

KINGSTON & DISTRICT BRANCH – Charter – 4 November 1978

1979 Spring

On the morning of June 3, 1978 a small and enthusiastic group of United Empire Loyalists met in the Kingston Public Library to discuss the possibility of forming a Branch of the U.E.L. to serve Kingston and the surrounding area. A most informal two hours were enjoyed by the group and the consensus of opinion appeared to be that a Branch in Kingston was long overdue. Discussions for a Kingston Branch have continued for the past several years. Those members in attendance pointed out the historical significance of the city of Kingston and the tremendous possibilities that such a Branch could have since many families in and around the city have their roots in the early Loyalist migration. With this thought in mind, some twelve Loyalists signed an application form for a Branch charter and the following people were elected to fill the necessary pro tem offices: President, Charles F. Young; Secretary, Hilda Jackson; Treasurer, Helen Stagg; Genealogist, Dr. H.C. Burleigh.

Successive meetings attracted more prospective members, application forms were distributed and, to date, some forty people have shown an increasing interest in the formation of the Branch. The application for a Charter was well received by Dominion Council and the new Kingston and District Branch became official on November 4, 1978. The last meeting held in St. Margaret's Church, Kingston un me morning of June 3, 1978 a small and enthusiastic group of United Empire Loyalists met in the Kingston Public Library to discuss the possibility of forming a Branch of the U.E.L. to serve Kingston and the surrounding area. A most informal two hours were enjoyed by the group and the consensus of opinion appeared to be that a Branch in Kingston was long overdue. Discussions for a Kingston Branch have continued for the past several years. Those members in attendance pointed out the historical significance of the city of Kingston and the tremendous possibilities that such a Branch could have since many families in and around the city have their roots in the early Loyalist migration. With this thought in mind, some twelve Loyalists signed an application form for a Branch charter and the following people were elected to fill the necessary pro tem offices: President, Charles F. Young; Secretary, Hilda Jackson; Treasurer, Helen Stagg; Genealogist, Dr. H.C. Burleigh.

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Two further meetings were planned with tentative dates for the last or fourth Saturday of May and June with the proviso that the May meeting be altered to allow attendance at the 1979 Convention at Trinity College, Toronto. Further information can be obtained by writing the acting President, Mr. Charles Young, at Box 112, Bath K0H 1G0, or by phone at (613) 3527473.

Mr. Chard pointed out the necessity for a varied and interesting program, one that would appeal to all age groups, the value of a newsletter and a study of the early history of Kingston with emphasis on the part played by the United Empire Loyalists. Mr. Young also pointed out the necessity of good publicity and

the need to attract young members to the various Branches across Canada. The hope was expressed that more could be done to integrate our younger people in the upcoming programs. The meeting closed on a most optimistic note and an invitation was extended to all members and prospective members to attend the next meeting on April 28. With the amount of interest shown and the process of setting up an Executive well under way, the Kingston and District Branch is now a reality and all look forward to an active and far-reaching membership. The possibilities in and around Kingston are unlimited in their scope and all members realizing this, can do a great deal to enhance the concept of the term United Empire Loyalists.

1979 Autumn

CHARTER PRESENTED KINGSTON AND DISTRICT BRANCH

On Saturday, October 20, the Kingston and District Branch held its charter luncheon in the Confederation Room of the Howard Johnson Hotel.

Present as honoured guests were The Honourable Flora MacDonald, Minister of External Affairs; Kingston's representative to our Provincial Parliament, The Honourable Keith Norton; the Chief of the Mohawk Indian Reserve, Mr. Donald Brant; Mr. E.J. Chard, of the Dominion Headquarters and Editor of the Loyalist Gazette; Miss Susan Hogan, President of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the Loyalist Association of Canada. Other prominent guests were Dr. H.C. Burleigh, Honorary life member and author of many Loyalists books, Mrs. Evelyn Drew, a Past Dominion President, Mrs. Gwen Smith, third Vice-President, Capt. J.A.C. Rogers, Programme Chairman for the Bicentennial year, 1984, to commemorate the Coming of the Loyalists.

Decorations, place cards, and corsages were all skilfully and beautifully hand-made by Susan and Alice Hogeboom from nature's autumn country bounty just as the early pioneers had to do in their thickly forested, often cruel, frontiers. The setting was most attractive and a fine spirit prevailed among the nearly ninety persons present.

After introductions and greetings were brought from the honoured guests, the gathering was entertained by a talented group of children from the Mohawk Band School, Thayendenaga, who presented some of their native dances and songs under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Earl and Lorraine Hill. They were thanked by Mrs. Evelyn Drew who presented them with books for their school library .

Miss MacDonald spoke of the significance of the group's title with emphasis on what the words "United", "Empire", and - "Loyalists" conveyed to her and their meaning to our country today.

In presenting the charter to Mr. David Cory, the Dominion President, Mr. John Aikman recounted briefly the story of the Loyalists who were forced to flee from their well-developed farms or homes in the Thirteen Colonies to the south because they refused to be traitorous to their king and country. Although the newly formed government of the United States promised the people who had remained loyal to the crown there would be no persecution, no confiscation of property, etc., these promises were not kept in the local areas because too many eyes were on those lands. These Loyalists were not all of English descent; among them were people of Dutch, German, French, Irish, Scottish, Indian, and many other heritages.

Mr. Cory ably replied to the speaker and urged an enthusiastic participation in building the new branch. Mr. Aikman gave suggestions for making the newly formed Kingston Branch a successful, growing representation of the important role played by the Loyalists in our country's story and development.

Following the meeting, the President and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. D. Cory, received the honoured guests and branch officers in their home where a social evening was enjoyed.

For membership in the Kingston and District Branch contact Mr. C. R. Hogeboom, 60 Gibson A venue, Kingston Ontario K7L 4R2, phone (613) 548-7939

1980 Spring

The Kingston and District Branch started off the 1980 season with two meetings in St. Margaret's United Church, Kingston. The meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of every second month beginning at 1.30 p.m. The president, Mr. David Cory, presided at the first on 26 January. A minute's silence was observed in memory of the late Mrs. Grace Lakins. Mrs. Hilda Jackson was appointed as the Branch's liaison with the Dominion Headquarters' Historical Committee; and Captain J.A.C. Rogers was given a similar appointment with the Kingston Historical Society. An expression of thanks was given to Mr. Charles Young for his work on behalf of the establishment of the Kingston Branch. Mr. Clarence Hogeboom had the pleasant duty of presenting certificates to Mr. Christopher John Graham, Mrs. Judy Godwin, and Mr. Dennis Roger Graham. On a motion of Mr. C. Hogeboom and Mr. G. Orser, these new members were accepted by the Branch.

The guest speaker, Mr. Allen J. Cohoe, a Past President of the Kingston Historical Society, has had a special interest in the business life of the early settlers of the Kingston area. His address was very interesting for his research over the years had provided examples of particular Kingston area merchants and their business activities, and those present could relate to these who had many challenges, one of which was to devise a substitute for a money system. Mr. Cohoe's remarks challenged others to do some research of their own in a field of interest to them.

A musical interlude followed Mr. Cohoe's address with Mrs. Thelma McCracken and Mrs. Alice Hogeboom in charge. Songs of an earlier period were enjoyed.

A second speaker, Mr. Sandy Baird of the Six Nations, had made a study of the early Indians of present-day Ontario, a subject often neglected in cultural studies. He displayed pictures of wearing apparel of the Indians in the period of the Revolutionary War and explained the role of the Iroquois people in that war and in the War of 1812. The various symbols used in the Indian dress and rites were interpreted by the speaker.

Tea was served by the executive to provide the members a chance to become acquainted and to exchange ideas. Interest has been shown in the essay contest on Loyalist topics sponsored by the Kingston Branch. Students in the Frontenac County Public Schools and in the Lennox-Addington-Frontenac Separate Schools are eligible. Alice Hogeboom has been in charge of providing posters to advertise the contest. Prizes of \$25, \$15, and \$10 are offered at both the elementary and secondary levels.

At the second meeting, on 22 March, the minutes of the January meeting were accepted on a motion of Alice Hogeboom and Christopher Graham. Mr. E.J. Chard was commended for his attendance at the meeting despite delays in travelling. Mr. Chard had brought from Dominion Headquarters many boxes of books and documents useful in Loyalist studies. He explained ways in which these might be used while the members were working on the documentation of their Loyalist descent. Members showed surprise at the quantity of materials now available in the library of Dominion Headquarters. Mr. Chard also gave some information about the requirements for. Regular membership and the method used in transferring membership.

Audrey Bailey gave the treasurer's report and the motion for its adoption was seconded by Sharon Cadieux. One new member, Mrs. Nancy Cutway, was received on a motion of Mr. C. Hogeboom and Capt. Jack Rogers. The latter reported that the War Museum in Ottawa is planning to use Loyalist artifacts as a major exhibition in 1983-84. Entertainment was provided by Neil Donald Fraser when he performed some Highland dances.

The guest speaker, Mr. Barry Robinson, chairman of the Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, explained techniques that are useful in preparing a family tree. He did not suggest that it is easy to secure the information as quite often there are links that seem to defy discovery. He was confident, however, that with diligence, these problems usually can be solved. Mr. Robinson presented the Branch with a copy of the family tree of our Royal Family.

Mr. Robinson announced that the Ontario Genealogical Society will hold its annual seminar at Victoria Hall at Queen's University on May 23, 24 and 25. Those attending will be able to use the resources of a computer file index, one of the largest genealogy microfilm libraries in North America, to help trace family ancestors.

The library was started 20 years ago by the Mormon Church of Salt Lake City and contains information from church archives across Germany, Scandinavia, South America, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Britain, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Mr. Robinson extended a seminar invitation to FEL members and closed his remarks by saying: "I wish good hunting for all the leaves with which you may adorn your family tree."

The social time at the conclusion of the meeting was longer than usual as the members wished to have time to examine the materials brought by Mr. Chard from Dominion Headquarters.

The Kingston Branch welcomes members from anywhere, especially those whose ancestors settled in the Kingston area. Please contact Mr. Clarence Hogeboom, 60 Gibson Avenue, Kingston, Ontario K7L 4R2, or telephone (613) 548-7939.

1980 Fall

The Kingston and District Branch held its final meeting of the season on Saturday, May 31st at 1:30 p.m. in the usual location, St. Margaret's United Church, John A. Macdonald Blvd., presided by the President, Mr. David Cory.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary, Mr. John Buck and the Treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Audrey Bailey.

The guest speaker for this meeting was Dr. Earle Thomas. Dr. Thomas is a former District Superintendent for the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal. He moved to Kingston in August 1977 where he intends to make his home. He is involved in freelance writing and has sold several short pieces on the Loyalists which should be published soon. At present Dr. Thomas is working on two different books on the Loyalists which he hopes will be on the market for the Bicentennial. Dr. Thomas presented an interesting and informative paper on the Coming of the Loyalists to New Brunswick which has been put in a binder and is now in our H.E.L. Library at Headquarters, eventually to be included in a book. We hope to publish Dr. Thomas' paper in somewhat shorter form in the Gazette.

The Branch welcomed three new Associate members presented by our Branch Genealogist Mr. Clarence Hogeboom - Mrs. Alice R. Bishop, Miss Evelyn A. Bishop. and Mr. Bolton Slack.

The Branch welcomes enquiries for membership from anyone in Kingston or region, or from anywhere whose Loyalist descendants originated in this area. Contact Mr. Clarence Hogeboom, 60 Gibson Ave., Kingston, Ont. K7L 4R2; phone 548-7939.

The President, Mr. David Cory, informed the meeting that it was his pleasure to have been invited by the Dean and Wardens of the Cathedral Church of St. George to the unveiling of a portrait of the Rev. John Stuart 1740-1811) (gift of the Stuart family), first rector of St. George's and the father of the Anglican Church in Upper Canada. Sunday April 20th at 3 p.m. in St. George's Hall. The significance of this to those at our meeting is of course, that after the American Revolution Rev. John Stuart, a Loyalist clergyman-educator, came to Montreal in 1785 where he taught school for two years before coming to Kingston. He became Chaplain to the garrison and the navy and founded St. George's Church in 1791.

Mr. Cory also informed the meeting of the newly established St. George's Archives Committee. This project is brought to the attention of all those who may have items which they would like to contribute as a gift or on loan for display purposes. Such items as paintings, photographs, programmes of special events, news clippings, and other memorabilia would be gratefully appreciated by the Very Rev. Grahame Baker, Dean, Cathedral Church of St. George, Kingston (P.O. Box 475).

At their annual meeting held on 25th of October 1980 the Kingston and District Branch elected the following slate of officers for 1981: President, Mr. David Cory; Vice President, Mr. Chris Graham; Recording Secretary, Mr. John Buck; Treasurer, Mrs. Audrey Bailey; Genealogist, Mr. Clarence Hogeboom; Assistant Genealogist, Mrs. June Newman; Archivist-Librarian, Mr. Bolton Slack.

Mr. Orser, the new president, on taking over the chair spoke very hopefully for the progress of this Branch during the coming year, both by attaining greater membership and also the growth of activities within the Branch. Mr. Orser expressed the gratitude the Branch owed to Mr. Cory for his efforts over the past year especially the great success David made of the presentation of the Branch charter. Next general meeting is scheduled . for 24th January 1981 in St. Margaret's United Church at 1: 30 p.m. on John A. Macdonald Blvd., near Bath Road. Telephone Mr. John Buck (613-546-0004 for details.)

1981 Spring

A regular meeting with good attendance was held on January 24th, this being the first meeting under the 1981 Executive.

A report from Mr. J. R. Zavitz, Chairman Bi-centennial Committee, was read as it dealt with plans for bi-centennial projects now being implemented by some Branches. As we do not have a Branch bicentennial committee, several items were discussed. It was decided that Chris Graham should investigate the cost of procuring dinner plates bearing the U.E.L. Arms, for sale during 1983-84. It was also felt these plates would be ideal gifts for presentation to guest speakers. Mrs. Alice Hogeboom suggested that a book outlining the history of the Loyalists should be prepared for distribution to schools. Mr. E. J. Chard suggested we prepare a documented resource publication about the Loyalist settlements at Cataraqui (Kingston) and area as well as about its founder, Michael Grass and each of the Loyalists in his group, and distribute to both schools and the general public. The next matter discussed was a proposed meeting on February 14, between the staff of the Government of Ontario and members of our Ontario branches to determine governmental support of our bi-centennial celebrations. After some discussion the following motion was made and carried: "*Whereas it is an historical fact that the United Empire Loyalists who founded British settlement in what today is the province of Ontario, and whereas the continued support of*

the Government of Ontario for commemoration and celebration of the 200th anniversary of the coming of the Loyalists is so essential to this event, a motion is made that the Government of Ontario be strongly urged to support these celebrations in 1984". Moved by J. Bolton Slack and seconded by Capt. J.A. Rogers.

Mrs. Gwen Smith spoke briefly outlining goals for the doubling of U.E.L. membership by 1983. The Bay of Quinte Branch is also holding a workshop about the end of February to assist those who need help in completing their applications.

In the essay contest sponsored by our Branch and participated in by local schools, two winners have been chosen and presented with collections of framed twenty silver dollars. Both winners, Miss Barbara Murray and Miss Angela Teal, are grade six students in the class of Mrs. Howes of Hinchinbrooke Public School.

Our guest speaker, Miss Linda Dumbleton, an Archivist at Queen's University, Kingston, was introduced by J. B. Slack. Linda spoke about the genealogical resources available at Queen's University Archives. She gave instructions on how to use the facilities and how to locate materials, and described what a person might expect to find when doing research there. One recent Archives acquirement is the Land Office Registry books for local counties; these are all indexed. The Archives also house various genealogies and family papers. In addition census records are available in the government documents section of the library at Queen's. Miss Dumbleton was thanked by Chris Graham. The people of Kingston and area are very fortunate to have this great facility in their midst.

During the social hour following the meeting Mr. E. J. Chard displayed a large collection of Loyalist reference books from the Dominion Headquarters, as well as sale items of U.E.L. stationery, jewelry, etc., and ceramic tile plaques with U.E.L. Arms for sale from the St. Lawrence Branch.

1981 Autumn

The Kingston and District Branch held a very successful general meeting on Saturday afternoon, March 28 in St. Margaret's United Church hall, on Sir John A. Macdonald Boulevard, Kingston near the Bath Road, with twenty-six people in attendance.

Mr. Gordon Orser, President of the Branch, welcomed guests among whom were: Mrs. Bogart Trumpour, President of the Kingston Historical Society, who reported that an active Loyalist bicentennial committee had already been working in her group; Chief Earl Hill, Honorary Dominion Vice-President and Mrs. Hill of the Mohawk Indian Reservation, who gave a short resume of their plans for the Bicentennial; Mr. Fred McConnell from the Pittsburgh Historical Society; Mr. E. J. Chard, Editor of the Loyalist Gazette, and Mr. Harold Clow of the Col. Edward Jessup U.E.L. Branch.

During the regular business it was announced that our Executive had not applied for a project under the "Summer Student Employment Program" as sufficient plans for such a project were not ready. On a suggestion from Mr. E.J. Chard the Branch is going to undertake compiling a history of the first Loyalist families at Cataraqui and area with Mr. C.J. Graham being the recipient of the historical information and family trees as submitted, all members are to donate materials. Treasurer Audrey Bailey reported on the flag fund. Genealogist C.R. Hogeboom reported he had several requests for membership application forms.

We were very fortunate in having Mr. Carl Thorpe, Supervisor of the Administrative Division of Historical Research, Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Province of Ontario, as our guest speaker. Mr.

Thorpe indicated that his Ministry would no doubt support any of the activities which branches of the United Empire Loyalists Association might stage as part of our bicentennial celebrations. Mr. Thorpe's advice was to have as many people as possible from each community involved in our activities, especially other organizations. Another idea was that we ask the Ministry to support our activities as it is somewhat reluctant to initiate programmes on its own.

Colonel Thorpe stated the celebration had many aims:

1. To express pride in our own province.
2. To welcome visitors to share in the celebration 'of the first large scale settlement of our province.
3. To express pride in our province's heritage since an estimated three quarters of our people have little "awareness of the identity of our province's story" .
4. To give that sense of identity to the citizens of Ontario.

Mr. Thorpe pointed out that the Coming of the Loyalists was the "pivotal area upon which the whole history of Ontario rests. They were not only the people who opened up our province to agriculture and industry, but were the first multi-cultural group to arrive here."

Since Cataraqui (Kingston) was one area where the Loyalists landed under the leadership of Michael Grass, the city's U.E.L. branch discussed hosting the Annual Meeting of the Dominion Association in 1984.

A motion was passed whereby the Kingston Branch would petition the Dominion Council to host the 1984 Annual Meeting and Convention.

A large selection of books telling the Loyalist Story of Settlement throughout Ontario and Canada was set up by Mr. Chard who also brought the Loyalist flags and banners for display.

Kingston And District Branch held its regular meeting on May 23, at which time several items were dealt with. A motion was passed whereby. this Branch would purchase for resale, dinner plates bearing the U.E.L. motif. Two new Associate Members were accepted into the Branch and this Branch was presented with a copy of a book entitled "Loyalists of the Bay of Chaleur", in memory of Mr. A.D. Flowers M.A., a gift from his sister.

An important announcement was made that The King's Royal Regiment of New York would be coming to Kingston on the weekend of June 13th and 14th on its way to Carleton Island for manoeuvres there.

Guest speaker was Mrs. Barbara Aitken of Kingston an active genealogical researcher who used the theme "Back to Basics of Research" to give a very valuable insight in how to do family research.

The meeting adjourned with refreshments and a social time being enjoyed by all.

In June when it was feared that a local facility MacLachlan Woodworking Museum was to be sold to outside interests, our Branch sent letters of support to all local municipal authorities urging them to endeavour to retain this museum within our own area. We are glad to report that this museum has been purchased by our own Pittsburg Township and will now be permanently at home here.

The next regular meeting will be held on October 24th at 1: 30 p.m. at St. Margaret's United Church. Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd. at which Mr. Clive Hunter will speak about early education and its role in pioneer days.

1982 Spring

The Kingston and District Branch met January 30 at the Frontenac County Schools Museum and despite the inclement weather, thirty-five members and visitors attended. The museum is housed in an old stone structure which was built in 1852-53 as a Grammar School and became a Public School in 1893. Mrs. Evelyn Johnson, a former teacher and consultant with the Frontenac County Board of Education, gave an interesting account of the aims of the museum and of the collections there, such as old text books, microfilms of school registers and minute books, often so helpful in genealogical research. She was thanked by Mr. J. Bolton Slack, former Director of Education for Frontenac County.

Mrs. Dorothy Wright was welcomed as a new member of the Branch' and presented with her certificate by Assistant Genealogist Mrs. June Newman. Currently, there are twelve membership applications being processed.

A U.E. Loyalist flag has been purchased through special donations and will be dedicated at a future date to the memory of Dr. H. C. Burleigh, a charter member of our Branch.

Mr. Jack Rogers, Chairman of the Bi-Centennial Committee, reported on progress made thus far in preparations for the U.E.L. Annual Convention to be held in Kingston in 1984. Mayor John Gerretsen has proposed the formation of a "Mayor's Committee", and both the Royal Military College and Queen's University have been contacted regarding accommodation and hosting of some of the events planned for the period of the convention, May 30 - June 3, 1984.

The 1982 slate of officers was installed as follows: President, Mr. Gordon Orser; 1st Vice-President, Mr. Chris Graham; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. Jack Buck; Secretary, Mrs. Audrey Bailey; Genealogist, Mrs. June Newman; Assistant Genealogist, Mr. Clarence Hogeboom; Archivist, Mr. Terrance Clark; Photographer, Mr. Tex Joyner; Social Convener, Mrs. Evelyn Bishop; Bicentennial Committee Chairman, Mr. Jack Rogers; Telephone Committee, Mrs. Margaret Aksim and Membership, Mrs. Sharon Cadieux.

1982 Autumn

The May meeting and outing of the Kingston and District Branch was held near Sydenham, Ontario, at the home of member Terry Clark (also Branch Archivist). No ordinary home this! Some years ago, Terry found just the house he had been looking for near Lombardy, Ontario. This square timber log house, circa 1840, was taken down, the logs carefully numbered, then patiently and lovingly reconstructed by Terry, family and friends on his property in Loughborough Township. Terry then furnished it with early iron and pottery, pine furnishings and art of approximately the 1840-50 period. A tour of the house and grounds followed the meeting and refreshments served amidst surroundings which must be similar to those experienced by our Loyalist ancestors 150 years ago.

Five new members were welcomed to the Branch by Genealogist, June Newman. Certificates were presented to four descendants of John Weese UE who settled in the Bath area. These four were Creightons; Thomas Duncan, Brian Duncan, Bruce George and Thomas David. New member, Mrs. K. Evan, was unable to attend.

President Gordon Orser and several Branch members were present at the annual Sir John A. Macdonald Memorial Service held June 6, 1982 at Catarqui Cemetery. Among those attending were U.E.L. President Charles Humber who laid a wreath on behalf of the U.E.L. Association of Canada and Lt. Col. Gordon D. Leggett, U.E. of Governor Simcoe Branch and chief of the clan Donald who was the speaker at this service. A letter was read from Mrs. Alberta Delph, Project Officer, Summer Canada Student

Employment Programme announcing that the Kingston and District Branch application had been approved for \$13,860.00. A letter has also been received from Flora MacDonald, M.P., Kingston and the Islands. congratulating the Branch on this award. At this point. Branch Bicentennial Chairman. Jack Rogers introduced Project Manager. Pamela McInroy. who presented details of the project. "U.E.L. 84 Project."

1985 June

A general meeting was held on January 26th with an excellent attendance in the large hall at St. Paul's Anglican Church. The program was 'Genealogical Resources', with guest speakers. This was the first meeting under the new executive for 1985.

The entire meeting was designed primarily for new members and prospective members with ample time devoted to questions, help, and the display of resources brought by our guests.

Mrs. Peggy Cohoe gave an informative talk on how to approach genealogy as a beginner and of the resources in Ontario. The genealogist for the Quinte Branch, Mrs. Bacola. spoke briefly on the branch holdings. Mr. E.J. Chard from the Dominion Headquarters displayed an extensive selection of books which he had brought from the Headquarters' library. He told us of other help available at the Headquarters, such as, the records and documents of approved applications of Loyalists who are in one's ancestry line. To those who have not received their Certificates, encouragement was given to ask for help directly from the Headquarters. .

Mrs. Elizabeth Hancocks, Dominion genealogist, was present to answer questions on requirements for certificates. Mr. Hancock of Generation Press had an interesting display of books for sale. It was a very successful genealogical workshop and program with numerous visitors examining the full hall of book displays and receiving assistance.

Helen Richards Campbell, an honoured resident of Kingston since 1939 died recently at age 87. Her book 'From Chalk Dust to Hayseed' was published in 1975. She was awarded the Governor General's medal in 1977 and in 1982 the Honourable Achievement Award from the city of Kingston. She received the Honourable Achievement Award from Ontario in 1984.

She started at Queen's University at age 75 and received her degree six years later. She is survived by forty-one descendants, a sister and a brother.

1985 December

A display of many interesting artifacts and documents highlighted the September meeting of the Kingston and District Branch. Included were both a handgun and silver double case watch (Hallmark 1780) which had belonged to Captain Michael Grass, and records pertaining the original U .E.L. land grants.

The November 23rd meeting will include the election of officers for 1986.

For those persons who reside in or had ancestors in the region of eastern part of Lennox & Addington County, Frontenac County or western part of Leeds County and Kingston Ontario District, for membership and genealogical help contact Mr. C.J. Graham, Genealogist, Kingston & District U.E.L. Branch, 1 Fairfield Blvd., Amherstview, Ontario K7N 1L1 ph. (613) 389-8894.

1986 December

At our November meeting we were particularly fortunate in having as guest speaker Dr. Earle Thomas, author and historian and a specialist on the period of the American Revolution and the Loyalists. His topic was Sir John Johnson, one of the most interesting figures in the history of the American colonies and Canada during these turbulent times. We were interested in learning that Sir John actually held land in the Kingston area. Dr. Thomas's book entitled Sir John Johnson, Loyalist Baronet, being published now, will be valuable to researchers and scholars and is sure to be popular with U.E.L. members. His book is available from the Kingston Branch, or local Kingston stores - Book Shop, Printed Passage Books and Book Merchant; Greeleys in Belleville, Copland Book Store in Brockville, or Dundurn Press Ltd. in Toronto. Price \$19.95. After March 1 price \$24.95.

The President, W.H. Smith said that Dr. Bruce Antliff of the Royal Military College staff will be the speaker at our January meeting. He has a research grant to further his work on Loyalist history and will be publishing a guide to the scattered sources on the Loyalists' claims.

Branch Genealogist Chris Graham reports two new members for the branch: Mrs. Alice Sutherland of "Strathnaver". and Mr. Todd Charlton Storms of Kingston, whose U.E.L. ancestor was Gilbert Storms. Mr. John Buck, Treasurer, reports that membership is doing well.

Mr. Keith Revelle, archivist and historian, can provide birth, marriage and death documentation from records of Sydenham and Perth Road United Churches and from Ontario United and Methodist church archives. Contact him at R.R. I. Perth Road, Ontario K0H2L0.

The branch is saddened by the loss of Harry T. Burns, who passed away last summer in his 91st year. Mr. Burns was a descendant of Jonathan Tuttle who emigrated from New York state to Williamsburg township, Cornwall in 1782.

Dr. Vera Vanderlip, Dominion President, recently visited the Maritime branches and reports that they are interested in forming a regional association to increase ties among them.

The "Catarqui Loyalist Town Crier" reports that several of our members attended a service organized by the Bay of Quinte Branch at the Hay Bay Loyalist Church near Adolphustown on Thanksgiving Sunday. The guest preacher was the Rev. R.H. Palmer of New South Wales, Australia, who traces his ancestry from Solomon Huff, U.E.L., who migrated from Tarrytown, New York state, was one of the founders of the Hay Bay Church, and is buried nearby. The family originally came from Norway and spelled their name Hof. Rev. Palmer spoke on the value of history and of preserving our heritage, of keeping up the momentum of the past and keeping society moving forward.

1989 February

JANUARY MEETING: Dominion Genealogist, Vanessa Bacola, will be the guest speaker at the January 28th, 1989 meeting. Mrs. Bacola has been Dominion Genealogist since June of 1985. Previous to that she was genealogist of the Bay of Quinte Branch for two years. She plans to talk about what the position entails and to cover some of the commonly encountered problems of persons tracing their ancestors' movements. If you have a question or problem, she may be able to help. To date she has proven six Loyalist ancestors of her own: Joseph Morden, who died of smallpox in Montreal but whose family took up land in eastern Ontario; John Williams of Ernstown; Jacob Loucks and his son, Abraham Loucks, of Fredericksburg; James McTaggart; John Kemp of Fredericksburg; Andres Ransier of Niagara and his son

William, who settled to Kingston. This meeting will lead up to our March meeting which is now being planned as a genealogy workshop.

LAST MEETING: Edgar Clow, President of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch of the UELAC in Brockville, was the guest speaker at the September meeting. He gave an entertaining account of some of his loyalist ancestors. His interest in history is longstanding, going back to his teens, but it was during the 1960s that he spent hundreds of hours unravelling the movements of these ancestors, one of whom Jess Purdy, settled at Elizabethtown. His father had come from England in 1640 and settled on a farm in New York State where the family was still living in 1181. Jess served in a cavalry regiment with the British forces for three years, was captured by the rebels, and imprisoned for some time at Poughkeepsie, N.Y. By the time he came to Canada he was quite senior in years and was accompanied not only by several children, but also by grandchildren. One son, William Purdy, (born 1169 and buried in the Bath United Church Cemetery) is recorded as receiving two lots near Bath in 1188. Jess Thomas Purdy, the grandson of Jess Purdy the Loyalist, was a man active in both business and politics all his life in the communities where he lived. He operated several sawmills, one being near Lindsay on the Scugog River where he has been deeded four hundred acres. However, the dam which he built on the river, to facilitate his sawmill and gristmill operations, was not popular with the locals as blamed the resultant flooded areas for all the sickness in the community. At one point feelings ran so high that thirty or more settlers attacked the dam and cut most of the supports. Jess, who operated the mills along with his brother, " came to Kingston to protest and shortly thereafter he settled near Bath. He went on to operate the stagecoach between Bath and Kingston and to build a fine house close to the water just west of Bath, which still stands and is known locally as the "Purdy House" (now the site of a chiropractic clinic). After being in Bath only four years he moved on to Meaford in Grey County where he improved the local dam and set up another mill. This mill was the site of much activity and Purdytown, as it was known became a thriving centre in the 1850s. Jess contributed land for the first schoolhouse and his daughter was the first teacher. The 1861 census show him there in 1861 but by 1871 he had moved on again, this time to the American West. This move could have resulted from his politics as he and his family were not supporters of the Family Compact which held great power in Upper Canada at the time. (At least one family member was imprisoned briefly following the 1837 Rebellion.) Jess finally settled down in Pembina, North Dakota, where he died in 1899 at the age of 93. Edgar Clow traces his descent from this vital dearly settler, who contributed so much to the early development of Ontario, through Mary Purdy who married Henry Clow.

1991 Fall

March Meeting

Max Sutherland of Parks Canada in Ottawa spoke on March 23. Mr. Sutherland has long had a keen personal interest in the history of the Hessian soldiers who fought alongside the British regiments and Loyalist forces during the American revolutionary war. Many of these mercenary soldiers, often accompanied by their wives and families, settled in Canada after 1784 rather than return to the Palatinate where they had enrolled. One group settled in Nova Scotia (where Mr. Sutherland's ancestors took up land) and others came to Prince Edward County. One township, Marysburgh, in the future Prince Edward County, was reserved for the British and German regulars, the latter to form one of the first German speaking communities in Ontario. His talk shed interesting light on this group of "soldiers for hire, turned settler" who accompanied the Loyalist wave of immigrants.

November Meeting

Mrs. Joyce Johnston, who teaches in the public school system of Lennox & Addington, knew nothing of the Loyalists before moving to Eastern Ontario. The rich history of the area quickly intrigued her and she became not only knowledgeable but an avid promoter of Loyalists. She traced for members, the early Loyalist settlers in Lennox & Addington including Joshua Booth who built the first mill at what is now

Millhaven. His grandson, John Kirby Booth, built "Skibereen Castle", the house she and her husband and family lived in on the east bank of Millhaven Creek in Odessa.

Mrs. Johnston brought us to the mid 1800's in her talk. Odessa received an influx of Irish immigrants who settled on the east bank of the creek. And she described the activities of several families such as carriage makers and later builders in the area. It is purported that it was a Timmerman who was responsible for renaming Millbrook to Odessa. Mrs. Johnston has worked to preserve and maintain some of the early buildings in the village, including the lovely stone building on Main Street now occupied by the Royal Bank and built by a Timmerman.

Keith Revelle UE

I have the unpleasant task of reporting the death of our Genealogist, Mr. Keith Revelle UE, who was a member of our executive since 1986 as our Archivist and Historian. This year he was elected Genealogist, a job he was well qualified to handle. He was Historian of Grace United Church in Sydenham which he attended.

Keith's five children were all presented with their U.E. certificates by their father after he received his own certificate.

Mr. C. J. Graham UE, 1 Fairfield Blvd., Amherstview, Onto K7N 1L1

1992 Fall

Catarqui United Church was appropriate for our annual meeting on June 6th not only because of its own remarkable history, but also because it is the burial site of several prominent Loyalists including Michael Grass and Sgt. Robert Graham, ancestors of Branch President Chris Graham.

Rev. William Lamb spoke on the founding of Hay Bay Church, concentrating on the roots of Methodism and its most influential figures prior to 1770 including George Whitefield, born in Gloucester and rector of an English parish. Whitefield made numerous trips to America in support of evangelism and John Wesley who found time to recommend and encourage those New England missionaries. Rev. Lamb's speech raised questions about the times and personages that deserve much more research. One of these was the paradox that the Quinte Loyalist settlements become "the Mecca of Methodism" though Methodism was not organized in the States until 1784 when the Loyalists left. Whitefield's influence persisted even after three decades. This largely accounts for Rev. William Losee's immediate success in founding Hay Bay. When Losee died, he was buried at Hampstead on Long Island. It was our speaker, Mr. Lamb, who rescued Losee's headstone from the Hampstead road-builders and brought it back to Hay Bay cemetery where our bicentennial visitors were able to see this memorial to the founder.

By Mr. C. J. Graham

1994 Spring

PLAQUE RECALLS LOYALIST SETTLING

by Lyndon Jones, Kingston *Whig-Standard* Staff Writer (October 25, 1993)

A plaque stands as a silent sentinel in Catarqui United Church cemetery to the memory of that hardy breed of Loyalists who settled in this area from 1784 on.

Some of these Loyalist families and their descendants are buried in that cemetery, a few feet away from the plaque.

The plaque's unveiling yesterday morning was attended by a large number of those Loyalist descendants who had gathered at the cemetery to install a permanent record of the arrival of their ancestors to this area.

The unveiling was performed by Chris Graham of Kingston, president of the Kingston and District Branch of the United Empire Loyalists, flanked by Jeff Paine, dressed as a captain in the King's Royal Regiment of New York and Tex Joyner, dressed as a musketeer in the regiment. Graham's ancestor was among the first United Empire Loyalist families brought to Cataraqui in 1784.

Dedication of the plaque, draped in a Union Jack, was performed by Rev. Bill Bickford, Cataraqui United Church minister. Guest speaker at the unveiling, Okill Stuart of St. Lambert, Quebec, executive vice-president of the Dominion Association, who is a direct descendant of Rev. John Stuart, a prominent citizen of earliest Kingston. The reverend's son's name and position led to the street names; Arch, Deacon, Okill, George and Stuart. Dr. Stuart was also the first principal of Kingston Collegiate and Vocational Institute.

"Today," said Stuart, dressed in a Fraser clan Highland costume, " we pay homage to Michael Grass and to those families he brought with him in 1784."

Stuart traced the life and times of Grass, a saddler and farmer, and spoke of his eventual journey to Canada.

"In 1783," Stuart added, "Mr. Grass was made a captain by Sir Guy Carleton to lead a company of Loyalists from New York to Canada. This company arrived at Fort Frontenac by way of Sorel. Our forbears were neighbours and no doubt friends, and it is indeed a pleasure for me, some 200 years later, to rekindle this association. As senior vice-president of the association, it is my pleasure to play an introductory part in the unveiling of this commemorative plaque."

Prior to the unveiling a special commemorative service was held in the church, where the lessons were read by Stuart and Russ Waller, who was dressed in the costume of Capt. Grass.

The settling of the loyalists in this area was one of the unexpected outcomes of the Revolutionary War, when 13 British colonies declared their independence, looking to the British flag as their best safeguard of freedom and justice. They declined to take up arms against Britain.

Those gathered at yesterdays' ceremony, the descendants of the men and women who built the first log cabins here, are the living links in the history of the Loyalists, vowing to keep inviolate the memory of their ancestors who struggled long in the wilderness.

[Editor's Note: The Laurentian Branch of The Heraldry Society of Canada recently presented a special certificate of appreciation to Okill Stuart. Source: Montreal Gazette, 19 January, 1994]

1994 Fall

Through the tireless efforts of our program convenor, Barbara Bradfield, we have had a good year of Loyalist topics and members' talent. Our Annual Dinner on June 10 was held "on location" in Gananoque, where the ladies of Christ Church served a delicious roast beef feast. Chris Graham as chairman cordially welcomed members and guests, including the Langdons from beyond Peterborough and the Websters from Ottawa. We are indebted to Chris for presiding so ably whenever needed and for his part in major projects of the Branch, like the Cataraqui plaque.

The speaker was Dr. Earle Thomas, a branch member, whose research for his book on Sir John Johnson turned up complex evidence of the latter's clash with Joel Stone over their applications for the same Gananoque lots.

Joel Stone, the eventual founder of the town, was a young Connecticut businessman and bold Loyalist who lost everything to the rebels, and failing to get compensation, found and claimed an ideal place at the mouth of the Gananoque River in 1787. Johnson, who had lost a huge estate in the Mohawk Valley, happened to claim the same. In a compromise, Joel got 700 acres and a dam-site, but lost his wife who "couldn't stand the wilderness" and returned to New York-permanently. Russ Waller, also of our branch, portrayed Stone for the Bicentennial. An article on Stone appeared in the fall 1993 *Loyalist Gazette*. John Buck of our branch presented a fascinating selection of his family's letters written by the third generation of descent from Loyalist George Buck, 1742-1807. There was also a diary recording several years of wages, prices, and land clearing. Carol Davy told us about Wesley Davy, Kingston's music man, a Loyalist descendant.

Dr. Thomas and his wife Faith presented a program on "The Diary of a Loyalist Soldier (Faith's ancestor Benjamin Ingraham 1748-1810) and Reminiscences of his Daughter" which give many details of the terrible realities of war.

Just a few years ago at an Ingraham reunion Faith overheard a descendant from the rebel side say to one from the Loyalist side: "I apologize for what my family did to your family." Two centuries late but a gracious gesture!

1995 Fall

LOYALISTS RENEW LANDMARK

by Michael Lea, *Whig-Standard*

Terry Hicks can't keep the amazement out of his voice as he describes how it all came together - how two levels of government, a private business and two community organizations combined their efforts to beautify a single Kingston-area landmark.

And it all started with one upset woman, explained Hicks, president of the Kingston branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association, one of the organizations involved.

Last fall Kingston author Alice Hogeboom was getting madder and madder every time she saw the Queen Elizabeth Gates, the metal and stone pillars that straddle Highway 33 west of Amherstview and serve as the official entrance to the Loyalist Parkway.

In the years following the Queen's official opening of the gates in 1984, the grounds surrounding the structure had suffered from neglect. Any flower beds that might have been there had long since disappeared and the gates were framed by weeds and tall grass. It was hardly an inviting sight for passing tourists.

Hogeboom was "very distressed at the sight," said Hicks. "She felt we should be able to present something nicer than this."

She took her concerns to Peggy Cohoe, a Kingston UEL member who, in turn, brought it up before a meeting of the branch.

The UELs voted to take up the cause, said Hicks.

Since the gates are on land owned by the Ministry of Transportation, he contacted the Ministry's Bill Blum in December and found immediate support.

Blum turned him over to Rick Poole, who set things in motion with the blessing of district engineer Don Barnes.

"Everybody who was 'contacted was instantly supportive," Hicks remembered. "There was never a negative comment."

Because of staff cutbacks, the Ministry couldn't provide any labour to fix up the area surrounding the gates but did offer 10 yards of topsoil for four new 18-footlong garden beds if the UELs could provide the plants and the labour.

In stepped Harold Riley, of Riley's Garden Centre, himself a Quinte UEL member. He donated 500 petunia, dracaena and alyssum plants. And the Collins Bay Horticultural Society offered their services and expertise to dig the new beds and plant the flowers.

By May 27 the job was done and the gates looked wonderful, said Hicks.

But there was still one major problem. How could they keep the new plants watered? Proper watering is crucial "or it's game over" and all their efforts would be wasted, he said.

Fort Henry manager John Robertson had offered to run a hose to the beds from nearby Fairfield House but taking the hose across busy Highway 33 to water the north beds posed a safety concern.

So Hicks approached Ernestown Township Reeve Paul Gilmore with his problem.

"He was very supportive," said Hicks. Gilmore took the issue before his Council and they immediately approved a regular watering service for the season. "It just operated like clockwork," said a very happy Terry Hicks.

In fact, he said, he and the other UEL members were a little embarrassed by all the work everyone else had done.

"We haven't lifted a finger," he laughed. "All I did was write a lot of letters and make a lot of phone calls."

He said it was wonderful how everyone worked together to beautify the site, adding it would be nice if things worked like that every time.

"We'd get an awful lot of things done."

The Kingston and District Branch enjoyed an excellent Annual Dinner prepared by the ladies of the Catarqui United Church May 27, 1995. The church bears a plaque dedicated to ten Loyalist families. The speaker was Mrs. Kathy Staples, manager of the Loyalist Cultural Centre at Adolphustown. She spoke on the founding and growth of the Centre around that remarkable building, the home of Dave Allison, a Loyalist descendant who became a business magnate in the 1870s.

A century later, this house had come under the St. Lawrence Parks Commission and the Bay of Quinte Branch UEL. By 1990 it faced a crisis. It was not eligible for grants being a special interest group and support from the Commission was largely cut off.

Kathy commended Norman Bell and his committee for solving this problem. About this time, too, a community group determined to preserve the site took over the acres of grass-cutting.

Since we would have to involve the whole community, in order to qualify for grants, the committee decided to open participation in the Centre to keenly interested persons on the sidelines, to rename the project, and to re-define its purpose. When the Parks Commission saw that the volunteers were not only numerous but also very responsible, they became very supportive so that a fine partnership has been the result.

The Centre sponsors many activities, such as art, the quilt, house tours and genealogical files, but the biggest job was refurbishing the building. There was frost damage to the basement, raccoon damage to the roof and much to do in between, and the partnership took care of it all.

The Centre also converted Dave Allison's den into an attractive and profitable tea room where conversations and discussions about family history and the future of the Centre flourished.

Visitors come from as far away as the Southern States. The most remarkable one was from New Mexico. He had made great effort to trace his ancestors across half a continent but with no success. He just happened to drop in to the Centre and there they were; the Diamonds, in the genealogy files. It was also pleasing to see how the Centre's reputation drew the help of the Oshawa General Motors Choir to come and help us dedicate a plaque.

Kathy, who has been a teacher herself, has been invited to classrooms to talk about local history. She insists that *history* must be more than textbooks and recommends "history immersion", for example, young people's week and encampments in the Centre's park and their searching the local sites. "On a misty, summer morning," she says, "you see two centuries rolled back!"

We enjoyed Kathy's humour, her dramatic sketches and her energetic promotion of the Loyalist Cultural Centre.

1996 Fall

After a very eventful spring in which our President, Terry Hicks, arranged, through the good offices of the Kingston Mayor and City Council, to proclaim June 12 as Loyalist Day and authorized the Loyalist flag to be flown from the City Hall, we brought our 1995-96 year to a close with a most enjoyable banquet. A good part of its success was due to our programme convener, Barbara Bradfield finding an excellent speaker.

Dr. John Ellis spoke on an area of our Branch interest, the Loyalist Parkway, also known as Highway 33 from Kingston through Picton to Trenton. In the course of his engineering career he promoted the idea of a Parkway from the beginning and as a government employee he got support for the idea from the Ministries of Transportation and Tourism and also from the local municipal councils.

For such a venture, steps were carefully planned. The Province prepared a Master Plan and from it organized an independent committee, the Loyalist Parkway Group of Advisers in 1989, to be responsible for applying it. Dr. Ellis, a charter member, served three terms as chairman and continues as an executive

member today. This committee's aim is the preservation of heritage sites and beautification of the right of way.

Originally provincial grants covered administrative costs and a salary for an executive assistant but this has been severely cut. In spite of this the LPGA has encouraged a lot of activity to advance the Parkway. Recognition of interest and fine work seems to have been incentive enough. Our Branch received a citation from this group for restoring the flower beds at the Amherstview Gates. The chief organizers and workers also cited were Terry Hicks, Peggy Cohoe, Lee Wemp, and Chris Graham.

There was a dozen other persons or groups who were honoured for efforts to preserve heritage architectural styles, many of them associated with U.E.L. There were also efforts to interest and inform especially the young people and the school-aged. Sponsorship of interschool tournaments like golf and marathons produces ready listeners by the hundred when the awards are given out at assemblies. It gets the message out about the value of the Parkway. More specifically the LPGA assists tourists with information booths, information-board shelters, an annual issue of guide-maps and similar helps.

Surveys of public opinion about the project have brought in a very positive response and kept planners on track. The dozen municipalities which the Parkway runs through are also very enthusiastic and supportive.

Dr. Ellis left a thought with us which is likely to appeal to Parkway supporters. He would like to see a Parkway Commission taking the lead in the creation of new parks along the Parkway. In the past seven years there has been only one added to the list - the Harvey MacFarland Park at Picton Bay. Now wouldn't it be an excellent arrangement if supporters would honour their family by donating a small parcel of land for a park or parkette bearing their family's name? It would bring the day closer when Loyalist Parkway would mean a way through parks and not merely a way to a park!

It is good to know that despite severe cuts in grants there is an organization like LPGA which can draw so much and such creative help to preserve and enhance our heritage which we thought was seriously threatened.

1997 Fall

LOYALIST DAY AT KINGSTON, JUNE 1997

June the twelfth has become an important date for the Kingston and District Branch since Mayor Gary Bennett's proclamation a year ago. The day began under leadership of President Carol Davy with the 8:15 a.m. raising of the Loyalist flag in the park opposite the City Hall with the support of many members. Attendants were Tex Joyner and Jeff Paine dressed in the uniform of the Second Battalion of the K.R.R.N.Y. Terry Hicks, past president of the branch, explained how the Loyalist flag was similar to the British Jack that flew between 1707 and 1801.

Terry also noted that Loyalist Day marks two historic facts: first, that Governor. Haldimand on this date received approval from George III to settle the Loyalists in the Cataraqui area, and second, as stated in Larry Turner's Voyage a Different Kind, that, unlike the strategic bases at Niagara and Detroit, Kingston was the first permanent community in what would become Ontario. Major Joyner mentioned the importance of military details in the shaping of Kingston and Ontario. While the fighting ended in 1782, the Second Battalion K.R.R.N.Y. came from Oswego and Carleton Island to be on the right side of the border. Captain Joseph Brant and his Six Nations also came since their Mohawk Valley had been lost.

Before being disbanded, the K.R's surveyed the Kingston town site, military facilities and generally prepared for the settlers who came in 1784.

We were indebted to Mr. Murray Hogben of the Whig-Standard for the publicity he gave our celebrations, and also Mr. Steve Lukits of the same staff for some interesting parallels he noted between the Loyalist days and our day; for instance, the U.E. conferred on Loyalists in 1789 recognized "the great principle of Unity of Empire", Steve notes in a parallel it is Ontario that is now the great power base and the rebels now are the regions of Canada outside Ontario showing their resentment of Ontario's domination. These attitudes, it appears, are part of the heritage that has "trickled down" to us.

The idea of democracy also seems to have varied even among Loyalists; for instance, in 1807 Cartwright, a Kingston businessman, told the militia "The American idea of Democracy is extravagant", but many of those extravagant freedoms we take for granted today are liberties that would have shocked the Loyalists. On the one hand this attitude promoted elitism, but on the other the conservative values instilled a respect for civic institutions and favoured working within the system rather than rebelling against it; thus, peace, order, and good government generally prevailed.

"The Loyalist influx two centuries ago," Steve noted, "reinforced two facts about Canada - the first, people left homes and property and started all over again, and secondly, the government lent a hand to the newcomers." Many of today's immigrants met similar conditions. In 1783 it was Major Ross at Cataraqui who prepared them with surveys of town and township sites and facilities, mills on the river, and a house for the leader of the Six Nations.

To quote from the Whig-Standard article again: "In many ways the Loyalist heritage we celebrate today continues to touch our lives as Canadians, as Ontarians, and as Kingstonians." Thanks to Steve Lukits and the Whig-Standard for refreshing our view of our heritage.

Next year's flag raising will be a bigger event. According to Branch President Carol Davy, June the twelfth will come in the midst of the annual National Convention, which we shall be hosting here. Carol had just returned from this year's Convention held in Winnipeg.

1998 Fall

PLOWING INTO LOYALISTS, 15-19 SEPTEMBER 1998

Some members of our Branch participated in a Loyalist display booth, with the 'Heritage Tent', at the five-day International Plowing Match, held near Sunbury (north of Kingston). President, Carol Davy, organized the basic timetable and Philip Smart acted as nerve-centre in her absence.

We appreciated the many volunteers who gave their time to man the booth. Notable viewers of the booth included: Peter Johnson, Bruce Talbot, Sharon DeLine, Harry Danford of the provincial legislature. I believe next year's Match is to be held near North Bay, followed by Guelph the year after. Each area has diverse heritage as noted with our 'Loyalist Booth' and 'Prison Booth'.

By Philip Smart

1999 Fall

The Royal Military College in Kingston hosted this year's Heritage Fair on May 13th and 14th. The local Loyalist Association put together an excellent display with handouts for the students. The display was put together by our Past President Carol Davy and Lynn Bell and manned by John Buck, Sharon Deline, Phil Smart, Lynn Bell and Jim Long.

On Friday, June 11th the Branch had their annual supper at Edith Rankin United Church. Barbara Bradfield continues to bring excellent speakers to our meeting. This year's speaker was Britton Smith who talked on the subject of Carleton Island before and after the American Revolution. Mr. Smith is the author of the new book, Legend of the Lake. The 22-Gun Brig Sloop. Ontario 1780.

There were a few distinguished guests at this supper. Notably, the Honorary President of the UELAC, Col. The Hon. John Matheson, Kingston and the Islands Federal member of parliament, Mr. Peter Milliken, Regional Vice President Central Canada for the U. E.L.A. Mr. Terry Hicks and President of Col. Edward Jessup Branch Mr. Fraser Carr.

On Saturday, June 12th, fifteen of our Branch members met at 8:15 in front of Kingston City Hall for the raising of the Loyalist flag. Also joining us were three members of the Fort Henry Guard, Kingston Mayor Mr. Gary Bennett and tourists from all across Canada.

A number of our members travelled on June 19th to Adolphustown for a Loyalist re-enactment put on by the Bay of Quinte Branch. Our branch manned two display tables and was honoured to be asked to lay a wreath at the Loyalist gravesite

2000 Spring

The Kingston & District Branch September meeting consisted of an extremely interesting tour of St. Paul's Anglican Church cemetery, including the area underneath the Church hall. Reverend David Ward gave members a short account of some of the history surrounding St. Paul's. The first recorded burials were of a soldier and a child around 1784. The Stuart family, Molly Brant, Col. Colby Foster, Sir William Bonnycastle, & the Cartwright family are a few of the members of the early Kingston community buried here.

Our November meeting was centred on the resources available in our Branch library. John Chard who co-chairs with John Buck introduced a new library catalogue to the membership. There was also a silent auction, featuring a number of books.

By Jim Long UE

2000 Fall

This year the members of Kingston and District Branch have been active throughout our community. Participation at the 6th annual Heritage Fair was on May 11th and 12th. This year it was held at the Faculty of Education, Queen's University. The halls and gymnasium were filled with all kinds of heritage and historical exhibits. The local Loyalist Association put together an excellent display with handouts for the students.

On May 27th St. Paul's Anglican Church, (site of our Branch general meetings), was the centrepiece for the annual community event called *The Swamp Ward Festival*. Lynn Bell UE, our Projects Manager headed a fine display for our UELAC Branch.

Our annual banquet was held on June 9th at Edith Rankin United Church on the shores of Lake Ontario at Collin's Bay. The topic of discussion was the recent archaeological excavation near the Ontario Hydro, Lennox and Addington Station, in Bath. The guest speaker was Hugh Daeschel, whose company,

Heritage Quest, oversaw the excavation of the sites. Hugh outlined the story of the *dig* that took place in the fall of 1997 and the spring of 1998. The work was a prerequisite for the rebuilding of Highway 33 in the area there is now a proposed waterfront conservation area on the land belonging to the generating station. The site was the location of three early cabins belonging to Loyalist families. Various artefacts were recovered.

Loyalist Day was June 12th in Kingston. Mayor Gary Bennett raised the Loyalist flag over Confederation Park and proclaimed Loyalist Day in Kingston. Branch members attended the ceremony with a duty band from the Fort Henry guard. This ceremony made the front page of the *Kingston Whig Standard* on June 13th.

On June 17th a number of our members traveled to Adolphustown for the 2nd annual Loyalist reenactment sponsored by the Bay of Quinte Branch. Our Branch manned two display tables and was again honoured to be asked to lay a wreath at the Loyalist gravesite. The United Empire Loyalist Service was at St. Alban's Anglican Church, Adolphustown on June 18th. Our Branch past president Terry Hicks was the guest speaker.

The Kingston and District Branch also held two general meetings so far this year. The first was held on January 22nd with Roy Lewis, Vice President of Central Region East, speaking. Mr. Lewis spent a few minutes at the opening of his talk describing how the parent organization is structured. In the latter part of his presentation, Roy gave members a most interesting description of the history of his own Loyalist ancestors.

March 25th general meeting had Dr. Edward Kipp from Sir Guy Carleton Branch. He delighted members with his description of the Mohawk Valley bus tour he conducted in October 1998. Using his collection of excellent slides, Dr. Kipp highlighted the various sites visited, holding the attention of members as he described the tour through this historic area.

As we look ahead to our fall program, we expect to be just as busy with two general meetings planned.

By James Long, President

2001 Fall

Our members have been active throughout our community.

Participation at the 7th annual Heritage Fair was on May 10th and 11th at Queen's University. The halls and gymnasium were filled with all kinds of heritage and historical exhibits. The local UELAC put on an excellent display, with something new added by President Peter Davy. A cash prize was given for the best Loyalist project. This year's cash winner was Alison Parfitt from Calvin Park Public School.

On June 2nd our Branch travelled to Odessa for a tour of the old Babcock Mills. Lunch followed prepared by the local United Church Women.

June 12th was Loyalists' Day in Kingston. Mayor Isabel Turner and the Heritage Fair winner raised the Loyalist flag over Confederation Park and proclaimed Loyalist Day. Branch members attended the ceremony along with a duty band from the Fort Henry Guard. This ceremony made *The Kingston Whig Standard*.

Our annual banquet was held June 15th at Edith Rankin United Church in Collin's Bay. Graham Thomson and his son Judge George Thomson were our guest speakers. The Thomsons talked on the restoration of a pre-Confederation log cabin on their property on Howe Island.

On June 16th a number of our members travelled to Adolphustown for the 3rd annual Loyalist re-enactment put on by the Bay of Quinte Branch. We had two display tables, and were again honoured to be asked to lay a wreath at the Loyalist gravesite.

The Branch also held two general meetings. The first on January 27th was a 'soup & a bun' luncheon. Our own members put on a play called *Vignettes of Lives of Loyalist Settlers*. Fifty members and guests were treated to stories of our Loyalist ancestors, c1787.

On March 24th Barbara Synder took members to the road joining Arlington, Manchester and Paw let VT to Skenesbor/ Whitehall. This was the escape route for Ruth, (w/o Isaac Briscoe UE), who joined Abigail (w/o Wm Fairfield), near Paw let to share the journey north, past Crown Point and Fort St. John to spend three winters at Machiche, before they could ascend the St. Lawrence River to Ernestown Township. Fairfield drew a land grant on the west end of Amherstview, while Briscoe drew a grand on the east end of Bath. Barbara was a former curator of Fairfield House.

We look ahead to our fall program, and we expect to be just as busy with our next two meetings.

By Jim Long UE

2002 Spring

Since our last report in *The Loyalist Gazette*, our Branch has been active in many ways.

Our members travelled to the Old Hay Bay (Methodist) Church on September 15th, where they participated in a service to designate the Church as a National Historic Site.

On September 22nd, our Branch had the honour of having Dominion President Bill Terry as guest speaker. Bill spoke on the history, use and meaning of the Armorial Bearings of the UELAC, and how the Armorial Bearings tie in with our national organization.

Eight members of our Branch left on September 29th with the UELAC Hudson Valley Trip.

At our last regular meeting of 2001, our Branch was treated to a video about the Loyalist experience of Hannah Ingraham, ancestor of Faith Thomas. Following the video, Branch member Carol Davy presented a short vignette of her "Favourite Loyalist ancestor", Ida Jackson Mity. Also, a new set of laminated place mats were on display from Lynn Bell who recently completed a series of photographs, both urban and rural, of many historic subjects from Ottawa to Napanee.

In closing, it is with great sadness I report the passing of our beloved former President, Christopher John Graham UE on August 25th, and his wife Vivian on July 2nd, 200 I. We also lost Miss Nora Valteau UE, a charter member of our Branch, and Russ Waller UE, researcher and author.

By James Long UE

2002 Fall

Our Branch focused on youth last spring. At the March 23rd meeting, Annette Long, a grade twelve student from Bayridge High School spoke of her two Loyalist ancestors, John Wees and Martin Fralick. She was followed by grade five student Lindsay Bell, who became interested in her family tree. She and her grandfather Lynn Bell have been visiting local cemeteries where her Loyalist ancestors are buried.

In May Kingston hosted the local Heritage Fair at McArthur Hall, Queen's University. Our Branch contributed three prizes to students who made a display on Loyalist heritage. The first place winner was Brianne Alkembrack, grade seven, Odessa, for the display *Down by the Bay*, about Hay Bay Church. Second place winner was Ayeila Daneshmend, grade seven, also from Odessa for *Henry Merkley, 'Loyalist with a Cause'*. Third place went to Melissa Offord, Grade Six, Welbourne Ave. Public School for *A Loyalist Home*.

Several members received certificates as descendants of George Storing, 2nd Battn., King's Royal Yorkers.

By Philip Smart UE

Editor's Note: Philip Smart has kindly sent detailed information on the Storing family and the Loyalist connection, which we hope to run at a later date when space permits.

2003 Spring

Editor 50 Note: Philip Smart UE is the current president of Kingston Branch UELAC. Congratulations to him, as he is one of a very few members who has served as President of more than one Branch. He was a Toronto Branch president in the 1970s.

Our annual banquet was held on May 24th at Edith Rankin United Church. Guest speaker was Dr. Brian S. Osborne on, *Kingston 50 Other Loyalists*, the Presbyterians of Kingston.

Our September meeting featured Rev. William Lamb whose topic was, *Beyond Genealogy, Fleshing Out the Bare Bones*. He spoke about Old Hay Bay Church and Methodism in the early years following the American Revolution.

On September 28th, thirty Grass relatives and friends descended on Cataraqui United Church Cemetery, Kingston for the dedication of a new marker to Capt. Michael Grass UE who died in 1813. The older marker was incorporated into new one. Capt. Grass led a group of Loyalists from New York to Sorel, and then on to Kingston in 1783.

On November 23rd we were honoured to have as speakers, Angela and Peter Johnson UE. This couple has been active in many capacities with the UELAC for many years, but the subject of this day's talk was Loyalist Sources, and Early Photography.

By Philip Smart UE & Jim Long UE

Note: Photos from the Kingston Branch Nov. 2002 meeting are all courtesy of Philip Smart UE.

2003 Fall

Our Branch has been very busy. The January guest speaker was Peter Allen, President of Grange Elliott Ltd. Surveyors, who talked about British Army survey methods used on the lots for Loyalists. At the March meeting forty-nine members bid on their favourite books, and Vera Babcock gave a short summary of her far-flung communications with a missionary in Brazil for whom she helped prove two of his Babcock ancestors.

Heritage Fair was May 8th and 9th in Kingston. Loyalist Prizes were awarded to: 1st. Madalyn Dering, Henderson Public School on "The Life of Daniel Carr UE", 2nd Mathew Dickson, Welbourne Public School, on "Early Loyalist History", and 3rd, Ayeila Daneshment, Odessa Public School, on "Crysler's Farm". Congratulations

The Kingston Branch AGM was held on May 22nd. Guest speaker was Dr. F. R. Clarke, former Head of Music at Queen's University and organist emeritus at Sydenham Street United Church. He spoke on the Royal Visit to the Church on June 28, 1959.

The Loyalist Hag Raising Ceremony was held June 12th at Confederation Park in front of Kingston City Hall. Prizewinner Madalyn Dering was a guest, along with Kingston's Mayor, Isabel Turner. The Branch also participated at Adolphustown, and Branch President Philip Smart DE laid a wreath. This was followed on June 19th by a flag raising at Loyalist Township Hall, Odessa, with Prize Winner Ayeila Daneshment, Councillor Hudrcin, and Col. The Hon. John Matheson DE in attendance. June ended with the annual dinner at Fairfield House. May and June kept this Branch hopping!

By Jim Long UE

2004 Fall

Our program co-ordinator, Carol Davy, once again brought a fabulous suite of speakers to our meeting.

In January, to start the year we first had a sandwich and dessert lunch. Our speaker, Mrs. Phyllis Bray M.A., librarian, musician and Loyalist, spoke to us on her experiences in early Manitouswadge, "*Pioneering in the North*". We were also shown a short video called "*Something More At Stake – Saratoga*", a brief on the battle of Saratoga.

The March meeting had Kathryn Pancouski of the local Museum of Health Care speaking to us about health care with its assorted medicines and herbs used in 1784.

Our annual dinner was held on Friday, May 7th, at Glenburnie United Church. Their harvest turkey suppers are legendary in this part of the country. Guest speaker, Ted Davie, spoke on the lovely St. Alban the Martyr Church at Adolphuston with its Loyalist memorial plaques and proposed Loyalist stained glass window.

The Kingston & District Branch put a non-competitive display in the 2004 Elementary School Regional Heritage Fair on May 6 – 7, held at Queen's University Faculty of Education. Our branch donated three awards to projects which included the Loyalist period. The winners were Rebecca Smith for "*Tools Then and Now*", Taralyn Jamieson for "*Education in Upper Canada*" and Alexandera Armitage for "*Pirate Bill Johnson*".

For the eighth year, Kingston & District Branch has raised the Loyalist Flag over Confederation Park across from City Hall on June 12th, the date declared as "*Loyalist Day in Kingston*", the anniversary of Royal Assent to the decision of Governor Haldimand to encourage Loyalist refugees to settle west of Coteau-du-Lac. Heritage winner, student Rebecca Smith, and Mayor Harry Rosen raised the flag. A Duty Band from Fort Henry, consisting of two fifers and a drummer, added to the occasion and thrilled noon-hour tourists. This flag remains up for the week to encompass the 19th of June.

After preliminary emissary agreement for the 19th of June, we donated a flag to the genealogy room in the Bishop's House end of the Kingston and Frontenac Public Library. Lynn Bell arranged for a brass plaque to accompany the flag. Three re-enactors in King's Own Greens were present besides Heritage Fair winner, Taralyn Jamieson.

Late afternoon on June 19th, Loyalist Day, members of our branch attended an annual dinner and silent auction served under a tent at Fairfield House. William Fairfield UE built this landmark, situated on the lakeshore west of Amherstview. Other members also travelled to Picton for the Bay of Quinte Branch Hall of Honour dinner.

The UELAC annual convention in Peterborough was well attended by our branch, including Hon. Peter Milliken, MP for Kingston and the Islands, our President Phil Smart, John Chard, Ken and Judy Langdon,

Carol and Peter Davy and Maureen and Jim Long. Carol Davy, our Program Chair, addressed the annual Loyalist service at St. Alban the Martyr Church at Adolphustown on June 13th. After the service, a tea was put on for the attendees at the old Adolphustown Township Hall.

by Jim Long UE

2005 Spring

On September 28, 2004, the Kingston and District Branch held their fall "kickoff" potluck lunch at St. Paul's Anglican Church on Montreal Street in Kingston, Ontario.

The Speaker of the House of Commons and our Dominion Honorary President, Mr. Peter Milliken UE spoke to the members on our Canadian history.

Alexandra Armitage, one of the recipients of our Loyalist prizes at the May Historical Heritage Fair, delivered a polished dissertation on "Pirate Bill Johnston".

In November, our meeting was moved to Donald Gordon Centre, Queen's University, for a delicious lunch. Dominion President Douglas Grant UE was introduced by Past President Peter Davy UE. Doug was most impressed by the excellent in-room computer-ease facilities at Donald Gordon Centre while he spoke on the workings of our Association. Doug ended his talk by describing recent happenings within the various branches.

With the new year upon us, the branch started with a meeting on January 22nd with a lunch with our new president, Barbara Bonner UE. There was a display, photographs and a skit by the authors of the book, [Williamsville Revisited](#) that includes a collection of stories and photographs of the past.

By Jim Long UE

2005 Fall

By June of this year, Kingston Branch had one hundred and twenty-three members. We were recognized at the UELAC Annual General Meeting as being in sixth place, percentage of improved membership. Four of our members attended the conference in Regina, June 2005.

The January meeting was very special to our Branch as we handed out our new Branch brochure. For a program, the Williamsville book committee entertained us with a brief talk and skits about the life and times of the community of Williamsville. Their book contains photographs and family interviews collected over the past forty years.

At our April 2nd meeting, the Branch invited Sue Bazely, Regional Archaeologist for the Cataraqui Research Foundation, to speak on Early Cemeteries within Kingston and its outskirts.

On May 5th and 6th our Branch set up a display at the Regional Kingston Historical Fair, at McArthur Hall. Our Branch donated three prizes to students with the best displays on Loyalist-era topics. Retired County Archivist, Cora Reid of the Bay of Quinte Branch, led the rededication of the old Milligan Cemetery, Centreville, Ontario, on Sunday, June 5th. A good crowd turned out for this event.

On Friday, June 10th, our Branch had our annual dinner at the Donald Gordon Centre, Queen's University. Mrs. Lin Good, who was born in Lancashire, England, in a house built in 1783, started her entertaining lecture of memories with this auspicious Loyalist date. The annual dinner was well attended by the Branch membership.

We observe Loyalist Day in Kingston on June 12th, as that is the day when Governor Frederick Haldimand received "*royal assent*" to his earlier decision to send refugees to the "*Cataraqui Townships*". Barbara Bonner, our Branch President, and others witnessed the Loyalist Flag being raised opposite City Hall by the Heritage Fair prizewinner, Bryan Pinkerton, and Deputy Mayor Lenora Foster. The three musicians in military red usually catch the eye of the tourist. The city obliges us by displaying the flag for a week. On Saturday, June 18th, Carol and Peter Davy attended the fund raising dinner-under-a-tent at the William Fairfield House on Bath Road to present a Loyalist Flag to the Fairfield Homestead Association.

Other public contacts include placing a display in St. Paul's Anglican Church for February Heritage Saturday. President Barbara Bonner (Loyalist ancestor: Martin Staley UE) gave a brief on the Loyalists at a recent regional meeting of the Ontario Genealogical Society.

By Jim Long UE

2006 Spring

On 21 August 2005, Branch President Barbara Bonner, Philip Smart plus Terry and Ruth Hicks, travelled to Christ Church, Tyendinaga Territory for a service honouring Doctor Oronhyatekha, a "Mohawk of National Historical Significance". Two separate plaques, "Christ Church Her Majesty's Chapel Royal of the Mohawks" and "Oronhyatekha," were unveiled by representatives of Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Our Branch started its fall meeting with a luncheon at St. Paul's Anglican Church on 24 September 2005. Clara Snook and her committee put on another beautiful luncheon. Our guest speaker was Miss Kelly Bennett, a Queen's University student who was awarded the Bernice Wood Flett Scholarship in Loyalist Studies. Kelly's topic was the UEL women and their hardships after the American Revolution.

On 1 October 2005, President Barb Bonner and Past President Philip Smart joined the Col. Edward Jessup Branch for a lecture on Sir John A. Macdonald and then the Branch visited Maynard Cemetery.

On 8 October 2005, Past President Philip Smart and Branch members, Shirley and Gordon Wartman went to Empey Hill for the rededication of the Empey Hill Pioneer Cemetery.

On a very snowy 26 November 2005, the Kingston Branch held a Christmas tea, featuring home-made British Christmas cake. The guest speaker for this meeting was the curator of Fort Henry, Mr. Ron Ridley, who highlighted the history and activities of Kingston's premier tourist attraction. Ron brought along a tremendous visual presentation of the fort over the one hundred and ninety years it has stood over Kingston. Fort Henry was named after Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton.

By Jim Long UE, Secretary

2006 Fall

The Kingston Branch has held two general meetings so far this year. On January 28 forty-five members and guests gathered for a delicious potluck lunch provided by Clara Snook and her hospitality committee. Carol Davy displayed the Branch's book, *Fleshing Out Our Loyalist Ancestors*, and urged members to write their Loyalist stories to be included first in our Branch newsletter, *Town Crier*, and then in this book.

The guest speaker was Historica Heritage Fair winner, Lindsay Bell, a Grade Nine student from L.C.V.I. Lindsay spoke on her fourth great grandmother, Nancy Nicholson McKim UE, and also traced another ancestor back to William Bell UE. Lindsay displayed a beautifully designed triptych that included many other forebears in her family tree.

Next, Marguerite Colpitts gave a history on an early American pressed glass plate that she had brought to the meeting. It was from the Steeve family of Hillsborough, New Brunswick, dating back before 1783. Marguerite mentioned that she and her husband, Rolfe, would be going to the Albert County Museum near Hillsborough, New Brunswick, this summer and return the Steeve plate to its original home in Canada.

Our March meeting had an interesting speaker, Maurice Smith, Director of the Kingston Marine Museum, who spoke about the Kingston waterfront from Loyalist Landing through the shipyards to the modern hotels and museums.

This year, Kingston Branch held its annual dinner at the Donald Gordon Centre on June 9th. Two guest speakers, Ellie Deir and John Fielding, both professors at Queen's University Faculty of Education, spoke on the topic "*Canadian History – Reality or Myth*".

On May 4 – 5, the Branch had a display table at the Regional Historica Fair at McArthur Hall, Queen's University where the Branch handed out prizes for the top three Loyalist-theme displays by elementary school children.

It was Loyalist Day in Kingston on June 12th with a flag raising ceremony at Confederation Basin, Kingston City Hall. The Fort Henry Guard played at the flag raising ceremony.

On June 19th the Kingston Branch made a presentation of a Loyalist Flag and stand to the Stuart Room in St. George's Cathedral, followed by a walking tour of the surrounding houses in the downtown area. Carol Davy, in conjunction with the First Capital Canada Committee, successfully petitioned for a grant to help publish a guide for tourists about early properties in downtown Kingston.

By Jim Long UE

2007 Fall

The Kingston Branch has held two general meetings so far this year. On January 27th, fifty-eight members and guests gathered for our annual winter potluck lunch provided by Clara Snook and her hospitality committee.

For the second year, the hospitality committee presented \$ 450.00 from their coffee fund to the branch to support the Kingston and District Heritage Fair (Historica).

Two elementary public school students from the 2006 Historica Fair were introduced by their teacher, Sharon Deline UE. They spoke about their UEL project that won them first prize in the Loyalist competition.

Our guest speaker was Gavin Watt, the author / re-enactor and a UELAC Honorary Vice-President. He spoke on eight members of the King's Royal Regiment of New York who settled in Eastern Ontario after the Revolution. This was of keen interest to his audience as at least seven of these soldiers were ancestors of our members.

At the March 24th meeting, our Branch President, Lin Good UE, spoke on the subject of common law and Canada. She noted that Canada belongs to two great legal systems and traditions in the world – English and French law.

On May 3rd and 4th, the Kingston Branch, headed by Phil Smart UE, put up a display at the Historica Fair for elementary public school children at the McArthur Hall, Queen's University.

Then, on June 6th, the Kingston Branch held its annual dinner meeting at the Donald Gordon Centre, Queen's University. A delicious dinner was served and then Peter Davey UE introduced our speaker, Dr. Pierre du Prey, Professor of Art History at Queen's University. His topic was London's Queen Anne Cathedrals. The Loyalist Flag also known as the "*Queen Anne Flag*" was created in 1707. Pierre's talk was accompanied by slides of the twelve Queen Anne churches that were restored or built in her period.

Our branch members took part in other events this spring:

- June 12th flag-raising for Loyalist Day in Confederation Basin, City Hall, Kingston.
- June 16th Fairfield UE Homestead dinner and auction.
- June 17th Loyalist Memorial Services at St. Alban the Martyr Church, Adolphustown.
- June 19th Loyalist Day in Ontario with the presentation of a Loyalist Flag to the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes, Kingston.
- June 20th First Capital Days choral concert at St. George's Cathedral, Kingston.

By Jim Long UE

2008 Spring

Since the publication of the Fall 2007 *Loyalist Gazette*, the Kingston Branch has continued to be very active. We started the fall season on 22 September with lunch and dessert at noon. The guest speaker was Professor E. Jane Errington, history professor at the Royal Military College. Her topic focussed on Sir Frederick Haldimand and his involvement with the Loyalists in the aftermath of the American Revolution.

The November meeting celebrated our charter month and Mr. John Buck dug out our beautifully framed charter, given to the Branch by Dominion Council on 4 November 1978.

Our branch had two speakers in November with the first speaker being Simonne Paine, a Grade Eight student from Module Vanier School. She spoke on the topic “*Canada Strengthened by America’s Independence.*” Simonne also brought an excellent display of her re-enactment trips with the Royal Yorker regiment.

Our other guest speaker was Mr. Timothy J. Compeau, winner of the UELAC Loyalist Scholarship. He has completed his MA in Public History from the University of Western Ontario. His talk was on Colonel Joel Stone UE, the founder of Gananoque, Ontario. Tim worked as a curator at the Arthur Child Heritage Museum in Gananoque and became interested in Colonel Stone’s American Revolution movements. Colonel Stone’s story was about his activities in the State of Connecticut and the settlement of Upper Canada.

Last Post: The Kingston & District Branch mourns the loss of two members, Wilma Wood, who passed away on 17 August 2007, and Ron McDonnell, who passed away on 28 August 2007.

By Philip Smart UE

2009 Spring

The Kingston & District Branch started the summer off with many activities. On May 1st and 2nd our branch put in a display at the Kingston Regional Historical Fair at McArthur Hall Queens University.

Then on June 11th, Kingston & District Branch held our annual dinner at the Donald Gordon Centre, Queens University. Our after dinner speaker was Dorothy Duncan, curator Black Creek Pioneer Village. She spoke on Canadians at table – Food, Fellowship and Folklore.

The next day, June 12th, was our flag raising for Loyalist Day at Confederation Basin, Kingston.

On June 15th the dedication of the new stained glass windows was held at the annual Loyalist Memorial service at St. Alban the Martyr Church in Adolphustown.

Something new this year were the Loyalist Day Tours of St. George’s Cathedral on June 19th with three tours at 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

Our first regular meeting was on Sept. 27th with a lunch served by the hospitality committee. The guest speaker was Professor Emeritus Brian Osborne who spoke about the “*St. Paul’s at 225 Years Connection with the Loyalist.*”

Then, on November 22nd, our regular meeting consisted of a Show & Tell by our members. First up was John Buck UE, a well-known fiddler with a tune “*Buckwheat Batter.*” Lorraine Abel UE was next with “*That’s my Ancestor*” a story about locating a lost ancestor (Jacob Vosburgh) in a Kingston archaeological dig. This genealogical chapter came to a close with a ceremony for Jacob Vosburgh at the beautiful Cataraqui Cemetery. Lynn Bell was next with an old chest that he had made at home for his grandson. Inside the chest were six generations of belongings dating back to the Burgoyne trip down the Hudson River. Next came Jim Long UE with his great-grandfather’s (Sanford Long’s) grain cradle, which was used on his farm near Tamworth Ontario. Peter Davy concluded the meeting with an e-mail entitled “*A Message to the citizens of the United States of America*” from John Cleese, a British comedian.

By Jim Long UE

2009 Fall

The Kingston Branch started the year on a sad note when the branch extended its sympathy to our President Mrs. Lin Good on the passing of her eldest child, Timothy David Elliott. At the Saturday January 24th meeting the branch was visited by Nancy Cutway’s fifth-great-grandmother, who wandered into St. Paul’s parish church hall looking for Nancy. Nancy’s ancestor introduced herself as Mary Rowland Gilbert from Woodhouse Township, in the County of Norfolk, Upper Canada. Mary did an excellent speech on her life before, during and after the American Revolution. It was too bad that Nancy missed this excellent presentation by her ancestor.

In March, we extended a warm welcome to Mr. Ross Drummond, Q.C. Crown Attorney, who enlightened us on the early courts, the trials and tribulations of our ancestors in establishing the new Upper Canada.

On May 7th and 8th the Kingston Branch attended the Kingston Historica fair and presented prizes for the three top Loyalist displays by the elementary students.

Then on May 11th, at the branch annual dinner meeting, at the Queen’s Donald Gordon Centre, we had the honour of having, as the after-dinner speaker, Dominion President Frederick H. Hayward UE.

On June 12th Kingston Branch joined with Kingston City representatives for raising the Loyalist flag in Confederation Park across from Kingston City Hall.

Our branch was well represented at the June 14th church service at St. Alban the Martyr Anglican Church in Adolphustown, followed by a lovely tea in the township hall.

Finally, on June 19th Kingston & District Branch presented a permanent Loyalist flag to St. Paul’s Anglican Church which has just completed a huge renovation of their sanctuary. The presentation was to remember that it was Loyalist Day in Ontario.

By Jim Long UE

2010 Spring

Our September meeting started with a lunch of sandwiches and desserts put on by Clara Snook’s hospitality committee. Then an educational talk and slideshow was put on by Sue Bazely on the history of Fort Frontenac. As director of The Cataraqui Archaeological, digging into Kingston’s history is her *forte*.

Also in 2009 the Kingston and District Branch joined a project called The Lower Burial Ground Restoration Society. The Lower Burial Ground Restoration is the cemetery that is located on the grounds of St. Paul's Anglican Church where the Kingston & District Branch holds its meetings. This is a non-profit corporation in which many of those involved are working in heritage preservation and conservation. The Society has five officers and an Advisory Committee of twelve, one of whom is our own Branch member Lynn Bell UE.

The first project they took on was the restoration of the Forsythe gravestone, the oldest monument, erected in 1813. The project was monitored by Ms. Bazely under a Heritage permit and was completed the week of 18 May 2009. The next undertaking for the Society is to restore/rebuild the perimeter stone walls situated at the western edge of the Lower Burial Ground along Montreal Street. This wall is the oldest existing structure in Kingston, built by a noted stonemason, F.X. Rocheleau, in 1799 /1800!

The Lower Burial Ground cemetery was opened in 1785 with the first two burials being ex-members of the King's Royal Regiment of New York. Branch member and a past president, Terry Hicks UE, found that his third great-grandfather, Private Joseph Hicks Sr. UE of Jessup's Rangers, was also buried in the cemetery on 24 May 1800.

To contribute to the Lower Burial Ground Cemetery send donations to:
Lower Burial Ground Cemetery,
Mr. Doug Thompson,
Suite 207,115 Barrett Court Kingston, Ontario K7L 5H6

Tax receipts will be available for the 2010 year.

November 21st was our A.G.M. annual meeting at St. Paul's Church where our committee reports were discussed and passed. All committee reports were printed in the *Cataraqui Loyalist Town Crier*, November 2009, Vol. 28, No.5, beforehand so that members had a good idea of the upcoming meeting. After the business was concluded a "Show and Tell" took place with a number of branch members taking part. At the conclusion our President, Lin Good, handed over the Branch gavel and President's medal to incoming President, Mr. Dean Taylor UE.

By Jim Long UE

2010 Fall

The Kingston Branch started the year on January 23rd with our new President, Dean Taylor, calling the meeting to order. Dean thanked Clara Snook of the Hospitality Committee and her members for arranging the delicious luncheon before our meeting.

At our January meeting Mr. John Fielding was our guest speaker and his topic was Immigration and Refugees. John is a man passionate about history. He has taught, written and still lectures about why history is so important. This was an excellent talk on Canada's Immigration history.

In March the branch was honoured to have well-known Kingston and area chef, Clark Day, talk to us on taverns and restaurants from Loyalist times forward. This was a crowd pleaser as many in attendance have sampled Clark's cooking.

On May 6th and 7th the annual Kingston Regional Historica Fair took place at Queen's University. Three hundred and fifty students set up their historical display tables. Our very own Past President, Phil Smart, headed up the Kingston Branch display table this year with great success.

On May 18th the Kingston and District Branch held their annual dinner at the Donald Gordon Centre Queen's University. Our after-dinner speaker was Dr. Carl Bray, adjunct Professor at Queen's University, in the School of Urban and Regional Planning. Dr. Bray spoke on the "*Loyalist Attitudes to Building and Urban Design.*" Carl is very familiar with this topic as he is a heritage planner and landscape architect who specializes in the assessment, planning and development of cultural heritage resources.

On June 12th at 12:00 noon the City of Kingston and our Loyalist branch celebrated Loyalist Day in Kingston at Kingston City Hall.

On June 20th members from our branch made their way to St. Alban the Martyr Anglican Church in Adolphustown for a 2:00 p.m. Loyalist church service. An old fashioned tea on the lawn followed the service.

By Jim Long UE

2011 Spring

Our September meeting was set back a week to October 2nd because of hall conflicts. Two of the Loyalist award recipients at the spring Kingston Regional Historica Fair brought their projects to our meeting. Nicole Armitage and Brandon Elderhorst set up their displays and proceeded to answer questions from the strong Loyalist group in the audience. Their knowledge of Molly Brant (Nicole's topic) and Jessup's Rangers (Brandon's) had been carefully researched for the Historica Fair and for our meeting.

The guest speaker for the day was Jo-Anne Lachapelle-Beyac who spoke on The Maclachlan local woodworking museum. The log house cabin was moved from a site north of Tamworth and is now situated on 100 acres of parkland at Grass Creek Park. Over the years it has been developed to include five galleries including traditional logging, plane makers, a cabinet maker's shop and a gift shop. There are woodworking demonstrations and an arboretum featuring over twenty types of trees. The main display is, of course, the collection of over 11,000 tools for woodworking and related trades.

Our November meeting was a "*Participation*" meeting with members bringing in artefacts and speaking about it from grand- father's or ancestor's days. Those who participated were Kay Webster, Ross Long, Eva Wirth, Gerry Roney, Lois O'Hara, Lin Good and Jim Long. After the program there was a silent auction, refreshments and a social hour.

Also at this meeting the annual reports were presented to the membership and the introduction of the 2011 Executive Committee.

For January our Program Director has planned to have Capt. Brian Johnson, pilot of the good ship M.V. Wolfe Islander. Brian has written many historical articles in the local *Kingston Whig Standard* about sailors and lighthouse keepers in the St. Lawrence River & eastern Lake Ontario.

By Jim Long UE

2011 Fall

The Kingston Branch started the year on 22 January with a light lunch put on by Clara Snook and her hospitality committee. The guest speaker was Captain Brian Johnson of the famous ship Wolfe Island ferry. He talked about the history of the mouth of the St. Lawrence River and eastern Lake Ontario at the turn of the 1800s.

Our next meeting was on 26 March with our guest speaker being Mr. Craig Boals, Director of Operations for the Cataraqui Cemetery Company. His talk was on the long history of this cemetery and the ties it has to Kingston, Ontario and Canada.

On 12 and 13 May the Kingston Branch participated in the Annual Kingston Historica Fair at Queens University. We set up a display table and, for awards, our branch handed out a first, second and third place prize for best Loyalist displays.

The Branch annual dinner meeting was held at the Donald Gordon Centre on Queen's University Campus on June 1st. Our dinner speaker was Ms. Jean Rae Baxter UE, a writer of historical novels. Her topic for this illustrated talk was "Two Nations, One King."

Then, from 02 to 05 June a group of Kingston Branch members travelled to the city of Brockville for the Annual UELAC Conference 2011, "Catch the Spirit." This conference was well organized and Jessup Branch supplied great weather as well.

Loyalist Day in Kingston was celebrated on 12 June at high noon in Confederation Park with the Mayor, a Fort Henry Duty Band and two Historica Fair winners in attendance to raise the Loyalist flag. The Loyalist flag continued to fly in Confederation Park across from city hall until 19 June, honouring Loyalist Day in Ontario as declared by the Ontario Legislature in 1998.

Our next meeting will be 24 September at St. Paul's Anglican Church hall.

By Jim Long UE

2012 Spring

On May 12th and 13th our Branch President, Dean Taylor, was at the Kingston Regional Historica Fair at Queens University. He presented awards to Ryan Pettigrew from Ecole Lundy's Lane Grade Six for his display about Laura Secord, Griffin Sawchuck, also from Ecole Lundy's Lane Grade Six class, on the historic LaSalle Causeway and third prize went to Madison Veley of Welborne Avenue P.S. Grade Six class, who also had an amazing display on Laura Secord.

Our September meeting started early on September 24th at 12:30, with sandwiches and dessert. A meeting followed at 1:00. The guest speaker for the day was Mr. Mark Jodoin, author, historian and speaker on subjects related to colonial history of central Canada. Mark is a former broadcast journalist with TV Ontario and Global television. His talk centred on men and women who settled the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. These people were: Prescott founder, Major Edward Jessup; Gananoque's Joel Stone; and Captain John Deserontyon (a Mohawk who settled Deseronto).

At our November meeting members gathered for lunch and then walked across the road to St. Paul Anglican Church to listen to our guest speaker. The speaker was Amy Whitehorne, Museum Educator at the Brockville Museum. Amy gave an animated talk on the uses of the St. Lawrence River over the years. The talk started with Loyalist immigrants in bateaux paddling and portaging from Montreal. Discussion spread to loggers floating trees, ice fishing in winter, the cutting of huge blocks of ice for “refrigeration” in summer, to hockey games and even a winter war with our neighbours to the south.

Also at this meeting the annual reports were presented to the membership and the introduction to the membership of the 2012 Executive Committee.

In January, Mr. Paul Van Nest, our Program Director and guest speaker, talked to our members about the Civil War in the United States. He developed the connections that led the British provinces in North America to form one Confederation in 1867. Before the meeting a hot potluck lunch in the church hall was served at noon, accompanied by the cheerful sound of good conversation around the table.

By Jim Long UE

2012 Fall

Our first meeting for 2012 began with a pot luck lunch on Saturday, 28 January, at St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Kingston. The guest speaker was Mr. Paul Van Nest and his talk was on the Civil War in the United States. He developed the connection that led the British provinces in North America to form one Confederation in 1867.

The March meeting started with sandwiches and squares and a chance to browse our library. The guest speaker was the renowned Dr. W. Bruce Antliff, retired Royal Military College professor and the author of Loyalist Settlements, 1783 – 1789. A large crowd attended his speech on “*The Loyalist Claims Commissions*,” also known as “*The Commission for Claims and Losses*.” This is a source of much documentation on our Loyalist ancestors.

On May 3rd and 4th our Branch President, Dean Taylor, was at the Kingston Regional Historical Fair at Queen’s University. He presented awards to the following Loyalist displays. First place was called “*Discovering The Loyalist*.” This display was on the Loyalist Wagar family of Lennox and Addington County who came from Palatine and then fought for the British in the Revolution.

The second display was called the Amazing Asselstine’s. This display focused on the Asselstine cemetery at Marlbank with a connection to John Asselstine of the Jessup’s Loyal Rangers.

The third display was on Laura Secord and her family ties to Butler’s Rangers in the Niagara area.

The annual festive Banquet/Meeting was held on Wednesday, 30 May 2012 at the Donald Gordon Centre on Queen's University campus. A highlight was Royal Windsor soup (Queen's diamond jubilee), turkey paillard, made with local seasonal vegetables.

Our guest speaker for the evening was our Honorary President, Mr. Peter Milliken UE. Peter's talk was on his time in parliament and his long association with the UELAC.

Loyalist Day in Kingston was celebrated on June 12th at high noon in Confederation Park with the Mayor, a Fort Henry Duty Band, a Historica Fair winner, Loyalist supporters, and of course tourists from around the world who were passing by in attendance. The Loyalist flag continued to fly in Confederation Park across from city hall until June 19th, honouring Loyalist Day in Ontario.

A new Loyalist banner that Eva Wirth and John Buck showed to our branch at our regular March meeting at St. Paul's Church.

By Jim Long UE

2013 Spring

Our summer activities began in May with the great Historical Fair at Queen's University, where Kingston and District Branch awarded \$25 and a book written by Jean Rae Baxter UE to each of the Loyalist winners. The three prizes went to: Campbell MacInnes & Tessa Devos from R.G. Sinclair Public School for their project, *Laura Secord*; Grace Kirby from Odessa Public School with her display, *Discovering the Loyalist*; and Cohen O'Grady from Calvin Park Public School with *The Amazing Asselstines*.

This year our annual banquet, with fifty attending, was held at Donald Gordon Centre. Our after-dinner speaker was the Honourable Peter Milliken UE.

12 June was United Empire Loyalist Day, with The Fort Henry Duty Band playing "British Grenadiers" and the Royal Anthem. Cohen O'Grady raised the Loyalist flag over Confederation Park. Kingston Deputy Mayor Bill Glover stood in for Mayor Mark Gerretsen and a good number of tourists and Loyalists mixed in for the flag-raising.

On 17 June, several members attended the annual United Empire Loyalist service at St. Alban the Martyr Church. This was the 228th anniversary of the landing of the Loyalists, under the command of Major Peter Van Alstine, in Adolphustown, on 16 June 1784.

On Saturday, 22 September, at St. Paul's Anglican Church, history professor Paul Fritz, retired from McMaster University, spoke on Abel Stevens, founder of Bastard and South Burgess Township. As well, a report was given by our member, Lynn Bell UE, who sits on the lower Burial Ground Restoration Society, about the completion of the perimeter wall and the Forsythe monument. The start on the Stuart *liar* (Scottish term for a stone burial area) has begun with the raising of over \$11,000.00 from donors.

On Saturday, 24 November, members gathered at the Golden Rooster for lunch with our Dominion President Robert McBride UE, B.Sc., M.Ed. Then we all walked over to St. Paul's to hear our Dominion President speak on the escapades of his third great-grandfather, Captain John DeCou.

Our charter was put on display for all to observe and the election of officers for the coming year took place. Our new President will be Peter Milliken UE, taking over from now Past President, Dean Taylor.

Branch President Dean Taylor presented twenty-year membership certificates to Peter Milliken, Carol and Peter Davy, Terry Hicks, Betty Bull, Judy Langdon, and Ken Langdon.

By Jim Long UE

2013 Fall

Our Branch suffered a huge loss in the passing of our Librarian and founder of this branch, Mr. John Chard UE. It came as a shock to our members, as we had all gathered with John at our Annual Banquet at Queens University only five days prior. John was a private man but he was involved in many organizations in the Sterling area. When it came to the UELAC, he set the bar high in his goals and achievements for this organization. At the Brockville conference two years ago my wife and I had the privilege to sit with John and see his happiness at the large crowd that attended. He worked tirelessly for many years on building a strong foundation for our Association. Our branch, as well as the whole Association, has lost a great leader who will be sadly missed by all.

Our January meeting was held on the 26th of the month and was started off by a pot-luck luncheon put on by the Hospitality Committee. Our guest speaker was Dr. Jane Errington, a Professor of History at Queen's University and retired Professor Emerita of RMC. Her talk was on Women, Gentility and Education, Wives and Mothers, School Mistresses and Scullery Maids of the early 19th century.

In March the Hospitality committee again provided sandwiches and squares in the St. Paul Anglican Church Hall. After the luncheon the program opened with a show-and-tell day by our local members. First to the podium was Nancy Cutway UE who talked about two excellent resource books from our library, Loyalist in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War and the other being Irish Palatines in Ontario.

Our second speaker was Eva Wirth who showed us her U.E.L. commemorative stamps sent to her by her cousin. The first stamp was printed in 1934 on the 150th anniversary of the Loyalist migration and the second stamp was printed in 1984 for the 200th anniversary of the U.E.L. landing.

The third speaker was our librarian, John Chard, who generously collected and shared seven significant resource documents to the members for research and to share with families.

Our fourth speaker was Sue Kilpatrick whose ancestors came through Adolphustown. Sue brought in a darned egg with a sterling silver handle. She also showed a brooch made from a sovereign coin with enamel work showing the date 1887 and an image of Queen Victoria, and the words *The Order of the Garter*.

The next speaker was Lynn Bell who brought in some old daguerreotype photos showing people from a wide range of social classes, which included young lads under five in their “dresses.” His collection also includes signatures of significant people from the Kingston area. He also brought in a vehicle plate of Ontario dated 1911. It was porcelain on metal.

Our last speaker was Peter Davy, talking about his great uncle, John Wesley Davy, who was a creative inventor whose crowning glory was Davy’s Potato and Turnip Extractor which was patented in 1874.

This year our annual banquet was held at Donald Gordon Centre at Queen’s University. Our after-dinner speaker was Ms. Jean Baxter UE, from Hamilton Branch. Using a Power-Point presentation, she talked about her book, Freedom Bound, which recounts the stories of Black Loyalists.

In closing, our Branch wishes all Loyalist members across Canada to take a moment out of their busy lives to remember a dear friend and Loyalist, E. John Chard UE.

By Jim Long UE

Mr. Edgar John Chard UE, BA, M.Ed.,

School Inspector, North Bay, Ontario, UELAC Dominion Past President.
18 July 1922 - 17 May 2013, Age: 90 years, 10 months.

Edgar John Chard was born near Stirling, Ontario, on Tuesday, 18 July 1922, one of two sons of Clarence Spencer Chard and Harriett Hulbert Nelmes. John was a descendant of a Loyalist who settled in Rawdon Township near Stirling. John received a BA and M.Ed. and worked for many years as a teacher, and later at the Ministry of Education in Toronto and as a school inspector in North Bay, Ontario.

John had many qualities that he revealed at different times to different groups with which he was involved. He was devoted to his church, his membership with the UELAC, the Monarchist League and Freemasonry. This last fact I learned after his death although I have been a Mason for many years! Qualities that people noted in John included: his encouraging manner, his devotion to promoting the UELAC, his quiet nature, his self-deprecating manner and his gentlemanly and scholarly ways. I will add single-



mindful devotion to whatever tasks and goals he deemed important.

John Chard wrote in a letter to me in 2008 that his interest in the early days of his association with the UELAC was with structuring the Association in general so that it would be sustainable. He stated that the UEL group was unique, based on the individual's prime interest in learning about one's family. John spent a great part of his life providing leadership and encouragement in the growth of the UELAC branches across Canada. He also spent many hours working on tasks such as framing and arranging for the display of portraits of Queen Elizabeth in suitable establishments in his role as a member of the Monarchist League. Just recently, he earned his 60th-year membership pin from Stirling Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 69 G.R.C., an admirable accomplishment, and he was a lifelong member of his church.

His single-minded devotion to the accomplishment of his goals is nowhere more evident than in his determination to promote the growth of the UELAC from a tiny group of seven branches in British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario to the current 27 branches spread from sea to sea, united by a central office, a national magazine, and an Internet presence that unifies us as a national organization of which John was extremely proud.

The first branch formed after World War II was the Bay of Quinte Branch in Picton, Ontario, established on 25 June 1956. Using the initiative, leadership and financial support of Mrs. Adelaide McLaughlin of Oshawa, the branch was firmly established and supported the very large region from Brighton to Kingston. By 1959 John Chard was president of this branch and attended his first annual meeting of the Association held at the Toronto Branch office. He said that the meeting lasted about twenty minutes!

The existing branches were optimistic about attracting new members but little was being done to encourage the growth of new branches to serve the wide areas across Canada.

In the 1960s the president of the Vancouver Branch sent a message stating that he was sending all documents of the branch to the national office and closing out the branch. In his role as office administrator, Mr. Chard returned a sympathetic letter but vowed he would have the branch reopened before the end of the year. He then, at his own expense, sent newspaper advertisements to as many newspapers in the greater Vancouver area as existed. Although the newspapers charged for his advertising, he personally absorbed all the costs involved. Upon receiving a few replies, he selected a pro-tem president until members of the new branch could hold an election. In a short time the Vancouver Branch was regenerated!

What proved successful in Vancouver was tried again with success in Winnipeg with newspapers covering a fifty-mile radius and, again, at John's own expense.

In fact each Branch that John fostered he continued to generously support financially with anonymous donations once or twice a year right up to the present time. He treated the success of the branches personally as if they were his own family!

At a Dominion Council meeting in early 1963, it was proposed that the Council needed better communication with the branches. From the ensuing discussion, Mr. Chard was given the task to

provide the means. By April 1963 he published Volume 1, No.1 of *The Loyalist Gazette* and was its continuous editor and collector of magazine material for the semi-annual publication until December 1986 (twenty-four years with forty-eight editions)! The only cost that he charged the Association for those many years of volunteer work was for printing and mailing.

In the 1960s, the UELAC also decided to pursue obtaining armorial bearings and an official request was made by John in 1969. With the assistance of Sir Conrad Swan, York Herald of Arms-in-Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen, a formal application was made and accepted. Design work began and the Armorial Bearings were granted by Royal Authority through the legal instrument known as Letters Patent, dated 28 March 1972.

During his term as Dominion president, John sought to establish a permanent Dominion Office and Library, as there had not been one since before World War II. He asked Colonel R.S. (Sam) McLaughlin of Oshawa, who donated \$125,000 from which the interest was to be used to rent and furnish the premises, including a lounge. The new office, located on the second level of the Toronto Women's Art Club at 23 Prince Arthur Avenue in Toronto, was opened for the September 1968 Dominion Council Meeting. Gradually a few bookcases were added to accommodate often rare and also exceptionally informative books on Loyalist history, movements and background to major events.

While *The Loyalist Gazette* brought news of events and Loyalist history to members, there were many areas of the country without a branch within a reasonable driving distance and so John took steps to remedy that. While living in Ottawa during the 1960s, John assisted several people to prove their Loyalist ancestors and meet other newly-proven Loyalist descendants. Encouragement was also given by the Rt. Hon. John R. Cartwright, retired Chief Justice of Canada, who was of Loyalist descent and lived in the area. Before long the Sir Guy Carlton Branch received its charter on 14 April 1962. This was the first branch in which John established a need for a branch and then encouraged its development while remaining a member to help the branch until it was firmly established. As well, to help the newly-formed Grand River Branch, he served as its second Branch President in 1974. Of the current twenty-seven UELAC branches from coast to coast, John Chard was involved with the founding of sixteen (i.e. 59.3 %). What an accomplishment!

John received the Dorchester Award in June 2009 in Adolphustown, Ontario, at the UELAC Conference and AGM. This award is presented to individuals who display outstanding service to the UELAC over the years. As well, he was inducted into the Loyalist Hall of Honour by the Bay of Quinte Branch in September 2012.

A Past Dominion President, William Terry UE, wrote: "John was truly a wonderful supporter to me during my term as Senior Vice-President and as Dominion President. He was always willing to assist, suggest and offer help whenever requested. He was not one to butt in, but always willing to help if requested. His quiet, sincere support was truly appreciated. We will miss his presence at conferences. He was always quietly there."

David Hill Morrison, Central West Regional Councillor, said: "His warm, engaging smile is something I'll always remember."

Gerry Adair, Prairie Regional Vice-President, wrote, in part, “We will miss him, especially his encouraging words. Mr. UELAC until the end.”

The UELAC was most certainly his personal ‘family.’ A very private and spiritual man, we respect and honour his memory, his single-minded devotion and the legacy he left, not only to us, but to the community he sought quietly to serve.

May he rest in peace.

By Robert Collins McBride UE, B.Sc., M.Ed.

2014 Spring

Our summer began on 02 May 2013 with a one-day heritage fair at the reception centre at Fort Henry.

Our annual banquet meeting was on 14 May at the Donald Gordon Centre, Queen’s University. The speaker was Ms. Jean Rae Baxter UE, who spoke about her latest book called Freedom Bound. This is the second time that we have had Jean as our guest speaker at our annual banquet dinners, and she did not disappoint.

June 12th was once again declared Loyalist Day in Kingston with our Mayor in attendance and the “Duty Band” (fifes and drums) from the Fort Henry Guard.

The pews and balcony were filled with worshippers on 25 August 2013, when the Rev. David Jones presided over the annual pilgrimage service at the Old Hay Bay Church. Another event was the rededication of a new tombstone for Philip Ball at Union Cemetery in Loyalist Township. Philip was the son of the Loyalist, Solomon Ball UE, who served with the Colonel Edward Jessup regiment. A good crowd attended this ceremony.

On Saturday, September 28th at St. Paul’s Anglican Church, Kingston Branch gathered for a sandwich and squares luncheon. Our guest speakers were our own Peter Davy UE and his wife Carol Davy UE. The topic was “In search of the White Oak – An 1806 Saga.”

Then on November 23rd, the branch met at the Golden Rooster for lunch before moving over to St. Paul’s for a business meeting that began at 1:00 pm. Our guest speakers were Brig. Gen. (Ret.) William Patterson UE, the chair of the St. Paul’s Burial Ground Committee for St. Paul’s Anglican Church, who just completed a book on the Treasury Loyalists from this area, and Alex Gabov from Queen’s University, who pioneered the procedure to raise the faded lettering on tombstones. Both speakers talked on the restoration work that is going on in the Lower Burial Ground cemetery and their latest project of reading the faded tombstones with Alex’s camera techniques.

In September our branch put up a display at the Bath Heritage Day, located near the Fairfield House in the village of Bath.

The Kingston Branch lost three important members of the Executive Committee in 2013. These members are Librarian – John Chard UE; Membership – Gordon Smith UE; and House Chair – John Buck UE. This is a great loss to our branch as all three were great friends to our members and worked hard behind the scenes at every meeting.

By Jim Long UE

Illustrious Brother, The Honorable Colonel Judge John Ross Matheson UE, OC, K.St.J., CD, QC, MA, LL.M., LL.D., 33^o Freemason

On 02 October 1972, John Ross Matheson UE received his UELAC Certification for his Loyalist ancestor, Peter Ferguson UE, who settled in Glengarry County, and eventually became their Branch President before becoming the UELAC Dominion Honorary President from 1991 to 2003. ¹ In 1997, John Ross Matheson received The Most Honourable Order of Meritorious Heritage Companions of the Order at the UELAC Heritage Branch, in Montreal, Quebec. John's paternal Matheson family also owned the farmland where the present-day town of Havelock, Ontario, is now located.

The only son of Gertrude (McCuaig) and Rev. Dr. Alexander Dawson Matheson, John was born in Arundel, Quebec, on 17 November 1917, and raised in Quebec City. He attended Queen's University, graduating in 1940 with a B.A. Honours in Economics.

The son and grandson of Masons, Bro. John Matheson was Initiated into Queen's Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 578 G.R.C., in Kingston on 13 November 1940, just before returning to Petawa on a motorcycle, boarding a troop-train the next morning for Halifax and sailing for England with the First Regiment of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, First Canadian Infantry Division.

As a Forward Artillery Observation Officer, he was wounded near Ortona, Italy, in December 1944. He experienced the vicious fighting of the Italian campaign until, whilst preparing to cross the Moro River and move into battle with the West Nova Scotias, he was wounded by an airburst shell planned to harass and deny the obvious route to Ortona. "I didn't like to wear helmets," he told *Queen's Journal* in 2008. "I was a forward observation officer and I used to like a beret, which I thought was cooler than the helmet." Captain Matheson's life was ultimately saved by his decision, made only moments before, to don a steel helmet. With six pieces of shrapnel in his skull, Captain Matheson was initially triaged as dead. ² After several months of recuperation, and then meeting his bride, Edith, at St Anne de Bellevue Hospital in Montreal, he was discharged in 1945. After the war, he served with the 30th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, and retired with the rank of Honourable Colonel.

John was Passed and Raised in Freemasonry at the Farnborough and North Camp Lodge, No. 22013, Grand Registry of England, for many years was an active member of Sussex Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 5 G.R.C., in Brockville, Ontario, became a Life Member of Queen's Lodge No. 578 in Kingston, True Briton's Lodge No. 14, in Perth and Heritage Lodge No. 730. He was the recipient of the William Mercer Wilson Medal for Meritorious Service, on 11 February 1989. ³ He served in several capacities in Scottish and York Rite Masonry as well as the Rameses Shrine Temple in Toronto and the Tunis Shrine Temple in Ottawa.

John studied Law at Osgood Hall in Toronto. He earned his Masters of Arts degree at Mount Allison University, and his Master of Laws degree, LL.M., at the University of Western Ontario. John was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1967 and received Honorary Doctorates, Honoris Causa, from his Alma Mater, Queen's University, and from the Royal Military College in Kingston. The John Matheson Sword is awarded annually to the Preparatory Year cadet at the Royal Military College Saint-Jean who achieved the highest results in Academics, Leadership, Athletics and Bilingualism. ⁴

John practised law with Donald F. MacLaren K.C., in Barrie, Ontario, in 1948 and 1949 and, that year, John and Edith settled in Brockville, Ontario, where he was a founding member of the firm, Matheson, Henderson and Hart, a position he held until 1968. John was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1967, the same year that he was named Brockville Citizen of the Year. He was appointed a Judge of the Judicial District Ottawa-Carleton, from 1968 to 1978, was a Judge of the Judicial District of Lanark from 1978 to 1984, a Judge of the District Court of Ontario from 1985 to 1990, a Justice of the Ontario Court (General Division), 1991 – 1992, and served on the international electoral mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1996.

As a judge, John said his proudest moment was in 1982 when he ruled that a young man, named Justin Clark, who lived with cerebral palsy, was competent to live on his own. He later told the CBC that, while Clark's physical condition wouldn't change, "certainly his mind could and his spirit and his soul could." ⁵

In 1961, John Ross Matheson won a by-election to become Liberal Member of Parliament for Leeds. Re-elected in 1962, 1963 and 1965, he lost in 1968 to the Conservative challenger by four votes. He served as Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson from 1966 to 1968, being appointed by Pearson to head up a committee to select a new national flag, having just designed the Brockville Coat of Arms.

The final design, slipped in at the eleventh hour by Mr. Matheson, was designed in large part by historian and Royal Military College Dean of Arts, Colonel Dr. George F.G. Stanley, who in turn was influenced by the college's own flag. Years later, John Ross Matheson's Master's thesis was published under the title, Canada's Flag: A Search for a Country (1980, 1986). John was praised on Flag Day, 15 February 1965, by Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, as "the man who had more to do with the creation of the new Canadian Flag than any other person." ⁶ "This design ... was instantly recognized as Canadian." ⁷

John also provided the concept and the background research that led to the design of the Order of Canada in 1967, being largely responsible for its distinctive snowflake design, and became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1993.

The Order of Canada was only one of many medals that decorated his chest at official events. Every year at Kingston's Sir John A. Macdonald Day on 11 January, he wore his Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Golden Jubilee Medal, Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Order of St. John and the Canadian Forces Decoration, among others. Honourary Major John R. Matheson was a very enthusiastic supporter of the Royal Yorkers, being a descendant of Peter Ferguson UE, King's Royal Yorker, Major's Coy, 1st Battalion. He officiated at both dedication ceremonies for

the Royal Yorker Stands of Colours, the first dedication ceremonies taking place at Historic Fort York on 23 May 1982, and the second set of Colours, also at Historic Fort York, on 05 June 2004.⁸

Proud of his military associations, he held honorary militia appointments of Lt. Col. and then Col. with the 30th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery from 1972 to 1982.⁹

The *Toronto Star* published a Canadian Press picture on 06 August 1998 with the following article: “Retired judge and former MP John Matheson, 80, and parachute instructor, Gilles Dutrisac, complete a tandem jump in Gananoque, Ont., Tuesday to mark Matheson’s 53rd wedding anniversary. Matheson’s wife, whom he married in 1945, didn’t join him.”

In 1999 he was the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians.¹⁰

In 2009, CFB Kingston put his name on the Matheson Gate, a flower-lined brick wall flanking a decommissioned Howitzer. In May, 2013, he was brought by wheelchair into downtown Brockville for the unveiling of the John Ross Matheson Way that runs in front of the city’s courthouse.¹¹

A member of the United Church of Canada, on Friday, 27 December 2013, John Ross Matheson passed away at the age of 96 years in Kingston, Ontario.

A committed member and executive officer in the United Empire Loyalists’ Association (UELAC) for more than forty years, he was responsible for seeing that all his children and grandchildren became Life Members of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch of the UELAC, bringing, in total, twenty-one members into the Association.¹²

In the words of Marg Hall UE, Editor of *The Ottawa Loyalist*, “his wisdom, sense of humour and his dedication to his country, his family and his friends will be very much missed.”

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Endnotes

1. *Death of an Outstanding Canadian: John Ross Matheson (1917 – 2013)*, **Loyalist Lines**, UELAC Manitoba Branch Newsletter, February 2014, page 3.
2. **Loyalist Lines**, Manitoba Branch Newsletter, February 2014, page 3.
3. *Illustrious Brother Col. The Hon. John Ross Matheson, 33^o, a Freemason*, in an e-mail to Robert C. McBride from Kenneth Rutherford, COO/Executive Secretary, Supreme Council/SRCF, 4 Queen Street South, Ph. 905-522-0033. Fax 905-522-3716, krutherford@supreme33.ca, 20 February 2014.
4. *John Matheson*, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Matheson, retrieved 03 March 2014.
5. Tom Spears, *Obituary / John Matheson: Today’s Canadian flag waves because of a fateful decision in ’43*, **The Ottawa Citizen**, 29 December 2013.
6. *General Session, Friday Evening, September 15, 1995*, **Supreme Councillor**, November 1995.
7. *He’s our Father of the Flag*, Chris Stesky, **Brockville Recorder & Times**, 14 February 2005, Section A, page 1.
8. **The Yorker Courant**, February 2014, pages 5 - 6.

9. *Last Post: John Ross Matheson, 1917 – 2013, The Ottawa Loyalist*, Volume 29, Issue 2, Winter 2014, UELAC Sir Guy Carleton Branch, Ottawa, Ontario, page 2.
10. *Obituary / John Ross Matheson, The Ottawa Citizen*, 31 December 2013.
11. *The Yorker Courant*, February 2014, page 6.
12. *The Ottawa Loyalist*, Vol. 29, Issue 2, Winter 2014, UELAC Sir Guy Carleton Branch, Ottawa, Ontario, page 2.

By R.W. Bro. Robert Collins McBride UE, B.Sc., M.Ed., 32° Freemason.

2014 Fall

Our first meeting of the year was on 25 January at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall. This was our traditional pot luck luncheon of salads and casseroles. Our guest speaker was author John Fielding who talked about his father not being a Bernardo Boy but from the Annie Macpherson group of youngsters who emigrated from Scotland.

Our 22 March meeting was our annual sandwich and square luncheon with our guest speaker being President Peter Milliken who spoke about the life of his cousin, The Honourable John Matheson. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the UELAC, the annual banquet of the Kingston and District Branch was held at the Donald Gordon Centre of Queen's University. The guest speaker was Mr. Paul Banfield, Queen's University Archivist. His talk was on the changes of the Katherine Ryan Library over the years. Most members have used this library in the research of their family history.

Our summer began in May with a two day heritage fair that took place at the Duncan MacArthur Hall Queen's University. This was a busy day as each student from a number of schools had to answer two questions from each display table. Our branch also handed out copies of *The Loyalist Gazette* to the students to take home for their parents to read.

12 June was once again declared Loyalist Day in Kingston with our mayor and the "Duty Band" (fifes and drums) from the Fort Henry Guard in attendance. Loyalist supporters, and, of course, passing tourists from around the world were in attendance as our Loyalist flag was raised over Confederation Park. 22 June was the annual Adolphustown church service and afternoon tea which was attended by a number of Loyalist members.

By Jim Long UE

LOYALIST DAY IN KINGSTON

All of Ontario celebrates June 19th as Loyalist Day in Ontario, but in Kingston, we also celebrate June 12th as Loyalist Day in Kingston.

"His Majesty approves the plan you have proposed for settling some of the Loyalists at Catarauqui and places adjacent" read the Royal Proclamation of George III received by Governor Haldimand at Quebec on 12 June 1784. According to the late historian Larry Turner, "Previous settlements comprised of colonial officials, soldiers and Indian agents at Niagara and Detroit are regarded as strategic bases rather than permanent communities and Haldimand's decision [to settle the Loyalists at Catarauqui, now Kingston] was the spark that transformed the wilderness peninsula north of Lake Ontario and Erie."

Each year we raise the Loyalist flag across from City Hall on June 12th, in commemoration of this major decision to found a new British province and populate it with Loyalists. An official Proclamation of the Day by the Mayor raises the profile of the Loyalist Association in the community.

By Nancy Cutway UE, Publicity Convenor, Kingston and District Branch UELAC

2015 Spring

Books are meant to be read. The Kingston and District Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada reached an agreement in December to place their collection of about 170 history books on permanent loan at the Central Branch of Kingston-Frontenac Public Library (KFPL).

Our fine collection of general and family Loyalist histories has been built over the past thirty-odd years by purchases and donations under the leadership of long-time Branch Librarian John Chard UE (died 2013). Many Loyalists across Canada will remember John, a former Dominion President and former long-time editor of *The Loyalist Gazette*. John's abiding passion was for educating occasions per year where the books were stored.

The books are now included in the KFPL catalogue, with a locator "*UELAC*." A spine label indicates that they remain property of the Branch. They have been shelved in the Kingston Room, and the library has graciously permitted us to include a shelf sign telling patrons about our Branch and how they may contact us. Now that we are able to share this collection on a non-circulating reference basis with anyone who wishes to use it: genealogists, students, and anyone interested in Canadian history, we may see students producing more Heritage Fair entries on Loyalists. Our own members will have easier access to the books as they prepare their applications for certification, and more people will learn about our Association.

Our next library project will be a new inventory of the numerous binders of family histories and other papers which remain in our cabinets.



Chief Librarian, Patricia Enright, and Peter Milliken UE President of Kingston & District Branch UELAC shake hands after signing agreement to place the UEL branch's book collection on permanent loan at KFPL.
Photo: Nancy Cutway UE

We remain without a Branch Librarian, (John Chard's shoes are hard to fill), but thanks to a small team of volunteers, we are successfully carrying out his vision of facilitating Loyalist awareness.

By Nancy Cutway UE, Publicity Chair, Kingston & District Branch

2016 Spring

Kingston and District Branch continues to have interesting speakers at our meetings, generally held the fourth Saturday of September, November, January and March, although this year the November meeting moved to one week later. We precede the official meeting with a potluck lunch, often sandwiches and squares although, for our January meeting, we warded off winter's chill with a collection of hot dishes featuring a hearty stew.

In September Mr. Nigel Day, OLS, OLIP, Head of the Geomatics Section at the Ministry of Transportation, Eastern Region, gave a most interesting talk about early surveying of pre-Loyalist settlements. Kingston Township was where the first survey was begun. He noted that there was some confusion because new instructions to the surveyors arrived after they had begun work, leading to some anomalies that remain today in the land surveys of Kingston Township, Frontenac County.

On 05 December 2015 we heard from Gordon Sly, a retired teacher who is active with the Frontenac County Schools Museum. He spoke about Education in the Nineteenth Century and, in particular, the role of Egerton Ryerson, appointed in 1844 as Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada. Ryerson introduced a uniform curriculum for the province, based in part upon the educational system then used in Ireland. Teachers were generally untrained and underpaid, but education was freely available and children were supposed to attend to age 14. Mr. Sly brought some interesting artefacts and pointed out that family historians may find photos of relatives among the numerous pictures of classes and schools held by the Museum.

In October our Branch Genealogist, Anne Redish UE, led a day-long workshop on preparing an application for Loyalist certification that drew a number of interested newcomers. Our membership continues to grow slowly but steadily.

By Nancy Cutway UE, Publicity Coordinator and Web Editor

2016 Fall

On 12 June 1784, Governor Frederick Haldimand received at Quebec the following proclamation from King George III: "His Majesty approves the plan you have proposed for settling some of the Loyalists at Cataraqui and places adjacent."

According to the late historian, Larry Turner, "Previous settlements comprised of colonial officials, soldiers and Indian agents at Niagara and Detroit are regarded as strategic bases rather than permanent communities and Haldimand's decision ... [to settle the Loyalists at Cataraqui] was the spark that transformed the wilderness peninsula north of Lake Ontario and Erie"

[Allegiance: the Ontario Story](#)

For the past decade, the Kingston and District Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada has celebrated "Loyalist Day in Kingston" each 12 June by raising the Queen Anne flag on the city flagpole opposite City Hall.

About a dozen members of the local Branch, accompanied by a fife and drum unit of the Fort Henry Guard, and special guest, Deputy Mayor Richard Allen, as well as dozens of excited tourists, watched as the Loyalist flag was raised. After the event, tourists asked to pose for photos beside our costumed members. A tourist from England asked several questions about who the Loyalists were, so we did accomplish our goal of education and consciousness-raising.

By Nancy Cutway UE