

**Under the Tent on the grounds of the Little Hyatt One-Room Schoolhouse at Little Forks Branch UELAC.**

On a picture-perfect weekend between July 21 and 23, Grietje and I travelled to the Eastern Townships of Quebec to attend the Little Hyatt One-Room Schoolhouse fundraiser on Sunday



afternoon. The purpose of this fundraiser was to help pay for a new shingled roof. The enthusiasm for the project was infectious as we spoke to members who were eager to talk about the progress being made in this important local heritage project.

For several years the Association has supported Little Forks Branch with grants for a student to host visitors each summer.

Under a large tent, we heard a presentation by Jim Manson, a history professor at McGill University, about the trials of the Stacey family who lived south of Sherbrooke in the early 1800's. His



talk, divided into three parts, covered the early years of desperate struggle in the Eastern townships, followed by improvements in the next generation and finally the impact of the post-railway era on the Sherbrooke area of Quebec. His talk was based on the book Lifelines the Stacey letters written



by Jan Vansittart and available on Amazon.com.

The presentation was augmented from time to time with live musical performances by Mary White and Cora Loomis who sang numbers from the musical: *Louisa*.

The Little Forks Branch is certainly an example of an ongoing project that engages the membership, has a high community profile, and is a fine example of teamwork in action.

Sincerely and loyally yours,  
Robert C. McBride UE,  
UELAC Dominion President 2001 – 2013.

