the Revolution before he managed to escape and make his way to New York City circa 1776.

Before leaving Fredericton in advance of the flood we toured the old Loyalist Cemetery, which was truly a thrill to see!
**Those Feudin’ Franklins:**

**How One Dysfunctional Family Exiled 100,000 Loyalists**

By Robert Liftig, EdD

Ben Franklin and his son William Franklin.

Much of the blame for how the Loyalists were treated after the Treaty of Paris (1783) that ended America’s first civil war, can be laid at the feet of one of the least-faulted Founding Fathers: Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790). This may come as a surprise to casual students of the American Revolution. For one thing, Franklin wasn’t one of the early firebrands of the rebellion, like crazy Samuel Adams. Early on, Franklin even believed that his personal presence in Parliament, to which he was sent as Colonial Observer, could lead to a compromise before open warfare. Second, Franklin at age 70, at least in the homey/folky tradition that has come down to us through Walt Disney, has never been presented as the nasty, vindictive, and personal-axe grinding old coot he apparently was.

After Franklin was posted to Paris to hammer out a treaty, he stunned his fellow-delegates by continually obstructing progress on the last point he had reluctantly agreed to negotiate: Article V of the Treaty of Paris, the one about being nice to Loyalists.

**Article V:**

It is agreed that Congress shall earnestly recommend it to the legislatures of the respective states to provide for the restitution of all estates, rights, and properties, which have been confiscated belonging to real British subjects; and also of the estates, rights, and properties of persons resident in districts in the possession of his Majesties’ arms and who have not borne arms against the said United States.

If you imagine that Article V was interpreted by the Loyalists and by
British as the fulfillment of the promise from King George III to protect his supporters in America, you’re right. If you imagine that Franklin had any intention of actually helping the Loyalists, you’re wrong. Franklin’s successful effort to block the good intentions of the Crown by subterfuge, deception, and betting on the darker angels of his fellow-citizens’ need for revenge, is why your ancestors moved to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and all the other places.

Even fellow-delegate and first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, was shocked at Franklin’s obstinacy, that only grew as the Founding Father came under increasing pressure from the British delegates as well as his fellow-American representatives to soften his rock hard animus toward the 100,000 Loyalists and bring America’s First Civil War to an honorable end. Toward the conclusion of negotiations, even the expected Hardest Liner of All, General George Washington, had had enough of Franklin’s pettifogging, and urged him to include more accommodating language, which Franklin finally did.

But Franklin got the word back to Congress that any serious attempt to normalize relations with the Loyalists, would force him to insist on British reparations to the Americans, that he knew would be rejected by the British, and that that rejection would necessitate him recommending to Congress a return to open war.

Franklin produced the warm and fuzzy Article V, but included two important deal breakers. First, by turning “forgiveness” over to the individual states, Franklin knew that any “earnestly recommended” recommendations from his peace commission would be Dead On Arrival in those legislatures. Second, he was certain that the phrase “real British subjects” would be, and was, interpreted by the Congress as meaning only the Rebels, and not the Loyalists.

Rather than being relieved, the Loyalists’ problems were aggravated, but this did not bother Franklin at all. In fact, he was happy about it. Similarly, Franklin knew that there would be large numbers of Loyalists asking for assistance from the British, and that any attempts to achieve full restitution, re-assimilation, or normalization would be doomed to failure because it would cost too much, and this made him even happier.

Why was Franklin so vengeful?

The First American International Polymath was, by definition, a lot of things, including a libertine. There are erotic period sketches easily found on the Internet of Franklin getting lap danced by the wandering wives of French diplomats. Even in his younger days, Franklin was quite the rounder. One of his escapades, with his chambermaid, produced an illegitimate son, William (1730-1815), who was raised by Franklin and his common-law wife, Deborah Read. To his credit, Franklin openly “acknowledged” William as his only son. Franklin and Deborah later had a daughter, Sarah. Franklin cared enough about the political optics and his son, to include him in his kite-flying experiments. In return, William set out to make himself a “legitimate” son in every way, but the legal one he couldn’t change and, to make his father proud of him, which he did, for a time, by becoming the Royal Governor of New Jersey, with a little pull of some strings by his Founding Father.

But when Ben changed his views about his loyalty to the Empire, son William didn’t, and when Ben crossed the Rubicon into sedition, William refused to follow. Old Ben considered this a “stab in the back” rather than simply a difference of opinion, and
thus began the open and permanent break in their relationship. This was the reason Franklin decided to hate all Loyalists (psychologists have a name for this), and probably explains why Franklin delayed any final agreement on Article V until he had worked out the wording to neuter it.

Who suffered more from father and son’s disgust with each other: Ben, William, or the thousands of Loyalists? It certainly wasn’t Ben, who died six years later, beloved of his countrymen, a for-publication “widower,” rich, fat, and famous, and full of his years (age 84). He had written Will out of his will, except for the land that Franklin owned in Nova Scotia, which he left to his disloyal Loyalist illegitimate son. You can insert the old man’s vindictive laughter here. Before this, William had been arrested by the Americans and had spent two years in the Old Litchfield Gaol, “a long log structure that was the second worst in Connecticut”, for having organized some British military units. Friends of William had appealed to both Franklin and Washington to pardon the lad, but Franklin and Washington chose to ignore them (more laughter). William was finally exiled to England, where he died. His final return to America was in a coffin.

In one last letter to his disobedient son, the 84-year-old Franklin wrote to him:

"Nothing has ever hurt me so much and affected me with such keen Sensations as to find myself deserted in my old Age by my only Son, and not only deserted, but to find him taking up arms against me, in a Cause wherein my good Fame, Fortune, and Life were all at stake."

In other words, it was Franklin, according to Franklin, not William nor even the Loyalists, who had suffered!

William’s death in 1813, twenty-three years after his famous father’s passing, didn’t signal the end of the House of Franklin, however. By the time of the Revolution, William had had his own illegitimate son, William Temple Franklin (1762-1823), so named because William conceived him of an unknown female, another chamber maid has been suggested, while he was a law student at the Middle Temple. Naming your firstborn after a building did not bode well for either father or son. William immediately put Temple into foster care and went off to Barbados to marry an heiress, a legitimate one, legitimately.

But on his way to work out the Treaty, the elder Franklin found Temple in London and took the 16-year-old with him to witness negotiations. Franklin raised him as the Patriot son he never had (more laughter). William Temple grew up to sire his own illegitimate children, of course: first Theodore Joseph (died age 1), and later a daughter Ellen Hanbury (d. 1875), and then embarked on a series of business failures, dying in Paris in poverty. With Ellen’s daughter, Maria, the Loyalist branch of the House of Franklin apparently ends, although the American branch continues to live out its clouded ancestry among the descendants of Sarah Franklin Bache, Ben’s daughter with Barbara Read, in the country her father founded.

* Much of the insight in this article comes from the marvelous research done by Maya Jasanoff, whose Liberty’s Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary War Vintage Books. New York, 2012, is a fantastic read.
Beneath the ground, in numerous cemeteries located in the catchment area of the UELAC St. Lawrence Branch, serving Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Counties in Ontario, lie the mortal remains of Loyalists. The Branch launched a project in 2018 to formally recognize these sacred locations. Its mandate: To identify and confirm the locations and to erect enduring plaques to recognize the special importance of these sites.

The first two plaques will be erected and unveiled in June 2019: one at Trinity Anglican Church in downtown Cornwall, Ontario, and the other one at St. Andrew’s United Church in rural Bainsville, Ontario.

For more information on this project, and updated information on the June 2019 unveilings, please visit our branch website, uelac.org/st-lawrence/, where we have a special series of pages on local Loyalist cemeteries. You can also contact directly Stuart Manson UE, the Branch Executive Member who is the project lead. He can be reached at manson1763@gmail.com.

We are also keen to receive donations that will enable us to continue the project with additional local sites. We can arrange for tax receipts for any donation.

It’s a great project that promotes the work of the UELAC and Loyalist history in Eastern Ontario. It also creates positive partnerships with the local churches and organizations who own the burial sites.

The burial site plaques measure one foot square and are cast in aluminum, finely crafted by the firm “Signs by McDougall” in Waterloo, Ontario.
Dorothy Meyerhof, a retired chemist and research manager, has pursued her hobby of genealogy longer than she cares to admit. Her lineage to three Loyalist ancestors has been proven: Thomas Shreve UE and Thomas Cutler UE, both of whom settled in Nova Scotia, and Ruliff Ostrom UE who made Upper Canada his home. As is the case with many Loyalists, she has one Patriot ancestor, William Hartshorne, of Virginia. Her genealogical activities include being Librarian for the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, UELAC, and Registrar for the Bytown Chapter (Ottawa), National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. She is also a member of the Ottawa and Quinte Branches of the Ontario Genealogical Society, the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, and the Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Thomas Shreve, my fourth great-grandfather, was born on 02 January 1755, most likely in New York. He was descended from a long line of Thomas Shreves, for whom the earliest record in British North America was that of a colonist of Rhode Island in 1675. The father of this Thomas Shreve of this article was a sheriff in New York who died in 1772, when his son Thomas was age 17. His wife, Mary (Seymour) Shreve, remarried in 1777 to Lt. Paul Dayrelle, a British soldier who remained in the United States after the Revolution. The Dayrelle family can be traced back to the Domesday Book in England.

Thomas attended King’s College in New York City. He seems to have been a high-spirited and irreverent young student. University records for 1771 and 1772 note that he was punished for various misdeeds: taking teacups from another student’s room, missing part of an exam, being absent from prayers, and not handing in an assignment. He did, however, receive his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1773 and his Masters in 1776.

An idea of what New York City and King’s College were like in 1774 can be gleaned from the following description published in The Gentleman’s Magazine.

“This City is situated upon the point of a small island... It contains between two and three thousand houses, and sixteen or seventeen thousand inhabitants; is tolerably well built, and has several good houses. The streets are paved and very clean, but in general they are narrow...

...The whole length of the town is something more than a mile; the breadth of it about half an [sic] one. The situation is, I believe, esteemed healthy; but is subject to one great inconvenience, which is the want of fresh water; so that the inhabitants are obliged to have it brought from springs at some distance out of town. There are several public buildings, though but few that deserve attention. The College, when finished, will be exceedingly handsome: it is to be built on three sides of a quadrangle, fronting Hudson’s or North River, and will be the most beautifully situated of any college, I believe, in the world. At present only one wing is finished, which is of stone, and consists of twenty-four sets of apartments; each having a large sitting-room, with a study, and bed-chamber. They are obliged to make use of some of these apartments for a master’s...
Several sources report that Thomas Shreve became a Captain during the Revolutionary War. 17, 18, 19 This is in contrast to the summary of his service with the battalions of DeLancey’s Brigade and his petition for a land grant in 1784, both of which give his rank at the end of the Revolutionary War as Lieutenant. 20, 21 A letter written in 1816, by Abigail Gallop Shreve, widow, to the British Secretary of War, requesting a larger pension, provides further evidence of his rank of Lieutenant.

[After being appointed Ensign, he] . . . “continued to serve in that rank until 25 April 1782. During the five campaigns that took place between these two periods, Mr. Shreve was constantly with his Reg’t., which was stationed along with Sir Henry Clinton’s troop of Horse for the defence of the lines around New York. On the 25th of April, 1782 Ensign Shreve was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in the Prince of Wales American Volunteers and soon after was attached to the Barracks Department in the City of New York, where he remained until the evacuation of it by his Majesty’s troops in 1783. At that period the Regiment to which Lieutenant Shreve belonged was ordered to Halifax in Nova Scotia, and there again he was appointed an Assistant Barracks Master, in which capacity he had most arduous duties to perform. In that office Lieut. Shreve continued until 1784, when, his regiment being reduced, he was placed on half pay, and retired.” 22

It appears he received the rank of Captain by warrant about July 1780 with the 3rd Battalion, DeLancey’s Brigade, and subsequently retired early in 1782. On 25 April 1782 he became a Lieutenant in the Prince of Wales’ American Regiment. He was Assistant Barracks Master in Halifax in 1784. From October 1783 until 24 December 1789 he was on the military payroll as a half-pay Provincial Lieutenant. 23 It is interesting that while DeLancey’s
Thomas Shreve took up his duties in September 1787 when, according to church records presumably in his handwriting, his first official act was the baptism of infant Frances Phinney on 23 September 1787.25

It is hard to imagine a greater contrast between the relative comfort and sophistication of New York City as described in 1774, and the harsh realities of the Nova Scotia countryside on the north shore of the Minas Basin when Rev. Thomas Shreve settled there. On one of his infrequent visits to the area in 1790, Bishop Charles Inglis described it briefly, “The country new and rough. [Rev. Shreve’s house] commands a fine view of the Basin of Minas.”33 Nevertheless, Rev. Shreve determined to stay, tend to his far-flung parishioners and raise his family. The first years brought sorrow to him. His first wife, Catherine Ashfield, died in 1789.34, 35 In 1792 he married Abigail Gallop, daughter of Antill Gallop, his fellow-petitioner for land in 1788. Thomas was 37 and Abigail just over 20.36, 37 They had nine children together: Thomas, Caleb, Rebecca, James, Mary Ann, and Martha who were born in Parrsboro and Lucy, Charles, and Sophia who were born in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

The Parrsboro parish, like many in post-Revolutionary Nova Scotia, was poor and unwilling or unable to support a minister. Rev. Shreve took up his post as a Missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (SPG) that provided financial support. The SPG directed its missionaries to travel to extra-Parochial areas. Thus, Rev. Shreve’s duties extended well beyond the boundaries of the Parrsboro parish as defined in 1786. He was the only Church of England clergyman in a 160-mile stretch. Settlements under his care included Amherst, sixty miles away, Ratchford Harbour and Half-Way River, as well as the 100 miles along the coast from Cobequid to Apple River, Truro, Onslow and Londonderry.38

He travelled on horseback on trails through the forest and along the beaches, and in winter by snowshoe. In 1794 Rev. Shreve wrote the SPG,

“... I have not received one shilling from the parishioners towards my support . . . The labour and the sacrifices that I have been obliged to make . . . have not been small; but the success has fully made amends for all. Were I to be particular in giving you an account of my fatigues when on these excursions, I am afraid that you would think that I exaggerated. I will, therefore, only say my common


Thomas Shreve travelled to London before receiving official approval but was successful in securing the Parish. He resumed his studies for the priesthood and was ordained as a Deacon on 25 April 1787. A little over a month later, on 03 June 1787, he was ordained as a Priest and, three days later, was licensed to perform the functions of the Ministerial Office of Priest at Parrsboro, Nova Scotia.29, 30 An account of his return to Nova Scotia describes the trip as “a tedious eight-week passage to Halifax.”31
fair is fish and potatoes; and if I can get a spare blanket to lay on the floor before the fire, I conceive myself fortunate.”

To support his growing family, Rev. Shreve supplemented his income by acting as Clerk of the Parrsboro Post Office, as Town Clerk and as Registrar of Deeds. He also registered animals sharing a common pasture. In addition, he applied for, and received, large tracts of land. Following his release from the Army, he was granted land along with Antill Gallop, his future father-in-law, “on the north side, the Gut or Entrance, into Minas Basin and within the County of Halifax.” This grant was Lot No. 50 of 500 acres. At this time he did not receive additional requests for 100 acres each for his wife, two daughters and two servants. In June 1788, as the first Missionary at Parrsboro, he applied for lots 9, 10 and 11, consisting of 800 acres, in the Parish of Parrsboro. In July he was granted lots 9 and 10 for a total of 550 acres. In October 1789 he again applied for land as the “first Missionary appointed to the Parish of Parrsboro,” this time for Lots 3 and 4 on the east side of Cumberland Road. He was granted these lots as well, which consisted of 587 acres bringing the total land granted to him to 1,937 acres.

As soon as he arrived in Parrsboro, Rev. Shreve worked to build a church. In 1788, Thomas William Moore generously donated 150 acres of land for the purpose. In 1789 Rev. Shreve applied for lots 10 and 11 consisting of 623 acres on the east side of the Cumberland Road for a Glebe, and lots 5 and 6 consisting of 625 acres on the west side of the Road for a school. St. George’s Anglican Church, Parrsboro, was consecrated by Bishop Inglis on 10 August 1794. The original church has long since disappeared. A cairn and plaque (Figures 2 and 3) now mark the place where it once stood.

Rev. Shreve and Rev. William Twining participated in an inquiry in 1790. This was called by Bishop Charles Inglis into the conduct of Rev. John Eagleson of neighbouring Cumberland County. The inquiry resulted in Rev. Eagleson’s dismissal for drunkenness and incompetence. Mr. Eagleson, however, was not willing to submit to this charge. Bishop Inglis’s journal contains the following account:

“Mr. Shreve informed me that Mr. Eagleson persisted in asserting his innocence of the Charge of Drunkenness, and set his parishioners at defiance to prove it. He also informed me that Mr. Eagleson, on his return home after the scrutiny into his conduct last year, got drunk at Parrsborough, slept some time in the new Church, from whence he was taken, carried to a house and flung into a bed with his boots, clothes etc., on and unable to help himself.”

The general lack of congregational support for Anglican ministers in post-revolutionary Nova Scotia did not change during the next decade. Rev. Shreve moved to the Parish of Lunenburg because he could not perform his duties effectively with so little support from the parishioners of Parrsboro. One of his last recorded duties while there was to preach a sermon at St. Paul’s Church in Halifax before the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons on 24 June 1803. A bound copy of this sermon was presented to his grandson, Dean Richmond Shreve, in 1922. The inscription on the volume refers to Rev. Thomas Shreve as “Rector of St. George’s, Parrsborough, and P. G. C. for the Province of Nova Scotia.” The three subjects of his sermon were “Love of the Brotherhood, the fear of God and the honour of the King . . . three of our first and most universally prevailing principles.” His continuing and unwavering loyalty to the British crown was emphasized in his comments on honouring the King:

“-- Honour him, who, in union with the Lords and Commons of the nation, forms such an excellent constitution, as with all its excellencies, is not to be found in all the world besides. -- Honour Him who, as a husband, father, friend is a shining pattern for the best of imitations . . .

“In short if we obey not this admonition, we forfeit our characters, both as good men and as Masons.”

To be continued...

Part two of this article will be in the Fall 2019 issue, describing Reverend Shreve in Lunenburg and beyond.

Editor’s Note: Individuals wishing to obtain the endnotes and other sources of this article should email gazette.editor@nexicom.net
CHRIS HAY UE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Chris Hay UE, a long-time member of the Chilliwack, British Columbia Branch of the UELAC, is a graduate of the University of British Columbia with majors in both History and Anthropology. It was while raising his family that Chris was able to return to his passion of history after his introduction to his UEL family history. This was followed by his discovery in 2000 of a lost Vancouver Rock Garden in Stanley Park, a National Historic Site of Canada. Begun in 1911 by his great-grandfather, John Montgomery, it was later determined to be the first public garden in the City of Vancouver. On 15 May 2013, the Stanley Park Rock Garden was recognized as an official heritage landscape of the City of Vancouver and, in 2015, was recognized with a City of Vancouver heritage award. In 2016 Chris was chosen as the winner of the annual British Columbia Genealogical Society’s ‘Most Improved Genealogy Contest.’ He won for his story on Major Richard Witham Stockton, ‘Family Mystery Revealed After 240 Years.’ After a varied career Chris recently retired from Canada Post and is now greatly enjoying the uncovering of new discoveries in his genealogical pursuits.

PART ONE
BENNETT’S ISLAND: 18 FEBRUARY 1777

NEW JERSEY’S FORGOTTEN REVOLUTIONARY BATTLE

In the early morning hours of 18 February 1777, Colonel John Neilson, of the Second Regiment, Middlesex County Militia, launched a well-planned surprise attack on the British military outpost of Bennett’s Island, New Jersey. The main mission was to disarm this new strategic post and capture Richard Witham Stockton, the infamous local Tory guide to Lieutenant Colonel William Harcourt, who just recently, on 13 December 1776, had played a key role in the capture of General Charles Lee, second-in-command to the American forces under General George Washington.¹ The story of the surprise attack on this strategic site and the significance of the capture of Loyalist, Major Richard Stockton, had long been forgotten until an amazing chain of events led Stockton’s fifth great grandson, Chris Hay UE, and well-recognized American Revolutionary War author, Christian McBurney, to unravel this intriguing tale of Revolutionary history.²

Soon after establishing their new winter command post at New Brunswick in January 1776, British officers had quickly realized the adjacent Raritan River to be the safest and most efficient supply route to their nearby post at Perth Amboy. This was soon to change as the local American Militia Commander, Colonel John Neilson, of the Second Middlesex Militia, had also realized the military importance of controlling the surrounding road access routes and the strategic Raritan River waterway.

In order to ensure the unobstructed use of this river, the British had quickly
established military posts at Raritan Landing and Bennett’s [formerly Lawrence] Island, both at key locations on the lower Raritan River. The post at Bennett’s Island lay about three miles south east of New Brunswick, New Jersey, on a high point of land with strategic river views as far away as the City of Perth Amboy.3 The British had occupied a large farm house here with numerous outbuildings in order to build their new post.4 Stockton and his officers had made the main house both their headquarters and sleeping quarters.

Just below the new British post at Bennett’s Island, Neilson’s militia forces had established a favourite and most annoying tactic of harassing British ships using the “Roundabout” [see map] as an ambushade.5 Located on the Raritan River within view of Bennett’s Island, the Roundabout was close to where the mouth of the South River meets the Raritan. Here, at a sharp bend in the river, boats were much more vulnerable as they navigated slowly through this particular stretch. The first use of this ambuscade appears to be on 03 February 1777 when the senior general of the Continental Army in New Jersey, Major General Israel Putnam, stationed at Princeton, ordered “50 good riflemen” from Princeton to the Roundabout “to annoy the enemy’s boats that are passing and repassing with provisions and stores.”6 Colonel Neilson also added additional support ordering “Sergt. John Voorhees with 7 others of that Co. go with the Rifle Men as Pilots.”7

On 05 February, the “very advantageously placed” riflemen spotted a boat coming down the river from Brunswick with about twelve men on its deck. According to their officers’ report to General Putnam, twenty-five Pennsylvania sharpshooters “gave them a how do you do . . .”8 This action had alerted the British military who responded quickly to this new American threat. Immediately, Brigadier General Cortland Skinner, a former attorney general of New Jersey and commander of the New Jersey Volunteers, sent Major Richard Stockton and one hundred soldiers of the same Loyalist corps to reinforce the new British post at Bennett’s Island.9 Skinner hoped to quell any further military action and to prevent the Americans from controlling the heights along the lower Raritan. Richard W. Stockton had first been appointed Captain of the New Jersey Volunteers in August 1776 when the unit was stationed on Staten Island and still gathering troops.10 He was later promoted to Major for his services as the main Guide who helped to capture General Charles Lee.11 American General, Israel Putnam, in a letter to the Pennsylvania Council of Safety, described Stockton as the enemy’s “renowned land pilot.”12 Stockton had just recently been identified in the media as having been involved in an attack on American troops at Drake’s Farm near Metuchen, New Jersey, on 01 February 1777.13 This notoriety, as well as his role in the capture of General Charles Lee, had given the Americans an urgent desire for his apprehension.

Their chance came soon, on or around 17 February 1777, when an unnamed deserter from Bennett’s Island arrived at Colonel Neilson’s post at Cranbury about fifteen miles south of Bennett’s Island and provided enough vital details of the new British post for the American’s to plan a quick attack.14 It appears, from Neilson’s documents, that the deserter had likely advised him of the lax guard, the stockade to mount, the sleeping arrangements for Stockton and his troops, and the presence of an additional sixty British Troops stationed across a strategic bridge over Lawrence Brook, at nearby Longfield’s farm.15 Most important was the news of the name of the new commander of the post, Major Richard W. Stockton, the “renowned Land Pilot.” Stockton commanded only Captain Dunham, four subalterns and about one hundred riflemen.
privates from several Battalions of the New Jersey Volunteers.¹⁶

Neilson, recognizing the opportunity, planned for a quick attack, and stated his objectives of not only disarming this strategic Raritan River post but also of capturing its infamous commander, Richard W. Stockton.¹⁷ Colonel Neilson immediately sent a message to General Putnam at Princeton requesting additional reinforcements if available. Putnam’s response was quick and favourable. On 17 February, he returned a note to Neilson stating: “I am pleased at your forming a party against Stockton & I wish you success.”¹⁸

On the evening of 17 February 1777, Colonel Neilson, along with one hundred and fifty men of the Middlesex Militia, and fifty riflemen of the Militia from Bedford, Pennsylvania, sent as reinforcements by General Putnam, marched in a surprise attack on the British post at Bennett’s Island.¹⁹ At sunset Neilson ordered his men to begin their march, guided by Andrew McDowell, and, although a brisk night, with the ground covered in snow, no storm threatened. The Patriot troops made good time.²⁰

Neilson continues with a detailed first hand description of the surprise attack in his personal officer’s order book:

“The first stop was at David Williamson’s Tavern, which lasted until 11:00 p.m., and from there they went on to ‘old Ogden’s’; within one mile of Bennett’s house.” (Ogden’s house, located one and a half miles inland from the Raritan River, on the South River, was likely the family home of Benjamin Ogden, a young private in the raiding party.²² “There they waited until the moon went down at 4:00 a.m. and then moved on to Bennett’s Island.”

Neilson describes what happened next: “The main Body the moment they got over the causeway at the foot of the Hill & endeavour to surround them & cut off their communication with the house --- Piloted by Ogden & a deserter.”²³ A third detachment of men, led by Lieutenant Nathaniel Hunt, the moment they saw the house was surrounded, hurried to capture a bridge that led over Lawrence Brook to Longfield’s farm, thus completing the conquest of Bennett’s Island. Seeing themselves surrounded, and with no avenue of escape, Major Stockton and his men surrendered.²⁴

A handful of soldiers under Stockton’s command, perhaps thirty, escaped and made their way back to New Brunswick. In addition, a Captain with five or six men of the New Jersey Volunteers, retreated to a cellar in one of the two dwelling houses, and tried to hide there. Neilson’s men discovered the position but, rather than engage in a firefight against a well defended post, or burn the house to the ground and force the Loyalists out, Neilson left them unharmed.²⁵

Colonel Neilson’s force captured Major Stockton, Captain Dunham, Lieutenant Francis Fraser, one Ensign, a Volunteer and fifty-five privates.

To be continued...

Part two of this article will be in the Fall 2019 issue, pick up the consequences or ramifications of the loss to the British of Bennett’s Island.

Editor’s Note: Individuals wishing to obtain the endnotes and other sources of this article should email: gazette.editor@nexicom.net
In June 1783, some 1,330 United Empire Loyalists evacuated from New York following the end of the American Revolution and arrived in the Basin of Annapolis in Nova Scotia to establish a settlement. The choice of the name for that settlement and how it was obtained is described in the letterbook of Edward Brudenell, an Agent for the settlement of the Loyalists in Digby. It was decided to name it after Rear Admiral, The Honourable Admiral Robert Digby, who commanded the British Fleet in New York. In October 1783, the following Letter was sent to Governor John Parr of Nova Scotia from Edward Brudenell in New York, that has been transcribed as follows:

Sir,

The Loyalists now settling on the Basin of Annapolis in the Township of Conway having applied through their Agent Mr. Botsford to His Excellency Admiral Digby for his patronage to their infant City, he has been pleased to fulfill their wishes by permitting them to call their new settlement after his name, and in their behalf I beg leave also to solicit your Excellencys permission for the same purpose, as your approbation of their conduct will be for the great means of forwarding their honest endeavours in the Elevation of a Maritime town under your Excellencys protection and government.

I have the Honor to be

Your Excellencys most obedient & very Humble servant

(Signed) Edward Brudenell

As Brudenell’s letter states, Amos Botsford, Chief Agent for the Loyalists, wrote to Admiral Digby for his consent to name the settlement on the Annapolis Basin after him. Botsford was a Loyalist who had been born in Newtown, Connecticut, graduated from Yale College, studied law and became an attorney prior to the American Revolution. He refused to take the oath of allegiance to the new state constitution and was excluded from practising law. His properties were confiscated and he went to New York City. He acted as an Agent for Loyalists and Sir Guy Carleton, Commander in Chief of North America, sent him to Nova Scotia to arrange for the settlement of the refugees scheduled to arrive during the ensuing year.
My lineal ancestor, Albert Ryckman (1792-1870), son of Philip Ryckman (1755-1849) and Rebecca Nagel, has been identified by family genealogists as a Loyalist who was granted 250 acres of land, Concession 1, Lot 27, in Prince Edward County, Ontario. In fact, Philip Ryckman bought “Lot No. 27, Township of Sophiasburgh, 1st Concession South West of Green Point.” Philip sold the land to his son, Albert (1792-1870), and Albert sold the land to his son, Edward (1834-1927). Albert and Charity Warren's son, John Green Ryckman (1825-1910), married Amanda Elzina Ryckman (1834-1893).

Philip was recognized as a Patriot by the Daughters of the American Revolution. I received my DAR membership certificate on 05 July 2016.

Another Albert Ryckman (1766-1850), son of another John Ryckman (1730-1795) and Eunice Ward, was a Loyalist on the basis of his family’s claims about the service of John Ryckman. This Albert received land through Orders in Council.

I am a descendant of one of four men named John Ryckman on the Loyalist Directory of United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada. John Ryckman (1738-1784) is my lineal ancestor. I received my UELAC membership certificate on 04 August 2017. John’s son, Edward (1763/67-1846), is listed as among the Loyalist Ancestors on the Hamilton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists.

John Ryckman (1738-1784) and Susanna Bruyn/Brouwn/Brown’s son, Edward (1763/67-1846), married Ann Warren. Edward and Ann’s son, John Warren Ryckman (1805-1852), married Martha (Patty) Smith. John Warren Ryckman and Martha’s daughter, Amanda Elzina Ryckman (1834-1893), married John Green Ryckman (1825-1910), bringing together two branches of the Ryckman family. John Green Ryckman is the great-grandson of Tobias Ryckman (1711-1784) and his second wife, Cornelis Daly. Amanda Elzina Ryckman is the second great-granddaughter of Tobias and his first wife, Maria Van Eps.

Philip Ryckman (1755-1849?) and John Ryckman (1738-1784) were half-brothers on opposing sides of the American Revolutionary War for American Independence. Their father was Tobias Ryckman (1711-1784?). Such a very interesting time in history.

CAUTIONARY TALE

One Ryckman family genealogist writes: “It is proven beyond doubt, by a ‘power of attorney’, given by Annetje Jans (Anna or little Ann) and her sister, Mariette (Mary), to a relative to collect a sum of money due their mother from the West India Company; that their mother’s name was Trijnje Jonas, a midwife, and that Annetje’s husband was directly associated with that company.”

The next paragraph begins, “Trijnje Jonas was the mother of Albert Janse Ryckman.” She writes that Albert was born about 1647. “1605 Anneke
Jans born in Flekkeroy, Norway” and “Maritje Janse, born in 1603, in Flekkeroy was Anneke’s sister, both children of Tryntje Janse and Jan Janse (Ryckman).”

Is it physically possible for the same woman to have given birth to children born in 1603, 1605 and 1647? Could Albert Janse Ryckman have “sisters” who were born forty-four and forty-two years before his birth? If Triijnje was 15 in 1603, when Maritje was born, could she have another daughter when she was 17, and a son, Albert Janse Ryckman, when she was 59?

According to the 1663 will of Eldert Gerbertsen Cruyff and Albert’s mother, Tryntie Janse Ryckman, with Janse also translated as Jans/Jansen/Jansz/Janssz, Albert Janse Ryckman is the son of Tryntje Janse Ryckman and Jan Janse Ryckman, the sole heir, age 16, if he was born in 1647, a minor to be cared for until maturity.

ANOTHER CAUTIONARY TALE THAT EVEN PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS MAKE ERRORS

When I began to research my Ryckman ancestors, the Daughters of the American Revolution ancestor roster included eight men named “Ryckman,” as my surname has been spelled since as early as a document in 1663 in Beverwijck, New Netherland, now Albany, New York, with occasional variations in spelling. As my ancestors were in Dutch New York, I expected to find the names from New York. I did not expect to find “Ryckman” ancestors from Virginia, Tennessee, or North Carolina.

A William Ryckman from Virginia was and is identified as “Dr. Director of Continental Hospitals in VA.”

One source notes, “In 1776 Rickman was appointed by the Continental Congress to oversee the Virginia hospitals during the American Revolutionary War, becoming in effect the first Surgeon General of the United States.”

Note the difference in spelling: Ryckman and Rickman. The doctor’s name is still on the roster, but now has a red warning, “Problems have been discovered with at least one previously verified paper. See ancestor’s full record.”

In addition, one name has been removed and my lineal ancestor, Philip Ryckman, has been added.

Though information about William “Rickman” is disputed, he owned Kittiewan Plantation in Charles City County, Virginia. The plantation is managed by the National Park Service and the plantation house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At the Rickman Cemetery, a tombstone lists “William Rickman, Virginia, Director, Continental Hosp, 1783.” A memorial provides additional information about Dr. Rickman (c.1731-1783), including “native of Hampshire England.”

Ah, English. Rickman is English, and Ryckman is Dutch. Not the same family.

The ancestor list of United Empire Loyalists includes Edward Rickerman and Tobias Rickerman, both of Sophiasburg and Ameliasburg. Are they the same men as Edward Ryckman and Tobias Ryckman, also listed?

Kathie Ryckman Anderson is a native of North Dakota, where her paternal lineal second great grandparents and great-grandparents established farms in Dakota Territory in 1888. At the University of North Dakota, Kathie earned her B.A. and M.A. in English. She earned a PhD in journalism and mass communication at the University of Texas at Austin. She has taught high school and college students and worked as a writer and editor.

She has compiled and written The Rickman Family in Dakota and North Dakota Prepared for the 125th Anniversary of the Rickman Family Farm 1888 to 2013 (2013) and RYCKMAN: One Family’s Journey from the mid-1600s through 1887 (2017).

Kathie is a member of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada, Daughters of the American Revolution, Dutch Settlers’ Society of Albany, and Society of Daughters of Holland Dames, Descendants of the Ancient and Honorable Families of New Netherland.

She is also descended from Huguenots: Jesse de Forest, and Johannes de la Montagne, whose families escaped from France because of religious persecution. Jesse de Forest died in Guinea while searching for a home to practise religion freely, and his sons and son-in-law later settled in New Netherland.
Alexander McDonald was one of eight men with the same name, according to Esther Clark Wright’s book, *The Loyalists of New Brunswick*, Lancelot Press, 4th printing, March 1981.

Born in Ireland, he became a Barrack Master General, who lived on Staten Island in New York. He was in charge of the buildings or set of buildings for soldiers, especially in garrison. That might have included oversight of food procurement.


Alexander McDonald drew lot 1290 in Parr Town in 1784. Parr Town was the initial name of what became Saint John, New Brunswick. Many Loyalists arrived initially in Saint John, but most were soon granted land elsewhere.

Alexander must have been well-regarded by the officials who distributed land to the Loyalists, as he received two or more grants, one of which was by far the largest grant in the area. He was one of the few among the early grantees who remained on his Washamadoak land. He drew lot 12 and bought other adjacent lots or took over lands escheated because of non-settlement. The area in Wickham Parish, Queens County, New Brunswick, became known as MacDonald’s Point.


The following bits from Maya Jasanoff’s *Liberty’s Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World* illustrates the dire state of provisioning of the British soldiers in New York:

“... Provisions were frequently so poor in quality as to be absolutely inedible, even by hungry redcoats. The commissary generals complained again and again of mouldy bread, weevily biscuit, rancid butter, sour flour, worm-eaten pease, and maggoty beef. In November, 1776, despite repeated protests to the Treasury board, the commissary general at New York asserted that the bread supplied to General Howe’s army continued to be ‘very bad in quality mixt with old bread, musty and much broken’ ... several Casks promiscuously taken being found all more or less to have live Maggots in them, some quite rotten and those that were the best with a great mixture of Green Pea, which on boiling proves to have no Substance and leaves little more than the Husk.”

A private aboard a troop transport, bound for America, humorously described the fare of his unhappy fellow soldiers, as follows: “Pork and pease were the chief of their diet. The pork seemed to be four or five years old. It was streaked with black towards the outside...
and was yellow farther in. With a little white in the middle. The salt beef was in much the same condition. The ship biscuit was so hard that they sometimes broke it up with a cannonball, and the story ran that it had been taken from the French in the Seven Years’ War and lain in Portsmouth ever since ... Sometimes they had groats and barley, or, by way of a treat a pudding made of flour mixed half with salt water and half with fresh water, and with old mutton fat.”

**DAILY LIFE:**

“The harsh conditions of life in the army meant that discipline was severe. Crimes such as theft or desertion could result in hanging and punishments such as lashings were administered publically. Soldiers spent a great deal of time cleaning and preparing their clothing and equipment. Families were permitted to join soldiers in the field. [44] Wives often washed, cooked, mended uniforms and served as nurses in the time of battle or sickness ... so Rebecca may have been with him in or near the fields of battle during the war.

“The army often suffered from poor discipline away from the battlefield, gambling and heavy drinking were common among all ranks. [45] The distance between the colonies and the British Isles meant logistics were stretched to breaking point, with the army often running out of food and supplies in the field, and forced to live off the land.”

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**Eight War of 1812 VETERAN BURIAL PLAQUES**

**BY BRENDA DENYES UE & MARILYN HARD SAND UE**

On Sunday, 21 October 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Bowman Cemetery, 880 Garner Road, Ancaster, Ontario, Eight War of 1812 Veteran Burial Plaques were unveiled in honour of:

**Captain Peter Bowman**

**Sergeant Henry Hagle**

**Private Luke Hagle**

**Private John Kelly**

**Private Benjamin Smith**

**Private Henry Lewis Smith**

**Captain John Smith**

**Gunner Lewis B. Smith**

The day started out cold and grey, as we gathered at the Bowman United Church. Reverend Laura Williams welcomed all with a call to Worship. There was an opening prayer, followed by a scripture reading. *Faith of our Fathers*, was played on the piano, followed by *God Save the Queen*.

Bob Rennie told all assembled about the Civilian Soldier, and the hardships that they endured during the war. We then all bundled up and were led outside by Scott Beverage, with *Amazing Grace*, played on the bagpipes.

Once outside, Brenda Denyes read each War of 1812 Veteran’s name, and we honoured him with a wreath laid by a descendent, where possible, starting with Sergeant Henry Hagle and ending with Captain Peter Bowman.

The Last Post was played on a CD, followed by *Scotland the Brave*, on bagpipes.

Bob Rennie, along with men from the 1st Oxford Militia, 2nd Regiment Lincoln Militia, and the British Indian Department, were present in full dress. The presentation ended with a three-gun salute and musket volley.
Art passed away in Trenton, Ontario, at the age of ninety-one. He was survived by three daughters, two sons, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, a brother, Douglas, and sister, Doreen Frederick. He was predeceased by his wives, Dorothy Way and Marjorie Morgan, one daughter and one grandson. He was the son of the late W. Aylmer Dorland and Mildred Jean Arthur.

Art was active in the United Church of Canada, Order of the Eastern Star and a seventy-year member of the Masonic Lodge in Frankford, Ontario. He was also a member of the Bay of Quinte Branch UELAC for a long time. He likely had several Loyalist ancestors, but he is best known for being a double descendant of Captain Abraham Maybee UE. Elsewhere in his ancestry he had numerous ancestors in the Quaker community. A Service was held at Wooler United Church on 15 March, with interment at McPhail’s Cemetery at a later date.

I had the pleasure of knowing Art for several years and I can do no better than quote from the official Obituary, “We will miss his humourous stories, his wise counsel and his deep concern for all of us.”

Peter W. Johnson UE

Lloyd Oakes, aged 91, beloved husband of Gloria (nee Sheppard) UE and loving father of four sons: David (Nancy), Daniel, Peter and Jamie (Ravinder). Grandfather of: Brandon, Ayreal, Jaya, Ruby and Rohan. Survived by his sister, Ruth Donovan, of Port Stanley, and many nephews and nieces. Predeceased by his parents, James and Naomi (Horning) Oakes, and siblings: Gordon, George and Jean Hostein. Proud of his United Empire Loyalist heritage, Lloyd was the direct descendant of the Loyalists, John Depue UE and Peter Horning UE. Lloyd served the Hamilton Branch UELAC as President in 2004-2006. Respected music teacher and church organist, V.W. Bro. Lloyd Horning Oakes UE, was Initiated into Freemasonry at Seymour Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 272 G.R.C., then Affiliated into Meridian Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 687 G.R.C. in Ancaster and served as their Worshipful Master from June 1993 through June 1994. He was Past Grand Organist for the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, was a 33 Degree Scottish Rite Mason and played the organ there for over 60 years. He was also an Honorary President of The Duet Club of Hamilton.

Visitation and the Memorial Service were held on Thursday, 13 December at MARSHALL MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH, 20 Gilbert Avenue, Ancaster. Memorial donations are welcomed to Marshall Memorial Church.
Passed away peacefully at Royal Victoria Hospital, in Barrie, on 21 November 2018. Harold Ross Wallace, in his 89th year, was the son of the late Harold and Helen (nee Guest) Wallace. He was a proud descendant of Dalhousie Settlers who came from the Glasgow area of Scotland to Dalhousie Township, Lanark County, Upper Canada, in 1819, and to Innisfil in 1832. Ross was a descendant of Luke Brady UE, a United Empire Loyalist, who came from Crown Point, New York, and settled in Cornwall Township, Stormont County, in 1784, and a descendant of Thomas Jobbitt.

Friends were received at the Innisfil Funeral Home in Stroud, on Sunday, 25 November 2018, from 2:00 – 4:00 and 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. A Funeral Service was held at St. James United Church, Stroud, on Monday, 26 November 2018 at 2:00 p.m. Spring interment at St. James United Cemetery, Stroud. If desired, memorial donations may be made to St. James United Church or to a charity of choice.

First Published in the Toronto Star on 24 November 2018

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REUNION OF ADAM YOUNG AND CATHARINE SCHREMLING DESCENDANTS

Saturday, 13 July 2019

From 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Grace United Church Hall, 174 Caithness Street East, Caledonia, Ontario, a reunion of Descendants of Johann Adam (Jung) Young (1717 - 1790) and Catharine Elizabeth Schremling (1720 - 1798).

Potluck lunch at noon, followed by sharing of stories of our ancestors.

For more information, contact: Betty Yundt, pyundt@nas.net or Dan Young, dy.young@outlook.com, and read more on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/groups/adamyoungfamily/

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1st Virtual Branch of the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada!

This Branch offers unique opportunities for members to determine how and when they would like to experience the UELAC.

Through the use of online technologies, we’ll be offering a variety of services aimed at assisting, informing, educating and entertaining members on the shared interest of acknowledging, celebrating and perpetuating the sacrifices of our Loyalist ancestors.

Together, we’ll bridge gaps that sometimes prevent members from participating and sharing their contributions through conventional Branch memberships.

www.uelbridgeannex.com
This book was written as a textbook resource for students at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. The writer, now a retired educator with years of experience and awards, has re-published a book he first produced in hard copy in 1986 and updated in 2018 with minor changes. His sources are all exclusively American authors whose work was published between 1945 and 1970, without additional updated sources. As Symonds states in his foreword, much has been discovered since the 1970s but the value of the overview offered by the original text, he felt, merited a reprint. One needs to read this book to decide if this is true!

This book covers, almost exclusively, battles on American soil with the exception of forays into Montreal and Quebec. It is organized into four parts in chronological order: early campaigns northward and in New York, campaigns in central New England states, French and German alliances morphing into global war, and the Southern campaign ending with the Battle of Yorktown and the British surrender. Each map is accompanied by a description of the action with notes referring the reader to numbered sites or references to

Much has been discovered and written in the years since 1970 that continues to reveal the complex history of all participants in the Battles of the American Revolution.
Symonds has written an introduction for each section of his book with an analysis of the significance of the military action therein, as well as an appraisal of the performance, militarily, of both British, and American generals and tacticians.

The focus is on reporting military strategy by land and by sea between American Rebels and British Officers, while praising Washington at every turn. While heroes on both sides of the conflict are praised for their effective strategy, or missed opportunities, Loyalist participation and Indian alliances are dismissed as an afterthought. Fortunately, much has been discovered and written in the years since 1970 that continues to reveal the complex history of all participants in the Battles of the American Revolution and, in particular, the contributions of Loyalists and Native alliances to the British cause. These sources counter-balance Symonds’s work.

The real value of this book from the readers’ point of view is the collaborative work of Symonds and William Clipson, the cartographer, who produced the geographical maps of the battles described by Symonds. Being able to visually follow the maneuvers of the combattants, including insets for a more detailed look at battle sites, greatly assists the reader in understanding the geography of each battle: who led, who supported, when, where and how. In this sense, the book provides an exceptional overview or bird’s eye view of the American Revolution. It is up to the reader to fill in the details and flesh out the Loyalist and Native contribution in the American Revolution.

Have a story idea or photo series you believe others would enjoy? The Loyalist Gazette wants you to be part of our team of storytellers.

Help us keep history alive! Submit your stories and photos for upcoming issues.

We are looking for historic and genealogical content of interest to our membership and subscribers in order to share the experience and legacy of the United Empire Loyalists and related histories. Submissions may include:

Loyalist histories, profiles of Loyalist descendants (historic and present-day), relevant community events, history-related travels (photo series or article), and more!

You don’t need to be a professional writer or photographer to submit. We are here to share our stories. If you need help with your story idea, our team of editors can help.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
Submit a Story or Photo Series

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STORY GUIDELINES: 1500 words in length.

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Stories will be edited by our team.

PHOTO SERIES: Please ensure you are submitting good quality photos (300 dpi). In an accompanying Word document, please include captions for each photo: date, place, people featured. Ensure permission from individuals in photos are secured before submitting to The Loyalist Gazette.

STORY AND PHOTO SERIES SUBMISSIONS:
Please include good quality author photo and short bio (no more than 150 words).

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:
Fall Issue: 01 August;
Spring Issue: 15 January

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: gazette.editor@nexicom.net
Some Hidden Loyalists?

For those with Loyalists in Upper Canada, a major Source is *The Executive Council List*. For most entries, the Loyalist is named and some sort of residence is listed, usually either a Township or a District. Sometimes there is additional information often referring to petitions. Occasionally, a son or daughter is also named.

The List was compiled in the 1790s during the time of Lieutenant Governor Simcoe. Its purpose was not to compile a stellar list of Loyalists, but to keep track of those designated as UEs, so that land was not distributed casually to folk who didn’t qualify and, by extension, their sons and daughters. A lot of land was involved.

Sometimes individuals were removed simply on the suspicion of not being a UE. For example, Henry Redner Sr., of the New Jersey Volunteers, was removed because his petition was deemed to be lacking in detail. He submitted a far more detailed one and was reinstated.

Over time you will find that revisions were made and the Expungements of 1802 was a major one. The purpose again was to reduce the total by weeding out those who were perhaps non-serving younger sons of Loyalists or British or German Regular troops. The List is not perfect. We have found a few not included who meet the requirements and also a few expunged who really did serve.

We’ve been using *The Executive Council List* for decades and so have many Branch Genealogists. Therefore it came as a surprise when Branch Genealogist, Patricia Noble UE, posed a question that, as far as I am aware, had never been asked previously. Thanks Patricia!

The basic question was, “Do we have the whole List or is something missing?” I draw your attention to the page beginning with Donald Cameron and ending with John Cameron. The next page begins with John Carll so Patricia wondered if something was missing, given the jump between Cameron and Carll? There is certainly enough of a gap between the two names to make one wonder!

I don’t have a ready answer. If pages had been numbered when the List was compiled, that might offer a definite clue, but any numbers therein are much later additions. Any copies that I have seen have that jump from Cameron to Carll. Likely the only way to be sure a page wasn’t missed would be to check the original in Ottawa.

Sources: *The Executive Council List*. RG 1, L 7, Volume 52A
NEW UE CERTIFICATES ISSUED

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>Olivia Sehba Fleming</td>
<td>Johann Hendrick Windecker</td>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>2018/11/02</td>
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Fort Stanwix
Rome, New York

Photo by Amanda Fasken UE