

OCTOBER 2026

Volume 15 - Issue 5

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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

First issue - May 1994

Branch Chartered October 18, 1990

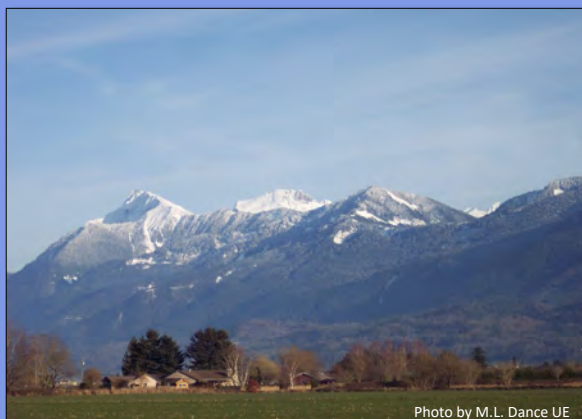
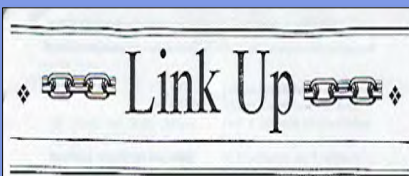


Photo by M.L. Dance UE

President's Message

As the summer wanes into fall, we are busy trying to convert to a new format for our newsletter. The outline you recognize here has been in use since 2012. We are using Microsoft Publisher, which has now been discontinued. We have completed this final issue and are busy making sure our masthead continues. Enquiries about possible Loyalist heritage have resulted in five new members joining our ranks. We now have 73 members. We are presently working on nine new certificate applications. As well, a new enquiry just arrived a few days ago about loyalists from PEI. I have contacted Abegweit Branch for some help. Our October 3rd gathering will feature a guest speaker and the presentation of Loyalist certificates. Details are on page 3. Come out and join us.

We have received some nice comments about our recap of Loyalist Certificates issued in years past. Please go to page 6 for our latest selection.

In 2018, Canadian parliament named September 28th as British Home Children Day. This was in recognition of the over 100,000 boys and girls as young as 5, sent to Canada to be domestic help and work on farms beginning in 1869. My families connection to this untold story is via my husbands grandfather who arrived in Canada in 1897 as a 10 year old boy sent to the NWT of Alberta.

The Loyalist Trails weekly newsletter has often featured items from Mike Woodcock UE and Brian McConnell UE. We have often used Mike Woodcock's "Loyal List" and now include links for Brian's blog on page 8.

Check the calendar for other planned events this year.

Next year will be exciting with the 95th Anniversary of Vancouver Branch, the 100th Anniversary of Victoria Branch and the National Conference to be held in Kingston, Ontario.

Loyally yours,
Marlene Dance UE

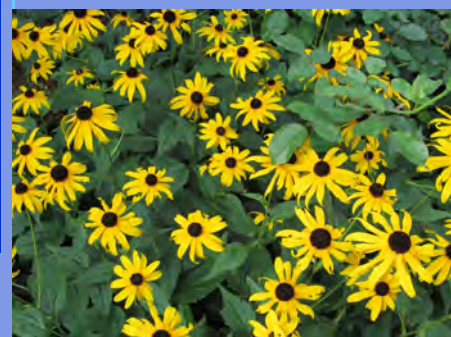
**United Empire
Loyalists' Association
of Canada
Chilliwack Branch**
Your Management Committee
for 2026/27

President: Marlene Dance UE
Vice Pres: vacant
Past Pres: S. Dargatz UE (deceased)
Secretary: Judy Scholz UE
Treasurer: Carole Lefler UE
Genealogist: Marlene Dance UE
Asst. " " Janet McCartney UE
Web Mistress: Vicky Heibner UE
Honourary member& Director:
Margaret Strocel UE
Branch Directors:
Chris Hay UE
Cindy Lyfugt UE
Helena Bastedo Smith UE
Jan Duelliet
Social Conveners:
Vicky Heibner UE
Rebecca Heibner UE
Newsletter: Marlene Dance UE

Pacific Regional VP
Vacant
Pacific Regional Councilor
Michael Woodcock UE



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Calendar of Events for 2026

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.



2026:

- Oct. 3 Branch meeting email to all members sent
- Oct. 17 LDS Church, Abbotsford, BC - Finding your Roots.
- Nov. 11 Remembrance Day Cenotaph & Canton Gardens luncheon
- Dec. 6 Annual Christmas event w/Vancouver Branch at Alder Park Clubhouse in Surrey, BC. Details will be sent out via email.

UELAC Conference—June 24– 27, 2027 @ Kingston, Ontario
Theme - "Love of Country leads us"

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

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.



Please come and join us on Saturday October 3, 2026

at the Chilliwack Alliance Church @ 1:30 pm

8700 Young Road, Chilliwack, BC

We have Loyalist certificates to present.

Guest speaker is Linda Reverchon, a member of the Abbotsford Genealogical Society.

She will share her genealogy adventure documenting her family home.

We will be presenting Loyalist Certificates.

There will be news about the UELAC, a few Branch announcements and general reminders.

A raffle and light refreshments will be served. Let's get reacquainted!



In Memoriam:

Bill Edwin Jensen (1964-2026)

A very new member to our Branch. Bill and his family joined early last year when a Loyalist was discovered and proven for his wife Cheryl.

Bill's last years were a health battle.

But he fought to the end, and never gave up.

We so enjoyed his company at our anniversary meeting last year.

He is survived by his lovely wife Cheryl (UE), his daughter

Anna (Lee), his son Michael and his four amazing

"grand sugars" Matthew, Jordan, Jessica and Alexander.

He was extremely proud of his family and prayed for them regularly.

We send our condolences, thoughts and prayers to his family.





Welcome to the world little one!

Look at all the wonderful red hair!

Wilder Jude King was born

Aug. 13, 2026 @ 8:02am

Weighing in at 9 lbs 12 oz.

Parents are Stewart and Kaitlyn (UE) King.

A brother for Isla Jane.

Proud grandmother is Cindy Lyfogt UE

and a great grandmother again is

Judy Schulz UE.

How many “greats” does this make, Judy?



Please go online to:

[Abbotsford Family History Day - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](#)

**Registration is required
but this event is FREE!**

**Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026
8:30am-12:30pm**

**Learn what is available to you
through the facilities at the
LDS Church in Abbotsford.
30635 Blueridge Drive,
Abbotsford, BC**

ABBOTSFORD

FAMILY

HISTORY DAY

Explore your past. Build connections.
Preserve your future. **Free Event**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026
8:30am to 12:30pm

PRESENTATIONS
Inspiring presentations from experienced researchers.

LEARNING
Strategies and tips to advance your research.

NETWORKING
Connect with fellow researchers and share your discoveries.

EVENT DETAILS & REGISTRATION

Visit abbyfhday.simplictix.ca or scan the QR code for the Agenda, Workshop Descriptions, and Registration.

Registration is available until October 15th.

Registering for workshops will help ensure you have a seat in your preferred workshops and will enable us to communicate any updates to you.

Walk-ins are always welcome.

More tools to help solve your family puzzle!

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
30635 Blueridge Dr.
Abbotsford B.C.

Every family has a story.
LET'S DISCOVER YOURS.



PHILLIP E.M. LEITH MEMORIAL VOLUNTEER AWARD 2026

At the Sept. 19th, 2026 meeting of the UELAC Victoria Branch, Stewart Michael Woodcock UE was presented with the Leith Memorial Volunteer Award for his outstanding volunteerism to the Victoria Branch, the Pacific Region and the Association as a whole.

L-r below: Mike Woodcock UE, Mary Anne Bethune UE, and Carl Stymiest UE



Above are the trophy and below is the medal.

Please go to the website of Vancouver Branch UEALC, for the background on Phillip Leith UE and the history of this award. So worth the read.



Established in November of 2006 following his passing, it is awarded annually to a person or persons from the Pacific Region in recognition of their outstanding volunteer work on behalf of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.

There have been 36 members honoured in the 20 years since its inauguration.

See the complete list of recipients and all details at:

<https://www.uelac.org/Bancouver/Leithaward.php>

The 2026 award is shared with Rose Marie (UE) and Ed Curylo and son Daniel (UE). Presented this past summer at the Vancouver Branch Loyalist picnic July 19, 2026.

Please see Link Up August 2026 page 4.



Certificate issued by Chilliwack Branch

Wilma Jean Halcrow (1920-2002) know as Billie;
was a long time active member and contributor to branch events.
She was so proud to be presented her Loyalist certificate at the
1999 Annual Conference in her home town of Edmonton, Alberta.

(see picture at left)

Her Loyalist is **Jonathan Matthews**, who served in Butler's Rangers.
And settled in the Grantham area of Niagara, Ontario.
Here is the recap of her application approval: MC8537-99.

Generation #1: Wilma Jean Halcrow maiden name Freeman(1920-2002)
is the daughter of

Generation #2: Bertha Jean Matthews (1892-1975) & William Freeman.
Bertha is the daughter of

Generation #3: Alberta Margaret Johnson (1867-1957) & Mahlon Matthews.
Alberta is the daughter of

Generation #4: George Huffman Johnson & Alice Matthews(1842- ?)
Alice is the daughter of

Generation #5: Thomas Matthews (1810-1880) & Margaret Benner
Thomas is the son of

Generation #6: Loyalist Jonathan Matthews (abt. 1757-1830) & Ann Glendenning

Jonathan was originally from Virginia in the Colonies.

He served with Butlers Rangers.

He settled in Lincoln Co. and married Ann Glendenning about 1793.

Their children include: Martha, Abraham, Eva, Lucie, Peter, Isaac, Thomas, and
Abraham, all born in the Upper Canada region where they settled.

Proofs used for the Loyalist generation:

#1) Loyalist Executive Council List: page 105

and Old UEL List for Ontario: page 209, listed as settled in H District,
and was enlisted in B. Rangers.

#2) Early Ontario Settlers: a Source Book: page 116 Settlers between the
Four Mile Creek and the Head of Lake Ontario 1785 Muster Roll #18

#3) Loyalists in Ontario: Sons & daughters of American Loyalists: p. 218

#4) Muster Rolls of Butlers Rangers.

#5) LAC land grants Upper Canada: to various children name him as a
Loyalist serving with Butlers Rangers.

QUILTS OF VALOUR - CANADA

Member Carole Leffler UE, makes the most beautiful quilts (see her two samples below). She also makes quilts for "Quilts of Valour-Canada". She wanted to share parts of their brochure and see if any other members of the UELAC family would also like to participate.

Below is the local Fraser Valley Representative contact information. But you could check with your local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion for additional contact information in your area.



 www.quiltsofvalour.ca

 Info@quiltsofvalour.ca

 QuiltsofValour
QOV.Canada
govcquilters

 Quilts_of_Valour_Canada

Contact your local representative to learn more.

Carolyn Jennings

Representative BC Fraser Valley
604-309-2347
carolyn.jennings@quiltsofvalour.ca



How Can You Help?

Make Completed Quilts
Make Blocks or Quilt Tops
Long Arm Quilting & Quilt Finishing
Involve Your Guild or Group
Volunteer for QOVTM Events

Contact your local representative to learn more.

Make donation cheques payable to:
Libeller les chèques de dons à l'ordre de:
Quilts of Valour - Canada Society®

Registered Charity
Organisme de bienfaisance enregistré
BN802946699RR001



Quilts of ValourTM A Quilted Thank You

Minimum finished quilt size 55" x 70"
Good quality quilting fabric 100% cotton
Cotton or poly/cotton batting
Do not use re-purposed fabrics
Use prints suitable for a CAF member
Quality workmanship please
The official QOVTM label is required
Contact your Representative for a QOVTM label.



Far left: Quilt made for our fundraiser in 2020. The bottom part shows the label on the back of this quilt.

Left: Quilt made for Canada's 150th Anniversary. This quilt was featured on our podium for many meetings in 2017. It was then gifted to our local MP Mark Strahl. It still hangs on the wall in his local constituency office.

Loyalist History Blog: from [Loyalist History Blog – UELAC](#)

Brian McConnell, UE; Nova Scotia Branch, UELAC

Greetings! My 5th great grandfather was James Humphrey, UE, a Private in Jessup's Rangers during the American Revolution who afterward settled with his family near Johnstown, Ontario. I am an historian who has authored 6 books and over 40 articles about United Empire Loyalists. I belong to the Nova Scotia Branch UELAC. As well I volunteer with the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada itself.

Here I share some of what I have learned relating to the history of the United Empire (UE) Loyalists in the hope it is useful to others and encourages their interest.

The initial topics include:

- 1) A UEL Ancestor for the Honourable Kody Blois, Member of Parliament for Kings-Hants, Nova Scotia
- 2) An [interactive map](#) showing places, people and events [Masonic Connections](#)
- 3) The [UE Postnominal](#)
- 4) [Cemeteries and Gravestones](#)
- 5) [Churches](#)
- 6) [Loyal Rangers](#)
- 7) The [Battles of Saratoga](#)

The blog is available at <https://uelhistory.blogspot.com/>.

Brian McConnell, UE
September 2025

ALSO: [Brian McConnell, U.E. - YouTube](#)

There are a good many videos on various topics Loyalist and otherwise.



Brian McConnell, U.E.

@brianmcconnellhistory • 462 subscribers • 530 videos

Historian / Author / Volunteer ...more

[X](#) and 2 more links

[Subscribe](#)

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[Playlists](#)

Watch for new items and links in "Loyalist Trails"

The Declaration of Dependence November - 1776

This November is the 250th anniversary of the signing of this document by 547 Loyalists.

It is held in the Library of the New York Historical Society in New York city.

The New Brunswick Loyalist Association meeting via Zoom at 10am PST on September 24th featured Sandra McNamara UE as the guest speaker.

Sandra's original article was published in "Journal of the American Revolution" in the December 2018 issue.

www.allthingsliberty.com/2018/12/the-loyalist-declaration-of-dependence-of-1776/

Have you ever heard of this document? Few have.

Past issues of our Link Up in February 2019 and December 2023, featured Sandra presenting the finding and contents of this document. We are pleased to tell you of it again. There are four pages, but not all very clear. So here are two below.

You may contact Sandra at: themcnamaras.sm@gmail.com



1733 Henry Popple's landmark, Map of the British Empire in America,
showing the French and Spanish settlement adjacent
with thanks to Margaret Dougherty, Nova Scotia Genealogy on Face Book.



Here is a breakdown of the notable historical place names shown in this specific section, grouped by region:

Maritime Canada & Acadia

Acadia: Labeled across modern-day Nova Scotia as *Acadia*. At the time of this map's production, control over the borders of this region was a major source of tension between Great Britain and France.

Bay of Fundy: Clearly legible in the large bay separating modern-day New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Micmaques: Inscribed on the interior of the Nova Scotia peninsula, identifying the ancestral territory of the indigenous Mi'kmaq people.

Annapolis Royal: Located along the southern coast of the Bay of Fundy. Formerly the French settlement of *Port-Royal*, it was renamed in 1710 after Britain gained control of the area.

C. Sable: Refers to Cape Sable, the southernmost point of mainland Nova Scotia.