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Link Up



Photo by M.L. Dance UE

**United Empire
Loyalists' Association
of Canada**

Chilliwack Branch

Your Management Committee
for 2019

President: Marlene Dance UE
Vice Pres: vacant
Past Pres: Shirley Dargatz UE
Secretary/ Treasurer:

Judy Scholz UE
Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
Asst. Cindy Frizell UE

Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE

Directors: Carole Lefler UE
Cindy Lyftogt UE
Margaret Strocel

Honourary: Marian Reid UE
Flag Bearer: Alan Reid UE
Social Conveners:

Jan Duelliet & Emily Thomason
w/assistants Vicky Heibner UE
& Rebecca Heibner UE
Life Member: Mildred Hall UE

Pacific Regional VP:
Carl Stymiest UE
Pacific Regional Councillor:
Frans Compeer

President's Message

I just can't believe how the time is flying this summer.

This is the August issue already.

We came home in June to a happy band of weeds gaily dancing in the sun and growing in all parts of our garden. They had 30 uninterrupted days to sprout as they pleased and they did so. It took an effort to get rid of them all. It is so much easier when you do a bit every day. But all gone now. June and July have been very busy months for our branch and the following pages detail everything that has happened so I won't repeat here.

Check out our Calendar on page 2 for upcoming events and especially the change of date for our next meeting - The Fall Fleet celebration on Oct. 5th.

On the family front, our annual Merritt Family Reunion Picnic will be the August long weekend here in the lower mainland and we are expecting family from as far north as Prince George and hopefully from Vancouver Island too. This is a Loyalist family and proud of it. We will be distributing the newest Family Tree book with all the updates.

Our daughter and family had a wonderful trip to Japan recently and visited many special shrines and monuments as well as Tokyo Disneyland. Our grandson just turned 16 and is now as tall as his grandfather. He will be in Grade 11, next year - amazing. My brother will be coming from Alberta in August for a nice visit. Haven't seen him for a year so lots of catching up to do. I have been invited to do some Genealogy presentations in the coming months and of course they include the Loyalist story.

Please come out and see us at the Reach Gallery in Abbotsford on Sept. 14th for the Genealogy Expo and in October for our Fall Fleet Celebrations.

We will send out reminders of all our events.

I hope to see you soon,
Loyally yours

Marlene Dance UE



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Calendar of Events for 2019

Print and save with your calendar



Meetings are held at Carman United Church Hall, 7258 Vedder Road, Chilliwack BC
Trooping of the flag will commence at 11:45am - followed immediately by lunch - then a planned program.

*****Note: any changes to starting time will be listed below in future newsletters and emails *****

Luncheon with coffee, tea and juice served at most meetings.

There is no charge for our regular meetings.

Members are asked to please bring food contributions to the meeting
or make a small donation into the refreshment basket.

We are pleased to present our calendar for the year:

2019

August 5th - Fort Langley Fur Brigade Days—Judy Schulz UE
will be there with her tent and displays. Say hello.

September 14 - Genealogy Expo Abbotsford, BC @ The Reach

October 5th - Fall Fleet Celebration ***** note date change!**

October 19th - Surrey Finding your Roots Genealogy Day

November 11th - Remembrance Day and lunch at Canton Gardens

December 7th - Christmas meeting and social

Details and reminders about any change in time, location or about guest speakers
will be sent via email and in each edition of this newsletter.

Be sure to send suggestions, information and/or pictures for this publication to: chwkbrielcontact@gmail.com



United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



Partnering with: Heritage Chilliwack Society

Their motto: Keeping the Past Present!

Triple Berry Social: June 22, 2019

Special Guest speaker Vivian Evans Walker

(pictures thanks to Vivian Walker (two on the right) and Marlene Dance UE)



For our Triple Berry Social, we were treated to a presentation on the history of the Evans Family, early pioneers of Chilliwack and the log cabin on their land thought to have been erected by the Royal Engineers. While the cabin is no longer located in Chilliwack, it would be nice to be able to see it returned to our area.

Maybe Vivian and friends are working on that. In the meantime, the picture at the bottom right is of Luke and Ben peering in the window of the cabin their 3rd G.



Grandparents Charles and Jane Evans, lived in on a visit to Chilliwack in the 1860's. This was before the farmhouse was built on the land near Atchelitz Creek. (North of the 401 freeway.)

Please go to: <http://yale.cariboogoldrush.com/people/evans.htm> for lots of information on this family including property history, diary,

Last Will and Testament, Obits and a write up on the background of both Charles and Jane Evans. Note that Jane's grandfather, James Wells (Welles) was born in Connecticut and settled in Ontario as a United Empire Loyalist. Both Vivian and her sister Nancy have joined our branch and we will be working with them to submit their applications for their UE status. Welcome to our branch and thank you so much

Vivian for your wonderful history lesson.

There was a nice turnout of members who enjoyed the triple berry shortcake and the presentation. Thank you to all who attended. Sorry I didn't get everyone's picture. Will try to do better next time.





Loyalist window display at the Chilliwack Military Museum.

45915 Wellington Ave., Chilliwack, BC

We were very pleased to be invited by the Museum to put a Loyalist display in the front window for the month of July. As BC Loyalist day is July 22nd, the timing was perfect.

The theme of the window was

“Pioneers of Chilliwack and the Loyalist Connection”.

This will also be the theme of the slide show presentation our President, Marlene Dance UE will be giving at the Heritage Chilliwack Society meeting at the historic Royal Hotel on October 3, 2019.

We are aware of over 50 Chilliwack pioneers and founding fathers who can trace their heritage back to the Loyalists who arrived in Upper & Lower Canada in 1783 at the end of the American Revolution. These names are memorialized throughout the district on land marks, streets, parks and buildings.

In moving west, they once again exemplified the true spirit of adventure and individualism expressed by their Loyalist forbears.

(Sorry for all the reflections in the window. But we must not complain about our sunny days as they were scarce in early July.)



Featured front and centre in the window was the June, 2019 issue of this newsletter. Pages were open to the Loyalist article by Chris Hay UE.

(Please go to page 7 for an interesting item by Chris)

UELAC VANCOUVER BRANCH

Regular meetings at Bonsor Park Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Ave., Burnaby, BC on 2nd Floor will be on Tuesday evenings.

There will be four (4) meetings: September, November (AGM), March and May or June. No meetings are scheduled in January or February due to dark evenings and expected poor weather.

Various Social events annually include: Picnic at Queens Park in July Spring (May) or Fall (October) Fleet celebrations within the Pacific Region as planned and a Christmas Luncheon.

Community Engagement: BC Heritage Fair in Vancouver Elementary Schools Finding Your Roots seminars at LDS Church in October; Remembrance Day

www.uelac.org/Vancouver

The branch is also on Twitter, Pinterest and Facebook. Dates of upcoming events can be found on the webpage.



July 1st, 2019 Celebrated in Style at Townsend Park in Chilliwack



The City organized a wonderful day for residents to come out and enjoy Canada Day at Townsend Park. Events started with a Pancake Breakfast, lots of activities for children, live entertainment and music all day long, tasty food vendors, crafts, displays by local organizations and fireworks to end the day.

UELAC Chilliwack Branch was invited to join the Heritage Chilliwack Society, the Chilliwack Military Museum and the Atchelitz Threshermens & Pioneer Village Assoc. all together under a large tent. This entire group was visited continually throughout the day by people dressed in red and white and out for the day to celebrate July 1st.

Our tables drew a steady crowd of interested people. The old telephones from the Pioneer Village together with the military display of a truck and a howitzer generated a lot of interest. It was a hot day, with a nice breeze which turned to

a wind that sent everything flying about 2:00 pm. Even when anchored down, it was quite the effort to make sure we didn't lose anything. Above is Marlene Dance UE who manned our display for the day.

Joining her is Laura Reid, President of the Heritage Chilliwack Society, who is attired as a 1915 Suffragette out to get women the vote. Great outfit - lots of interest. We had a number of enquiries and it looks like a possible three new members. Well worth the effort.



Another
Family Wedding
for the
Heibner Clan

Kevin and Vicky

UE Heibner are pleased to announce both the engagement and wedding of son Kole Heibner UE to Alyssa Ann Peterson of Fraser, Colorado.

The wedding will take place on Saturday, November 9, 2019 in Tabernash, Colorado USA.

We send our best wishes to you both for a long and happy life together.

BC Loyalist Day at Queen's Park, New Westminster, BC

A beautiful day and a nice crowd of 30 members attended the celebration. Vancouver Branch were the hosts and President Christine Manzer UE presided over the program. Three certificates were presented to new members and there was a draw for an abundance of door prizes. Well done!

(picture thanks to Linda Nygard UE)



BC Loyalist Day celebrated July 20th, 2019

(pictures thanks to Marlene Dance UE)

Our warm thanks go to Ken and Shirley Dargatz UE for hosting us for our BC Loyalist Day lunch. Ken's flowers greeted us at the front walk and made a beautiful display. (Ken - If any of your plant pots are missing, please don't check at my home!) A pot luck luncheon was enjoyed by all. And the celebration cake was cut by Jerry Brown UE. Our program gave recognition to our Loyalist ancestors and to those descendants who travelled west to settle in BC and Chilliwack in particular. We were so pleased to see a couple of members who haven't been out

much lately - nice to see you Gail and Marian.

As you can see from the pictures it was a beautiful day and the breeze obeyed our command to wave as Alan raised the flag.

Thanks to Chris for sharing his interesting finds and have a read of his unusual Loyalist Day (page 7) before he joined us.

And a big thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the sunshine and good company.



My 2019 BC Loyalist Day Celebration by Chris Hay UE

An amazing chain of events had centered on the recent UEL Chilliwack Branch annual celebration of British Columbia Loyalist Day. The Loyalists, those who remained faithful to Britain, had fled to what is now Canada following the American Revolution. The original idea to have a day of recognition for the Loyalists of British Columbia was initiated with a committee of BC branch members Shirley Dargatz UE Chilliwack Branch, Carl Stymiest UE Vancouver Branch, Robert Ferguson UE Victoria Branch and Sally Harrison UE of the Thompson/Okanagan Branch. The important date July 22 chosen for Loyalist day was to recognize the very first documented Loyalist to arrive in British Columbia.

Sir Alexander Mackenzie of Loyalist descent had reached the Pacific Coast on 22 July 1793. This Scottish explorer was known as the first European to accomplish the East to West crossing of America north of Mexico in 1793, which preceded the more famous Lewis and Clark Expedition by 12 years. Though born in Scotland, he is the son of a UE Loyalist. His father Kenneth Mackenzie migrated to the 13 Colonies and chose to support the Crown resulting in his son Alexander coming to Canada at the end of the war.

The Charter for BC Loyalist Day was granted Royal assent and made effective 22 July 2012 by Lieutenant Governor Steven Point who was born in Chilliwack, BC. The Honourable Steven Point, the first person of First Nations descent appointed BC Lieutenant Governor, finished his term of office 01 November 2012. The Charter Proclamation read "Whereas Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the son of a United Empire Loyalist, was documented as being the first European to successfully cross the North American continent north of Mexico on 22 July 1793".

After the previous UEL meeting in Chilliwack I had gone to a popular Chilliwack used bookstore following a very long absence. While browsing their inventory I noticed a book titled '1776' written in 2005 by the Pulitzer Prize winning author David McCullough. I quickly checked the book index for my Loyalist ancestor Richard Stockton with no success. So I then looked for General Charles Lee as my Richard Stockton had been involved as the head guide for the British troops participating in his capture. I had recently written a story on the capture of General Charles Lee, so I was very interested in any mention of new information regarding his capture. The index listed General Charles Lee and even noted in brackets several pages on this particular incident. When I turned to the pages and read there was a very detailed account with numerous details regarding the capture of General Lee previously unknown to me. It gave me some excellent new information including some great sources. This was absolutely a book that I had to purchase. The book was a rough paperback version so I decided just to leave it and search elsewhere for a hardcover copy. As I drove home I became annoyed as to why I did not purchase the book but then I remembered that the BC Loyalist celebration was only just one month away.

On the morning of July 20, 2019, I left Maple Ridge for the Loyalist Day celebration in Chilliwack. The event was actually held earlier than the official day due to some scheduling difficulties. I decided to quickly head back to the Chilliwack bookstore just before the event to purchase the book. I parked the car two blocks away and quickly walked towards the bookstore store. I casually quickly glanced at the various store window displays when suddenly I froze as something had caught my eye. There was a full store window display by the Chilliwack Loyalist Branch of the UEL. I quickly scanned and admired the display when suddenly I froze again.

In the center of the display was a copy of my original story of my Loyalist ancestor Major Richard Stockton who had captured General Charles Lee. This was the exact same story that I had found some exciting new details at the bookstore just a few steps away. I had no awareness of this display or the presence of my story.

Upon reaching the bookstore I could not find the paperback book "1776" but amazingly I found a hard cover copy in near mint condition. I purchased the book and left to attend the Loyalist Day Celebration.

The story of this incredible and unusual chain of events was shared with much amazement to all those attending our Loyalist event. This was just one of many moments of serendipity occurring during my years of family history research, although I believe that I have never before had such an amazing series of events such as what occurred on this Loyalist Day Celebration.

Chris sent this email, and I found it very interesting and wanted to share.

(Pictures and write up about the Museum display are on page 4)