

AUGUST 2012

Volume 1 - Issue 2

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Web site:

<http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>

Link Up



Photo by Marlene Dance

A Message from the President

Here we are again! Our second on-line newsletter!

Many things have happened in these past two months - some exciting, and others, unfortunately, very, very sad. I will give a brief overview of these events, as our newsletter editor, Marlene Dance, covers them in more detail in the body of this Link Up.

Making the trek eastward to Manitoba for our 2012 **Conference at the Confluence** (June 7 – 10) were Wayne and Marlene Dance, Shirley Dargatz UE, Leon Merchant and Jan Ouellet. It was an excellent conference with wonderful accommodations at the Fort Garry Hotel, most interesting and enjoyable venues, and great camaraderie! Leon Merchant UE, received his certificate in the name of Loyalist Ancestor, Catherine Reid Munroe Leech. A poignant moment occurred when Jo Ann Tuskin UE (Dominion Council Secretary), a sixth cousin of Leon (they met for the first time at the conference) presented his certificate. As well, Jo Ann was very helpful to our Genealogist, Mildred Hall UE, in forwarding documents that were significant for Leon's proofs. I was very humbled and truly honoured to receive the Dorchester Award. We are all grateful to Bob Ferguson UE, immediate Past President of the Victoria Branch, who was instrumental in obtaining the proclamation for our annual **Loyalist Day in BC**. Delegates from the Pacific Region enjoyed the opportunity to announce this at our AGM. (see page 2 for pictures of all above)

On July 21, I was blessed to officiate at the "Celebration of Life" at Carman United Church, for my dear cousin, Evelyn (Thornton) Mitchell UE (Loyalist Ancestor, John Thornton), who was a faithful member of our Chilliwack Branch. On July 24, a "Celebration of Life" was held for Wolfgang, the husband of my dear cousin, Judy Scholz UE. We offer our heartfelt condolences to both of these families!

For the first time, we did not have our display booth at the Canada Day celebrations this year. However, I had the opportunity to do a full Service at Carman United Church that day, celebrating our National Holiday and the importance of our heritage.

Jan Ouellet, Marlene Dance, Judy Scholz UE, Karaline Heibner UE, Sydney Heibner UE and myself, crossed the mighty Fraser River to the north side to put up our displays and participate in a Folk Festival at the Kilby Historical Site and Museum. (pictures on page 5)

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events in 2012 and 2013.

Loyally yours- Shirley Dargatz.



**United Empire
Loyalists' Association
of Canada**

Chilliwack Branch

Your Executive 2012

President: Shirley Dargatz UE

Vice Chair: vacant

Secretary: Gordon Vance UE

Treasurer: Judy Scholz UE

Genealogist: Mildred Hall UE
Asst. Marlene Dance

Social Convener: Jan Ouellet
Asst. Margaret Strocel

Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE

Newsletter: Marlene Dance

Director: Marian Reid UE
Director: Irving Reid UE

Flag Bearer: Alan Reid UE



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Those of us from the branch who had the opportunity to attend the conference enjoyed all the effort and planning that went into making it such a success. The venue was wonderful, the choice of workshops to attend and outside tours arranged made the visit so well worth while. For Chilliwack branch though the following three events were very special and I would like to highlight them now:

UELAC DORCHESTER AWARD 2012

The Dorchester Award was presented to Shirley Dargatz in recognition of her dedication to Loyalist activities at all levels. This presentation was made at the Gala Banquet by Regional Vice-President Gerry Adair, and Dominion President Bob McBride.

We are sure that the engraved crystal bowl will have “pride of place” on Shirley’s dining room side board. Congratulations. Very well deserved.

We are so proud of you!

Picture courtesy of: Bonnie Schepers of the Bicentennial Branch.



B.C. LOYALIST DAY PROCLAMATION



The announcement was made at the UELAC Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg of the official declaration by The Honourable Steven L. Point, Lieutenant Governor of BC declaring that July 22nd will be forever set aside to celebrate our Loyalist heritage in B.C. .

L-r: Bob Ferguson of the Victoria Branch, Shirley Dargatz and Carl Stymiest proudly show the official document.

UE CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION

At the luncheon at the Manitoba Club, branch member Leon Merchant is presented his UE certificate by 6th cousin Jo Ann Tuskin, who descends from the same Loyalist ancestor.



Also at the Luncheon at the Manitoba Club are:
L to r: Leon Merchant, Marlene Dance, Wayne Dance,
Shirley Dargatz & Jan Ouellet.





LAST POST

Evelyn Olive Mitchell UE

Evelyn was born in Chilliwack on Dec. 28th, 1923 and passed away peacefully on July 10th, 2012 at Chilliwack General Hospital. She leaves behind her loving husband of 69 years Allan, their son Bill (Debbie) and daughters Sandi Esau (Tom) and Debbie Ohlhausen (Gary), 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. She is survived by her sister Doris in Kamloops and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother Ivan Thornton. She was very proud of her roots as a pioneer family in Chilliwack. She was also proud of her membership in the UEL through which she could trace her Canadian roots back to the 1700's through 7 generations. A beautiful service was conducted at Carman United Church on July 21st.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Allan and the family.

LAST POST

Wolfgang Peter Scholz (1946-2012)

Loving husband of Judy Scholz UE, passed away peacefully on July 14th. Born in Germany, Wolfgang came to Canada in 1953. He and Judy married in 1966 and they had three daughters; Cindy Lyftogt, Rebecca Heibner (Kelly) and Vicky Heibner (Kevin) together with 10 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. A few of his community involvements included the Boy Scouts, Chilliwack Search & Rescue, Fish & Game Assn. and 35 years with the RCMP Auxiliary. He was a member of the Fraser Valley Frontiersmen Black Powder Club and was a re-enactor at Ft. Langley Historic Park on Fur Brigade weekends. He operated the Son's of Thunder Motorcycle Shop for 23 years.

A service in his memory was conducted at the Chilliwack Alliance Church on July 24th.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Judy and her family.



The Kilby General Store was officially opened on August 14th, 1906 by Thomas and Eliza Kilby. Their son Acton and his wife Jessie operated the Store from 1922 until 1977. General stores of this era were the centre of their communities, being a place to shop and gather news of the area. This was true of Kilby General Store, which served the people of Harrison Mills and surrounding areas and as far away as Chilliwack. The rail lines that are visible from the front veranda of the store are part of the Canadian Pacific Railway's main cross-Canada system. Until 1958 passengers stopped here in Harrison Mills, another integral reason the general store was the centre point of this rural community.

See page 5 for photo's of our participation last weekend at the Kilby Historic site.



PACIFIC REGION EVENTS:

August 3 - 6th Fort Langley Fur Brigade Days

Picnic together on Monday August 6th : Re-enactors from our local Branch will be Sydney Heibner UE, Ethan Lyftogt UE and Judy Scholz UE.

Please contact Shirley Dargatz if you are interested in attending

Phone 604-858-6748 Or ksdargatz@shaw.ca



Fur Brigade Days include many demonstrations ... spinning, candle wicking, music, weaving, washboards... all set up in the large courtyard. The buildings are open for you to explore. At one point during the day 100 plus visitors - led by a bagpiper - make their way through the heart of Fort Langley to the Fraser River. A re-enactment of the first landing of Fort Langley includes a number of canoes rowing downriver from Mission - filled with people in period dress. It is also a fun day for children and grandchildren. Hope to see many of you there.

**Strawberry Social to Celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee
July 23rd, 2012**

A very successful luncheon, meeting and strawberry social was held at the Carman United Church Hall. A good turnout of branch members were there to greet the three special guests seen in the picture below.

They are left to right: Gwen O'Mahony MLA for Chilliwack/Hope; Mark Strahl MP for Chilliwack/Fraser Canyon and Chilliwack Mayor Sharon Gaetz.

There were Union Jacks and Canadian flags everywhere.

The decorations were great and the Queen toasted warmly by all.

Thanks to everyone who came out.



Calendar of Events for 2012

Clip off and save on your calendar



Meetings are held at Carman United Church Hall, Vedder Rd., Chilliwack, BC. Luncheon with coffee, tea and juice served. Members are reminded to bring contributions to the food table. Trooping of the flag will commence at 11:45am - followed immediately by lunch. The meeting portion will commence at 12:30pm.

Sept 10th - Leadership Team Mtg. 10:00am at home of Judy Scholz

Sept 29th - Fall UEL Kick-off & Harvest Time General Store

Oct. 13th - Vancouver Branch's 80th Anniversary 11:00am to 3:00pm @ Royal Vancouver Yacht Club with UELAC Dominion President Robert McBride UE and wife Grietje as special guests.

Nov. 11th - Remembrance Day Wreath Laying Ceremony Chilliwack, BC (details to follow)

December - Christmas Luncheon and meeting. (details to follow)



**United Empire Loyalists'
Association of Canada**



Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.

1st Annual Gathering to celebrate B.C. Loyalist day in Queens Park, New Westminster.

A crowd gathered at Queen's Park on Sunday to celebrate the first B.C. Loyalist Day in British Columbia. The four Pacific regional branches of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada - Vancouver, Chilliwack, Thompson -Okanagan and Victoria - gathered to celebrate B.C. Loyalist Day. The provincial government declared July 22 as Loyalist Day in British Columbia. The event gave the groups a chance to celebrate their Loyalist ancestors.

"Many British Columbians are direct descendants of the first Loyalists who arrived in what is now eastern Canada in 1783 after the American Revolution," said a press release about the event. "Following the French settlements in Acadia and New France in the 1600s and early 1700s, there was second major wave of immigration starting in the 1770s. The number of Loyalists varies depending on which historian you cite, but it is estimated that 50,000 to 100,000 displaced Loyalists came as the 'first boat people' to what is now Canada. These were British subjects who had originally settled in the 13 colonies but were more loyal to the British Crown following the start to the American Revolution. The patriots would go on to win the war. These new settlers were called the Loyalists and are considered Canada's first political refugees."

At the July 22 event in New Westminster, the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada read a proclamation about Loyalist Day, unfurled the Loyalist flag and enjoyed a picnic.

Taken from an article in THE RECORD
NEWSPAPER - July 25, 2012



Vancouver Branch members Carl Stymiest and Mary Anne Bethune at the picnic celebration.

Photograph by: Larry Wright , BURNABY NOW



July 28th - Chilliwack Branch Display booth at Kilby Historic Park Folk Festival



GET BETTER SOON!

Irving Reid has been in Chilliwack General Hospital since Saturday. He is having a few tests done. He is in his usual good humour and should be home soon. He loves company so check with family, visit or send good wishes. Room 312 . We send out our best wishes for a speedy trip home.



Send information to be included in the next publication to:

wmdance@telus.net