

AUGUST 2025

Volume 14 - Issue 4

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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

First issue - May 1994

Branch Chartered October 18, 1990

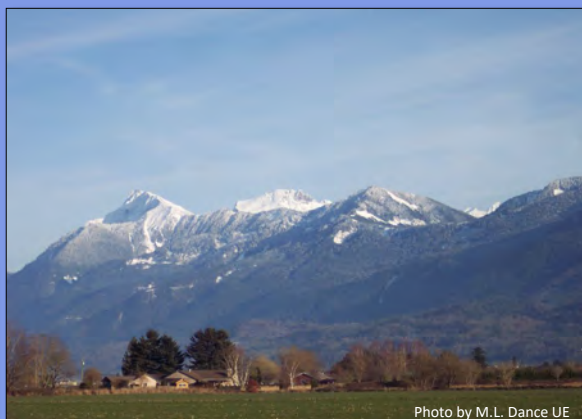
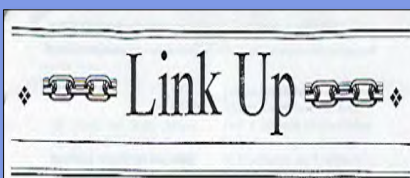


Photo by M.L. Dance UE

President's Message

It has been a fast paced and interesting two months.

Just a small gathering for our Mixed Berry Social on June 7th. But we were so pleased to welcome a few Vancouver Branch members who drove out to join us. Two members enquired about Loyalist certificates for their Grandchildren. So, more Loyalist applications are in the works now. Sorry, we forgot to take pictures.

Following a Loyalist presentation at the local Library, we have had some renewed interest.

A total of four new members joined our branch in July. Wonderful!

One of our newest members offered to take on the scanning job for the recovered back issues of our Newsletter. And on July 3rd, we saw approximately 50 back issues with multiple pages dating from 1994 to 2011 added to our webpage.

Then another 5 plus were found and added a week later. Please go to page 5 for details and to the website to read them. Great branch history together with our Branching Out Reports.

A wonderful present to ourselves for our 35th Anniversary.

I was not able to make it to the conference this year. I was disappointed as New Brunswick is the home of all of my Loyalists. So, I hope that you find a taste of what we missed on pages 6 to 12. So glad that branch Member Jan Duelllet was there to represent us. And a nice turnout from Vancouver Branch as well. They are all seated together and identified at the

Welcome Reception shown on page 7.

My garden has to get a mention and I have included a picture bottom right of my favourite Day Lily in bloom in my front yard. The colours are glorious again this year.

The BC Loyalist Day picnic, celebrated by Vancouver and Chilliwack Branches on July 20th, was a great success. We had such fun playing "Loyalist Bingo" created by Linda Drake UE. Special sheets depicting various loyalist events, people and places and markers to fill your line and win a prize. Thompson/Okanagan branch got to do it again a few days later. This is a "must do" in future. Maybe again in the fall. Page 3 shows all the BC Branches celebrating.

We are planning to celebrate our 35th Anniversary on Oct. 4th. We have booked the facilities at the Alliance Church on Young Road here in Chilliwack. We will send more details shortly.

Please mark on your calendar and plan to attend.

This will be a tribute to our founders who signed the Charter in October of 1990.

Loyally yours,
Marlene Dance UE

**United Empire
Loyalists' Association
of Canada
Chilliwack Branch
Your Management Committee
for 2025/26**

President: Marlene Dance UE
Vice Pres: vacant
Past Pres: Shirley Dargatz UE
Secretary: Judy Scholz UE
Treasurer: Carole Lefler UE
Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
Asst. Genealogist: vacant
Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE
Honourary member & Director:
Margaret Strocel UE
Branch Directors:
Chris Hay UE
Cindy Lyftogh UE
Helena Bastedo Smith UE
Jan Duelllet
Social Conveners:
Vicky Heibner UE
Rebecca Heibner UE

Pacific Regional VP
Carl Stymiest UE
Pacific Regional Councilor
Michael Woodcock UE



Calendar for 2025

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BC Loyalist Day picnics

Page 3

Branch news

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Conference pictures

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Voices from past issues

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Calendar of Events for 2025

Print and save with your calendar



Meetings will be scheduled individually.

Details as to location, Zoom links and guest speakers, will be sent via email and/or included below in each edition of this newsletter.



2025:

Oct 4th Celebration of 35th Anniversary of our Branch
 Nov 11th Remembrance Day and luncheon at Canton Gardens
 December Christmas celebration with Vancouver Branch TBA

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

Please visit our branch webpage: <http://www.uelac.org/Chilliwack/>



United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Partnering with Heritage Chilliwack Society since 2019

Keeping the Past Present! www.heritagechilliwack.org/

"On the Porch" - beautiful old homes in Chilliwack.
 Just Google to find all eight episodes on YouTube.

Featuring:

Hazel House, Carmichael House,

Higginson House, Gwynne Vaughan House,

Brock House,

Skelton House, Gibbens House.

As well as District 1881 - the new downtown rejuvenation.



B.C. Loyalist Day Celebrations!

Vancouver and Chilliwack Branches came together again this year at Queen's Park in New Westminster, Sunday July 20th, to celebrate.



At left is the whole group and below the cake for dessert with a lovely picture of last year's gathering. Everyone wanted a slice with their own picture on it. We made sure that Desmond got a slice from the middle with his parents. We played LOYALIST BINGO - a wonderful variation created by Linda Drake UE. Lots of prizes.



Left: Thompson/Okanagan Branch Picnic:

On July 22nd, Sandy Farynuk, President, in front holding Branch's 30th Anniversary cake, her granddaughter and grandson, Hudson and Erica on the left, Gloria Christian, Dick Birkby, Lila, granddaughter of Darlene Jones, on right. We had a luncheon, a meeting and played Vancouver Branch's, Linda Drake's, bingo game to win some homemade mulberry jam!

Victoria Branch Picnic July 22nd: below: photo thanks to Judy McMullen

Nice turnout on a beautiful day at Willows Park, at Willows Beach in Oak Bay.



A Sturdy Rock – A Sturdy People

by Earle Thomas Ph.D.

(From the *Loyalist Gazette*, Vol. XX, No. 2, Autumn 1983)

"A very sturdy rock is an appropriate monument to sturdy people," was Premier Richard Hatfield's comment. The rock, the monument, stands seven feet high in the Old Burying Ground at the corner of Brunswick and Carleton Streets in downtown Fredericton. It bears an inscription to the memory of the United Empire Loyalists who settled in the region two hundred years ago. It was erected by the Fredericton Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada in 1983 on the bicentennial of the Loyalist's arrival. "Many of them," the inscription reads, "lie in this burial ground." At least 157 of them are known to be there, according to Louise Hill, Fredericton author and specialist on local Loyalists, and there are many unmarked graves.

The Old Burying Ground in Fredericton is in itself a monument to the Loyalists who settled the town and to the generations who came after them. The first to be buried there was Colonel Anthony Foster in 1787. "My brother John and I," loyalist Hannah Ingraham recollected many years later, "saw the first burying there ever was in the graveyard. It was a soldier, an officer, and we heard the drums beating while we were picking berries there and we ran to see it." Hannah's parents were later laid to rest there, too, along with many of the more illustrious, like the first three chief justices of the province, George Duncan Ludlow, Jonathan Bliss, and John Saunders. Although the Old Burying Ground was Fredericton's only cemetery for many years after 1783, the list of those buried there reads like a muster roll of the early Fredericton Loyalist settlers.

The Monument inscription reads:



A recent New Brunswick visit in July and to this monument by Chilliwack Branch members and sisters l-r: Rebecca Heibner UE; Vicky Heibner UE and Cindy Lyftogt UE. Picture taken by mom Judy Scholz UE.



Chilliwack Branch Projects in the works:

1) LOYALISTS AND THE CHILLIWACK CONNECTION

This project is ongoing. We are working with the applications in our archives.

Chilliwack Pioneers with a Loyalist connection include:

Aitken, Blakney, Dahl, Evans, Thornton, Stevenson, Patten, Webb, Reeves, Munro, Chadsey, Halcrow, Nelles, Kipp, Reece and Higginson.

2) BACK ISSUES OF THE "LINK UP"

We are so proud to announce that effective the morning of July 3, 2025, all the back issues of the "Link Up" that we have been given are now on our webpage. Member Janet McCartney UE stepped up to take on the task of scanning and creating each PDF. Please have a look at the results.

And maybe have another look for missing issues. **Take a bow, Janet!**

3) Organization of our Library/storage room area: established Fall 1994.

In reviewing our past history "Branching Out" on our webpage, we found a comment about establishing a Memorial Library in memory of Andrew Webb UE.

Andrew was a signer of our charter and our first Branch Genealogist. A number of books from his collection were donated to get our library established. We will have a plaque made.

Our reorganization is ongoing. We have slowed down a bit but will get going again soon.

Slow and steady wins the race!

Chilliwack Branch

United Empire Loyalist' Association of Canada

[Homepage for Chilliwack Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada \(UELAC\)](#)

As mentioned above in #2, as of the morning of July 3, 2025 Back Issues, Bulletins & Handouts to our founding have been placed online. We have also just been handed a few more back issues and items that were added July 22, 2025. B.C. Loyalist Day!

Please go have a look and see the evolution from 1994 to now. The link is above.

We also found a few handouts from meetings prior to 1994, and have added them.

These issues together with the link on our "About Us" tab called "Branching Out Reports" give an amazing look back at the founding and development of our branch.

This October is the 35th anniversary of our Charter and we are planning an event to celebrate.

The date is October 4th and we are booked at the Chilliwack Alliance Church, 8700 Young Road.

So watch for more information via email and this newsletter.

Apply for Certificates for your Grandchildren!

We have had a few enquires by both present and past members to get Loyalist Certificates for the grandchildren. Checking into our files we have the records, are able to get others via the National office in Cornwall and can update the proofs with documents now available online and through new sources back east.

A family membership would be required, but right now it is half price to the end of the year.

Also, once approved, the application fee would be \$50.

What a wonderful heritage to pass down to family.

Two applications are now well underway. Thanks so much.

Highlights from the Conference

Saint John, New Brunswick July 10—13, 2025

Photos contributed by: Conference photographer - Jo Ann Tuskin UE; and Carl Stymiest UE; Jo -Ann Leake UE; Jan Ouellet.

Be sure to go to the UELAC Facebook page for more pictures.

National Conference Committee:
left -right are:

Barbara Andrews UE-UELAC Treasurer;
Bill Russell UE - UELAC President;
Patricia Groom UE - UELAC Marketing.
Love the "Photo booth card".

Always lots of work to do when organizing the national conference.

What a wonderful choice of location. The pictures that have been shared show a lovely venue, beautiful locations to visit and a program of interest to all members and attendees.

Photo credits are given above, but a special thanks to the people shown here

who did so much work.



L-r: back row: Greg Childs, Kevin Wisener, Bill Russell, Daniel Curylo (Vancouver Branch)
middle row: Jane Simpson, Angela Donovan, Jan Ouellet (Chilliwack Branch) Eleanor Tracey, Linda Jobe,
Front: Jo-Ann Leake and Jayne Leake

DAY 1: Thursday, July 10, 2025

**All Day Registration and
evening Welcome Reception
with
Guest speaker Wade Wells -
“Developments at Johnson Hall”**



The first day, Thursday, is a day to yourself to check into the hotel, register, walk about, find out who is here and get the lay of the location.

Then go to the welcome Reception in the evening.

Just a few pictures.

Starting with the table at right:

I-r: Daniel Curylo UE; (mom & Dad) Ed & Rose Marie Curylo UE's; Eleanor Tracey, Jan Oulette; Carl Stymiest UE and Diane Faris UE.

At right we have Rose Marie Curylo and son Daniel with all the “Switchel” provided to the Hospitality Suite.

Comments on Facebook declare it very tasty and a big success. Thank you so much Daniel for this contribution!



Hospitality Suite Hostesses - at right

Chilliwack Branch member Jan Oulette at far right and her good friend Eleanor Tracey from Harvey, York Co., N.B.

Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings - everyone welcome!

DAY 2: Friday, July 11, 2025 - Speaker - two presentations and two tours
#1) "Sailing to Sanctuary: Loyalists and their Evacuation Vessels by Stephen Davidson
#2) Finding Loyalists in the Maritimes and Beyond: Getting the most out of your research by Dr. Leah Grandy

#3) Tour the N.B. Black Heritage Museum below:



#4) Tour and dinner at Trinity Anglican Church

The tour was beautiful.

What a wonderful venue.

Then, a Loyalist Pops Concert (left)
(tunes of the Loyalist era)

by Tim Blackmore who
played on a modern version of a small
English square piano, one of which
Loyalists would have been familiar.

Many wonderful comments about this
presentation include: "The sound resounded
in the church and was so beautiful to hear".

Another was: "The acoustics in the Church
made the music sound enormous
and gave me goose bumps while I listened".

Everyone enjoyed the selections.

Dinner following was delightful.



DAY 3: Saturday, July 12, 2025

**#1) Tour Loyalist House built by David Daniel Merritt
(picture of the home on page 7)**

Dining room set for dinner.

Buffet server below.

**Serving platters in blue (a favourite colour of the time)
and pewter mugs for Ale.**



**#2) Wreath-laying ceremony honouring Loyalists at the
Old Loyalist Burial Grounds.**

**Assisted by Re-enactors of Delancy's Brigade
at the site of Jasper Stymiest (1751-1826) .**

From Carl Stymiest UE:

**"On Saturday, I had the honour of conducting the Wreath
Laying Ceremony for the UELAC in Saint John,
New Brunswick's Loyalist Burial Grounds.
Jasper was my 4th Great Uncle"**



DAY 3: Saturday, July 12, 2025 - The Evening Gala & Banquet
Right: Special speaker Dr. Bonnie Hoskins; appointed UELAC Fellow:
“Why Drinking Establishments are Important Sites of Loyalist History.”



President Bill Russell ready with a “wee dram for the Piper”.

Below: The Dorchester Award to Patricia Groom UE.



Left: Suzanne Morse-Hines Memorial Genealogy-Family History Award to Diane Farris UE.



Our Dominion Executive:
I-r: Kevin Wisener UE Vice President
Jo Ann Tuskin UE Secretary
Barb Andrew UE Treasurer
Bill Russell UE PRESIDENT
Carl Stymiest UE Past President



More from the Evening Gala & Banquet



A few shots from the Banquet!



See anyone you know?





DAY 4: Sunday, July 13, 2025
**Featuring Drumhead Service at Trinity Anglican Church with
 Delancy's Brigade, followed by a lovely luncheon
 hosted by the Church ladies.**

Trinity Anglican Church, church of the Loyalists since 1783. The original 1791 church was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1877. This Gothic Revival stone church was built after that. Its spire is seen from nearly every standpoint in up-town Saint John as it rises 200 feet above the ground. The sound of the clock chiming every half hour adds a character to the city.

**Right: The altar and attendees.
 Below: Delancy's Brigade retiring
 the colours.**



**Bottom row from left to right:
 UELAC President, Bill Russell UE
 Rev. Steven Scribner**

**Padre Peter Gillies leading Drumhead Service.
 Her Worship, Donna Reardon, Mayor of Saint John**



Voices from past issues:

November, 1995 issue of the "[Link Up](#)" celebrated the 5th Anniversary of the founding of our branch. Please go to [Homepage for Chilliwack Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada \(UELAC\)](#) click on Newsletter and scroll down to this issue.

Inside you will find on page 1 some highlights of the branch history from founding. Also, a list of Certificates and awards presented the first five years. Quite impressive.

Often items included would be a "Featured Loyalist".

Here are a few for you to read: Thomas Turney; and on the following page: John McMartin; Isaac Ogden and son Peter Kene Ogden. Also from the Loyalist Gazette, Spring 1990 a item about the Loyalists of famed Canadian, Pierre Berton 1920-2004.

Thomas Turney

Thomas Turney was an unknown Loyalist to us until, discouraged that no link could be found in the Jones name, we took another look at Percy's lengthy family tree researched by his sister Mary, a long time experienced genealogist.

There it was in small print near the bottom of the page: Thomas Turney, U.E.L. and then the name of his daughter Jerusha Ann. We asked George Hayward of Fredericton how we should proceed and once again we were delighted that he would help.

Here then are some facts gleaned from the research of George, Mary Hope, U.E. and our genealogist Mildred Hall, U.E., facts that link Thomas Turney to David Deplissey, the father of Percy and Mary.

Thomas Turney was born circa 1753, possibly in Connecticut with Fairfield Conn. Listed as one place of residence. He became a member of the New York Volunteers and on September 11, 1779, in Lieut. Col. George Turnbolls Co. at Savannah, Georgia he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He also served at Long Island in 1776. In 1784 he came to New Brunswick first settling in Keswick, York County. From 1801 until his death in 1840 he lived at Burton Parish, Sunbury County.

Thomas's wife whom he married circa 1780 was likely Rebecca whose last name is still unknown. The couple had 12 children.

Of interest to us is Jerusha who married Rev. Gideon Estabrooks and thus provided a link for Percy and Mary with another well-known N.B. pioneer family.

Jerusha and Gideon were our member's second great grand parents through their father David Wiley Deplissey, son of Joseph Deplissey and Annie Ida Estabrooks. Their mother was Edith Jones whose great grand father was James A. Jones son of a Loyalist but which one we can't yet prove. That's why the Turney discovery is so exciting. It's always wonderful when here on the west coast a branch member is the first in Canada to receive a certificate in a particular previously undocumented name in U.E.L. files. We believe this distinction applies to Percy Deplissey, U.E. (Thomas Turney) and his sister Mary Hope, U.E. (Thomas Turney) whose certificates are therefore a double honour.

John McMartin

John McMartin my Loyalist ancestor, married Helen 'Ellen' Cameron in Tryon Co., New York. Early in the American Revolution John and 'Ellen' McMartin turned their back to America, and made tracks north for Charlottenburgh, Upper Canada. John McMartin and his brother Malcolm decided on a new life at present day Martintown, Charlottenburgh, The Indian Lands, Glengarry County, Ontario on the Raisin River.

The Grants and McMartins became owners of a large amount of the Martintown Area property. On the east side of the Raisin River, settlers rented sections of land from my Loyalist McMartin family. The west side of the Raisin River was largely owned by my Loyalist Grant ancestors. Early settlers had to rent or lease from the McMartin or Grant land owners. Only fools would build homes restricted by short term leases; so the leases were wittingly, for very long terms. Some leases were "...for nine hundred and ninety-nine years, renewable on the same terms at the end of that period". Some leases were for "...as long as the grass shall grow and water shall flow." The last Martintown property leased on these terms was on June 11th 1966. This fast growing settlement became known as McMartin's Mills and later just as Martintown.

Clearing the land was the first arduous task, especially during the first few years. Some had only an axe to chop down the tree, chop off the branches, and then cut the tree into short lengths; which would be dragged by human strength to their new home construction site. Some had rather crude cross-cut saws, with a handle at each end. A man, yes and sometimes it was a woman, would pull the saw back and forth across the log to cut it. That saw was delightfully named the "bush-fiddle." In 1787, just after army rations ceased, the crops failed. That was the terrible "starving time." For well over a hundred years following the "starving time" people talked with emotion of that famine; "...when the starving settlers boiled the leaves of trees for soup to keep themselves alive."

The main income producer in early Glengarry was pearl-ash, an essential ingredient of soap production in England. It took many trees to make a bushel of pearl-ash; so we can imagine how many millions of trees were burned to make a bar of English soap. Without a doubt a most wasteful action. However, on the other hand the land had to be cleared for the planting of grain and garden vegetables. Maple syrup and wild grapes that grew along the Raisin River were frequently a life saver. My Martintown Loyalist cousin, the late Rhodes C.M. Grant wrote this in 1974: *To sweeten their victuals they naturally used maple sugar and syrup, and they used enormous quantities. Yes and diabetes was a rare disease. Even fifty years ago my family consumed twenty-five gallons of maple syrup a year. It appeared on the table at every meal, no matter what else there was or how much!*

Peter Skene Ogden 1794-1854

Son of Loyalist

Isaac Ogden 1739 - 1824

Isaac was born in New Jersey. He supported the Loyalists in the Revolution and his land was confiscated. At the evacuation of New York he went to England and hence to Canada in 1788. He was appointed a judge of the Admiralty Court at Quebec, a post he held from 1796 to 1818. He died in England in 1824.

Peter Skene Ogden 1794 - 1854

He was the son of Isaac Ogden and Sara Hanson, and grandson of Hon. David Ogden. Peter was born in Quebec. His brothers became lawyers but Peter wasn't interested and joined the Northwest Company as an apprentice clerk in 1809 when he was only 15. He became one of the most colourful (and sometimes controversial) traders and explorers of all time. He was well built and had a commanding presence.

When his company joined with the Hudson Bay Company in 1821 he was promoted to chief factor. He spent much of his life after 1818 on the Pacific Slope and he died near Oregon City on Sept. 17, 1854. He is buried there.

His explorations were far reaching. Some of his appointments included Fort Spokane, Fort Vancouver Washington, Goose Lake, California., (where liquid mud was the only drink) Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, and of special interest to us Fort Kamloops and Ft. St. James.

The following article is from the *Loyalist Gazette* Spring, 1990 Pierre Berton's Loyalist Ancestors

"In Ottawa I was surrounded by cousins, all of whom seemed to be obsessed by the idea of pedigree, as indeed my father was. He was the proud possessor of the family Bible, a huge tome bought in London in the middle years of the eighteenth century by my ancestor Captain Peter Berton. I already knew that this Peter Berton was a grandson of Pierre Berton de Marigny, a Huguenot from Poitou in France, who had fled to America by way of England and changed his name to Peter Berton immediately on his arrival in Rhode Island. I knew it because my father, in a romantic moment, had named me after him: Pierre Francis de Marigny Berton. The name haunted me at school, where I was the butt of many jokes. The time would come when "Pierre" would become acceptable, even popular, thanks to another well-known personality. But in the Yukon, Pierre as a foreign name and "de Marigny" sounded too much like "dumbbell." Dumbbell Berton, the kids called me. Why, I asked myself, would my father do that to me? In later years I dropped both middle names and quickly discovered that "Pierre Berton" was a byline that people tended to remember. Only then was I grateful to my father.

He was immensely proud of his lineage: Huguenot, and the United Empire Loyalists to Captain Peter Berton and the shipload of Tories he brought to Oak Point, in what is now New Brunswick in 1783. As we crossed Canada and stopped at various towns, my father would rush to the nearest phone directory to see if any Bertons were listed. If there were, he would call them to find out if they were related to us. They always seemed to be, or so my father believed."