



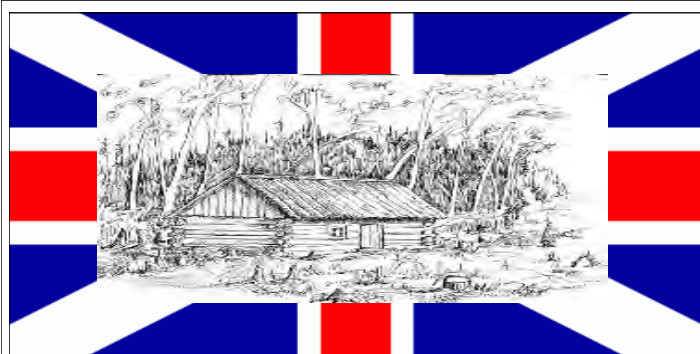
The Kawartha Periodical



Newsletter of the **Kawartha Branch** of the **United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada**

Web site: <<http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha>>

Volume 17, Issue 02 *The Kawartha Branch was granted its charter on 23 June 1979* Fall - Winter 2017



The President's Message

I trust that you have had a wonderful summer and a great fall as we've enjoyed mild weather throughout September, October and November, although we're now certainly getting ready for winter.

From Friday, 01 September to Sunday, 03 September, a number of Kawartha Branch Executive manned a booth at the Kinmount Fair in the village of Kinmount, Ontario. We were very pleased to have numerous individuals stop by the exhibit to discuss Loyalist ancestry.

Then, on Sunday, 22 September, renowned author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, was the guest speaker at our Branch meeting, her topic, entitled "*The Governor and his Lady*", being about the life of Governor Simcoe and his wife, Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe, Jean having stayed overnight at our farm home and attended a Masonic Barbeque on Saturday evening.

On Saturday, 22 October, we hosted a very successful banquet, attended by over forty individuals, at the Emmanuel East (George Street) United Church where well-known local historian, Professor Emeritus Elwood Jones, from the Trent Valley Archives, spoke about how Loyalists fit in and shaped Canada following the American Revolution. He has since published a series of weekly articles in the Peterborough *Examiner* about how Loyalists found a new home north of the American border.

On Sunday afternoon, 29 October, a number of the Kawartha Branch Executive attended "*A Musical*

Cornucopia For A Sunday Afternoon", featuring Rod Crawford and Geoff Hewitson, The Hurly Burly Early Music Ensemble, Ian Morton and The St Luke's Church choir, at St. Luke's Anglican Church in East City.



The Remembrance Day Parade and commemorative service in Peterborough was held on Saturday, 11 November, with a number of Kawartha Branch members and their friends in attendance both in the parade and at the service.

That evening, Joan & Frank Lucas, Wimpy Borland, Grietje and I enjoyed each other's company for a dinner at Swiss Chalet before attending the St. James' Players production of *Anne of Green Gables*.

This was followed by the November 2017 Branch meeting in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, where Guy Scott, a local avid historian from the Kinmount area, was our guest speaker, talking about the 109th Battalion



In This Issue

President's Message	p. 1
From The Editor's Desk	p. 2
Genealogist's Report	pp. 2 - 3
Treasurer's Report	p. 3
Kawartha Branch Exec. & Committees 2017	p. 4
The E. John Chard UE Scholarship	pp. 5 - 6
The Loyalist Corner	pp. 8 - 16
Views In And About Kawartha Branch	pp. 17 - 22

in World War One, using family history archives, and a wealth of collected memorabilia. Guy also had his book, Where Duty Leads: The 109th Battalion in WWI, available for sale and signing.

At that same meeting, Kawartha Branch presented scholarship awards to two Trent University M.A. students to support the costs associated with their research: Michelle Arentsen, who is researching from the point of view of the British soldiers serving in the American Revolution and other places, and Gareth Copeland, researching about soldiers' experiences in the War of 1812.

Kawartha Branch has linked up with both Trent University and Sir Sanford Fleming College to support Loyalist history scholars and the artefact preservation courses available. These learning institutions are certainly worthy of our investment in supporting deserving students of history or artefact preservation.

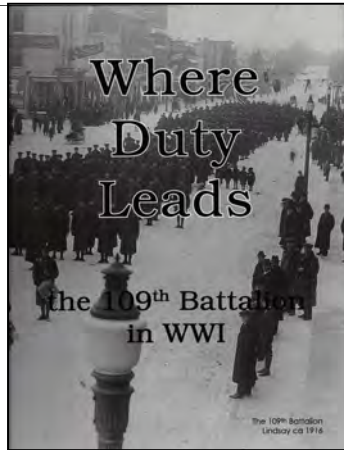
Our Canada 150 Project of producing our Second Edition of our Heritage Cookbook is ready for the next step of organizing and preparing for publication.

Sincerely and loyally yours,
Robert Collins McBride UE
Phone: 705-295-4556
E-mail: gazette.editor@nexicom.net

From The Editor's Desk ...

Here in Kawartha Branch, we feel that we have a great deal to offer to our members as we continue into the future.

To maintain an informative and interesting newsletter, we are actively seeking your family history or passed-down stories of Loyalists and their family adventures.



I trust that you find this Fall - Winter 2017 issue of our **Kawartha Periodical** newsletter of interest and we look forward to hearing from you !!!

Sincerely and loyally yours,
Bob McBride UE,
Kawartha Branch Newsletter Editor.

Genealogist's Report

28 November 2017

It has been a busy fall in the Genealogist's corner as several members have been researching their lineage to their Loyalist Ancestors.

At our September meeting we presented seven certificates to:

Vandra Husar and five members of her family: David Husar, Lorie Husar Corvello, Karen Husar MacLean, Mary MacLean, Genivieve MacLean. Loyalist Ancestor John McMartin UE.

Also to Lois O'Neill-Jackson. Lois' Loyalist ancestor is Alexander Nicholson UE.

We, both prospective members and myself, have struggled with the "new" certificate application, with the fact that it cannot be saved. It has been both bothersome and annoying. We are working on it so that it can be saved without compromising its security. It has been the cause of several prospective members not completing their applications. Hopefully this will be sorted out soon.

We are to run a short in-service on surfing the Library and Archives Canada site to retrieve Land Petitions and Grants. At least two of our members have become quite proficient at doing so and we hope to have all in the branch able to use this site.

We have just received three certificates for presentation at our February meeting, as they arrived too late for our November meeting. These certificates are for Calvin Baker UE, Phillip Spry UE, new members, and their brother, our member, Kenneth Spry UE. Their Loyalist ancestor is Isaac Gerow UE of the Queen's Rangers. Their sister, Patricia Staples UE, is delighted!

At this time there are five applications in the Dominion Office awaiting processing in the New Year. They are:

Mrs. Lois Barron, for Loyalist ancestors, John McNairn UE and John Annable UE;

Mr. Kenneth Barron, for Loyalist ancestors, David Breakenridge Sr. UE, and Samuel Wright UE;

Mr. Robert Moorcroft, for Loyalist ancestor, Jacob Diamond UE.

All these have been approved by the Dominion Genealogists, Angela and Peter Johnson UE.





To those of you working away gathering your proofs, keep up the good work. Remember we are here to help you if you need it.

Merry Christmas to you all and Happy ancestor hunting in the New Year

Joan Lucas UE,
Kawartha Branch
Genealogist.

Treasurer's Report

BMO Bank Balance

23 October 2017 \$ 2,084.89

Wood-Gundy Investment Portfolio

As of 31 October 2017 \$227,518.30

Total Assets: \$229,603.19



In early November, we received the final payment from the John Chard Estate in the amount of \$32,005.80. We have invested this with CIBC Wood-Gundy so our portfolio value is about \$260,000. Year-to-date yield on this portfolio is \$5,363.38 and projected income for 2017 is estimated at about \$7,500.00.

At our Annual Banquet on 21 October, we had 47 attendees sit down to a catered meal by Kevin Vaughn of Emanuel East (formerly George Street) United Church. His delicious roast beef and turkey dinner was well received by all. The \$25.00 cost per person was not quite enough to cover expenses for meals, hall rental, decorations, guest speaker and piper, so there was a net loss of \$510.00 that was paid from Branch funds. Several new members joined us and eight dignitaries from the UELAC, Peterborough City and the Province, attended as well, making this the largest number of attendees in recent years.

A reminder that Branch and National dues are due as of next 01 January for the 2018 fiscal year. Please note the details printed elsewhere in this Newsletter and forward your cheque to:

Frank Lucas,
02 George St. N., Unit 406,
Peterborough, ON, K9J 8K8.

Please make your cheque out to: "Kawartha Branch UELAC".

I will mail your dues cards back right away. All Dues should be in my hands by 01 February 2018 to qualify your family for *The Loyalist Gazette* that will be mailed to your home address.

Thank you.

Frank Lucas, Treasurer.



The Loyalist Corner Needs Your Stories !!!

Many years ago an appeal was made for Kawartha Branch members to submit a summary or vignette of their Loyalist ancestor. When I revived our Branch Newsletter in the spring of 1997 with Volume 5, Issue 1, Joan Lucas UE, then our Branch President, provided me with seventeen vignettes of varying lengths that had been submitted to her over the years from Branch members.

Now, having published over forty vignettes, we have none left in our archives. Thus we are in desperate need of new material to ensure the continuation of the **Loyalist Corner** in future issues. You will find a complete listing of what is in our archives and the vignettes that have been published in the past issues on page 06 of this newsletter.

Vignettes or histories of your Loyalist ancestor need not be lengthy or fully documented.

Our readership is most interested in the story of your Loyalist ancestor and it is best described in your own words.

PLEASE HELP

by sending your submissions to

Bob McBride UE, Editor,
Kawartha Branch Newsletter,
Maple Grove Farms,
2260 North Esson Line,
Indian River, Ontario. K0L 2B0.
Phone: 1-705-295-4556.
E-mail: gazette.editor@nexicom.net.

Kawartha Branch Executive and Committees for 2017 - 2018

President	Robert C. McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
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Assistant Genealogist	Vacant		
Programme Convenor	All Members		
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	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
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	Patricia Staples UE	705-930-6408	trishstaples@gmail.com
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	William Atkinson UE	705-743-0279	xpitcop@nexicom.net
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	Pam Dickey UE	705-657-1926	pamdickeyuel@sympatico.ca
	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
	Arnold Weirmeir UE	705-760-9152	arnoldvw@sympatico.ca



**We need volunteers to serve as
First Vice-President and as
Assistant Genealogist.
If you are interested, please contact
any of the individuals listed above.**



**Next Kawartha
Branch Meeting**
Sunday,
18 February 2018
St. Paul's
Presbyterian Church
2:00 p.m.
Enter by west door



**The E. John Chard UE
Scholarship
from
Kawartha Branch UELAC**



As President of Kawartha Branch in 2004, I asked for a show of hands from the sea of happy diners during the festive banquet at the UELAC Conference and AGM in Peterborough. I asked how many Branches in the room were started with the assistance of John Chard. I was overwhelmed by the upraised hands before me! Realizing that my own Kawartha Branch was one of the many fostered by John's efforts, I determined someday to ask John how he went about encouraging so many Loyalist descendants to take out charters and form new Branches between 1959 and 1984. Now John Chard does not like to promote his own name but, in the interest of setting the record straight, he agreed to review his role and reveal his method of

promoting Branch formation.

In the early 1950s there were only seven Branches in the United Empire Loyalists' Association, covering three provinces. No office space or building for the Association existed.

The first Branch formed after World War Two was the Bay of Quinte Branch in Picton, Ontario, on 25 June 1956. Using the initiative, leadership and financial support of Mrs. Adelaide McLaughlin UE of Oshawa, the Branch was firmly established and supported the very large region from Brighton to Kingston. By 1959 John Chard UE was President of this Branch and attended his first annual meeting of the Association held at the Toronto Branch office. It lasted about twenty minutes !

At a Dominion Council meeting in early 1963, the President of St. Catharines Branch proposed that the Council needed better communication with the Branches. From the ensuing discussion, Mr. Chard was given the task to provide the means. By April 1963 he published Volume 1, No. 1 of *The Loyalist Gazette* and was its continuous editor and collector of magazine material for the semi-annual publication until his last edition: Volume XXIV, No. 2, December 1986 (twenty-four years with forty eight editions)!

In the 1960s, the UELAC decided to pursue armorial bearings. An official request was made by E. John Chard UE, in 1969. With the assistance of Sir Conrad Swan, York Herald of Arms-in-Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen, a formal application was made and accepted. Design work commenced and the Armorial Bearings were granted by Royal Authority through the legal instrument known as Letters Patent, dated 28 March 1972.

During his term as Dominion President, John Chard sought to establish a permanent Dominion Office and Library as there had not been one since World War II. He asked Colonel R.S. McLaughlin of Oshawa, who donated \$125,000.00 from which the interest was to be used to rent and furnish premises, including a lounge. Gradually a few book cases were added to accommodate often rare and also exceptionally informative books on Loyalist history, movements and background to major events. In the 1980s, Mr. Chard arranged with a professor of Canadian History of the nearby University of Toronto to allow the occasional post-graduate student to research at the UELAC Office Library to write a thesis. The professor told Mr. Chard, after his visit, that we had more reference books on the Loyalists than the nearby Robarts Reference Library.

While *The Loyalist Gazette* brought news of events and Loyalist history to Members, there were many areas without a Branch within a reasonable driving distance. John took steps to remedy that. While living in Ottawa during the 1960s, John assisted several persons to prove their Loyalist ancestors and meet other newly-proven Loyalist descendants. Encouragement was also given by the Rt. Hon. John R. Cartwright UE, retired Chief Justice of Canada, who was of Loyalist descent and lived in the area. Before long, the Sir Guy Carlton Branch

received its charter on 14 April 1962. This was the first Branch in which John established a need for the Branch and then encouraged its development while remaining a member to help the Branch until it was firmly established. As well, to help the newly formed Grand River Branch, he served as its Branch President in 1974.

New Brunswick Branch (18 May 1966), Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch (16 December 1967), Col. Edward Jessup Branch (11 May 1968), London Branch (04 November 1972), Abegweit Branch (24 February 1973), Grand River Branch (24 February 1973), Heritage Branch (12 May 1973), Fredericton Branch (11 May 1974), Shelburne Branch (03 February 1975), St. Lawrence Branch (14 May 1977), Kingston and District Branch (04 November 1978), Kawartha Branch (23 June 1979), Halifax and Dartmouth Branch (01 December 1979), Bicentennial Branch (24 March 1984), and Regina Branch (02 June 1984), all have their own fascinating story of the people and events leading up to their charters and all shared one common denominator: Mr. E. John Chard UE with his dedication to the promotion of Loyalist Branches and accessibility to Loyalist history for everyone. Of the current twenty-eight UELAC branches, from coast to coast, John Chard was involved with the founding of sixteen (i.e. 57.14 %). What an accomplishment!!!

In 2016, Kawartha Branch approached Trent University's History Department, through Professor Jeannine Hurl-Eamon, to offer bursaries or scholarships to post-graduate students studying the Loyalist era. This Fall we received two applications for funding spread over two years. Michelle Arentsen and Gareth Copeland attended the November



2017 Kawartha Branch Meeting with their academic supervisor, Jennine Hurl-Eamon, at which time the students were presented with their cheques and our very good wishes for success in their studies.

Sincerely,

Grietje McBride
Kawartha Branch Past President.

On 26 September 2017, the ***Peterborough Examiner*** published a story entitled: "Body Recently Found In India Believed to be Missing Peterborough Airman."

This story outlined the finding of a missing Second World War RAF 117 Squadron Dakota aircraft that crashed on 01 June 1944 while on a supply dropping operation over Burma. The wreckage was found by hunters in remote jungle in India near Burma. The aircraft was identified by the engraved bracelet of Harold Tackaberry, a crewmate of CLARE PYMER MCWILLIAMS. Mr McWilliams was born in Belleville and lived most of his life in Peterborough. He was the son of Capt. Claude McWilliams, a soldier in the Royal Canadian Artillery, and Gladys McWilliams nee Pymer. He had two sisters, Dorothy and Norma.

This story was brought to ***The Examiner*** by Matt Poole, Whaeton, Maryland, USA ,who researches the RAF mainly in the area of Liberators in the Far East. Mr. Poole was looking to find more information on Clare's sisters. From the scope of the world wide net, Dorothy's grand-daughter in Hawaii read the ***Examiner*** story and alerted the rest of the family. Dorothy, age 92, resides in Peterborough. She takes comfort in knowing her brother's plane was found. Norma has passed away.

The family hopes that if Mr McWilliams remains are at the crash site, they will be collected and sent to the family so they may have a memorial service. At present there is no gravesite but St. Luke's Anglican Church held a memorial service at the time of his being reported missing. He is remembered each Remembrance Day in this church. Mr McWilliams name is on the war memorial in Confederation Park and on the memorial in Singapore.

- source: e-mail from Margaret Pulver, Kawartha Branch Secretary and member of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Peterborough.

Reminder

Please send
any change of address to Grietje McBride UE
so that we can keep our
Kawartha Branch Membership List
up-to-date !!!

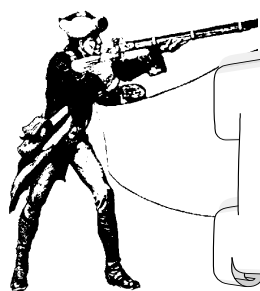
She can be reached at:

Grietje McBride UE
Maple Grove Farms,
2260 North Esson Line,
Indian River, Ontario.
K0L 2B0
Phone: 705-295-4556
E-mail:
maplegrm@gmail.com



Visit the UELAC
Web Site
At
<http://www.uelac.org/>

Kawartha Branch's
Web Site:
<http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha/>



Loyalist Corner



Each of these UE ancestors
have been highlighted in issues
of *The Kawartha Periodical* :

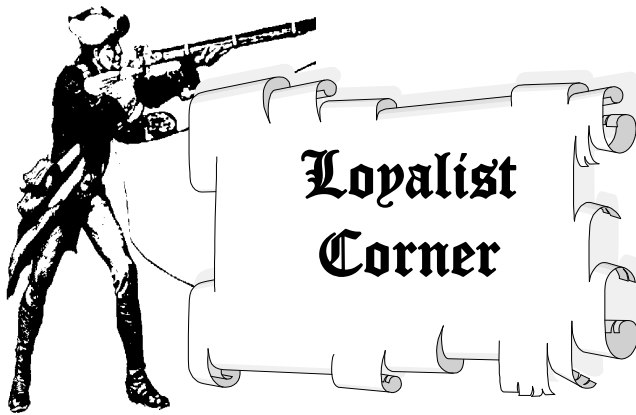
Issue	Loyalist
Volume 5, Issue 1	· William Fairchild UE · Andrew Denike UE · Adam Young UE · Henry Young UE
Volume 5, Issue 2	· Sgt. Henry Buchner (Boughner, Buckner) UE · Jacob DeCou UE · Captain John DeCou
Volume 6, Issue 1	· Martin Silmzer UE
Volume 6, Issue 2	· Richard Rogers UE · James Rogers UE
Volume 7, Issue 1	· Capt. Jacobus Peck Jr. UE · James Peck Jr. UE
Volume 7, Issue 2	· Sgt. Gabriel Purdy UE · Timothy Pringle (Prindle) UE · Daniel Fraser UE
Volume 8, Issue 1	· John Hagerman Sr. UE · Peter Irish UE · Gregory Van Every UE
Volume 8, Issue 2	· Thomas Goheen Sr. UE · John Howell UE · John Stevens Sr. UE
Volume 9, Issue 1	· Col. David Breakenridge UE
Volume 9, Issue 2	· Philip Hartman UE
Volume 10, Issue 1	· David Springer UE
Volume 10, Issue 2	· John Howell UE · Descendants of Adam Young UE
Volume 11, Issue 1	· Henry Munger UE
Volume 11, Issue 2	· Catherine Kester
Volume 12, Issue 1	· John Lake Senior UE
Volume 12, Issue 2	· Robert Land UE
Volume 13, Issue 1	· Col. William Marsh UE
Volume 14, Issue 1	- Ordalia Pymer, Mrs. (John) Eastman Orser UE
Volume 14, Issue 2	- The Palatine LOTT Family
Volume 15, Issue 1	- Robert Bessey Senior UE
Volume 15, Issue 2	- The Finckel Family

Volume 16, Issue 1	- "Old" John Conklin UE
Volume 16, Issue 2	- Fort Ninety Six and Robert Graham UE
Volume 17, Issue 1	- My Morden Trail by Douglas G. Morden UE
Volume 17, Issue 2	- Murder of John Irish by Anna Isabel (Irish) Wessell UE

Kawartha Branch Member Donor:

U.E.L. Ancestor:

William Atkinson	Robert Bessey Senior UE
Doug Berry	William Fairchild UE
Wellington Borland	James VanAlstine Sr. UE
Jack Brownscombe	Daniel Fraser UE
Helen M. Buttitor	Capt. Jacobus Peck Jr. UE
Keith Chiles	Andrew Denike UE
Russell Curry	Philip Hartman UE
Stewart Hagerman	John Hagerman Sr. UE
Peggy Haggis	Col. William Marsh UE
Freda Huff	Col. David Breakenridge UE
Frank Lamb	Henry Buchner UE
Joan Lucas	Sgt. Robert Graham UE "Old" John Conklin UE
Grietje McBride	Sgt. Gabriel Purdy UE
Robert McBride	Hendrick Dachstaeder UE Lieut. Frederick Dochstader UE Jacob De Cou III UE John Stevens Senior UE McGregory Van Every UE Adam Young UE Henry Young UE
Stan McBride	John Howell UE
Doris Nelson	Thomas Goheen UE
Marjorie Owen	Robert Land UE
Margaret Pulver	Ordalia [nee Pymer] Orser UE
Betty Richardson	Martin Silmzer UE
Frank Rogers	Richard Rogers UE
Jean Steinburgh	Col. James Rogers UE
Doreen Thompson & Judy Fisher	The Palatine LOTT Family [LUT, LUTS, LUTZ, LUTH, LOTS] The Palatine FINCKEL Family
Guy Thompson	Timothy Pringle UE
Ruth Turner	The Kuster Family
Isabel Wessell	Peter Irish UE
Donald Willson	David Springer UE



In Volume 08, Issue 01, Spring 2000, pages 17 to 20, of *The Kawartha Periodical*, Isabel Wessell UE, descendant of the Loyalist, Peter Irish UE, wrote an article about the Irish family.

On 23 August 2017, Isabel wrote to me indicating that she has some *Additional 'Irish' Family History* to share with our readership.

She writes, in part:

"Enclosed is a copy of page 23 of my Irish Family History and a copy of pages 171 - 176 of The History and Map of Danby, Vermont, by J.C. Williams, published 1869 - Courtesy of S.L. Griffith Memorial Library, 1976, Danby, Vermont.

My cousin, Connie Irish Murray, contributed much to the Irish family story that was prepared between 1987 and 1996. Although we had heard about the shooting incident, we didn't know the details. I think the account of what happened to John Irish, Peter's brother, is interesting although very disturbing and sad. ...

Best wishes,

Anna Isabel Irish Wessell UE"

JESSE IRISH ⁴.

Jesse was born on 26 September 1712 in Tiverton, Rhode Island. He married Mary Albee, who was born 12 April 1710 at Mendon, Massachusetts, and died on 29 May 1792 in Danby, Vermont. Jesse and Mary were Quakers. He was a Freeman in Westerly, Rhode Island, in 1736 and in Danby, Vermont, in 1778. They moved from North Kingstown, Washington County, Rhode Island, to Quaker Hill, Dutchess County, New York, between 1736 and 1740. They were in the Oswego, Quaker M.M. in Dutchess County in 1761. In 1765, the Quaker Meeting took action to raise money to buy a cow to loan to Jesse Irish. From there they moved to Nine Partners (Oblong) and, in 1768, to Danby, Rutland County, Vermont. As Jesse and Mary were Quakers and since they would not take any active part in the troubles of those days, they were often mistaken to be Tories, and so many complications developed. They lived in Danby, Vermont, at the time of the Revolution and, because of the turmoil (to put it mildly) of the times, their children scattered in all directions. [see Note 01].

Children of Jesse and Mary

Susanna

David married Ann

William married Dolly

Jesse married Ruth Wing

Mary married Rowland Soule

*Peter (born 26 May 1743) married Mary Corey

John married Rebecca Doty

(He was shot by Isaac Clark,

although "His character was without reproach.")

Hannah married Jonathan Wickham

Jonathan married Deborah Wilbor

Sarah

Abel married Ruth

Martha married Peleg Brownell

Stephen married Miranda (1); Sally Sayles (2)

Note 01: The War for Independence (American Revolution) lasted from 1775 until 1783. The following pages taken from the State Papers of Vermont "Sequestration, Confiscation and Sale of Estates" show accounts that give an indication of the forfeiture and seizure of properties and goods that families endured during the Revolution and the extent of the turmoil that existed. The Irish family is mentioned frequently and, in particular, David, William, and John, sons of Jesse. These accounts are from a period between 1775 and 1779. It was in 1791 that Peter, another son, came to Canada and became a United Empire Loyalist and forefather of the Canadian family.

Prepared by Connie Irish Murray

Danby is a town in Rutland County, Vermont. According to the Vermont Encyclopedia, Danby was most likely named for Thomas Osborne, Earl of Danby and Duke of Leeds. However, Henry Gannett in 1905 attributed the town's name to Danby, North Yorkshire, in England. Historian, Willard Sterne Randall, in his biography of Ethan Allen, gives yet another name origin: that Allen named Danby "after the French Naval commander whose fleet invaded New England's waters in the French and Indian War."

- source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Danby,_Vermont

The rural town of Danby located in southwestern Vermont was settled in 1761. The Taconic Mountains lay to the west, the Green Mountains to the east, and these ranges provide beautiful valley panoramas. The town's eastern extremity borders the Otter Creek and the Vermont Valley. The valley stretches to Mount Tabor to the east and to the Danby Borough (Danby Village) to the west. The majority of the town's flatland is located in Danby Four Corners at an elevation of 1,400 feet. It is surrounded to the west by Dutch Hill. Dutch Hill forms a steep ridgeline that is one of the town's most dominant physical features. At its steepest point, the ridge drops 1,000 vertical feet in less than half a mile. Steep slopes follow westward to the town of Pawlet. Danby's southern border is wedged between two peaks: Dorset Mountain at 3,804 feet of elevation and Woodlawn Mountain with an elevation of 3,110 feet.

- source: <https://www.danbyvt.org/about-danby>

Here then, taken from The History and Map of Danby, Vermont, by J.C. Williams, originally published in 1869, is the account of the settlement of Jesse Irish and the murder of John Irish:

Page 17:

Among the settlers who came in the spring of 1767, were Timothy Bull, Stephen Calkins, Seth Cook, Nathan Weller and Peter Irish, each of who erected a log cabin, and commenced felling the forest. They brought their families with them, together with cattle and swine. Timothy Bull settled near his son, Crispin, in the south part of the town. Calkins settled where William Herrick now lives, and afterwards built a grist and saw mill where Nelson Kelly now lives. Cook settled south of the Corners, on what has since been known as the "Cook farm." Weller located himself a little north of the residence of William Otis, since known as the "Weller farm." Peter Irish pitched on the farm now owned by Nelson Colvin. These settlers by most diligent toil, in which all the members of the families bore their part, soon had sufficient clearing to raise grain and potatoes enough to keep them from fear of actual want. As not much hay was raised for several years, it was rather difficult to provide for the cows during the winter. But with a scanty supply of hay, and the help of browse which was plenty, they were comfortably wintered.

... Settlements now began to be made in the north and west part of the town, and in

Page 18:

the fall of 1768, several had located themselves along Otter Creek. There were quite a number came to settle during 1768, among whom were Thomas Rowley, John Stafford, Jesse Irish, Daniel Vanolendo, Nathaniel Fisk and Joseph Sprague. There were at that time some twenty families in town, making the population about sixty in number.

Page 21:

DANBY
FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TOWN IN 1769
TO THE PRESENT TIME, 1868.

The organization of the town dates from the year 1769. The inhabitants held their first annual town meeting March 14th, at the house of Mr. Timothy Bull, who then lived near the present residence of Ezra Harrington. Timothy Bull was elected moderator of this meeting, and Thomas Rowley, town clerk. The following town officers were chosen: Stephen Calkins, Seth Cook and Crispin Bull, selectmen; Daniel Vanolendo, constable; Nathan Weller, treasurer; Peter Irish, collector; John Stafford, surveyor; Joseph Earl, Stephen Calkins and Seth Cook, committee to lay out highways. It was voted at this meeting to lay out five different roads. The first was to be laid out as marked from the notch in the mountain to Joseph Earl's, which was the first road built in town. From thence, it was to be laid to Micah Vail's. A road was also to run from Micah Vail's house north, and one to run east. Another was laid out from the house of Jesse Irish to the house of Nathaniel Fisk. Irish then lived in the northern part of the town and Fish in the eastern.

Page 22:

The annual town meeting of 1770, was held at the house of Timothy Bull, who was elected moderator. Two highway surveyors were elected that year, who were Crispin Bull and Seth Cook. The proprietors made another division of land that year, which was 50 acres to each right. The committee appointed to make this third division, were Jesse Irish, Micah Vail and Thomas Rowley. This division was made by pitches, and the lots were all laid out adjoining in regular form. The proprietors then drew lots for the day when each should make his pitch, which took place October 3d.

Pages 171 to 176:

IRISH, JESSE, from Nine Partners in 1768, was the first settler on the farm now owned by Nelson Colvin.

[Editor's aside: The Great Nine Partners Patent, also known as the "Lower Nine Partners Patent," was a land grant in Dutchess County, New York, made on 27 May 1697, by New York governor Benjamin Fletcher. The parcel included about four miles (6 km) along the Hudson River and was eight to ten

THE
HISTORY AND MAP
OF
DANBY, VERMONT,

BY J. C. WILLIAMS.

RUTLAND, VT.:
PRINTED BY McLEAN & ROBBINS—INDEPENDENT OFFICE.
1869.

miles (13 to 16 km) wide, extending from the Hudson River to the Connecticut border.]

He had seven sons, some of whom, together with himself, were reputed to be Tories. In July, 1777, he himself went to Gen. Burgoyne's head-quarters at Whitehall and procured protection papers. On reaching the British Camp, he presented himself to Burgoyne, saying "here is the servant, Jesse, and his seven sons," whereupon, promising to either join the British army or remain quietly at home, he received the General's gracious protection. It is said that he rendered aid to the British army, by which his property was confiscated. He resided here with his family after the war and until his death. The names of his children are as follows: Jesse, Jr., Jonathan, William, David, Abel, **Peter and John**, all of whom came here with their father.

John Irish settled in Tinmouth on the farm afterwards owned by Judge Noble. He was also considered a Tory and was shot by Isaac Clark, afterwards General Clark. Daniel Chipman, LL. D., in his Memoirs of Col. Seth Warner, says "that Clark was a Lieutenant in Herrick's regiment of rangers and commanded one of the scouts sent out from Manchester. He concealed his men in the woods not far from Irish's house, and after watching the house for some time, and finding that Irish was within, and wishing to ascertain whether he had any hostile designs against the Whigs, instead of surrounding the house and taking him, he sent one of his men, by the name of Clough, unarmed. Clough had been a neighbour of Irish's, but on the evacuation of Ticonderoga, had moved off. They entered into a conversation which was continued for some time. At length Clough began to suspect that Irish intended to detain him, as he was unarmed, and feeling unsafe, he walked with apparent unconcern out of the door, and turning a corner of the log house, out of sight of Irish, he set out on a run toward the scout. Clark, who was watching, saw this and instantly saw Irish chasing Clough with his gun, and perceiving that he intended to shoot him before he reached the woods, drew up his rifle and shot him dead upon the spot. This was represented by the Tories as a wanton murder, and many years afterwards, when Clark was in public life, and a prominent political partizan, some of his political opponents renewed the charge of murder against Clark, with many aggravating circumstances."

Another account of John Irish was written by C.H Congdon, Esq., in 1855, in reply to one written by Judge Noble, and published in the *Rutland Herald*. Mr. Congdon says: "I noticed a communication in your paper, over the signature of O. Noble, relative to incidents of the Revolution: and were it not for the fact that said communication had produced considerable excitement in this vicinity, I would gladly be silent. But whenever a matter of this nature is recorded, whether it be fact or tradition, unless refuted at the time soon passes into historical truth. With due deference to the age and ability of Judge Noble, I shall proceed to narrate the circumstances as I understand them. I have had occasion during about twenty years, while collecting material for a work which I may hereafter publish, to consult the then (1777) wife of John Irish, now (1842) the widow Rebecca Stafford of South Wallingford. Of course my information is traditional but at the same time the most direct I think that can possibly be had of the 'Irish affair.' The wife of John Irish was a strong, resolute woman and possessed a strong, retentive memory. She was an eye witness of the whole affair, and the following is her statement:

"John Irish bought his farm of his brother, Jonathan Irish, on the 20th day of May, 1775, as I find on examining a deed now in my possession, and as it is somewhat antiquated I have thought proper to copy it entire, as it may be a rarity to some of your numerous readers. The following is a true copy:

"Know all men by these presents, that I Jonathan Irish, of Danby, in the county of Charloty and province of New York, Yeoman, for and in consideration of the sum of forty-nine pounds, New York money received to my full satisfaction of John Irish of the township of Danby, aforesaid yeoman, I have sold and by these presents give, grant, bargain, sell, alienate, convey and confirm and forever acquit claim unto him, the said John Irish to his heirs and assigns for ever, one certain pese or parcel of Land, lying and being in the township of Tinmouth in the county of Charloty and province aforesaid, that is to say, one eighty acre lot, it being lot No. 15 of the first division of lands, in said township, the same was granted unto Elijah Cole by the governor and council of the province of New Hampshire, I have sold and by these presents give, grant, bargain, sell, alienate, convey and confirm and forever acquit claim unto him the said John Irish his heirs and assigns for his and their own proper uses, benefit and behoof, furthermore, I the said Jonathan Irish Do for my self, my heirs, Executors and administrators, covenant-promises, and engage to and with the said John Irish, his heirs and assigns for Ever, to warrant, secoure and defend the above granted Bargain, promises unto him the said John Irish to his heirs and assigns against all the Lawful claims and demands of any person or persons Laying claim thereto or any part thereof, from by or under me or any person or persons whatsoever claiming the same by virtue of any act or acts allredy past by the governor and councel of the province of new Hampshire. Sined, sealed and Delivered this twentieth Day of May A.D. 1775, and in the fifteenth yere of his magosty Rain, and in the presence of us.

(Signed)

Jonathan Irish.

John Hart

Tucker Hart } Witnesses"

"He moved on to it the same season and commenced improving, as related by Judge Noble, and lived in the peaceable enjoyment of his property until the day he was shot by Isaac Clark, on the 27th day of July, 1777. I have never heard it contradicted that the character of John Irish was without reproach. He, as well as many others of this vicinity, was a Quaker in principle, was quiet and unassuming. On the 24th of July he went to Burgoyne's head-quarters at Skeensborough (now Whitehall) and procured protection papers and returned on the morning of the 27th of July, had previously been engaged in reaping wheat, he was now mowing, had

mowed about an acre in the forenoon when Clough came to his house between 11 and 12 o'clock and enquired the way to Durham Bridge; wished Irish would direct him through the woods as he did not like to travel the road on account of spies. Irish told him to keep the road as the safest way. Dinner being ready Irish asked Clough to eat but declined, but while Irish and his family were eating sat partly in the door. After dinner Irish put a pitchfork into the fir to bore a hole into a new handle and then laid down on the bed with his two eldest children. After dinner Clough called for a drink of water, which Mrs. Irish gave to him, fresh from the spring; a few moments after she had fetched the water for him, while she was engaged in doing up the dinner dishes, all at once Clough started and ran out of the house in the direction of the spring. Mrs. Irish spoke to her husband, who immediately jumped up and followed Clough out of doors – at the same time his wife begged him not to leave the house – he advanced about three rods from the door, when Allen raised up from behind a maple log and shot Irish through the hand, severing his third and little finger from his hand, or nearly so. Clark then in a rough manner asked him if he wanted to take more prisoners. Irish answered that he should take or harm no man, and added, you have wounded me, upon which he held up his hand and Clark shot him through the heart. He turned, walked about a rod and fell dead upon his face. When Clark and Allen shot him he was not more than three or four feet from the muzzles of their guns – so near that the smoke rolled up on his breast as he turned round. After this the men all disappeared in the woods. Mrs. Irish went immediately to Mr. William Irish's who was just putting on his clean clothes, being on Sunday. He said 'Becca, you must take care of yourself, I cannot help you. He immediately started off and did not return until about six weeks afterwards. Mrs. Irish went home, but did not attempt to do anything with her husband (hoping that some of her neighbours would come in) until nearly dark when, no one coming, she, with Irish's two oldest children, Mary 14 years old and Gibson 12 years old, assisted her in getting him into the house; this they did by rolling him on a plank and drawing him along. She afterwards laid him out. When she returned from William Irish's the children said to her that the men had gone and Papa was asleep. He was a man that would weigh over two hundred pounds, and it was with difficulty that she and the children got him into the house. He was buried the next day by Francis and David Matteson, Jesse Irish, the father of John, and a Scotchman by the name of Allen. A coffin was made by Francis Matteson from rough boards out of the chamber floor. The grave is about forty rods from where the house formerly stood, on a knoll; a mound and rough stones mark the spot to this day. The wife was not permitted to follow the body of her husband to the grave, as it was not thought prudent even for the men to perform the task, so perilous were the times. Scouting parties were out on both sides at this period."

John Irish had three children, the oldest about three years, and the youngest only two months. Mrs. Irish did not know any of the men at that time; John Irish knew two of them; his wife had never heard him speak of only two.

The party after killing Irish went to the widow Potter's, in the edge of Clarendon, and took dinner, stating that they had shot Irish; and here a few days after Mrs. Irish learned all their names, and also that they did not intend to kill John Irish, but that William Irish was the man they were after, as they had been offered £30 for his head. The widow thus left secured her hay and grain and also her flax, of which she had a fine lot. This was the situation we find her in when in the following November Ernest Noble (the father of Judge Noble) notified her that she must leave, as he had purchased the place of the confiscating agent at Rutland, and that twelve days would be given her to leave in peace. She left within the twelve days – traveled on foot with her three children to Danby, a distance of seven miles, through the uninterrupted forests of the then wilderness country, rendered doubly gloomy by the fitful gusts and wails of a bleak November wind. Tears of anguish and regret no doubt dimmed her eye and moistened her cheek, as she left her home and the grave of her husband and journeyed alone and unprotected through the wilderness to find protection for herself and children, among strangers, although her deceased husband's relatives. – She had married John Irish when on his way from Nine Partners up the country, and consequently had no intimate acquaintance with his father's family.

About three weeks after her husband was killed, and in her absence from home, her house was pillaged of everything valuable – clothing, furniture, etc. All she ever found of the missing property was a valuable scarlet cloak, about three or four rods from the house, trampled into the mud and badly torn. Relics of plunder were met with years after, among some of the families of the western part of Tinnmouth. It is stated by Judge Noble that the party took Irish's gun to the council of safety. This could not have been so, from circumstances that I will relate: – About two weeks previous to the transaction above named, John Irish, hearing that all persons, irrespective of political sentiment, if found with arms, would be dealt with as enemies, and wishing to evade all trouble he dismembered his fowling piece of its stock and lock. The lock was wrapped in tow and put in the bottom of his chest, and the stock and barrel he took into a swamp west of the house. The former he secreted under a hollow log, the latter in the same, and there the gun remained until the winter following Irish's death, when, Irish's wife having no means to furnish her children with shoes, gave the gun to William Irish for the necessary articles. She told him where to find the gun and he went and recovered it and long had it in his possession. This party Judge Noble says were sent by the council of safety. Where the record of the fact is to be found I know not, but it is certain from documents in my possession that they belonged to a class of men styled Cow Boys in those days; that their friends and families resided in Tinnmouth, and that they went there of their own accord and on their own responsibility.

After this affair William Irish went to Burgoyne's camp, in about six weeks, or the same autumn, and resided in Danby, until the close of the war. Their property was confiscated. How? I believe that John Irish was never accused of being a Tory – was never tried as a Tory, and how his property could be confiscated, under the circumstances, was something that puzzled the most learned of the law subsequent to the peace of 1783. That it was confiscated I do not contradict, but whether in accordance with the rules practiced at that time is a question.

The best legal talent of the State decide more than thirty years ago that it was a fraudulent act, and that the heirs of John Irish could recover the property, but they like their progenitor were peaceable citizens and evaded litigation. Mr. Joseph Irish of South

Wallingford was the only one I ever knew. All that knew him can attest to the statement here made. Many offers were made him by legal men to recover the property free of expense to him, but being a Quaker he always desisted, and consequently the Noble family have been left unmolested in the possession of the property.

As regards the truth of the statement of the wife of John Irish, wherever she was known her word was never doubted. She was a high spirited woman, with a temperament rather sanguine than otherwise, and her villifiers with all their heroism dare not confront her. We will give an illustration: About six weeks after her husband was killed, one Noel Potter and another young man came to her house and demanded her husband's protection papers. In the words of the old lady, "one with a drawn sword, the other with an iron gunstick," meaning a ramrod. She peremptorily refused, and at the same time seizing the poker ordered them out of the house. They precipitately withdrew and she was not again troubled with them. The foregoing is an account of this affair nearly word for word as the old lady gave it, and what motive she could have for falsifying the matter is left for others to judge. On the other hand, those men who committed the deed were conscious whether it was right or wrong. If right, posterity can judge of the merits: if wrong, their own consciences upbraided them. They are numbered with the past, both friend and foe, and far be it from me to characterize, now they are gone. It left for the reader to determine whose lot was the most enviable, that of the men who deprived the widow of her husband and support, her children of a father and protector; who robbed the widow of her house and all earthly comforts; the men who stealthily approached their dwelling, and, having artfully drawn him forth, with their deadly aim coolly and deliberately shot him; or the woman who, after experiencing the vicissitudes above related, comes out unscathed, and lives to a good old age in the midst a large circle of friends, respected and beloved by all. Providence has assisted her in acquiring a sufficiency of this world's goods, so that in age she was beyond the privations of earlier life."

John Irish left two children, Joseph and Lucretia, married Jeptha King. She some time after this left her home and joined the Mormons at Nauvoo, Mississippi.

And here, from Volume 08, Issue 01, Spring 2000, pages 17 to 20, of *The Kawartha Periodical*, is the article about Peter Irish UE, Loyalist ancestor of Isabel Wessell UE.

Peter Irish United Empire Loyalist

By Isabel Wessell UE,
[original] Kawartha Branch Historian and Archivist

This narrative begins with John Irish, The Immigrant, who was founder of the Irish Family in America. He was born in the Parish of Clisdon, County of Somerset, England, about 1600. "*The Talbot*" is thought to be the name of the ship on which he travelled to America. He landed at Cape Ann, Salem, Massachusetts, on 27th June 1629.

John Irish ¹ married Elizabeth Risley. Their son, John Irish ² was born in Duxbury, Massachusetts, in 1641. He married Elizabeth Savory in 1672 and they had eleven children. One of their children, Jonathon Irish ³, was born in Little Compton, Rhode Island, in 1678. He married Mary Taylor in 1702. They had seven children.

One of their children, Jesse Irish ⁴, was born 26 September 1712 at Tiverton, Rhode Island. He married Mary Albee who was born 12 April 1710 at Mendon, Massachusetts, and died 29 May 1792 in Danby, Vermont. He was a Freeman in Westerly, Rhode Island, in 1736 and in Danby, Vermont, in 1778. They moved from North Kingston, Washington County, Rhode Island, to Quaker Hill, Dutchess County, New York, between 1736 and 1740. They were in the Oswego, Quaker M.M. in Dutchess County in 1761. From there they moved to Nine Partners (Oblong) and in 1768 to Danby, Rutland County, Vermont. As Jesse and Mary were Quakers, and since they would not take any active part in the troubles of those days, they were often mistaken to be Tories, and so many complications developed. They lived in Danby, Vermont, at the time of the Revolution and because of the turmoil (to put it mildly) of the times, their children scattered in all directions.

The War for Independence (American Revolution) lasted from 1775 until 1783. In the State Papers of Vermont, Vol. 8 and Vol. 37, covering the period 1775 – 1779, "*Sequestration, Confiscation and Sale of Estates*" is shown accounts which give an indication of the forfeiture and seizure of properties and goods that the families endured during the Revolution and the extent of the turmoil which existed. The Irish family is mentioned frequently and, in particular, David ⁵, William ⁵ and John ⁵, sons of Jesse ⁴. It was in 1791 that Peter ⁵, another son, came to Canada and became a United Empire Loyalist and forefather of the Canadian Irish family.

Peter Irish ⁵ was born 26 May 1743 at Quaker Hill, in Dutchess County, New York. He married Mary Corey. In the spring of 1767 he came to Danby, Vermont, with his family and erected a log cabin on the Nelson Colvin farm (1963). In 1769 he was appointed the Collector of Danby.

In 1791, after the American Revolution, Peter ⁵ moved his family to Ernestown, west of Kingston, Upper Canada

(Ontario), from Vermont. He was preceded by his son, Abraham ⁶, who came to Canada in 1790. The British Government assigned lands to Loyalists who settled in Canada from the United States (100 acres to each head of a family and 50 acres to each member of the family). This applied to any child born in the United States.

From the Upper Canada Land Petitions, Ottawa, Bundle 4 # 19 – 1798 – Peter Irish of Ernestown states that he had been settled in the Province upwards of 7 years and had made large improvements on his land and wanted an order for a location for himself, wife and 5 children born before 1789 – Robinson, b. 12 Feb. 1775; John, b. 23 Sept. 1780; Daniel, b. 17 May 1782; Jedediah, b. 13 Jan. 1785; and Mary Ann, b. 7 May 1788.

In 1798 (Bundle 4 # 31), Robinson Irish ⁶ petitioned for land. He states his father's name is on the UE list and he is entitled to land. He was denied land.

In 1802, Peter ⁵ was granted 200 acres of land – Lot 18, Concession 5, Township of Haldimand, Northumberland County, Registered 29.9.1802. Robinson Irish ⁶, his son, applied and was granted land at the same time – Lot 24, Registered 30.9.1802. The location of these properties is near Grafton, Ontario.

In 1807 (Bundle 8 # 1), Peter Irish ⁵, Haldimand, states he had lived in the British Colonies before the Revolution, had joined the Royal Standard before 1777, had been in this province for 17 years. His name had been suspended from the UE list and he wanted it reinstated. The Land Board says that he seems never to have joined the Royal Standard so his name won't be reinstated.

In 1809 (Bundle ? # 2), Peter Irish ⁵, Haldimand [Township, Northumberland County], makes another petition to have his name restored. This is accompanied by various certificates as to how good his character was and how he did actually join the Royal Standard. His name was then reinserted in the UE list, 11 April 1809.

The Registry Office, West Northumberland, Cobourg, Ontario, shows registrations stating that Mr. Peter Irish ⁵ received a Crown grant of 200 acres and following this, two registrations showing disposition of the property.

According to Bundle 12, # 1 and # 6, Peter ⁵ moved to Cramahe Township. Petitions were made by Jedediah ⁶ and Daniel Irish ⁶, sons of the late Peter Irish ⁵ of Cramahe, deceased, formerly of Haldimand, a UEL, that they are upwards of 21 years and have never received their land as sons of a UE Loyalist. They also state that they fought in the War of 1812. They get their land. It appears from the Ontario Land Records that their property was in Etobicoke.

Peter Irish ⁵ died in 1813.

In the book, ***Ontario Loyalists***, W.D. Reid lists Ransaeller and Mahlon as children of Peter Irish ⁵, together with Mary Ann ⁶, Daniel ⁶, Jedediah ⁶, Sarah ⁶ and Abraham ⁶. Since Ransaeller and Mahlon are not mentioned in the will of Peter Irish ⁵, it should not be presumed that these are Peter's children. It is more likely that they are the children of either Abraham ⁶ or Robinson ⁶ Irish.

The children of Peter ⁵ and Mary Irish were Sarah ⁶, Peter ⁶, Abraham ⁶, Robinson ⁶, John ⁶, Daniel ⁶, Jedediah ⁶ and Mary Ann ⁶.

The will of Peter Irish ⁵ is dated 25 May 1810 and is on record in the Department of Lands and Forests, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ontario. His son, Peter ⁶, died young. The children mentioned in the will are sons: Abraham ⁶, Robinson ⁶, John ⁶, Daniel ⁶ and Jedediah ⁶, and daughters: Sarah ⁶ Walker and Mary Ann ⁶ Doolittle.

Abraham Irish ⁶ was born, probably 1768, in the Colonies, now one of the United States of America. He married Rebecca Cook, and it is presumed that he had a second wife named Elizabeth, as this name appears in a document regarding the sale of property. One of his children was Abraham Irish ⁷.

THE MEMORIAL OF ABRAHAM IRISH, Loyalist, Humbly Sheweth

That your Lordship's Memorialist being always a true and sincere friend to the British Government & Constitution has come to this District with a view of becoming an inhabitant of it, wishes to be admitted & to receive the same indulgence that other subjects of his description have already received – Humbly prays that your Lordship would be graciously pleased to grant him two hundred acres of land in the eighth Township. And your Lordship's Memorialist as in duty bound shall ever pray.

"Abraham Irish"

*To his Excellency the Right Honourable
Guy Lord Dorchester, In Council, Quebec.*

Kingston

Feb. 22, 1791

Dist. Micklinburgh 1791

525

Abraham Irish

Report "... "

Certificate granted

Feb. 23, 1791. 200 acres.

Abraham ⁶ was given Lot 26 in the Fifth Concession of the Township of Ernestown in the incorporated Counties of Lennox and Addington in the Midland District and Province of Upper Canada.

Abraham ⁶ died at 55 years likely in 1823 at the time his property was transferred to his son, Abraham ⁷, (Deed 3141, Reg.). His original home on Lot 26 still exists – although much renovated.

We know a little about Abraham ⁶ because of a petition by his son, Abraham ⁷, to have his father's name placed on the UE list. This document is found in the Upper Canada Land Petitions, "I", Bundle 20, 1836 – 1837 (RG 1, L3, Vol. 260) and is addressed as follows:

To His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head, K.C.H. Lieut. Governor, etc. etc. In Council

May it please Your Excellency The Petition of Abraham Irish of the Township of Ernestown in the Midland District Humbly Sheweth that your petitioner's Father (Abraham Irish) of the aforesaid place, deceased, was born in the late Colony's now one of the United States of America before the Revolutionary war, that he joined the Royal Standard in his Youth, that he was employed by persons in the service of His Britannic Majesty to watch the movements of the Rebels – that he retained his loyalty – and came into the Province in the year 1790 and settled in the Township of Ernestown, where he remained until the day of his death. Your petitioner therefore prays that Your Excellency will be graciously pleased to order that the name of Abraham Irish – your petitioner's Father, may be placed on the U.E. List and your petitioner is in duty bound will ever pray.

Abraham Irish.

Ernesttown

January 1837.

The foregoing petition is supported by two affidavits found in the Upper Canada Land Petitions, "I" Bundle 20, 1836 – 1837 (RG 1, L3, Vol. 260), one by Christopher Hardy dated 12th day September 1831 and sworn before Jacob Rambough, JP at Camden: "... and being duly Sworn upon his oath says that he was well acquainted with Abraham Irish of Ernestown, deceased, and known that he came to Canada in the year 1790 and settled himself in Ernestown in the District and Province aforesaid and lived there til his death and that he always behaved himself as a faithful subject to his Majesty.

His

Christopher X Walker

Mark"

and the other affidavit by Sarah ⁶ Walker, dated 31st day of December, 1836, before Jno. Church, J.P. (Sarah ⁶ Walker was daughter of Peter ⁵, sister of Abraham ⁶): "... maketh oath and with that she was well acquainted with Abraham Irish late of the Township of Ernestown, deceased, during the Revolutionary War with the United States and knows that he was commanded and employed by the British Government to watch in the house top for the purpose of giving them information when the enemy should approach and that the said Irish came into this Province in the year 1790 and retained his Loyalty until his death.

Her

Sarah X Walker

Mark"

Peter Irish ⁵, and Abraham Irish ⁶, the United Empire Loyalists, are the 5th and 6th generations of the Irish Family in America respectively. They were the first of the family in Canada.

The foregoing would not have been possible without the “*historians*” and “*archivists*” in the family. The foresight of these people enables the family story to continue to the present generations.

The stories, documents and photographs of the Irish family have been preserved to honour past generations who were the pioneers, who had the courage and conviction to give us a heritage of which to be proud and a solid foundation for the future generations.

The writer’s line of descent from Peter Irish, United Empire Loyalist, is: Peter ⁵, Abraham ⁶, Abraham ⁷, Jonathon ⁸, Firman ⁹, Charles ¹⁰, Anna Isabel (Irish) Wessell ¹¹.

Isabel Wessell UE

Anna Isabel (Irish) Wessell UE (Mrs. Robert E. Wessell)



Anna Isabel (Irish) Wessell UE
(Mrs. Robert E. Wessell)

If you have not received your free personalized name tag for Kawartha Branch UELAC



Contact: Pam Dickey UE,
Kawartha Branch
Public Relations Chair,
at
pamdickeyuel@sympatico.ca
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These mugs are now available through Kawartha Branch Sales

Perhaps you’d like to buy one or half a dozen.

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Bill Atkinson UE

Kawartha Branch Sales and Displays

855 Kensington Drive

Peterborough, Ontario

K9J 6J8

Phone: 705-743-0279

Cell: 705-740-4954



On Saturday, 09 December 2017, Wellington “Wimpy” Earl Borland UE celebrated his 90th birthday at St. James United Church, where the large church hall was packed with all sorts of well-wishers from throughout Peterborough and abroad, including members of Kawartha Branch UELAC.



**Kawartha Branch meets
six times a year:
in February, April, June,
September, October and November.**

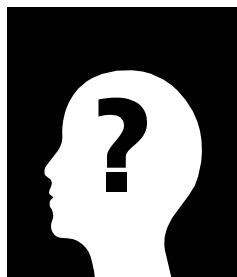
Elections are held every April.

**The June meeting
is our annual
Loyalist Flag Raising ceremony
at City Hall, Peterborough,
and at the Olde Gaol in Lindsay
in the afternoon.**

**Our October meeting
is the Fall Banquet
hosted this year at
George Street United Church
(now Emmanuel East United)**

**Our April meeting is our
Annual General Meeting and
Election of the Incoming Officers
for the following year.**

**Did You
Know ??**



**2018 dues are due as of
01 January 2018
and the per capita fee must be in
Dominion Headquarters hands
by 01 February 2018 in order to
qualify for delivery of the
Spring 2018 *Gazette*;
one per family to one address.**

Important Reminder of Dues

**In January 2018,
it will be time to renew
your membership
in Kawartha Branch
and the UELAC.**

Our Branch Constitution and By-laws state:

AR-16.06

The Treasurer shall, upon receipt of membership dues, provide a membership card of the year to each member the Branch and shall maintain records of the Branch membership in consultation with the Branch Genealogist and Branch Membership Chairperson. These up-to-date membership lists will be made available for distribution to the Executive upon request, with copies being supplied to the Branch Genealogist, Branch Membership Chairperson and the Branch Newsletter Editor.

AR-16.08

The Treasurer shall pay all appropriate per-capita dues to the UELAC on an annual basis by February 1st, complete the membership form and *The Loyalist Gazette* form and submit these to the UELAC for the up-to-date Branch membership records.

The fee structure is such that the per capita fee to the UELAC is \$40 plus \$10 to the Branch for a single person: total \$50. For a family (two or more related people) the per capita fee to the UELAC is \$55 plus \$10 per family member for the Branch. Remember, the Branch Fee is still \$10 for each and every person. Dual Branch membership fees, if registered in another Branch, are \$10 at Kawartha Branch as your “home” branch will have paid the per capita fee to Dominion Office.

**Mail your Dues Cheque to our
Kawartha Branch Treasurer, Frank Lucas
02 George Street North, Unit 406,
Peterborough, Ontario,
K9J 8K8
705-876-9800
frank.lucas@sympatico.ca**

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Web Site: <http://www.uelac.org/>

Kawartha Branch's Web Site: <http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha/>

Views In And Around Kawartha Branch



During the Labour Day weekend of 01 to 03 September 2017, Kawartha Branch hosted a display booth at the Kinmount Fair in Kinmount, Ontario, attended over the weekend by Grietje McBride UE, Bob McBride UE, Joan Lucas UE, Frank Lucas, and Bill Atkinson UE and his wife, Carol.



On Sunday, 17 September 2017, Karen Mary Husar MacLean UE, her two daughters, Mary Vandra McLean UE and Genivieve Lynn MacLean UE, as well as Vandra Husar UE, David Husar UE, and Lorie Husar Corvello UE, received their UELAC certification as the descendants of the Loyalist, John McMartin UE.



As well, William Husar received his UELAC certificate as a new Member of Kawartha Branch.



Lois O'Neill-Jackson UE, received her UELAC certification as the descendant of her Loyalist ancestor, Alexander Nicholson UE.



Well-known author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, was our guest speaker on Sunday, 17 September 2017, talking about *The Governor and His Lady*, Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe and his wife, Elizabeth Postuma Simcoe, providing us with entertaining anecdotes and details about their lives in Upper Canada.



Ken Barron UE, descendant of the Loyalists, David Breakenridge UE and John McNairn UE, presented Kawartha Branch with a print of the Loyalist Settlement in Johnstown, now Cornwall, as it appeared in 1784.



Daphne Rogers Molson UE read a poem in which she describes who the Loyalists were and how they contributed to Canada, that can be sung to the tune, *God Save The Queen*. Daphne has been recognized for an anthology to commemorate Canada 150.

On Saturday, 21 October 2017, Kawartha Branch held its thirty-eighth annual Banquet at Emmanuel East (George Street) United Church, attended by over forty guests.



Provincial Minister Responsible for Small Business and Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Jeff Leal, brought greetings from the Provincial Government.



Deputy Mayor and Councillor of the City of Peterborough, Henry Clarke, brought greetings from the City.





UELAC Central East Regional Vice-President, Anne Redish UE, brought greetings from the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.



Our guest speaker, Professor Emeritus Dr. Elwood Jones, spoke about Early Ontario and Loyalist Contributions.

He also writes a weekly column in the *Peterborough Examiner* and for a number of weeks has written about the Loyalists, including how some of them found a new home in the Peterborough area.

On Saturday, 11 November 2017, members of Kawartha Branch marched in the Peterborough Remembrance Day parade and laid a wreath at the cenotaph at the ceremony.





Loyalist Christmas

Most settlers in Upper Canada came indirectly from European countries by way of the Thirteen Colonies, as United Empire Loyalists after the American

Revolution. They brought with them many of their old Christmas traditions. As we enter this holiday season, I thought it might be interesting to look up some of these Christmas traditions.

One would suppose our ancestors were too preoccupied with survival to take the time to celebrate. They needed to clear land, construct buildings and generally prepare for a long, cold winter in their new home. It then makes one wonder if during those first years, after their arrival, if Christmas was celebrated to any degree.

Christmas celebrations, when they did begin to appear, were originally adult affairs: visiting neighbours for games, sharing a meal, singing and sometimes dancing if someone could supply some music. It wasn't until the early 19th century when Christmas became an exciting, important part of children's lives.

In earlier days, the home was very simply decorated using green branches and homemade decorations. They did not have a big Christmas tree because there was no room for a large tree in their small homes. Pine cones, nuts, berries and popcorn chains were used to decorate the branches or tree. The Christmas tree has become one of the most cherished traditions in today's celebrations. More than 500 years ago the first version appeared in Germany and the custom spread across Europe.

In 1848, Queen Victoria gave the practice a boost when a newspaper reported on her tree in Windsor Castle. By the early 20th century most Christian homes had a tree decorated with lights, baubles and tinsel. Pioneers on the Prairies often were unable to find a fir tree and brought in small poplar tree to suffice.

Mistletoe at Christmas is a symbol of romance. So where did the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe come from...would you believe Norse mythology? According to tradition, it's bad luck to refuse a kiss beneath the mistletoe. After kissing, the couple is to pluck one berry from the plant. So if you have mistletoe this year, make sure it has lots of berries!

The highlight of early Christmas meals was the Christmas pudding. The first puddings contained meat, eggs, flour, cinnamon, currants, and other fruit. The classic dish had 13 ingredients – representing Christ and 12 apostles and the sprig of holly standing in for the crown of thorns. Everyone in the family made a wish as they took their turn stirring the mixture. It was kept in a big pot for five weeks - finally steamed on Christmas day, served with rum and brandy sauce which was set aflame. It must have been quite an experience to carry in a flaming pudding and try not to set yourself or the house on fire.

What would the feast be without the roast turkey and all the trimmings? Turkeys were introduced in Britain more than 500 years ago by William Strickland, who acquired six birds from American Indian traders on his travels. Before that, people's meat of choice for Christmas was goose, boars' head and even peacock. Henry VIII was the first English king to enjoy turkey in the 16th century, although Edward VII made eating turkey fashionable at Christmas. Turkey is now a regular feature on a great majority of Christmas tables. However, turkey is not a traditional Christmas meal in a lot of other countries. Portugal's typical meal features codfish, Germans prefer wild boar or venison, while in Sweden the average Christmas feast would include herring salad, meatballs and ham.

Early Christmas gifts were usually made by members of the family and placed under the tree without wrapping. A girl might receive a cornhusk doll and a boy a wooden horse carved by his father. They might also receive an apple and sometimes an orange or piece of candy. Children might also discover knitted wool sweaters, scarves, mittens and socks made by their mothers, grandmothers or older sisters. Pomanders were also popular gifts, made by sticking cloves into an apple or orange, until the fruit itself was barely visible. It was then rolled in or shaken in a bag full of a mixture of cinnamon, ginger and other spices. The well-seasoned ball was tied with a red and green ribbon that crossed at right angles, dried, and then placed in a bowl or hung in various places throughout the home to make the place smell nice and fresh.

Santa Claus began his annual visit to children in Canada by the 1830s. Although he was known around the world by many different names, the name Santa Claus comes from New York Dutch settlers who called him Sinterklaas, which was later Anglicized to Santa Claus. St. Nicholas was also accredited with the origin of the Christmas stocking. Through an open window of a poor family's home, he allegedly had thrown some pieces of gold that landed in a boot by the fireplace. Later, the boot became the stocking. In 1823, a poem, "*The Night before Christmas*", written by Clement Clarke Moore, launched St. Nicholas, Kris Kringle or Santa Claus into the mindset of early North Americans. It describes a plump, red-suited, white-bearded jolly old elf with a large bag of toys. He rode in a tiny sleigh pulled by six miniature reindeer, which St. Nicholas called out by name. The poem also describes Christmas stockings hanging with care from fireplaces and Santa entering homes on Christmas Eve by coming down the chimneys.

Each of us have some customs that evolve into our Christmas memories. Whatever your traditions include for December 25, just make sure to make the most of them. After all, Christmas only comes once a year. Merry Christmas!

Submitted by Pat Adair

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