

APRIL 2014

Volume 3 - Issue 2

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

Web site:

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

# Link Up



Photo by M.L. Dance UE

## A Message from our Branch President

The Theme for Heritage Week BC, February 17-23, 2014, was "Heritage Afloat". I made mention of this upcoming topic in our February "Link Up" when I realized the many possibilities that it held. In my presentation for our Heritage Week Celebration, I focused on the ships that journeyed from New York to "Canada" in 1783. If you Google "Loyalist Ships" the result will lead you to over 12 pages of information found on the UELAC site. I titled my talk "Heritage Afloat (or Not)" and the Black Loyalist Passengers". Now I will remind you of a few findings:- The voyages that were made are titled "the Evacuation of New York". I counted the names and numbers on the Ship Database Charts, and found 121 different names of ships and 148 voyages. Some of the ships made only 1 trip whereas others made 2, 3, or even 4 voyages back and forth. It is estimated that there were as many as fifty ship wrecks. Author and historian Stephen Davidson wrote a poignant story about the ship "the Martha" published in the "Loyalist Trails" newsletter in June/July of 2012. The ship shattered apart on rocks. The survivors clung to pieces of the ship and were rescued by passing fishermen. It is estimated that over 30,000 people travelled on these ships. The Ship Database shows: the name of the ship, from where and when it departed, where and when it landed, the number of passengers, etc. I also learned that these ships included Black Loyalist passengers - some Free and some Slaves. However, the Blacks were noted as "unattributed passengers" and not included in the count. "Loyalist Ships" is a most interesting read and I invite you to search it out. Chris Hay UE gave a talk on the Loyalist Connection of Rev. James Henry White, the First Minister of Carman Methodist Church, now Carman United, where we hold our Chilliwack Branch events. In addition, Chris had prepared a booklet of newspaper articles that



showed Rev. White's Loyalist relationship to John Simpson Gordon who died on November 8, 1865, who was also of UEL stock.

**Membership Challenge and Goal:** Remember – "100 Members in this our Centenary Year". Please help us to reach our **GOAL**. We are already at 73, can 100 be far away? And you will receive an exquisite Centenary Celebration pin when you renew. Let's get busy!

Loyally yours Shirley

United Empire  
Loyalists' Association  
of Canada

Chilliwack Branch

Your Executive 2014

President: Shirley Dargatz UE

Vice Pres: Marlene Dance UE

Secretary: Margaret Strocel

Treasurer: Judy Scholz UE

Genealogists: Marlene Dance UE  
Mildred Hall UE

Social Convener: Jan Oulellet

Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE  
Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE

Director: Marian Reid UE  
Director: Irving Reid UE  
Director: Gordon Vance UE

Flag Bearer: Alan Reid UE

Pacific Regional VP:  
Diane Faris UE  
Pacific Regional Councillor:  
Marlene Dance UE



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**Pacific Region Events:**  
**Fall Fleet Celebrations**  
 hosted by Vancouver Branch  
**October 5, 2014**  
**Centennial Pavilion in Queens Park,**  
**New Westminster, BC**  
**Special Guest: Bonnie Schepers UELAC President**

\*\*\*\*\*

**2014 Dominion Conference** to be held June 5-8th.  
 Toronto, Ontario celebrating the 100th  
 anniversary of the founding of the UELAC.

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**2015 Dominion Conference**  
**May 28 - 31st**  
**the Coast Harbourside Hotel**  
**146 Kingston St. Victoria, BC**  
**More information will be published**  
**later in the year.**



**"Loyalist Trails" UELAC Newsletter  
 by Doug Grant UE**

In a recent issue:

- Frontline Reporting in Loyalist Newspapers: 1779 --  
 by Stephen Davidson
  - But I Know I am Descended From a . . .  
 July 25 -- 26, 2014 by Hamilton Branch
- Where in the World can Doug Grant be? Who is he with?
  - A Loyalist Descendant with Custer at the  
 Battle of The Little Big Horn
- Go Digging; Find Things. Lost Cemetery in Ottawa
  - From the Twittersphere and Beyond
  - Last Post: STEWART, R. Douglas
- Last Post: CHARTERS, John Frederick Gillett
  - Last Post: HALE, Robert Wallace "Wally"

Connect with us:

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/uelac>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/UELAC>

Anyone can sign up and receive this informative  
 newsletter and join the Facebook group.  
 Back issues of Loyalist Trails can be found at  
<http://www.uelac.org> under Publications.  
 Sign up to receive this newsletter weekly.

**Last Post**



**Schultz, Oscar**  
**1931 - 2014**

We are sad to report the passing  
 on March 2nd of Oscar Schultz,  
 brother-in-law of our own Judy  
 Scholz UE. He is survived by his  
 loving wife Joyce and children  
 June, Don, Barb and Brenda.  
 Also 12 grandchildren, 11 great  
 grandchildren and brothers  
 Ed and Richard and sisters  
 Hilda Schindel & Frieda Dams.  
 Service was held at the Chilliwack  
 Alliance Church on Tuesday,  
 March 11, 2014.  
 We send our love and prayers to  
 all the family.  
 Donations in memory may be  
 made to [www.hungryforlife.org](http://www.hungryforlife.org)

### Chilliwack Branch Centennial Project

2014 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. In this regard every branch in Canada has been asked to undertake a project celebrating the event. Here on the west coast we do not have access to all the heritage sites that are an important part of the eastern provinces' Loyalist heritage, so we have looked to other ideas in commemoration. We wrote to the Mayor and she recommended we contact the Chilliwack Museum. We have done so and will meet with them April 2nd.



**United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada  
1914—2014**

**On the 100th anniversary of the founding of the UELAC this plaque has been placed to honour the many Pioneers in Chilliwack of Loyalist descent who found their way to the Fraser Valley, creating the wonderful oasis we love today. In opening these new frontiers, they once again exemplified the true spirit of adventure and individualism expressed by their forbearers who left their homes beginning in 1783, in search of a place where the values of freedom were respected. Placed by the UELAC Chilliwack Branch  
July 22nd, 2014**

The event schedule if approved will be as follows: On July 22nd, about 10:00am, place the plaque at the museum and then parade to City Hall for a Loyalist flag raising ceremony. July 22nd is BC Loyalist Day. We will follow with a lunch at a local bistro. Be sure to mark on your calendar. We would love to see a great turnout of well dressed Loyalists to celebrate the occasion.

This was day one of three days of snow that blanketed the region and stayed too long. But 25 hardy members braved the snow and enjoyed our gathering. Following our usual excellent luncheon, our agenda followed our theme Heritage Afloat, Black History month, & a presentation on Rev. James Henry White by member Chris Hay UE. Members were then presented with Commemorative Centennial pins marking the 100th anniversary of our UELAC association. Then we all watched as Brad Keller, grandson of Art Keller UE (founding member)

### “Heritage Afloat” Theme of our Feb. 22nd, 2014 gathering.



was presented with his certificate for their Loyalist ancestor Frederick Keller. See page 5 for the item written by Brad's mother and member April Neave Keller. (reproduced from [www.valleyvoice.ca](http://www.valleyvoice.ca) )





## Items from the March 30th edition of Loyalist Trails - the UELAC newsletter

### Additions to the Loyalist Directory

As time permits, we add information to the [Loyalist Directory](#). The latest additions and updates are as follows:

- Ball Sr, Jacob - from Ken Atkinson
- Casselman, Thomas - (volunteer Sandy McNamara)
- Denike, Andrew - (volunteer Sandra McNamara)
- Secord, David (Sr)-(volunteer Sandy McNamara)

### A FEW INTERESTING THINGS FOR YOU TO LOOK UP

- ◆ Mar 23 1752 -Canada's 1st daily paper, [The Halifax Gazette](#), starts publication; Today known as the Chronicle Herald
- ◆ Ten unusual Canadian inventions:  
<http://blog.myheritage.com/2014/03/ten-inventions-what-were-they-thinking/>



### Kudos to member Kole Heibner UE

Mt Slesse Middle School is raising \$10,000 for a school it's sponsoring in Kenya. One of the fundraisers was to sell two different styles of pink anti-bullying T-shirts throughout the district. Kole Heibner (foreground) of Mt. Slesse middle school designed the shirt he's wearing and an elementary student designed the other shirt at left. Also pictured (from left) are Tricia Demers, Sadie Sandve, Jon Heppell, and Madison Van Bever.

IMAGE CREDIT: JENNA HAUCK/ PROGRESS. NEWS ITEM FROM THE PROGRESS EDITION FEB. 20,2014

"Remember me in the family tree; my name, my days, my strife.

Then I'll ride upon the wings of time and live an endless life." ~ Linda Goetsch

## Calendar of Events for 2014

Clip off and save on your calendar



Meetings are held at Carman United Church Hall,  
7258 Vedder Road, 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 - then a planned program.

### 2014

May 10th - Spring Fleet Celebration usual times above

June 21st - Strawberry Social - 1:00 pm at Carman Church (note time change)

July 1st - Canada Day - event location to be announced

July 22nd BC Loyalist Day - time and location to be confirmed shortly

August 4th - Ft. Langley Fur Brigade Days Picnic with Vancouver branch under our Oak Tree.

Oct 5th - Fall Fleet Celebrations at Queen's Park, New Westminster, BC hosted by Vancouver Branch

Nov 11th - Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph across from the Museum

### 2015 May 28-31st Dominion Conference in Victoria, BC

October - celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of our Chilliwack Branch

Be sure to send suggestions, information and pictures to be included in the publication to: [wmdance@telus.net](mailto:wmdance@telus.net)



**United Empire Loyalists'  
Association of Canada**

Taken from the [www.valleyvoice.ca](http://www.valleyvoice.ca) Feb. 28, 2014  
Written and submitted by member April Neave Keller

When 18-year-old Brad Keller was presented with a certificate last Saturday, it just wasn't a piece of paper, it was confirmation that he was part of history, over three hundred years of history!

Brad attended the February 22nd meeting of the Chilliwack Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada where member Marlene Dance UE presented him with a certificate that proves descent from a United Empire Loyalist. That makes him eligible for Canada's only hereditary honor, the right to add the letters U.E. after his name, as established by Gov. Carleton in 1789.

Attending the presentation were his parents Norm and April Keller and grandparents, Art Keller UE and Bette Keller, all of Chilliwack.

While the entire Keller family history is still incomplete, a number of details have been confirmed through years of research by Brad's now 89 year old grandfather Art Keller and an aunt. They have discovered, for example, that it was eight generations ago in 1709 that Christian Keller, in a great exodus from the Palatine area of Germany, sailed to the colony of New York. One of his descendants, Frederick Keller, was born in 1757 in Albany, New York. In his twenties, Frederick Keller was a private soldier in Rogers' Rangers serving for almost 4 years. Rogers Rangers were full time soldiers employed by colonial governments to patrol between fixed frontier fortifications and provide early warning of raids. When it came to the time of the American Revolution, Frederick Keller chose to remain loyal to the British Empire. He and many others were relocated to southern Ontario where they were given raw land by the Crown to clear and make a living.

After a full life, he died in Fredericksburg in what was then the province of Upper Canada in 1842 at age 85.

Accepting the certificate Brad said "It's awesome to think that I am connected to someone that goes back that far and to such key pieces of American and Canadian history!"

The United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada was established as a means of bringing together the descendants of those loyalists who left the American colonies at the time of the American Revolution (1775-1783). It is estimated 35,000 came to the Maritimes resulting in the formation of the Province of New Brunswick. At least 10,000 settled in what is now Ontario and Quebec. The Loyalists were multi-racial, multi-ethnic and multi-religious. It is estimated that more than 6 million Canadians today have United Empire Loyalist roots.

Established by Royal Charter in 1914, the association is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year with a variety of activities across the country. The Chilliwack branch is one of 29 branches across Canada. It was chartered in 1990 with Brad's grandfather as a Charter Member. "This year 2014 is our 100th. year of the chartering of the UELAC Association established in 1914," said Shirley Dargatz UE in an e-mail to *the Voice* on Monday. "It is always exciting when a young person takes an interest in their heritage. I am 7th generation Canadian. Brad would be 9th Generation Canadian. His Grandfather, Art Keller was very pleased to see Brad presented with his certificate at our Heritage Week celebration last Saturday."

