Trip to Vancouver, British Columbia: 12 – 14 October, 2012

On October 12 my wife, Grietje, and I arrived in Vancouver to be met by Gerry Brown UE who ferried us to our hotel amid rain and low clouds. Vancouver was enjoying welcome rain after a long and unusually dry spell reminiscent to what Ontario has experienced this past summer. We were looking forward to meeting the members of Vancouver Branch the next day.

Saturday 13 October brought continual rain and the contrasting elegant ambiance of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club where, thanks to the generosity of Yacht Club member, Rebecca Fraser UE, the 80th anniversary Founder's Luncheon took place.

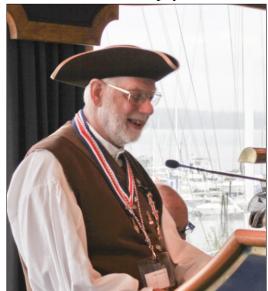


for the next year. Marsha Hansen UE, of Mission, British Columbia, was the winner of this draw. The Phillip E.M. Leith award was established in 2007 and is exclusively awarded to a member of the four Branches in the UELAC Pacific Region. Elizabeth Aberdeen UE, President of the Victoria Branch. introduced this vear's first recipient, Robert Ferguson UE, of the Carl Stymiest Victoria Branch. introduced the second recipient, Gwen Dumfries UE. Both winners received special certificates and an engraved Phillip

Surrounded by large windows, mirrors and the beautiful dark woods of the dining room, Vancouver President, Carl Stymiest UE, presided over this joyful occasion. This Branch meets monthly and certainly recognizes volunteerism with its Phillip E.M. Leith UE Memorial Award and its Membership Early Bird Drive Lottery that pays for one winner of a membership draw to receive free membership



Leith Medallion and trophy.



After I brought greetings on behalf of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, entitled "Teamwork in the UELAC", Dr. Peter Moogk UE, the guest speaker of the day, spoke about the War of 1812, his topic being "Major General Isaac Brock in 1812: Saviour of Canada?"



The Branch Genealogist, Linda Nygard UE, Vancouver President, Carl Stymiest UE, and I







memories this of celebration. Carl searched my wife's Loyalist ancestor, Sergeant Gabriel Purdy UE, and gave her a box of Purdy's chocolates made by Purdy's Chocolate Company started by Richard Cameron Purdy of London, Ontario, who went west to Vancouver around the turn of the last century. We had and idea were thoroughly and pleasantly surprised.

with

fond

display

To top it off, I was very pleased to meet my cousins, Robert Collins (Bob) Proctor UE, and his sister, Lynn Ella (nee Proctor) Bokamyer UE, and their spouses, Peter

and Ellen, at the Yacht Club, not having seen Bob since the 1960s and Lynn since 1981 when she visited us in our home in Ontario with Peter and their daughter, Lisa, then eightyears old. It was great to get together with them once again and to join Bob and his wife, Ellen, for dinner on Saturday evening.





Thank you, Vancouver Branch and Pacific Region.



Sincerely and loyally,

Robert C. McBride (Bob) UE, UELAC Dominion President 2012 – 2013.