



Ottawa Loyalist

Volume 29 Issue 3 Spring
2014

Events

Dominion Conference: 100th
Anniversary of U.E.L.A.C.

June 5th to 8th

See U.E.L.A.C. Web site for details

Beechwood Cemetery Tour

September 14th 2014 (see further for details)

Gene-O-Rama

Ottawa Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society held their 30th Gene-O-Rama, March 21-22, 2014 at the Confederation Education Centre, 1645 Woodroffe Avenue.

Despite an early spring Ottawa snow storm a large crowd attended the event. The guest speaker at the Pat Horan Memorial Lecture on Friday evening was Jane MacNamara. Jane's topic was *Inheritance Interrupted : WWI reflected in Ontario Estate Files*.

Saturday's morning sessions included very interesting topics. It was difficult to choose which to attend! The topics included : *Irish in the Ottawa Valley* by Lesley Anderson & Glen Wright; *Richmond, Lanark and Perth : British Military Settlements in Upper Canada*. *Records and Resources* by Glen Wright and Lesley Anderson. Also on the programme were *“The Rideau Memorial Project”* presented by the

staff of the Rideau Archives; and *“Ma owned the Farm : Women as landowners in Ontario”*.

Over the lunch break attendees were invited to browse the marketplace or utilize the computer in the research room.

The 4 afternoon sessions included: *“Genetic Genealogy 101”* by John Reid, *“FamilySearch.org a Place for you and me”* by Shirley-Ann Pyefinch; *“The Curious Case of Dr. Henry Head Gray”* by Jane MacNamara; and *“Chipping Away at the Brickwall”* by Ken McKinlay.

The final event was the banquet held at Algonquin College. The speaker was the Hon. Peter Milliken.

This is the first year that Gene-O-Rama was held at the Confederation Education Centre. The venue is easily accessible by car and there is ample parking. In all a very well attended event and we are looking forward to attending future Gene-O- Ramas. *Penny Minter*

Library Report for Ottawa Branch Newsletter – May 2014

Prepared by **D. Meyerhof**

The Sir Guy Carleton Branch continues to improve its Library. Recent additions to the collection are listed below and the on-line

Librarian, at <meyerhof@magma.ca>.

Not everyone may be aware of the process to follow to search the on-line catalogue which is a PDF file that opens in Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Here is the process:

- 325.20759 SIE Siebert, Wilbur H. Loyalists of West Florida and the Natchez District
- 325.20716 ELL Ells, Margaret Development of Nova Scotia, 1782-1808
- 912.71352 PAG OS Page and Smith Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Wentworth, Ont.
- 973.333 Flo Wat Watt, Gavin K. Flockey, 13 August 1777: The Defeat of the Tory Uprising in the Schoharie Valley
- 973.333 Bur Vol. 2 Watt, Gavin K. British Campaign of 1777, Volume 2: The Burgoyne Expedition, Burgoyne's Native and Loyalist Auxiliaries
- 929.571358 WAN Wannamaker, C. L. R. Loyalist Graves in the Bay of Quinte
- 973.331 WAT Watt, Gavin K. Poisoned by Lies and Hypocrisy: America's First Attempt to Bring Liberty to Canada, 1775-1776
- 910.371 RAY Rayburn, Alan Place Names of Canada, 2nd Ed (2010)

catalogue has been updated. Donations to the Library are always appreciated. If you have suggestions for new or missing books to be added, please contact Dorothy Meyerhof, our

From your internet browser find the Branch website at: <http://www.uelac.org/Carletonuel/>

Click on: Library Catalogue (searchable) which opens the catalogue in PDF format.

If the print seems too small, click on the + sign at the top of the screen or enter in a desired size in the box next to the plus sign.

Go to the "Edit" menu at the top left of the screen and click on "Find" or in the opened catalogue press "Ctrl+F" on your computer

Once you have found a book that interests you, bring the information to the Library at the City of Ottawa Archives and a volunteer will be pleased to assist you to find it on the shelves.

keyboard. This will bring up a box in the top right-hand corner of your screen that says: "Find" with a blank box underneath. In the box type the word that you are trying to find such as the author's name or key word in the title and click on "Next" below the search box. The next occurrence of the word will be highlighted.

United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada Sir Guy Carleton Branch

Annual General Meeting and Spring Social

100th Anniversary UELAC – 1914-2014

April 26, 2014 – Macie's Best Western

Notes on the Spring Social and Annual General Meeting

Twenty-seven branch members and guests enjoyed another wonderful meal supplied by Macie's Best Western and an entertaining talk by guest speaker Marg Hall. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the UELAC, a delicious cake was served by two of the branch past presidents. Also, a raffle was held for a branch windbreaker which had been donated by past president Frank Cooper.

The afternoon began with the advancement of the colours by Bill Powers and Barry Gilmore. After the singing of God Save the Queen led by Sylvia Powers, the two toasts to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and King George the 3rd were given by Ron Richards and Lynne Webb. Lynne then introduced the head table and members of the executive.

Members were presented with a pin in celebration of the 100th anniversary of UELAC.

After lunch and before the guest speaker the annual general meeting was called to order at 1:30. The first item of business was the raffle. Beth Sweetnam was the lucky winner of the windbreaker.

The minutes of last year's AGM had been distributed among the tables and were accepted as written. Sylvia Powers as head of the nominations committee held the elections for the executive. The following positions were acclaimed: Lynne Webb-President, Beth Sweetnam-Vice-President, Bob Adair-Treasurer, Penny Minter-Secretary.

The next item of business was the Genealogy/Membership report. Gary reported that membership is down to 66. Several people have expressed interest in the branch so this number may go up. Two certificates were awarded to Sylvia Powers for her ancestors – David Embury and Jacob Huffman.

Bob Adair handed out the last financial statement and also presented the budget for

2014. Bob also mentioned that the decrease in membership and revenue could be related to the deaths of 3 members in the past year. It was moved by Bob and seconded by Lynne that the financial statement be accepted. Motion passed unanimously.

Sylvia gave an update on the Branch anniversary project. The Beechwood Cemetery tour brochure will include the names of 15 Loyalist descendants. Staff from the cemetery will be available to transport those with mobility problems between the gravesites. Flyers for the event were distributed among the tables and extra copies were taken by Dorothy to the Zoomer show at the EY Centre. Nicole Bedard at Beechwood will be producing the tour brochure for the Branch. Sylvia also mentioned the upcoming UELAC conference and brought

several registration forms with her. Also, she mentioned that the UEL licence plate is still available for purchase.

Sylvia introduced our guest speaker and past president Marg Hall who gave an interesting account of her 2 Loyalist ancestors, Nicholas Lake and George Murdoff. Marg has held a variety of positions within the branch and within the UELAC. After her talk, she was thanked by Bob Adair and given a small token of appreciation by the Branch.

The afternoon concluded with the cutting of the anniversary cake. The colours were retired at 2:50 and with the singing of O Canada, a very pleasant spring social came to a conclusion.

Penny Minter



Marg. Hall and Lynne Webb

Sylvia Powers Lynne and Marg.



The Anniversary Cake

**Beechwood Cemetery Tour
Priest - Prophet - Professor - Physician
Loyalist descendants in Beechwood Cemetery**

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada the Sir Guy Carleton Branch will conduct a tour of Beechwood Cemetery featuring the lives of some Loyalists and their descendants who are buried there.

Sunday, 14 September 2014
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Beechwood Cemetery, 280 Beechwood Avenue, Ottawa
Meet in front of the Main Office

Light refreshments will be served after the tour.

All are welcome

To book your place on the tour please contact: **carletonuel@hotmail.com**

Beechwood Cemetery was established in 1873, and is recognized as one of the most beautiful and historic cemeteries in Canada. It is the final resting place for over 75,000 Canadians, including our Canadian Forces Veterans, War Dead, RCMP members, Governors-General and Prime Ministers and our everyday Canadian heroes, our families and our loved ones. Beechwood is the home of the National Military Cemetery and the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery, and is a National Historic Site. In 2009, it was designated the National Cemetery of Canada by an Act of Parliament.

**Emburys and Hoffmans
From The Lower Palatinate to the Bay of Quinte
By Sylvia Powers**

In the early 1700s many Protestant families lived in the valleys of the Rhine in what is now Germany. Their ancestors may have been among the Huguenot refugees from Alsace in France fleeing the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre in 1572, or had backgrounds in Switzerland, Netherlands, or Scandinavia where they had become strong Protestants with the blood of martyrs to the faith. Near the towns of Spire and Worms where Luther had spoken and written of the corruption of the Roman Church there lived families which included the

Hoffmans and Imbergers, the latter being anglicized to Embury after fleeing to Britain in 1709. Two German provinces became known as the Upper and Lower Palatinate. Our ancestors lived in the latter which represented land on both sides of the Rhine River.

Wars devastated the German Provinces many times. The Thirty Years' War ended in 1648. In 1681, France's King Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes which had given Protestants religious freedom. The War of the League of Augsburg (1688-97) and the War of the Spanish

Succession (1702-1713) caused much suffering. In 1709 Louis' armies overran the Rhineland causing thousands of people to flee the country including our ancestors. Ships were sent by Queen Anne to bring the refugees across the English Channel to England where they were referred to as Palatines.

Andreas Imberger, aged twenty-two, had been a vinedresser in 1709 living near Worms. (p.26) The Hoffmans were originally from Sweden where their name was "Hoppman" meaning "Man of Hope". Philippus Hoffman was an ancestor of Elias Hoffman of Camden Valley, New York. John, Conrad, and Jacob Hoffman were on the list of Palatine Refugees taken in 1709 at Rotterdam and London. (p.27) Elias Hoffman (-1773) and his wife Elizabeth (1730-1819) had about six children among them being Jacob Hoffman (1756-1837). Philippus sailed to England on June 17, while Andreas Imberger sailed from Rotterdam on May 23.

Families received a tent and a nine pound loaf of white bread. A wealthy Londoner donated thousands of shoes and a Quaker spent 8 days cutting cloth for them to make clothes with. Among the many projects to settle the refugees was one to place a large band of industrious Protestants on estates of English landlords in Ireland. On Aug. 8, several wagon-loads of Palatines left London to go to Chester to embark for Ireland. (p.39) Sir Thomas Southwell was the English Landlord who settled 130 families including our ancestors on his estate a few weeks after they reached Dublin. He was interested in encouraging the linen industry and wanted experienced weavers as well as farmers. The English Landlords wanted to use the Protestant Germans as a buffer to the Roman Catholic Irish. The men were given muskets while Irish tenants were disarmed. Lord Southwell received rent for the Germans for twenty years. For the first seven years the tenants were given 40 shillings per year per

family and leased 8 acres at 5 shillings per acre. (p.45)

In one of the villages built by the Germans, Ballingran, lived Andreas Imberger (Andrew Embury) and his children David, Peter, John, Philip, and Margaret. Philip studied in German in the local charter school and later studied in an English school. Then he became an apprentice to a carpenter and received some training in business.(p.54)

John Wesley, son of The Reverend Samuel Wesley and his wife Susannah Annesley, was rescued from the flames which consumed the Church of England Rectory at Epworth in 1709 when he was six years old. (p. 60) Following a peak experience of joy in 1738, he went on to carry his message of salvation to Britain and then to Ireland. By 1747 small Methodist societies had been started in eight Irish centres. (p.61) In 1749 Philip Embury was taken by his teacher to hear Wesley speak in Limerick. This was to have momentous consequences. Over the next three years the Methodist societies grew among the Palatines. In late 1752, Philip received his own conversion experience and was thus able to become a lay preacher for the Methodists on the Southwell Estate.

The Palatines were becoming dissatisfied with their lot in Ireland. As freeholder tenants they were facing increasing rents and the likelihood of losing their land to the English nobles. Some of their friends had already gone to America and were writing letters encouraging others to do the same. In June 1760, All of the Emburys, and many of their friends including Paul and Barbara Heck, set sail for America arriving in New York on August 18, 1760. (p. 82) David likely worked as a carpenter and prospered being able to own property by 1769. Philip and John became teachers. It wasn't until autumn of 1766 that Barbara Heck persuaded Philip Embury to preach in his own cottage, first to his family, the

Hecks, his black servant and hired man. His congregation grew until a larger room had to be rented. Thus Philip Embury became known as the founder of Methodism in America. Soon Land was leased and a new meeting-house and parsonage was built. Philip preached from the pulpit he had built.

The Emburys had applied for land which they received in 1765 south of the Camden Valley. However, land to the north on the Duane Patent seemed more attractive. On April 10, 1770, the band of Emburys and other Palatines made their way north to the Camden Valley to form their own community. They soon discovered that they were caught between the New York Land speculators and the farmers with New Hampshire titles. Ethan Allen formed a guerilla band of fighting farmers called the "Green Mountain Boys" who were determined to be tenants to no one. (p.133) Eventually, their neighbours came to respect the hardworking Palatines. David Embury received 375 acres of hilly land where he grew wheat, rye, corn, oats, hay and hemp. (p.136) Philip was soon appointed Justice of the Peace for Albany, a testament to his character. The next few years would have been difficult for the settlers with hard labor being needed by all for the survival of the community. Unfortunately, in August 1773, Philip Embury contracted pleurisy and died at the age of 45. (p. 161) His two youngest children died within two years possibly of malaria.

By 1775, revolutionary war fever was gathering. This peaceful community had much cause to be thankful and few complaints against the government. They were therefore treated as Tories, and had animals and other valuable items stolen from them. In May of this year, Ethan Allen led a successful expedition against the Fort of Ticonderoga to get arms for the rebels. Pressure was on the Camden Valley men to join the rebels. They hated to fight and did not

support the rebel cause but they did not want to see all their hard work in building their society be for nothing. In 1776, settlers on New Hampshire grants met at Dorset and voted to become an independent state. Only the wealthy would have a vote and the Governor would have absolute power. If the Valley men voted in favour of the separate state, they would lose the land they rented from a New Yorker. If they opposed it, the Green Mountain Boys would be even more hostile to them. Their landlord, faced with losing his property if the rebels were successful and not being supported by England if it were victorious, joined the rebel cause. In the same year everyone suspected of having Tory sympathies were required to sign a bond of allegiance to the Continental Congress. David Embury's son John signed it but David didn't. Families became divided over the issue. It became a civil war. David and others who refused to sign were imprisoned. Nevertheless, in the fall of 1776, most of the Camden Valley men had signed up with the British Troops, many having been released on bail from Jail or escaped. John Embury was among the 24 men who accompanied Edward Carscallen to meet Justus Sherwood who led them and others to join Sir Guy Carleton at Crown Point. Left behind to oversee the farming and protect the women and children were Abraham Bininger, Peter Switzer, and David Embury. (p.192) They would eventually lose their property and David joined his family in Canada in 1783 and received 295 pounds in compensation for his losses.

From 1777 to the end of the war the Camden Valley men served under John Peters, Edward Jessup, and Samuel Mackay. During the first winter, they all worked at repairing forts, erecting barracks for refugee Loyalists at Sorel, and raising stockades. In June of 1777, they took part in Burgoyne's expedition into the Champlain Valley. A young Jacob Hoffman who had been left to care for women and

children was shot at by a rebel while holding a baby. He immediately went to Arlington to join Peter's Corps. He was 20 years old. (p.215) At Crown Point many more Loyal groups joined the British. The Valley men were transferred to the Queen's Loyal Rangers under Justus Sherwood. This corps was in the advance party in the attack on Ticonderoga to successfully regain it from the rebels. At Fort Edward, they waited in vain for news of Howe's advance from New York. They also learned that Lt. Col St Leger had failed to regain Fort Stanwix. Food was scarce and an expedition set out to find supplies under the German Colonel Baum. As they headed for Bennington, they were attacked by a superior force. Baum lost his life along with 700 hundred men including half of Peter's Queen's Loyal Rangers. MacKay's Corps was sent ahead to repair roads and bridges to make a retreat to Canada possible. Close to Fort Edward, many men were ordered to return to camp to protect against an attack by the Americans. This left those who remained vulnerable to an attack by about 500 rebels who killed or captured about 43 men. Lacking reinforcements from Howe or Lt. Col St. Leger, Burgoyne had to concede defeat in this campaign. On October 17, the Saratoga Convention brought the French into the conflict as allies of the Americans and this marked the turning point of the war.

Back in Canada, the men worked on building new forts near Kingston and Niagara, and repairing fortifications at Quebec and Chambly in case of an American invasion. A flood of Tory families continued arriving and needed lodgings. Many of their farms were confiscated in 1778 and by October 1779 New York had passed the Law of Forfeiture of all Loyalist estates and by the following summer all Tory wives had to leave the province. If they could make it to Crown Point or Dutchman's Point on Lake Champlain they were transferred to Canadian vessels and taken to Quebec.

Governor Haldimand sent secret forays into the Mohawk Valley to destroy crops and cattle useful for Washington's army. Negotiations with the new state of Vermont were ongoing but not satisfactory for the Tories. In 1781, the British surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, causing the Loyalists to fear for the permanent loss of their properties. In 1783, they were notified of the end of the war. The Provincial regiments were disbanded on December 24, 1783. In the summer of 1784, the families were boarding bateaux to take them to destinations along the St. Lawrence and the Bay of Quinte. Jacob Hoffman was among the Loyalist artificers who built these bateaux over the preceding winter months. They lived in army tents at Catarqui until lots were drawn for their land. Jacob Hoffman drew a lot for land in the sixth concession of Fredericksburgh, near the present town of Napanee. David Embury with his sons Andrew and John had grants in the 3rd concession of North Fredericksburgh. David also received land in Marysburgh. Each family received an axe, hoe, and spade and two families would share a plow and a cow. Five men would share a firelock and five families would share small tools. Rations provided by the British consisted of flour, pork, some beef, butter, salt, and seeds for turnips, potatoes, corn, and wheat. These rations were reduced each year until 1786 when they would receive no more.

In David Embury's claim, he states that he lost two lots in 1776 so that one wonders if he were in jail and had his farm taken from him in the beginning. However inadequate the compensation received for lost property, unlike their fathers in Ireland and the Camden Valley, the men no longer were responsible to a landlord. They owned their own farms in Canada.

Page References are from "To their Heirs Forever" by Eula Lapp, Mika Publishing Co. Belleville, Ont., 1977

