THE LOYALIST LINK UP

The Badge of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.

Published by
CHILLIWACK BRANCH
THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

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THE LOYALIST LINK UP

October 11, 2000

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am sure many of you, like me, took time to reflect on the death of Pierre Elliott Trudeau.

I believe that by his death, and his son Justin's eulogy, we were once again reminded, and stirred, to believe in this great country of ours. Canada, a beautiful vast area which our forefathers were so instrumental in establishing.

"*...A country is something that is built every day out of certain basic shared values. And so it is in the hands of every Canadian to determine how well and wisely we shall build the country of the* future."

- Pierre Elliott Trudeau

Remembering and building on the past, we look to the future. "*It's all up to us, all of us, now*"

- Justin Trudeau.

As we celebrate our tenth anniversary of our Chilliwack Branch, we look back with pride on our accomplishments these past few years. Accomplishments by the vibrant, dedicated and caring folk that make up our membership.

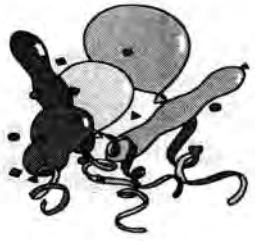
I THANK YOU ALL for your support and service!

Let us challenge ourselves to further spread the word of our rich heritage of which we are so proud! It is all up to us!

Loyally, Shirley Dargatz, U.E.
(President)

Shirley Dargatz

HAPPY 10TH ANNIVERSARY Chilliwack Branch U.E.L.



Charter Oct. 18, 1990

Well Said
Comments from Vera Webb, U.E. charter member.

Is it really ten years since that rainy night when you arrived with ten signatures and we thought we might get a Branch?

Ten years since the Charter night? The food was great - but I was wearing that historic night dress and I fell into the icing on the cake!! Remember??

Well, we've had a lot of fun - we're never dull - made a lot of friends - learned a lot - had a lot of certificates - and I'm still here to take your membership money.

10th Anniversary
Gathering of the Clan
Sunday October 15
2 p.m.
Cooke's Presbyterian Church
The 10th Anniversary symbol is aluminum, stronger as an alloy - reminding us that there is strength in numbers.

CALENDAR LINKS

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
"The Gifts of Heritage"
Saturday December 9
12:00 Noon
Turkey Dinner

Mark the date NOW. (Pretend it's Regis asking!) Phone in your reservations to Shirley 858-6748. Please save us a lot of calling around.

MEMBERSHIP

The deadline Cometh December 31, 2000

Fees $45

Our per capita dues are payable to the Association prior to Feb. 1, 2001.

This year's membership is 63 (still tops in Western Canada we believe) but Edmonton is catching up to us.

Note that their Branch took an upsurge after their tenth anniversary three years ago. (Hint! Hint!)

ABBOTSFORD GENEALOGICAL SEMINAR

2000
Saturday, October 21
Abbotsford Pentecostal Assembly
3145 Gladwin Rd.,
Abbotsford

Loyalist Session 2 - 4 p.m.
Discussion Leaders: Shirley Dargatz, U.E. "The Role of the U.E.L. Association Then and Now". "Finding More About Your Loyalist Ancestors", Lois Dickinson, U.E., C.M.H.

Help is needed and your appearance at the Seminar will confirm that U.E.L. is alive and well in the valley.

It may also still be possible to attend one or two other sessions such as Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet, Sherry Irvine, author of Your Scottish Ancestry.

CONFERENCE 2001

June 7 - 10, 2001

It's not too soon to plan your "Heritage Odyssey 2001" - the U.E.L.A.C. Conference in Cornwall, Ontario, hosted by our "Twin Branch" - St. Lawrence Branch. It takes place at Nav. Canada with world class convention facilities managed by the Marriott Hotel. This is located in the three united counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry where most of the soldiers of the First Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York settled.

The program is now planned. The highlights will be two tours - The Loyalist and Nor'wester Tour of Glengarry and Eastern Stormont, and the Lost Villages and Loyalist Tour of Dundas and Stormont.

The tours are of particular interest to us because they take in the areas known to Simon Fraser and Alexander MacKenzie and also provide opportunity to visit the explorers burial sites.

An added feature will be Glengarry Night, and Palatine Night..

Birch Van Horne, U.E., Mary Van Horne, U.E., Allan Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy, U.E. have visited Cornwall and will certainly assure us of the great time we'll have there.

Information will be in the Fall *Gazette* expected soon.

HERITAGE LINKS

Certificate Presentations

We reported to the Fall *Gazette* that a significant number of certificates to mark our ten years would be presented at our anniversary - and we've made it - five U.E. certificates and five Service certificates for five Associate members.

Receiving U.E. certificates are Joanne Bale, Carol Cook, Lois Dickinson, U.E., Lola Thelander, and Cleo Walters.

Joanne, accompanied by daughters Jennifer and Hayley obtains her U.E. in the name of Peter Stoner. She was encouraged to apply by her aunt, a member of Toronto Branch who now lives in New Zealand. E-mails went back and forth, access to documents was granted and Martha Hemphill, U.E. of Toronto Branch did further research culminating in today's presentation.

Here's hoping the girls now in grades 9 and 11 will add to the list.

Carol Cook who lives in Coquitlam first came to a U.E.L. Heritage Week meeting a while back - and now she too has claimed her U.E. - recognizing Loyalist Darius Pace of Nova Scotia.

Lois Dickinson's first certificate was presented in 1984 by their then president Doreen Todhunter, U.E. at Vancouver Branch's spring luncheon. Lois is pleased now to have a certificate from Chilliwack Branch of which she was founding president. She chose Hugh Cowperthwaite (from some 11 Loyalist ancestors) because he provides a link to the Farley family who were Pre-Loyalists to New Brunswick and thus also honours her late brother Farley Dickinson well known as a national Credit Union executive and policy maker.

Lola Thelander didn't have a chance with cousin Jerry Brown and Jean and then her sister Marion Reid and nephew Alan all U.E.L. so she too claims her U.E. from Loyalist James Brown (See accompanying write-up)

Cleo Walters and husband Fred were first introduce to the Branch shortly after coming here from Belleville, Ontario. At Cooke's Presbyterian they met Jan Oullet, always an enthusiastic U.E.L. booster and their association with our Branch began. Cleo's documented Loyalist ancestor acknowledged today is George Schriver of Ontario.

Fellow Loyalists, please welcome Joanne Bale, U.E., Carol Cook, U.E., Lois Dickinson, U.E., Lola Thelander, U.E. and Cleo Walters, U.E.

And we might note that these certificates come about because of a sharing of U.E.L. with family and friends.

A UNIQUE PRESENTATION

Our first certificate presentation to a member living in the United States took place on October 4 when a number of representatives travelled to Everett, Washington to recognize Lola Thelander, U.E. Lola is the sister of Marion Reid, U.E. and cousin of Jeremiah Brown, U.E. Lola's certificate makes eleven granted in the name of Loyalist James Brown of Nova Scotia.

President Shirley Dargatz, U.E. presided at the traditional presentation ceremony. Others attending were Jean and Jerry Brown, U.E., Jan Oulett, and Irving and Marion Reid, U.E. who also represented their son Alan Reid, U.E.

Following the presentation the group enjoyed lunch at an Everett restaurant.

The visit was especially fitting since it was Lola's late husband who began the Brown research - a mass of material which Jerry acquired in a suitcase and which ultimately Genealogist Mildred Hall, U.E. successfully sorted.

Congratulations Lola and happy "wintering" in Arizona. Thank you for caring about your Canadian heritage.

Note: The nephews of the late Col. Jack Aird, U.E. who live in Michigan received certificates by mail a few years ago.

"The Top Ten" Most Certificates Awarded Through our Branch 1990 - 2000

The Brown descendants with 11 certificates are catching up to Alisen Barkley, U.E. whose family holds 13 certificates honouring Findlay Murdock U.E.L. of Nova Scotia...and adding Don Archibald, U.E. there are 14 certificates in the Murdock name.

Number three spot is the John Thornton descendants with 9, Chris Hay U.E. and family with 8 certificates (Cougle, Stockton) Bob Bessey 8 certificates, Audrey Maclean, U.E. and her family 6 and Lorna Henderson U.E. and the Nicholas Mattice descendants 6, Phyllis Hill U.E. and extended family 5, Jack Aird U.E. 5, Dennis Webb, U.E. with 4 from our Branch and still hoping to reach his father's 11 and Bill Wagar, U.E. and family 4.

Service Awards

Completing our ten certificates are five service awards for people who have supported the Branch and the cause of U.E.L. in outstanding ways.

Honoured today are Jean Brown, Alice Carter, Vi Dickinson, Ed Wilson. Jean is our Secretary and does Publicity and with husband Jerry, our Vice-President, performs many other creative and helpful tasks. Alice Carter is always assisting our Social Convenor - often after a prior busy session with after church coffee. Ed Wilson is our Web Master with our excellent site often mentioned in our contacts with other Branches. He's also not afraid to wear a Loyalist hat and is a great help at many functions. Right now he's encouraging wife Barb to keep researching her Loyalist ancestry.

Vi Dickinson was our genial hostess and help-mate during the years we met at the Senior Rec centre. She rarely misses a meeting and continues to be a very special person to her daughter, her sister-in-law and to us.

Of these five only Alice may have U.E.L. roots - hence their service is all the more admirable and may be in order for Honorary Associate certificates.

Thank you all.

LOYALIST OF THE MONTH

Hugh Cowperthwaite

Hugh Cowperthwaite was a well known Loyalist in New Jersey, Philadelphia, New York and New Brunswick.

The Cowperthwaites were early settlers in the American colony of New Jersey. They had, however, a long history in England where a number of their homes may possibly still be seen today. The name Hugh continues through many generations.

One can well imagine then, "our Hugh's" reluctance in 1778 to take the oath of allegiance to the American states. Thus he was forced to flee to Philadelphia. He became part of a Loyalist garrison at Billingsport on the Delaware River. He brought 30 - 40 others (some sources say 50) to the Loyalist cause and was named a captain in the New Jersey Volunteers.

In skirmishes against the Continental troops he captured several important officers.

When Philadelphia was evacuated, Cpt. Cowperthwaite went to New York where he served in De Lancey's Brigade.

At war's end he went as a Loyalist to Sunbury Cty., New Brunswick. He married Sarah Meade (also a Loyalist name) and it is their daughter Elizabeth who became the ancestor of several members of the U.E.L. Association.

Elizabeth also was no stranger to hardship. She married James Banks. (of Loyalist descent) With his family in mind, James went hunting in the fall of the year and sadly he never returned.

(cont.)

When spring came his body was found - apparently killed by a tomahawk. At one point, too, a Banks home burned.

James and Elizabeth Cowperthwaite Banks had a son William who is known as the Great Great Grandfather of the Rogers/Dickinson families.

Elizabeth lived to a great age and was cared for by William and his wife Elizabeth Tompkins. (Loyalist descent) Their daughter Eliza Jane married James N. Farley. The Farley name has remained as a Christian name in this family.

Hugh Cowperthwaite, Loyalist seems to have had considerable means. He claimed 964 pounds in reparations, of which he was allowed 444 pounds - still a substantial amount in those times. In his will he remembered son David and daughters Elizabeth and Charity.
The latter married James Harrison who was elected to government.

Hugh Cowperthwaite's name as seen in Loyalist Lineages, continues from coast to coast, as his descendants claim their "inheritance of history" with U.E. certificates.

HISTORY LINKS

Note to Marj & Bob Bessey, U.E. Happy Commuting. The first train rolled into Guelph on Jan. 30, 1856. Cannons boomed and crowds cheered and a cow upset a pail of milk when the train snorted. The trains were yellow and brown - the color of the Grand Trunk Railway which first operated the line.

The present station, from which Bob embarks to do genealogy research in Toronto, was built in 1911 by CNR.

Condolences to Phyllis Hill, U.E. and all the other former students of Greendale Elementary which burned in September. The school's great spirit was evident at a marvellous reunion in 1986. At that time students from 1909 attended.

Greendale, originally Sumas, was a pioneer settlement of Chilliwack. The school building held its 60th anniversary on Oct. 10, 1987. The first school in 1871 - 1872 was in this area.

"Say cheese" to Doreen Todhunter, U.E. and other family members. On a brief visit this summer to Beamsville, Ontario on the Niagara Peninsula we learned that one of Doreen's Loyalist ancestors Jacob Beam, for whom the town is named, is believed to have made the first cheese in the area and planted the first peach tree. He also gave land in 1808 for what is now one of the two oldest Baptist churches in Ontario - First Baptist Church, Beamsville. There were several Beam names in the church cemetery. We also saw Jacob Beam Elementary School.

ROUND AND ABOUT

Welcome to Bonnie Corcoran - who with husband Paul has moved to Chilliwack and a location dear to us - Promontory Estates - the complex where Doreen and her sister Phyllis Sutton, U.E. formerly lived.

Bonnie is no stranger to Chilliwack - many relatives lived here and she knows well the story of "Grandma Bellrose" (and Grandpa) early settlers at the edge of Sumas Lake.

Bonnie has been active with the Abbotsford Genealogy Group and is researching a Loyalist Bonsteel ancestor.

Welcome back to Birch Van Horne, U.E., and Mary Van Horne, U.E. who enjoyed a fabulous trip to England via the Queen Elizabeth II.

Meanwhile Shirley Dargatz, U.E. Leone and Gordon Taylor, U.E. were amongst those who thrilled at the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany.

It's been an especially happy Thanksgiving for Doreen Todhunter, U.E. who entered hospital suddenly and unexpectedly on May 25 - (Spring Fleet Day) and finally made it home Sept. 18. She's doing well and is the same indomitable Doreen. Gladys Van Baaren, our Honorary Member has been with family in Kamloops after two minor falls.

FAMILY LINKS

Gerry and Sharon Lawrence are celebrating the birth of their first grandchild - a grand daughter Emleigh Reid Pearson born Sept. 20 in Burnaby. This precious little girl is the daughter of Kim Lawrence and her husband Todd Pearson. Her first trip was for Thanksgiving to her grandparents in Sardis where she also met her great grandmother Betty Tatm (Reid) visiting from Quelph, Ontario to welcome here first great grand child. Also rejoicing in the new baby is Eunice Lawrence of Guelph who now has 22 grand children.

Emleigh Reid Pearson is also a U.E. baby because she's a descendant of Loyalist John Lawrence of Ontario. Perhaps she'll be invited to the ceremony when Grandfather Gerry receives his certificate. Congratulations and Best Wishes to all.

YOUTH LINKS

Our youngest members continue to excel in a variety of activities.

Hats off to J.D. Margetts U.E. of Williams Lake who recently won first place in weight lifting for his age group in both the B.C. and Western Canada finals. He goes on to compete at the World Championship in Las Vegas in November.

His wins were even more notable because J.D. had only participated in the activity for a very short time.

Amongst J.D.'s fans are his parents John and Maureen Margetts, U.E., his grandparents Art and Phyllis Hill, U.E., and of course our Branch members. Way to go, J.D. - but how does it compare with hockey?

We should be waving our flags for the accomplishments of the Perrie boys.

Tyler Perrie, U.E. now in Grade 9 at Robert Bateman School, Abbotsford was one of only five B.C. young people chosen this summer to attend the Milennium Youth Symposium at Constance Lake, Ontario. The First Aid Competition with Tyler as Captain won both the region and all B.C.

Tyler was named Top Teen Captain for the region. It was a family affair with brother Justin Perrie, UE., 13, as Assistant Captain and doing well in only his second year with Air Cadets. He attended two weeks of basic training at Albert Head in Victoria.

Meanwhile Curtis Perries U.E., 11, has had a successful year in sports and Scouts culminating on a five day houseboat trip on the Shuswap.

At the family campground Curtis is descibed as a "Social Convenor" because he makes so many friends. This the boys do well at U.E.L. meetings. At Air Cadets, Tyler is Commander of the Colour Party and carries the flag with the same pride he does for us. Well done boys!

Ken McIntyre, U.E. grandson of the late Phyllis Sutton, U.E. also received a special honour this summer.

At Government House in Victoria, Lieut. Gov. Garde Gardom presented Ken with the Duke of Edinburgh's silver award for achievement in the Youth Challenge.

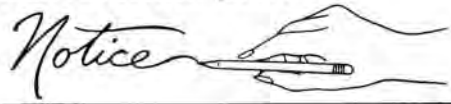
What a proud moment, Ken!

Justin Reid of Sardis was selected to attend Shattuck, Saint Mary's, one of the continent's premier prep schools for both academics and hockey. Last year there were only two other Canadians attending. Justin is the grandson of Irving and Marion Reid, U.E. He shares hockey prowess with his sister Cassie who was also chosen to attend the school. She is one of the best female players in the Lower Mainland and a straight A student but she's opted to continue her career here.

"LINK UP"

NEXT DEADLINE November 15

More items for Family and Member Links and other U.E.L. information would be appreciated. Send material to Branch address or email Art Keller. (address on cover)



IN MEMORIAM

Kimberly Clarkson Jones, U.E.
August 10, 1920 - August 3, 2000

Chilliwack Branch was saddened to report the death of one of our staunchest members Kimberely Clarkson Jones, U.E. of Abbotsford. He was affectionately known to us as K.C. or Kim. At his Memorial Service, the minister told a well packed church that the word "passionate" would best describe K.C.

Certainly K.C. was passionate about his U.E.L. heritage and his concern for Canada today. Everyone whom we met at the post-memorial reception knew the moving story of K.C.'s ancestor Ralph Morden who was hanged for refusing to disclose information about Loyalist scout Robert Land. The story became even more real for K.C. when, at a Chilliwack Branch meeting, he met Phyllis Dahl, U.E., a descendant of Robert Land who had lived to become one of the founders of Hamilton.

K.C. shared his great camaraderie with her and a Morden cousin Charlotte Wood, U.E. discovered in U.E.L. It was his desire to include family and to attend a national conference but his illness prevented him from doing so.

It was a proud moment for K.C. Jones, U.E. when in May 1997 he received (at City Hall 1912- 1979)now the distinguished Chilliwack Museum, his certificate in the name of Richard Morden, U.E.L. son of Joseph, son of Ralph.

Chilliwack Branch meetings always took on extra fun when K.C. and Yvonne arrived. He was a fascinating raconteur and conversationalist. With great gusto, he led our first "Ships on Sticks" parade in May 1997 honouring the 1783 Loyalist landing in Saint John, N.B. Everyone along the busy thoroughfare that day discovered K.C.'s enthusiasm that was an example to all.

K.C. was born in Kitchener but had links to many areas of Canada. In Abbotsford he was a nationally known apiarist, the third generation to practice bee keeping. Here too, like the little creatures, he was industrious and a fine leader. He served our Branch well - phoning and caring for the health of members - and always searching out new prospects. Like his forbears, he was a fighter and endured cancer with fortitude. He will be much missed and we extend sympathy to his wife Yvonne (also a regular attender) and the family.

Rev. Gordon Lyle Taylor, U.E.
September 13, 1931 - September 12, 2000

The Chilliwack Branch was much diminished with the sudden passing on Sept. 12 of Rev. Gordon Taylor, U.E. but he has left us a rich legacy of caring and participation.

Family was very important to Gordon and indeed as one member said "He was like a cousin to all of us".

In fact, he was the brother of Dorothy Miller, U.E. and the cousin of Shirley Dargatz, U.E., Judy Scholz, U.E., Bob Armstrong, U.E., Vi Boyd, U.E, Doug Thornton, U.E., Evelyn Mitchell, U.E., Sara Cramer, U.E.

With these names we realize his relationship to the pioneer Thornton family. Actually, our first meeting with Gordon and his wife Leone took place when a couple of us were having lunch at the Royal Hotel. The man was explaining in the Homestead Room the historic picture of the Thornton family. Shirley went over and discovered the cousin she had not seen in many years. Thus began our association with Gordon.

We soon learned he believed in commitment and performance. He never hesitated to undertake any task assigned to him. He learned the Canadian Carol composed by Father Brebeuf so he could sing for us at a Christmas function. He used his powerful solo voice again in our fun group The U.E. Yellers. He proposed the toast to the Queen innumerable times - with proper protocol - but then with a pixie-like touch of Gordon humour. The high point of this commitment was when he donned a somewhat amateurish costume for the role of Town Crier at the 1994 convention. From the steps of city hall museum his loud "Oyez! Oyez!" emphatically declared U.E.L. Week in B.C.

At subsequent conventions we're often asked "Where did you get the man with the marvellous voice?"

Oyz! Oyez! Your heritage is important.

Gordon served on the Mission Boat "Thomas Crosby" on the west coast. We're reminded of the line from Crossing the Bar "And may there be no moaning of the bar when I set out to sea." So be it Gordon - but we'll miss you.

Our thoughts are with Leone and Dorothy and family.

Gordon's Benediction

As he used to say: "Now as we leave this place; continue that good work you began in us; until the shadows lengthen, the day fades away and you call us at last to your eternal home. But in the meantime, give us a sparkle in the eye, a hop in our step, some love in our hearts just because we are known of you. And let your grace, peace and love abide."

ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR
Chilliwack Branch

HISTORY LINKS
Origin of Chilliwack Branch

Summer 1990 - Discussions held re feasibility of starting a Branch.
Sept. 1990 - A letter bearing the signature of Andrew V. Webb U.E. (10 certificates) is forwarded to Toronto to request formation of a U.E.L Branch in Chilliwack.
Sept. 18, 1990 - Doreen Todhunter U.E., C.M.H. who had recently moved to Chilliwack and Lois Dickinson, U.E., former member of Vancouver Branch, take bus to Vancouver to confer with Vancouver Branch re approving a branch in Chilliwack. En route they consider many possible names but decide to "keep it simple" and stick with the geographic name (Whoever said the name Chilliwack was simple!) Vancouver Branch members led by John Graham, Duncan Ellis and Peter Moogk, endorse the idea of a new Branch.

Chilliwack reps return home, elated, only to find from Regional V.P. John Orr in Victoria, that a Dominion Council meeting is imminent and there may not be time to get a petition prepared and forwarded. John suggests the petition be faxed to Toronto. Unfamiliar with Doreen's typewriter, Lois types up a petition and Doreen and she dash around from home to home that dark, rainy night getting the required 10 signatures and the members' certificate numbers.

They are thrilled with the response they receive. Lois is called to substitute next day and Doreen carries on. It is decided to put the names in alphabetical order. Over from Agassiz come Ron and Maureen Todhunter who cut and paste and type again. We are unused to faxing at this time, (but boy, did we learn quickly) Linda Todhunter's law office agreed to help and the fax is sent off to Toronto before the school day is out. Our petition is probably the only one ever faxed. "It's legal" said John Orr.

It is known that Dominion Association President Arnold Nethercott will be in B.C. in mid-October and plans begin to hold a Charter Night on October 18.

The District Council is invited - likely Loyalist descendants (70 of them including spouses) are contacted and then - a hitch develops - there will be a delay in Toronto while petitioners' credentials are checked. Arnold Nethercott is somewhere travelling across Canada - and he doesn't have the Charter!!

John Orr comes to the rescue. The Charter is approved and Dorothy Chisholm at Dominion office takes it in hand. (See Toronto Branch Fidelity) The Charter arrives on time. (by Courier)

October 18 dawns.

Lois is collecting autumn leaves and memorial blue hydrangea flowers from Chilliwack Junior Secondary. A concerned custodian new to the school becomes protective of the blue bushes and for a moment it seems there won't be any table centres for the charter night.

The day passes. Doreen and Vona have found costumes for everyone, including a voluminous 1867 cotton night gown for Vera. It's 4 p.m.. The workers arrive at the Museum to set things up. Everything is rush, rush! And suddenly an unknown man and lady arrive. Whoops! It's the Dominion President and we aren't ready! He's checking because he's heard from Toronto that the Charter is in Chilliwack.

Indeed it was - and the night of October 18, 1990 goes down as a very special one in Chilliwack history.

The potluck was excellent - the Charter Ceremony impressive - and thus was launched our Chilliwack Branch. The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.

In the next while our first new contacts came - Phyllis Dahl, and then Bill Horne.

Genealogical Workshops were held in November and February 2. On April 11, we rejoiced to present our first U.E. certificate to Mildred Evans Hall.

In June Rosemarie Curylo was our first representative to an Annual Convention. She drove all night from a business conference in New England to get to Toronto on time. Thus began our links with the east which mean so much to us.

Some highlights of History

October 18, 1995 - Over 70 attend Charter Night and Pot luck at Museum. With guests Dominion President Arnold Nethercott and his wife Barbara
April 1991 - First U.E. certificate presented to Mildred Evans Hall, U.E.
1992 - Genealogy brief from B.C. Branches presented to National Convention, Ottawa
- Second in National Membership competition.
1993 - Expanding liaisons with Victoria and Vancouver Branches
1994 - The U.E.L. Convention in B.C.
Welcome to B.C. Dinner for tour buses from Calgary en route to A.G.M. , Vancouver and on to Victoria
1994 - Education Project at Evans School
1995 - Chartering of Thompson-Okanagan Branch
- Mini Convention for B.C. Branches

HISTORY LINKS

Since then...

1994 - Presentation of Loyalist rose to Minter Gardens.

- Chilliwack Branch newsletter *Link Up* is first distributed.

1995 - Memorial Library established.

- Lois Dickinson - Education Chair/Mini Convention

1996 - Education Program with Victoria.

- Delegates to Maritime Conference
- Participation in B.C. Genealogy Conference
- Remembrance Day Wreath began

1997 - Delegates to Winnipeg

1998 - Largest Branch in Western Canada

1999 - Shirley Dargatz, Regional V.P. Participation in Regional Heritage Fair.

2000 - Mini Convention and Heritage Fair.

N.B. Those Loyalists who have adhered to the Unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard (in America) before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, and

all their Children and their Descendants by either sex, are to be distinguished by the following capitals affixed to their names:

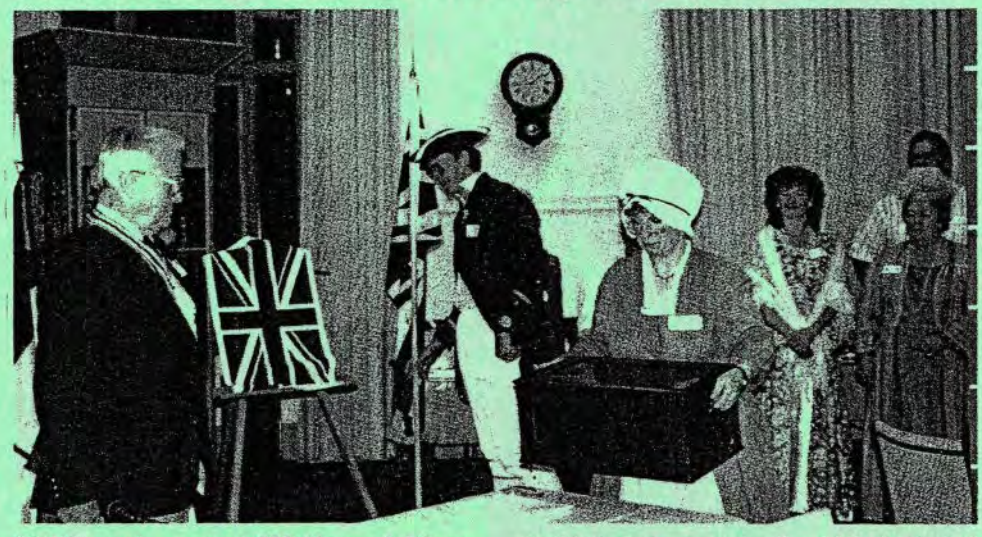
U.E.

Charter Members

WE, the undersigned, respectfully petition The Dominion Council of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada to grant a charter to form a branch in Chilliwack, British Columbia. This branch to be known as the CHILLIWACK BRANCH.

Petitioners:	MC #	
George De Witt, U.E. Suite # 1305 - 45650 McIntosh, Chilliwack, B.C.	2017-81	G. B. DeWitt U.E.
Lois A. Dickinson, U.E. Suite # 104 - 45810 - 1st Avenue, Chilliwack, B.C.	3011-84	Lois A. Dickinson U.E.
Arthur Keller, U.E. 45636 Fernway, Chilliwack, B.C.	3868-87	A. H. Keller U.E.
Maribel G. Roos, U.E. 46197 Princess Avenue, Chilliwack, B.C.	3012-84	Maribel Roos U.E.
Scott R.A. Roos, U.E. 46197 Princess Avenue, Chilliwack, B.C.	3010-84	Scott Roos U.E.
Doreen Todhunter, U.E. 34-8500 Young Road, Chilliwack, B.C.	1468-76	D B Todhunter U.E.
Linda Todhunter, U.E. P.O. Box 951 Agassiz, B.C.	1831-78	L. Todhunter, U.E.
Ronald Todhunter, U.E. P.O. Box 702 Agassiz, B.C.	1832-78	R. Todhunter U.E.
Andrew Webb, U.E. 10310 Wedgewood, Chilliwack, B.C.	3200-84	Andrew Webb, U.E.
Vera Webb, U.E. 10310 Wedgewood, Chilliwack, B.C.	3656-86	Vera Webb, U.E.

Shown during the arrival of the charter are: President Nethercott, Scott Ross (in uniform), Maribel Roos (holding McCutcheon Document Box), Linda, Doreen, Ron Todhunter.



Chilliwack Branch

BRANCH CHARTERED IN B.C.

Loyalists are where you find them, and on Thursday, October 19, 1990, Dominion President, Arnold W. Nethercott, U.E., found them in goodly numbers 70 miles east of Vancouver, B.C., at Chilliwack, the second oldest incorporated municipality in the province.

At the Chilliwack Museum, formerly the City Hall, (1912-1979) now a recognized National Historic Site, President Nethercott officiated at the ceremony granting a charter to THE CHILLIWACK BRANCH, The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. This branch becomes the first new branch in B.C. in almost 60 years.

The charter was granted on petition of George De Witt, U.E., (Evert and Jacob De Wit, U.E., Ontario) Lois Dickinson, U.E., (Richard Rogers, U.E., New Brunswick) Arthur Keller, U.E., (Frederick Keller, U.E., Ontario) Maribel Roos, U.E., (Richard Rogers, U.E., New Brunswick) Scott Roos, U.E., (Richard Rogers, U.E., New Brunswick) Linda Todhunter, U.E., (Robert Campbell, U.E., Ontario) Ronald Todhunter, U.E. (Robert Campbell, U.E., Ontario) Doreen Todhunter, U.E. (Robert Campbell, U.E., Ontario) Andrew Webb, U.E., (Richardson Webb, New Brunswick) and Vera Webb, U.E. (Isaiah Kierstead, U.E., New Brunswick)

Chilliwack means "Valley of Many Streams" and there were indeed many streams of history evident on Charter Night...all of them tributaries of those first Loyalist settlements in the Maritimes and Upper and Lower Canada. Tributaries linking the east with the western pioneers of the 1850's, the early 1900's, the post World War II years, and the present. Tributaries from generation to generation.

The Museum was crowded with some 70 people in attendance. They came to remember Loyalists with such names as William Casey of Napanee, the Kipp and Reece Families of Princeton, Ontario, Daniel Keith of New Brunswick, Jeremiah Brown of Nova Scotia, the Carmans of what is now Upper Canada Village, Abel Stafford of Bruce and Grey County, Ont., the Vickersons of P.E.I., and others like them.

They came and rejoiced that the dream of a charter was coming true.

The charter ceremony was brief, but impressive. The Union Jack was carried by seventeen year old Scott Roos, U.E., a resplendent six foot six, in a Butler's Rangers Officer's uniform loaned by Robert Bessey, U.E., a former president of the Vancouver Branch.

Scott was followed by his mother Maribel Roos, in Loyalist costume, who carried the charter in the historic document box used by John McCutcheon, first reeve of Chilliwack Municipality in 1873. Reeve McCutcheon was from Ireland but he presided over a council which included several Loyalist descendants.

President Nethercott, seated in a City Council chair, circa 1912, signed the charter with flourish and then presented it to Andrew Webb who holds ten certificates. The ten petitioners joined Mr. Webb in loyally accepting the charter. With them was Rosemary Curlyo, U.E.. The other guests then stood in recognition of their commitment.

It was a happy, colourful evening with the program preceded by a pot luck supper of true Loyalist hospitality. A Loyalist cake was cut by Betty Keller and Vera Webb.

Tables were centred with nosegays of B.C. dogwoods linked with red Ontario maple leaves from the trees sent here for Henry Kipp (believed to be a Loyalist descendant) who came from Ontario in 1864. The nosegays also contained blue hydrangeas from the memorial garden at Chilliwack Junior Secondary School where 22 bushes commemorate the students who lost their lives on active service with the R.C.A.F. in World War II. The Chilliwack people were very moved, when, at the end of the evening, Mrs. Nethercott collected some hydrangea sprigs to take home.

Further colour was added by a number of Loyalist and pioneer costumes including those worn by Mary Van Horne, Doreen Todhunter, Vona Smith (Vancouver), Joan Fishleigh (Vancouver), Dolly Hannay (Vancouver), and Vera Webb in an

The signing of the Charter

authentic, voluminous 1867 Ontario cotton wedding nightgown and cap, (from the collection of the late Belle Dickinson Hall of Chilliwack and Forest, Ontario.)

On a more official note, greetings were brought by Alderman Gary Mason, District of Chilliwack, himself inquiring about possible Loyalist ancestry from Nova Scotia. Peggy Still, President of the Chilliwack Museum and Historical Society, extended greetings on behalf of its 550 members.

Messages of congratulation were received from John Orr, U.E., Regional Vice-President, whose bout of flu prevented his attendance. Greetings were also forwarded from Eleanor Sanderson, U.E., President of the Victoria Branch, the senior branch in B.C.

The Vancouver Branch (established 1932) was represented by John Graham, U.E., Vice-President; along with Vona Smith, U.E., past genealogist; Joan Fishleigh, present genealogist; and Dolly Hannay, branch treasurer, and new president of the B.C. Genealogical Society.

Mr. Graham presented several valuable reference books and an extensive collection of *Loyalist Gazettes*, as Vancouver's welcome to the new branch. He stated that Vancouver looked forward to further liaison and fellowship with Chilliwack.

Joan Fishleigh, at Victoria's request, presented other reference books forwarded from the Victoria Branch as their chartering gift. Andrew Webb, the Chilliwack genealogist, was delighted with the presentations.

Arthur Keller, Vice-President, presented President Nethercott with a Museum sketch on a pewter plaque for Dominion Headquarters. Mrs. Nethercott received a basket of red, white, and blue flowers carried by little Joylene Higginson and her sister Jody representing the Sir Leonard Tilley family of New Brunswick. Museum souvenir pins were given to Mr. Graham and Mr. Nethercott.

The ten petitioners were thrilled with the community response, the support of the Vancouver and Victoria Branches, and the friendliness and encouragement President and Mrs. Nethercott. Many the guests commented about the ea with which they met the Nethercotts and the helpful way in which the president answered their questions. They went from the meeting, enthusiastic to proceed with their research and U.E. ancestor proofs.

Lois Dickinson, Chilliwack President Pro Tem introduced the Loyalist descendants and commented that a Maritime Province club in Chilliwack had contact with the Vancouver Branch in 1933, and might be considered a forerunner of the new branch. She paid tribute to Vona Smith who conducted a series of workshops in Chilliwack over the past eight years.

Special mention was made of John Orr, Regional Vice-President, who played a major role in establishing the branch. The meeting passed a motion of appreciation to be forwarded to Mr. Orr. A second motion of appreciation was received f the Vancouver Branch.

The Chilliwack Branch also thanks Pres dent Nethercott, Vice-President Paul Clark, and office administrator, Dorothy Chisholm for their assistance.

We invite any Loyalists who visit the Fraser Valley to visit us.

Pro Tem officers of the new branch are: Lois Dickinson, President; Art Keller, Vice-President; Maribel Roos, Secretary; Betty Keller, Treasurer; and Andrew Webb, Genealogist.

Alderman Mason, Mrs. Nethercott, Birch and Mary Van Horne have a chat.