

LOYALIST LINK-UP

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

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SALUTE TO THE SPRING FLEET MAY 2002



Cry of the Loyalist Refugee

*A fanciful lot, our treacherous foes,
Come take my land, my house and my clothes.
For what have I lost all that I've earned?
My blood and sweat and toils all burned.
To self govern against a lawless tax?
How so when learned government lacks
The nobility to pave the way
And guide us to a better day?
On what fear and little hope
Given naught with which to cope.*

*To the king our loyalties be
The year Seventeen Hundred Eighty Three
On May Eighteen we see the spot,
Tis new land of the royal Scot.
In they take us and offer a home
With one bolt of cotton and an acre of loam
A weary thanks is offered our host
We have nothing more to bear or boast
A wretched pain forever there'll be
My stolen home never again to see.*

The above poem was submitted to the Millennium Essay, Poetry, Play Collection Project organized by the U.E.L.A.C. Millennium Committee and co-ordinated by Adrian Willeson of Beauripaire, Quebec. Hopefully, it arrived in time for inclusion in the planned booklet.

See Spring Gazette, 2002 p. 37. Thank you, Corinna. Your e-mail heading "lady writer" is well deserved. Thank you also for sharing your family with us. Corinna is the daughter of Ed & Barb and the mother of our enthusiastic youth members.

CHILLIWACK BRANCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

President: Shirley Dargatz, U.E.
Honorary President: Doreen Todhunter, U.E., C.M.H.
Past President: Lois Dickinson, U.E., C.M.H.
Vice President: Jerry Brown, U.E.
Secretary: Jean Brown
Treasurer: Vera Webb, U.E.
Genealogist: Mildred Hall, U.E.
Assistants: Lois Dickinson, U.E., Art Keller, U.E.
Telephone Coordinator: Mildred Dargatz.
Ruth Thomson, Jacqueline Kennedy, U.E., Bea Armstrong, U.E., Barb Wilson, U.E. Alice Carter
Social Convenor: Jan Ouellet
Communications: Ed Wilson, Webmaster, Art Keller, U.E. E-mail. Jean Brown, Publicity.
Newsletter Editor: Lois Dickinson, U.E. C.M.H. Judy Scholz, U.E. Publisher
Members-at-Large: Birch Van Horne, U.E., Mary Van Horne, U.E.

◆ LOYALIST LINK-UP ◆

Volume 8, Issue 2

May 2002

Chilliwack Branch United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Today's Celebration The Queen's Anniversary and Salute to the Spring Fleet

May 26: 1 p.m.
Canton Garden



God Save the Queen

The 50th Anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen's Accession to the Throne

We've always said that U.E.L. education begins with the Branch. Today's gathering is a further example of that premise. Twelve years ago, we were not as aware of the significance of the Spring Fleet, the courageous refugee ships which landed at what is now Saint John, New Brunswick on May 18, 1783 - a date which is recognised in our U.E.L.A.C. By-laws. Today marks the 7th time we have honoured this important date. We've marched with "ships on sticks", we've lifted glasses of water in toasts to our ancestors aboard those ships, we've sat at tables with names of those ships - Two Sisters, Lady Adventurer Endeavour; we've shared *Sarah Frost's Diary* read by Kyla Thornton; (now Lounsbury) we've enjoyed Bob Bessey's birthday cake (May 19) centered with a realistic 18th century model ship he'd found after quite a search; ("okay, you Maritimers, I'm from Ontario but I got this ship so you'd remember the Spring Fleet!)...and now we have the Wilson ships created by Ryan, Rusty, Cody & A.J. Then there are the questions "Isn't that supposed to be Kingston, N.B. & not Ontario? "When are we having the ship thing?"

Ah yes, education begins with the Branch. That's where we first heard our continuing theme "Salute to the Spring Fleet" from Jean Brown; perhaps we'll add a new note "Fleet Week" That question was recently posed by Jacqueline Kennedy, U.E. "When do we have "FLEET WEEK"?

That would be a good name for the gala gathering at the Fishleighs by the river in Mission.

We had a great time last year.

See you there June 15

Question of the Month

Through the years.....

- What royal reminiscences (yours or parents or friends) can you share today? (table conversation)
- Who will bring the oldest royal artefact?

From our members.....

- Doreen Todhunter recalls Vancouver Branch attending the Government House Garden Party when Prince Philip and Prince Andrew were in Victoria.
- A former Cheam School student and Legion member remember planting an oak tree in May 1935 at the school in honour of the 25th anniversary of the reign of King George V and Queen Mary. See also the oak tree at Chilliwack Middle School.
- Mildred Hall remembers seeing Prince Phillip en route to the Empire Games Rowing Contest on Vedder Canal in 1954.
- Lois Dickinson has great memories of marching Grade 4's from Central School to the fairly new Senior high for an all schools assembly for the Coronation 1952. The students learned the hymn "Praise the Lord Ye Heavens Adore Him" for an exciting massed choir.
- Gladys Van Baaren, born in 1908, could report - she's lived under five monarchs.

Let's plan a trip to Victoria when Her Majesty visits in October.

Queenly humour

It is reported that our Queen has a great sense of humour. Here is an example. Her Majesty was quietly shopping in a small store in a Scottish village. A villager spoke to her, "My goodness you look just like the Queen." The Queen smiled and replied, "How reassuring!"

COMMUNITY LINKS

(from our Web page "Visibility Ops")



* **New! Sat. June 1** - U.E.L. display and attendance at the "Alexander Street Fair", 45945 Alexander in Chwk.

Note: This should be great fun and Alexander St. may have U.E.L. significance - possibly named for Edward Alexander Kipp, son of pioneer Isaac Kipp who always said he was Loyalist. Edward's house is at the corner.

* **June 6 - 9** - UELAC Conference in Waterloo, Ont.

* **New! Sat. June 15** - Celebration of the Spring Fleet. Combined meeting with Vancouver and Chilliwack Branches at the Fishleights' in Silverdale (Mission).

* **Mon. July 1** - The Queen's Jubilee Celebration in Chilliwack at Heritage Park, Chwk. Display booth, cake and 'give a ways'. We are participating, on stage, during the formal evening ceremonies. We have been invited by the Chwk. Arts Council (on behalf of the City of Chilliwack) to attend. This is a unique honour and a way to remember B.C. pioneers of Loyalist ancestry. Please be sure to take the Announcement Sheet and plan to attend.

EDUCATION LINKS

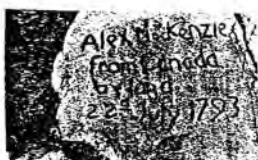


Our displays at two recent Heritage Fairs were well received.

May 4: "ROOTS AROUND THE WORLD" organised by Abbotsford Genealogy Group (to which we now belong) Some 200 people attended. We enjoyed a great lunch and recorded about 18 positive queries. Our thanks to Lois Martin and her committee.

**May 11: NATIONAL HERITAGE FAIR
REGIONAL SECTION**

Once again students enjoyed the wooden toys. The teachers appreciated our hand-outs and showed special interest in our material on Alexander MacKenzie and Simon Fraser. We'll be presenting a book to a school correctly answering our quiz.



HERITAGE LINKS



CERTIFICATE PRESENTATIONS

Congratulations to members who will receive certificates today.

Irving Reid, U.E. Descendant of Jeremiah Lapp, U.E.L., Ontario

Paul Rogers, U.E. Descendant of Richard Rogers, U.E.L., N.B.

Steven Rogers, U.E. (Richard Rogers, U.E.L.) son of Paul and Carol Rogers.

Irving Reid, U.E.

Irving, who lives in Sardis, has, with his wife Marian and various family members, been a faithful attender for several years. His warm personality and friendly spirit have been much appreciated and conversations at the Reid's table have always seemed to be lively and fun. Marian (nee Brown) and son Alan received certificates a while back as descendants of James Brown of N.S.

Now it's Irving's turn. He has worked hard, contacting relatives and visiting Ontario to prove his U.E.L. connection and today his efforts pay off. He receives his certificate in the name of Jeremiah Lapp, a Pennsylvania Loyalist who served in several areas including Florida. This is special to us because Irving is one of the few here whose ancestor was in Florida.

Jeremiah's son Samuel lived in Ernestown and it is he from whom Irving is descended.

Irving has recently been working on his memoirs (autobiography) and at last report, Jean Brown has typed over 100 pages for him. Perhaps he'll share some of that story in another newsletter.

We're also hoping some of the Reid family will be with us again. They filled a table at an earlier meeting and we hear they're very impressive in their kilts.

One with the Lapp name, Eula Lapp wrote a U.E.L. classic "To Their Heirs Forever".

Today Irving is one of those who accepts the legacy "To Their Heirs Forever."

The Reids have lived here since 1966 and are active at Sardis Community Church.

Paul Rogers, U.E.

Paul, with his wife Carol and son Steven, recently moved here from Dawson Creek and Fort St. John. Paul is newly retired. Carol is a nurse at Valleyhaven and Steven is in Grade 10 at Chilliwack Senior Secondary. Paul is the son of the late Gifford and Ada Rogers of Vancouver and hence is a descendant of Loyalist Richard Rogers of the DeLancey's Brigade who settled in N.B. His uncle Earle Rogers, U.E. was President of Fredericton Branch, his uncle Frank Rogers, U.E. has just retired as Treasurer of Kawartha Branch and his aunt Eva Shuler, U.E. was Vice President of Vancouver Branch. Paul is Lois Dickinson's 1st cousin once removed.

Paul was born in England where his father was with the first Canadian Army Contingent W.W.II. Paul was three when his mother, a war bride, arrived in New Brunswick with his young brother Barney in her arms. Gifford and Ada and the boys subsequently moved to Vancouver. Coming to Chilliwack, Paul immediately identified with family and our Branch. At our Christmas banquet he met Jerry Brown, U.E. and once again became a Kiwanis member. He and Carol and Steven attend Chilliwack Baptist.

Paul has another reason for his interest in history. He is named for his uncle Paul Rogers, RCAF, WW II, killed on a training flight in N.S. after service overseas.

Steven Rogers, U.E.

Paul and Steven are the first father-son combination in our Branch to receive certificates at the same time. Congratulations, Steven, and best wishes for your continuing studies at Chilliwack Senior, your enjoyment of the music program, field trips to Seattle, etc., and your new friendships here. We know your audio-visual work at Chilliwack Baptist is appreciated as evidenced by your attendance at a Volunteer Appreciation luncheon there today.

There's something else that's appreciated too - your attentive listening to endless family stories, the quiet smile, and sharing your computer so Dad can process incoming U.E.L. e-mails.

Genealogy Update: Mildred Dargatz, material has been approved - Percy Deplissey's application is going forward (Thomas Turney U.E.L., N.B.)

MEMBERSHIP LINKS



Congratulations!



According to reports submitted for the U.E.L.A.C. Conference in June, we're once again the largest Branch in Western Canada (followed closely by Edmonton) Our total **now** is 92 - but it's growing. We hear the rumours that Judy Scholz, U.E. is enrolling 4 of her grandchildren.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jim Braid, Terrace

Jim didn't realize when he came down to visit his cousin Paul Rogers (now Paul Rogers, U.E.) that he'd end up a member of the Chilliwack Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada. Jim didn't mind - - his mother was Eva Rogers Braid Shuler, Vice-President of Vancouver Branch before her untimely death in 1988.

Jim is very knowledgeable and said he'd be honoured to join. We're honoured to have him. He's already working on his certificate application. This would make twelve descendants of Richard Rogers DeLancey's Brigade, to claim their inheritance of history. They include members in Ontario and formerly in New Brunswick; and our members Jim's cousins Lynne Phillips, U.E. and charter members Lois Dickinson, U.E. C.M.H., Maribel Roos, U.E. and Scott Roos, U.E. with an application pending for Vicki Phillips Gallinger. Perhaps sometime we'll have Jim and his musical group perform for us. He put on a great informal concert for Paul, Carol, Steven and Lois.

David Barrager, Langley

Today we also welcome another new member David Barrager and his wife Agnes from Langley. We first met the Barragers at our Heritage meeting Feb. 24 at Promontory School. It's not often a new contact immediately takes out a membership at his first meeting. Thank you, David, we appreciated the encouragement. And thanks to Art Keller, U.E. for following up on David's prior email.

welcome 'new members' cont.

We now know that David is a former C.B.C. Radio announcer in Ontario. He is the owner of the business *Hall of Names* which researches name origins from numerous areas. We enjoyed visiting with David and Agnes at the Abbotsford Genealogy Group's Fair on May 4.

BE SURE TO SEE THE PICTURES OF DAVID AND THE HALL OF NAMES DISPLAY and let's give the Barragers a great Chilliwack welcome.

Mildred Hall, U.E., our Genealogist, is presently assisting David with his application.

He has several Loyalist ancestors but has chosen first to claim U.E. status via Ashahel Bradshaw of the Bay of Quinte (whom we've chosen as our Loyalist of the Month)

LOYALIST OF THE MONTH

From "*Memorial to Captain Bradshaw*" compiled by Manley Ostrander of Deseronto, Ontario, and, Charles G. Crouse, Oshawa, Ontario, published 1942, Printed at Alger Press Limited, Oshawa, Ontario, page 12.

ASAHIEL BRADSHAW, UEL

"Asahel Bradshaw was born Feb. 15, 1761, at New Milford, Conn., a son of James and Lydia Bradshaw. He went with his parents to the Kingsbury Patent in New York and joined the King's Royal Rangers in the service of George III during the War of Independence. He served under Major James Rogers and was at St. John's, Quebec, on Jan. 10, 1782, and in Catarauqui in 1783, finally settling in Fredericksburgh Tp. (Lennox-Addington), where he was on the Provision List in 1786. The Land Board presented him with 500 acres of land for his services as a United Empire Loyalist and a son of a Lieutenant. In later years, he acquired more land, owning 1000 acres in Fredericksburgh; 600 acres in Rawdon Tp.; Hastings Co., and 200 acres in Loughborough, Frontenac County. In the Fredericksburgh Tp. Assessment Roll of 1808, he possessed 940 acres of untilled land; 60 acres cultivated; 4 horses; 5 cows; and lived in a log house. On Jan. 22, 1811 Asahel Bradshaw mortgaged his Hastings Co. and Frontenac Co. property for £394 15s., 4d to Richard Robison of Fredericksburgh Tp. He was a shoemaker by trade and probably one of the first to ply that trade in the Napanee district. Azubah Hawley, daughter of Jephtha Hawley, became his bride and twelve children were born of this union".

Quotes of Note

* *"We're becoming better known"*. Barb Wilson, U.E.

* *"Research is like finding a misplaced film. I can hardly wait for it to be developed."* David Barrager.

* *"I didn't know a period dress would be so comfortable."* Ruth Thomson (Editor's note: with all that's going on let's make this another costume year!)

* *"I won't ever forget Dick and Laura serving juice in the Senior High rotunda to all those people who arrived for the Welcoming Banquet for Convention '94"* Doreen Todhunter, U.E. C.M.H.

* *"That was a great baby 'wash' you gave for Olivia, Nana"* Grayson Lounsbury, age 4 commenting on the baby shower his grandmother, Marg Thornton gave his baby sister Olivia Bree, new daughter of Constable Brett Lounsbury and his wife Kyla, (nee Thornton) Williams Lake.

* *"Your newsletter is fabulous"* or did they say *fantastic*? At any rate, we think yours is too! BiCentennial Branch, Ontario.

* *"It was fun being here"* Mildred Dargatz after hosting a session of the Students' Heritage Fair in Abbotsford.

OLDIES BUT GOODIES

from Jean Brown. "*Noblesse oblige*" (Birth compels it.) Noble birth imposes the obligation of noble actions"

French Historical Society. 1865 Substitute the word Loyal above and reflect on the Loyalist contribution to Canada and our role today.

Golden Jubilee A Canadian Celebration

Be sure to check

www.canadianheritage.gc.ca

or Her Majesty, The Queen's Golden Jubilee -

Official Site at www.goldenjubilee.gov.uk

IN REMEMBRANCE DICK MERSON

Once again we are saddened to report the passing of one of our valued associates - Dick Merson, husband of Laura Merson, U.E. (Daniel Keith, N.B.)

It doesn't seem possible that our loyal, teasing, helpful, hospitable friend will no longer be with us. He was present at our Charter Night 11 years ago and was always supportive especially so when Laura received her certificate - a long process. There's a wonderful picture of Dick and Laura that day with Dick looking as proud as Laura.

As long as he was able, Dick was there - arranging chairs, greeting folks, even helping Laura in the kitchen and hosting executive meetings when she was Social Convenor.

We will miss him and our special thoughts are with Laura and the girls - Judy Stevenson of Arizona; Gayle Cross, Chilliwack and the twins Fay Koivula, Kamloops and Bonnie Reisig, Chilliwack. We're also thinking of his great granddaughter, Samantha Reisig who has so often represented young Loyalists at U.E.L. functions. Dick's sister-in-law Bea Armstrong U.E. and her husband Bob Armstrong U.E. are also part of our U.E.L. family.

Dick's Memorial was tremendous with an overflow crowd of Rosedale and Camp River people, Municipal workers, Lodge members and Legion representatives with whom Dick had marched so proudly on so many Remembrance Days.

Dick was born in Rosedale, the son of pioneers Frank & Ruby Merson. His father, a boy of 19, arrived in Rosedale in 1911 from England. Ruby (nee Smith) was a descendant of the Robert Thompson Family who came to Chwk. circa 1875. Thus Dick developed a natural interest in history and very much enjoyed with Laura a visit to N.B. a few years ago.

Dick loved humour and so we include this folksy poem, composed by daughter Fay for a recent birthday. It was on a unique plaque displayed at the reception - and it appealed to us so here it is in the spirit in which it was written.

Happy Birthday Dad!!!

*There is a man whose name is Dick Merson
And he truly is a remarkable person
He lived in Rosedale for many years
Where he occasionally indulged in a few beers
In summer Dick used to coach softball
And Saturday nights called bingo at the hall
It has been said or maybe it's a rumour
That Dick has a very good sense of humour
He likes to jest and joke around
And be the biggest flirt in town*

*One day the air force called him for duty
And all of a sudden, along came Judy
Then four years later along came Gayle
But this is not the end of this tale
Hoping for a boy, they gave it another whirl
But oh my God, here's two more girls!
Dick worked for the Municipality
Driving truck with Pete, Sooter and Smitty
Driving, plowing, hauling loads
He covered miles and miles of road
He always came home for lunch and a snooze
Also to hear the obits and the news
The Superintendent he later became
But now he's retired and that's no shame
He's reached a milestone in his life
With Laura beside him as his wife
He's turning 80 years old in December
We've all gathered here to help him remember
He has four girls
Judy, Gayle, Bonnie, Faye
Who want to wish him a HAPPY BIRTHDAY
by Faye Koivula*

The B.C. Heritage Link



We hear that the plaque commissioned by the B.C. Branches for the Conference here in 1994 may find a home at the B.C. Archives where it could be seen by many visitors. Hopefully it will be presented in a meaningful ceremony and hopefully we'll be able to attend.

The Memorial Plaque U.E.L.A.C.

The first Canadians of European descent to cross the continent to what is now British Columbia were Loyalists, Alexander Mackenzie and Simon Fraser. Descendants of Loyalists have been prominent in every walk of provincial life: Lieutenant Governors, premiers, members of the legislature, judiciary, the professions, the church, business and industry. Most importantly, Loyalist descendants were ordinary men and women who brought the principles and qualities of their ancestors to this province. This plaque is erected by the B.C. Branches of the U.E.L.A.C. to mark the 80th anniversary of the incorporation of the Association by act of parliament and the first annual convention of the Association to be held in B.C. "Fear God - Honour the King"
The plaque is to be displayed in a place of honour in Victoria.

It was unveiled at the Victoria reception May 22, 1994 by Dominion President, Okill Stuart, U.E.

Composed by William Smy, U.E., C.M.H. and the late Campbell Stuart, U.E.

Appreciations... to Doug Steinson and Howard Cramer, both of whom previously served on Dept. of Education curriculum revision committees, for their suggestions for our education material; George Hayward, Fredericton branch, for his tremendous volunteer research on behalf of our member Percy Deplissey...soon we may have good news for Percy...Ed Wilson, Webmaster, who recorded 93 visits (in a short period) to our web site; and to Art Keller, U.E. who with Ed is averaging receipt of at least one email a day...Shirley Dargatz, U.E. for pictures and Peter Johnson, U.E. *Gazette* Editor for editing our material on last fall's President's visit; Jean Brown, Jerry Brown, U.E. Mildred Dargatz, Ruth Thomson, Paul Rogers, U.E. Percy Deplissey, Ed Wilson, Rusty Wilson, Barb Wilson, U.E. for their help with recent displays;...Marj Bessey who keeps in touch from Ontario - we look forward to her visit starting May 30...Vona Smith, U.E. for sharing family history with Mildred Dargatz...Fred & Anne Hails for including us in the opening of the British Museum at Dickens Sweets...and for inviting Shirley to cut the ribbon....Birch Van Horne, U.E. who recently gave an historic butterfly collection to University College of the Fraser Valley...reminds us that, imaginatively, butterflies and Loyalists had some things in common - difficult migration, camouflage, danger.. (history is where you find it)...and to all our members who make heritage a joy. Regrets to Maureen Margetts U.E. that in the *Gazette* write up this heritage designation was omitted from the names Maureen Margetts, U.E. and J.D. Margetts, U.E.

Check It Out

Re-read Spring *Gazette* "Sinking of the Martha" Lois' 3rd great grandparents were rescued from it. Hay Bay Church, Mildred Halls ancestor William Casey was a charter member.

LAUGH LINKS



Cab driver to passenger eyeing the metre. "That's right, Mac You're in SAINT JOHN! St. John's is in Newfoundland.

From a cartoon in a wonderful book we've rediscovered "*New Brunswick Inside Out*" by Colleen Thomson, 1977. It may be older now but it's still well worth reading. That's one for Vera Webb, U.E. Her home town is Saint John.

Late Flash:

Congratulations to Susannah Bowman, U.E. who won further dancing awards during the holiday weekend. And our thanks to Bicentennial Branch for featuring Susannah in their newsletter along with a young dancer from their Branch.

At the same time Christina Bowman, U.E. was honoured as the outstanding soccer player in her zone.

Rusty Wilson's U.E.L. poster board formed the central point of our Heritage display in Abbotsford.



CONFERENCE 2002

June 6 - 9

S-O-S just 10 days to go!

The Conference program is most interesting, it's a beautiful area of Ontario as several of us can confirm.

At present, we have one representative with just two others from B.C.

Here's hoping someone will come forward so we can once again prove that we are truly a national organization.

It's still not too late.

At Conference 2002, Shirley Dargatz, U.E. will carry the flag at the Sunday Church Service.

Did you Know?

- Benjamin Tibbits, of Saint John, designed the first compound marine engine there in 1842.
 - Robert Foulis erected the first steam fog whistle in 1854.
 - Saint John produced the world's fastest clipper ship, the Marco Polo.
 - Organized the first police force in Canada in 1826 (before the London bobbies)
 - Had Canada's first museum 1842
- (from *New Brunswick Inside Out*. Maybe it's still in your library.