



Judy Scholz UE Chilliwack Branch UE (Recipient 2011)
Congratulating Gwen Dumfries UE 2012 Recipient

GWEN DUMFRIES UE – VANCOUVER BRANCH UELAC

PHILLIP E M LEITH MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATION 2012

We would like to nominate Gwen Dumfries UE of the Vancouver Branch UELAC for the Phillip E. M. Leith Memorial Award for 2012. Besides holding two very important positions for Vancouver Branch, she spends a great deal of her time and money crocheting items for raffle and gifts. She organizes and runs the 'General Store' at each meeting with the object of raising additional funds and volunteers at most of our outside events. As a Community leader, her diligence and years of devotion to the Girl Guides of Canada is definitely a feather in Gwen's cap. She is a very generous and conscientious person and a great asset to our UELAC Vancouver Branch.

Not only has Gwen carried out all of the above, but she does exemplify the true spirit of volunteerism. As Treasurer, Gwen had also hosted the Executive meetings in her home each month and offers her hospitality unconditionally. She has regularly served the Vancouver Branch Executive in many capacities for several years now. Presently she holds the positions of Branch Treasurer, and Membership Chairperson.

As Treasurer, Gwen's role has the following description:

- maintain an accurate record of all financial transactions, receipts and liabilities of the Branch
- collect all monies and make bank deposits
- write and direct cheques for incurred expenses (two signatures required)
- maintain a file of receipts
- present a treasurer's report at each Executive, Branch and Annual meeting
- prepare a budget late in the year for the coming year

As Membership Chairperson, Gwen's role has the following description:

- receive membership dues; send per capita dues and required membership information to Dominion Office as required using appropriate forms provided.
- report receipt of fees to membership co-ordinator

Her work and time spent with our Outreach & Education Program is nothing less than superlative. We will always treasure her role as “Gwennie,” the loyalist servant to the wife of loyalist chaplain, the Rev. John Bethune in our Production of “*Dressing a Loyalist*” and “*Flee to the Ship*”. These productions were presented at our local school Educational BC Heritage Fair and Pacific Regional Spring Fleet Celebrations. We look forward to future appearances of our delightful “Gwennie.”

Gwen received her ‘UE’ designation after a long search and after involving not only herself in her research but a number of genealogists. They were successful in finding that all elusive final primary documentation for her Loyalist Ancestor:

JOHN (JOHANNES) RYCKMAN

Military Service - 1777 - New York, taken prisoner for joining the Royal Standard (this was from when Wendy worked on this app)

Where Settled - Died shortly after arriving in Canada; Wife and children settled in Barton Township (now Hamilton, ON)

At one time John Ryckman was in Schenectady NY as his son's (Albert's) Baptism Record is with the Church Records of the Dutch Reformed Church, Schenectady, NY.

Some of Gwen's "Ryckman" ancestors are buried in Gore Cemetery, London, ON.

Yours truly,

Audrey J. Viken UE
Carl W W Szymiest UE
