



Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch

The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



Newsletter

December 2023

**Winter has arrived; this is a good time to look back
on our Branch different activities in 2023**

Branch Reports

Activities Report:

- The 54th Annual General Meeting and Luncheon was held on Saturday, 10 June 2023, at the Odd Fellows' Lodge in Knowlton, QC. Twenty-one members and guests were present for the luncheon which started at 12:10 p.m. followed by the Annual General Meeting.
- On Friday, 16 June 2023, we had the special visit of our Branch Honorary President, Sir Guy Johnson, 8th Bt. of New York and his wife, Lady Marie Louise Johnson, at Mount Johnson (Mont Saint-Grégoire), the site of the burial vault of Sir John Johnson, 2nd Bt. of New York. It was their first time visiting the burial vault of his ancestor. About 30 members and guests were present to greet them. It was a great day.
- Reprint of the branch book "The Loyalists of the Eastern Townships" – 500 copies of the third edition of the book were printed and presently being distributed to members, historical societies, libraries, etc. A few bookstores have the book on sale. Branch member Ross Gledhill has taken charge of the distributing process of the book. Already, about 300 copies of the book have been distributed.
- On Saturday, 21 October 2023, at the Odd Fellows' Lodge in Knowlton, QC, twenty-four members and friends participated at our Fall Luncheon. Our guest speaker was Matthew Farfan, Executive Director of Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN). Matthew gave us with a very interesting PowerPoint presentation on the Golden Rule Lodge No 5, founded in 1803 and one of the oldest Masonic lodges in Quebec and the beginnings of Freemasonry in Quebec.

Membership Report:

- In 2023, Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch had a total of 49 members: 37 regular members and 12 second-branch members

Genealogist Report:

- New branch member Robert Ireland UE has obtained 2 UE Certificates. His first certificate was approved 6 December 2022 proving his line to Loyalist John Westover Jr. And his second certificate was approved 19 February 2023 proving his line to Loyalist Herman Hostetter.

Branch Projects:

- After the success of the reprint of the branch book “The Loyalists of the Eastern Townships” in 2023, we are encouraged to take on, in 2024, the task of reprinting the book, “The Loyalists of Quebec – 1774-1825 – A Forgotten History”, published in 1989 by Heritage Branch – Montreal.
- An ongoing project is the upkeep of Sir John Johnson Burial Vault and site at Mont-Saint-Grégoire, Québec.

In Memoriam

This year we lost a dear friend, let us not forget her.

We were saddened to hear the passing of our dear friend, **JOAN RUITER LEE UE**, on 16 June 2023, at the age of 91. Joan, a retired nurse, was a descendant of Loyalist John Ruiter, a lieutenant in the Loyal Rangers Corps, commanded by Major Jessup, and who settled on the shore of Missisquoi Bay, today Saint-Armand, Quebec. Our deepest sympathies to all the Lee family.

<https://desourdy.ca/avis-de-deces/joan-lee-nee-ruiter/3449>



*As the New Year approaches us, we wish all of you a Wonderful 2024. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and friendship over the years.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch
UELAC
2023-2024

Honorary President: **Sir Guy Johnson UE** Winchester, England

Executive Committee:

Past President: **Michel Racicot**

President: **Vacant**

1st Vice President: **Fred Wallet**

2nd Vice President: **Vacant**

Secretary: **Vacant**

Treasurer: **Jo-Ann Savage UE**

Genealogist: **Michel Racicot** 129 Church St., Cowansville, QC, J2K 1T9 Tel. 450-260-1736

Directors: **Edwina Jenne Bougie UE, Adelaide Lanktree UE, John Taylor, Jill Hodgson-Heyligen, Carol Mueller**

Other Officers:

Flag Bearer: **Wesley Larocque UE**

Johnson Family Burial Vault: **Adelaide Lanktree UE, Raymond Ostiguy, Michel Racicot,**

Membership: **Michel Racicot** – email: mracicot001@sympatico.ca

Newsletter: **Michel Racicot**

Various tasks: **Edwina Jenne Bougie UE, Adelaide Lanktree UE, Jo-Ann Savage UE**

Website: **James Riordon UE**

WEBSITES

Sir John Johnson Centennial <http://www.uelac.org/SirJohnJohnson>

UELAC Membership Website <https://uelac.ca/>

UELAC Website www.uelac.ca

FACEBOOK

Sir John Johnson Centennial <https://www.facebook.com/SirJohnJohnsonCentennial/>

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