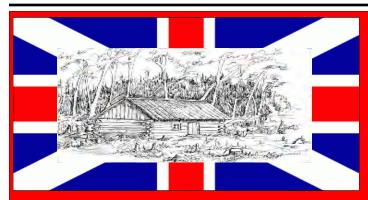


# The Kawartha Periodical



Newsletter of the Kawartha Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Web site: <a href="http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha">http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha>

Volume 21, Issue 02 The Kawartha Branch was granted its charter on 23 June 1979 Fall 2021 - Winter 2022



# The President's Message

Greetings to the Kawartha Branch members. Just as we thought we had Covid 19 under control and restrictions were slowly lifting, along comes a new strain called Omicron variant. I was looking forward to in person meetings in the 2022. However, we will still have to maintain our Zoom meetings until it is safe for us to gather.

Graham Hart has lined up some interesting speakers for the New Year. In February, Dave Smith UE. who is a Director with Bay Of Quinte Branch and a Re-enactor soldier, will speak about the War of 1812 grave marking project. In April, for our AGM, historian and author, Dan Buchanan, will speak about his book, 38 Hours to Montreal. In October, our speaker, Debra Turrell, had to cancel due to technical problems. She has promised to do an in-person presentation when we are able to meet. Thank you, Brian McConnell UE, for stepping in as our guest speaker at short notice.



On behalf of Kawartha Branch. I would like to wish our Members and their families a Merry Christmas and a healthy 2022. Please stay safe.

Loyally yours, Bill Russell UE Kawartha Branch President, 2021 - 2022



In This Issue	
President's Message	p. 01
From The Editor's Desk	p. 02
Genealogists' Report	p. 02
Treasurer's Report	pp. 02 - 03
Kawartha Branch Executive and Committees for 2021 - 2022	p. 04
The <b>Iopalist Corner</b>	pp. 07 - 18
1984 United Empire Loyalist Stamp	p. 22
Views In And Around Kawartha Branch	pp. 26 - 27
Membership Renewal Form	p. 29

# 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 2021 - Winter 2022 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.

# Genealogists' Report



Several Members are actively pursuing research to prove a direct lineage to a Loyalist ancestor. With limited access to in person visits, online resources are helping some of our Members find Orders in Council pre-1850.

According to Emily Potter at the Library and Archives Canada, the Research centre has begun a gradual reopening of its public service points and consultation rooms, and more of its services. We are asked to check their website or social media for the latest updates, or call them at 1-866-578-7777 (choose option 8).

You can email the main archive office at: genealogy-genealogie@bac-lac.gc.ca or contact Emily directly using the information below:

Genealogy Consultant, Public Services Branch Library and Archives Canada / Government of Canada

emily.potter@bac-lac.gc.ca / Tel: 343-571-4226

A number of our Members are close to being able to work with Grietje and Bob to send their Certificate application(s) to the Dominion Genealogists, Angela and Peter Johnson.

In the new year, we would like to arrange monthly Zoom meetings for Kawartha Branch Members to talk about genealogy related topics. Please email Grietje at maplegrm@gmail.com if interested in joining this sharing forum. Also include best times when you are available to join a 30 minute meeting.



Grietje and Bob McBride UE Kawartha Branch Co-Genealogists Phone: 705-295-4556

E-mail: maplegrm@gmail.com or gazette.editor@nexicom.net



# Treasurer's Report





Finding your Loyalist history is a very rewarding task !!!



We have budgeted \$6,000 for contributions to education and to Loyalist building and cemetery restorations in 2021.

Here are some of the highlights:

- We approved a \$1500 Grant to Trent graduate student Victoria Cartwright (MA Program) who was investigating computer software that would conserve genealogical materials so that it is available for use without handling. We paid Victoria \$750 of that Grant earlier and planned to give her the remainder before year-end 2021. However, due to her personal circumstances, she had to withdraw from the program last September and is currently on leave from her studies. So the second half of the Grant will not be paid until Victoria returns to her graduate studies.
- We have given \$2000 to Fleming College to award four \$500 bursaries (two to needy students) and awards (two to students showing academic excellence) in the Museum Curator and Conservation Programs. Two were awarded in June and two more will be awarded in Spring 2022 after studies are complete. Grietje McBride has more details elsewhere in this Newsletter.
- We gave \$1000 to the Old Hay Bay Church Restoration Fund, for the 3rd year, as they near their \$300,000 restoration funding goal. Regular reports can be found on-line.
- ♦ We gave \$500 to the Friends of St. Alban's Church in Adolphustown, ON, as they restore their 130 year-old former Anglican Church that was built by Loyalists in the 1890's. As the "Friends of St. Alban's" non-profit organization plans their restoration needs and fundraising goals, we will be contributing to their Restoration Fund in future years.
- We have approved up to \$600 to purchase grave markers and a sign commemorating the War of 1812 Loyalists who are buried in the Warkworth and Cramahe Hill Cemeteries. We are sharing the costs with Bay of Quinte Branch and commemoration will take place at Warkworh and Cramahe Hill on June 18th, 2022.
- The UELAC Scholarship Endowment Fund has not been planned, nor donations solicited for, during 2021. So the \$1,000 we budgeted for this Fund will be carried over to 2022 for other Loyalist-related education and restoration programs.

If any of our Members see other education or restoration projects that you think might need funding, please bring your ideas forward to any Executive Board Member and we will investigate.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Lucas, Treasurer, Kawartha Branch UELAC Phone: 705-876-9800

E-mail: frank.lucas@sympatico.ca





### **Editor's Note:**

As Frank Lucas has semi-retired from being Treasurer of the Kawartha Branch UELAC, Doug Calder UE is now the Assistant Treasurer. He can be reached at <doug.calder@sympatico.ca>







### We are the chosen.

In each family there is one who seems to be called to find the ancestors.

To put flesh on their bones and to make them live again.

To tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve.

Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts, but instead breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the storytellers of the tribe.

Source: December 2017 issue of *Link Up*, Chilliwack Branch newsletter.

Kawartl	na Branch Board Executive	and Committees fo	or 2021 - 2022
President	William Russell UE	705-924-9829	billrussell10@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Grietje R. McBride UE	705-295-4556	maplegrm@gmail.com
First Vice-President	Ken F. Spry UE	705-745-6422	ken.spry4@gmail.com
Second Vice-President	To be announced		
Secretary	Margaret Pulver UE	705-742-2255	mpulver2@icloud.com
Treasurer Assistant Treasurer	Frank Lucas Doug Calder UE	705-876-9800 705-743-7293	frank.lucas@sympatico.ca doug.calder@sympatico.ca
Co-Genealogists	Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride UE	705-295-4556	maplegrm@nexicom.net gazette.editor@nexicom.net
Programme Convenor	Graham Hart UE	705-743-6837	egrahamhart@yahoo.ca
Newsletter Editor and Publications Chair	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
Sales and Displays	William Atkinson UE	705-743-0279	xpitcop@nexicom.net
Historian-Archivist	Ronald (Ron) Good UE	905-885-8777	rsgood@eagle.ca
Membership and Telephone Chairperson	Grietje McBride UE	705-295-4556	maplegrm@gmail.com
Web Master	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
	assisted by Karen Ryan UE		karen.ryan@sympatico.ca
Education Advisors	Grietje McBride UE	705-295-4556	maplegrm@gmail.com
	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net
Social Convenor	Judy Fisher UE	705-696-2523	_
Lending Library	Ken Spry UE	705-745-6422	ken.spry4@gmail.com
	Patricia Staples UE	705-930-6408	trishstaples@gmail.com
Colour Party	William Atkinson UE	705-743-0279	xpitcop@nexicom.net
	Graham Hart UE	705-743-6837	egrahamhart@yahoo.ca
Directors	William Atkinson UE	705-743-0279	xpitcop@nexicom.net
	Graham Hart UE	705-743-6837	egrahamhart@yahoo.ca
	A. Joan Lucas UE	705-876-9800	jflucas@sympatico.ca
	Robert McBride UE	705-295-4556	gazette.editor@nexicom.net



I, OF COURSE, VOLUNTEER!





We need volunteers to serve as

Second Vice-President. (training and mentorship provided)



If you are interested, please contact Kawartha Branch President, Bill Russell UE, or any other Members of the Executive. I have been working to find and verify Loyalist Burial grounds in Northumberland County with Troy Easter UE, and David Smith UE of the Canadian Fencibles 1812 Re-enactors. We have found two Loyalists buried in Stone's Cemetery in Warkworth. The name of the Loyalists' are; Michael Cryderman UE, and Cornelius Oliver UE. We have also found several daughters and sons buried there with family names of Gerow, Zulfelt, Hicks, Wannamaker, Sweet, Dingman and Samis.

We have also been working on finding and honouring War of 1812 Veterans.

We have verified the following veterans:

Cramahe Hills Cemetery: Garret Dingman, Jacob Dingman and Joseph Gould.

Stone's Cemetery: Jacob Cryderman and Johannes Dingman

Warkworth Cemetery: Benjamin Hicks, John Kemp, James Johnson Merriam,

Capt. John Spencer, Isaac Ireland,

James Platt and Maitland Platt, and Joseph Young.

David Smith and myself (Bill Russell), gave a presentation at the Campbellford Heritage Centre on November 15th, at 7:30 p.m. on the topic "Loyalists' and War of 1812 Veterans buried in local cemeteries".

These veterans and Loyalists' will be honoured in an all-day ceremony in Warkworth on June 18th, 2022, at the above mentioned cemeteries. This will be a joint venture with Bay of Quinte and Kawartha Branches, Canadian Fencibles, 1812 Re-enactors, and local Army Cadets.

We will be unveiling a Loyalist Burial Ground Sign at Stone's Cemetery and will honour the 1812 veterans with a grave marker, that states they are War of 1812 veterans. Some of our members have ancestors buried in these cemeteries and member Ray Ireland has two Great Grandfathers who will be honoured as War of 1812 Veterans. This will be a busy and rewarding day, so please plan to attend and show support for these heroes.

## Bill Russell UE

Kawartha Branch President and UELAC Central East Regional Vice-President.









### **David Smith UE**

David has been involved in building re-enacting living history events in the Eastern Ontario Region for over twenty years.

During the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, he served as a Director of the Provincial Planning Committee bringing to life Skirmishes at Gananoque, Iroquois, Hoople's Creek and marquee event, *The Flight of the Royal George*.

In 2009, he hosted the largest Loyalist Landing ever at the 225<sup>th</sup> UELAC conference in Adolphustown.

He has served as a Heritage Preservation Director at the 1796 Fairfield Gutzeit House and the UEL Heritage Centre & Park for over twenty years.

Most recently he is serving on the Loyalist Parkway Association and the Heritage Representative on the County of Lennox & Addington Economic Development Board.

He is a Member of the Bay of Quinte and Bridge Annex Branches of the UELAC.









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 · McGregory 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	- Ordelia 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
Volume 18, Issue 1	- Adam Young UE updated
Volume 18, Issue 2	- Major the Reverend James Donald Howson UE is 104
Volume 19, Issue 1	- Abraham Dafoe UE and family by A. Joan Lucas UE
Volume 19, Issue 2	- Memories of Major the Reverend James Donald Howson UE, by Graham Hart UE
Volume 20, Issue 1	- John Lake Senior UE, by Joan Lucas UE
Volume 20, Issue 2	- Memories of World War Two by Members of Kawartha Branch
Volume 21, Issue 1	- Troy Easter UE restores tombstones
Volume 21, Issue 2	- War of 1812 Veterans: Alexander McDonnell Captain Charles Rubidge Francis Brockell Spilsbury

# **Next Kawartha Branch Meeting**



**Zoom Meeting:** 

On Sunday,
20 February 2022,
our guest speaker
will be
David Smith UE
talking to us
about the
War of 1812 Veterans.

# Reminder

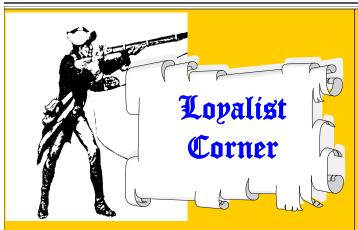
Please send any change of address or contact details to Grietje McBride UE so that we can keep our Kawartha Branch Membership List up-to-date !!!

MAL

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



Rather than highlighting a Loyalist from our Branch in this issue, here instead are three articles about three War of 1812 veterans who are buried in Little Lake Cemetery in Peterborough, Ontario.

Recently our Kawartha Branch President, Bill Russell UE, toured Little Lake Cemetery, accompanied by Ray Ireland and Richard Staples, where Bill found two War of 1812 veterans, Alexander McDonnell and Charles Rubidge, both of whom have streets named after them.

## **Alexander McDonnell**

Alexander McDonell, Esq.[1] (1786 – November 29, 1861) was an immigration agent, military officer and member of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada. After immigrating from Scotland to Upper Canada, he fought in the War of 1812 with the Canadian fencibles.

He later served as a Colonel and assembled a militia to help quell the Upper Canada Rebellion, although they were never called to action.

He spent most of his professional life as a Crown agent in the area surrounding Peterborough, Ontario, assigning plots of land to settlers, advocating for projects to improve the infrastructure, and settling disputes as a Justice of the Peace. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada in 1834 and re-elected in 1836 by relying on his reputation after helping settlers and running on a pro-British platform.

He lost his election to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada in 1841 and became a lumberjack after his retirement in 1843.

### Early life

McDonell was born in Scotland in 1786 [2] and travelled to Canada in 1804 with his uncle, Alexander Macdonell. [2]

### Career

### Military career

McDonell served during the War of 1812 as a Cadet in the Canadian Fencibles. He was part of the attacking British forces at the Second Battle of Sacket's Harbor. [3]

During the Upper Canada Rebellion, McDonell, by that point promoted to Major, commanded the 2nd Regiment Northumberland Militia. His regiment was stationed in Cobourg but was not called upon to quell the rebellion. [4] In late 1838, McDonell was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and given command of the newly formed 7th Provisional Battalion. He was tasked with recruiting soldiers for the battalion from the surrounding Peterborough region and hiring officers. [4]

In December 1836, the battalion was ordered to Port Hope to board a steamship for Toronto to quell the rebellion. By the time they reached Port Hope the order was rescinded. [5]

### **Public servant career**

McDonell was hired by Peter Robinson as a guide and then as a clerk for four years. [2] McDonell worked as the emigration agent in the Peterborough region during Robinson's 1825 emigration plan. [4] His responsibilities included bringing newly-arrived immigrants to the region to settle new townships, hiring workers to clear the land for these townships, and organising plots of land for hovels, amenities and businesses. [5] He also settled boundary disputes among the settlers and mediated conflicts between the Upper Canada government and immigrants. [6] In 1827 he became a Crown Lands agent in the Newcastle District and later for Durham County and Northumberland County. [6]

In 1829 McDonell was chosen by Robinson to supervise settling the Ops Township. [7]

He petitioned Robinson to build a gristmill in Ops Township along Lake Scugog to avoid future businessmen from building a private mill in the area. He also hired local axemen to build homes for the settlers in the township. The construction of homes was delayed because the axemen, McDonell, and many settlers to the area, were infected with a fever. McDonell also managed the food rations during this fever and provided additional provisions when instructed to do so by Robinson. [5] To improve the production of various mills and businesses McDonell lobbied the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada to develop a route along the Trent–Severn Waterway. He served as a commissioner for the project and distributed funds for locks and dams along the route. [4] Another responsibility, as a Crown agent, was organizing the timber trade on crown lands. McDonell also worked as a commissioner of public projects and a justice of the peace. [6] He retired as an agent in 1843. [2]

## Legislative career

In 1834, McDonell was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada for Northumberland and was re-elected in 1836. He campaigned as a constitutionalist and relied on his pro-British values and reputation as the citizen's land agent. He also reminded voters of his lobbying and work as a commissioner for improving travelling along the Trent–Severn Waterway. [8] He was also a supporter of the leadership established for Upper Canada. [4] He ran for the new Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada in the Colborne District in 1841 as a conservative but was defeated by John Gilchrist by a large margin. [8]

### Lumberjack career

After his election loss McDonell was a lumberjack along Bonnechere River and Petawawa River. [2]

### Personal life and death

McDonell was married, but the name of his wife is unknown. He was a practising Roman Catholic but was also loyal to the British monarch. He disagreed with French-speaking bishops who added democratic principles and ideas to their public school curriculum and he was shocked at the level of discontent and uprising happening in Lower Canada. [9] He also received remuneration from the British Crown in exchange for ensuring Irish immigrants do not begin a revolt. [9] McDonell died on November 29, 1861, at Caisse's Hotel and was buried at Little Lake Cemetery. [3] He had fallen out of favour with the church and, upon his death in Peterborough in 1861, his body was refused a Roman Catholic burial. [2]

### References

- [1] Guillet, Edwin C. (1957-12-15). <u>The Valley of the Trent</u>. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. ISBN 978-1-4875-9806-8.
- [2] a b c d e f Cameron, Wendy (1976). "McDonell, Alexander (1786-1861)". www.biographi.ca. Retrieved 2020-08-20.
- [3] a b Poole, Thomas W. (1867). A Sketch of the Early Settlement and Subsequent Progress of the Town of Peterborough: And of Each Township in the County of Peterborough. Printed at the office of the *Peterborough Review*. p. 81.
- [4] a b c d e Carter-Edwards, Dennis (2009). "Promoting a "Unity of Feeling": The Rebellions of 1837/1838 and the Peterborough Region". Ontario History. 101 (2): 165–186. doi:10.7202/1065617ar. ISSN 0030-2953.
- [5] a b c Forkey, Neil S. (March 1998). "Damning the dam: Ecology and community in Ops Township, Upper Canada". The Canadian Historical Review. 79 (1): 68–99. doi:10.3138/CHR.79.1.68. S2CID 159708299. ProQuest 224275299.
- [6] a b c Angus, James T. (April 1988). <u>Respectable Ditch: A History of the Trent-Severn Waterway</u>, <u>1833-1920</u>. Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's Press MQUP. p. 5. ISBN 978-0-7735-0597-1.
- [7] Cameron, Wendy (1988). "Robinson, Peter". www.biographi.ca. Retrieved 2020-08-22.
- [8] a b Elliott, Jabez H. (1939). "JOHN GILCHRIST, J. P., L. M. B. U. C., M. P. A Pioneer New England Physician in Upper Canada". Bulletin of the History of Medicine. 7 (7): 737–750. ISSN 0007-5140. JSTOR 44440468.

[9] a b Codignola, Luca (October 2007). "Roman Catholic Conservatism in a New North Atlantic World, 1760-1829". The William and Mary Quarterly. 64 (4): 717–756. doi:10.2307/25096748. ISSN 0043-5597. JSTOR 25096748.

[source: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\_McDonell\_(politician)]

Alexander is an 1812 War veteran, member of Provincial legislature.

He also assisted Peter Robinson. He was a Catholic and when he died a procession of military and Masons marched to St. Peter's Cemetery. They were met at the front gates by the priest, who would not allow him to be buried there. The priest said he could be buried in a field outside the gates. The reason the priest gave was that he hadn't been true to his religion, but it was believed the real reason was that he was a Mason. W.S. Conger, also a Mason and Mayor of Peterborough at one time, refused the offer of the priest. The procession, including the local Regiment, then marched to Little Lake Cemetery where McDonnell was placed in the vault. Conger had him buried in a plot that he owned and, when Conger died, he was buried next to him. McDonnel Street is named after him. The street name was misspelled but has remained that way.

- Bill Russell UE

Hi Bob.

I was wondering if you could assist me with finding out which Lodge Alexander McDonnell, 1786-1861, belonged to in Peterborough. He was indigent at the time of his death and his good friend and Mason, W.S. Conger, former Mayor of Peterborough, had him buried in a plot that he owned and ended up being buried beside him. McDonnell's funeral was paid for by the Masons. Thanks Bill.

Undoubtedly, Alexander McDonnell (1786 – November 29, 1861), was a Member of Corinthian Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 101 G.R.C., the only Masonic Lodge in the Peterborough District at that time, as Peterborough Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 155 G.R.C. wasn't formed until 1863.

CONGER, WILSON SEYMOUR, merchant, sheriff, and politician;

b. 1804 at Hallowell, Upper Canada, first son of Peter Conger and Elizabeth Stapleton, née Seymour; he was married and had no children; d. 27 July 1864 of tuberculosis at Peterborough, Canada West. [snip]

Conger was involved in the formation of the Cobourg and Peterborough Railway Company in 1835, and sat on the Cobourg Board of Police from 1837 to 1841, serving as President of that body in 1839.

He moved to Peterborough after being appointed sheriff of the Colborne District on 22 Dec. 1841, and was sheriff of Peterborough County from 1849 until 1856.

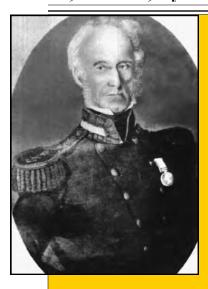
At Peterborough Conger's interest in municipal improvements did not abate. In 1848 Conger, Judge George Barker Hall, Frederick Ferguson, and Charles Perry drafted the resolutions that led to the bill incorporating Peterborough. Conger was a Town Councillor from 1850 to 1859 and Mayor in 1856, Reeve of North Monaghan Township in 1854 and Deputy Reeve in 1857, and Peterborough County Warden in 1859. He was also Peterborough's first chief engineer.

In 1851 the county council rejected a proposal by Conger that would have wrested control of the rear townships from land speculators and absentee owners and opened them up for settlement. He suggested that municipalities purchase crown lands for nominal sums, and sell them to settlers. The proceeds would have been used to establish a permanent common school fund and to build good roads in the county.

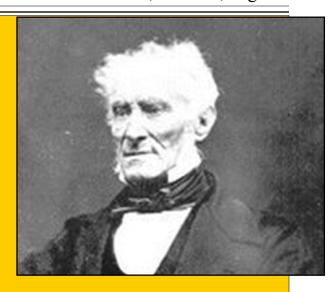
source: Biography – CONGER, WILSON SEYMOUR – Volume IX (1861-1870)

Dictionary of Canadian Biography (biographi.ca)





## **Captain Charles Rubidge**



### Homesteader to local hero

By the *Peterborough Examiner*, Monday, March 25, 2013, up-dated May 14, 2020

Captain Charles Rubidge (1787-1873) was one of the most important early settlers in the Peterborough area. He helped settlers locally, first as a Justice of the Peace and settlement expert, and then later as a long-time Registrar whose signature was on most important land documents in Peterborough and area. He was also an articulate person whose writings influenced the writing of local history. However, in the wider view it may be that his significance is tied either to his naval career, or to his role in the implementing of immigration policy. For these, the major sources of information are his autobiography written in 1870 to argue for a promotion, and a pamphlet and letters that argue his perspectives on emigration. I reprinted the Autobiography in the *Heritage Gazette* of the Trent Valley in 2002.

Rubidge's mother (1765-1795) died when he was only eight, and he left London to live with his aunt and uncle in Gosport. His aunt was his mother's sister, and her husband was Captain Nathaniel Portlock (c 1748-1818), whose remarkable naval career included stints with James Cook and with Captain Bligh, and also a business career in selling furs to Macao. He returned to the navy in 1793, in command of *HMS Arrow*, a Sloop of War. In October 1796, Rubidge became a first class volunteer on his uncle's ship. Thus began what he described as a 21-year career.

During the years from 1793 to 1815, Britain was engaged in war with the French through the period of the French Revolution and Napoleon's dominance.

In March 1800 he joined a troop ship, *HMS Ceres*, that carried the 31st Regiment from Cork to Gibraltar. The ship then carried the 90th Regiment from Gibraltar to Malta and Minorca. Then the whole fleet headed to Aboukir Bay in Egypt. For months he was continually on board ship which he described as "*rough work this, sleeping in an open boat, often obliged to eat raw salt beef and pork.*" After a return to London, the Ceres took troops to Jamaica.

He served for a while in the Mediterranean, including under the command of Nelson. He received his Lieutenant's Commission the day news reached London of Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. As a Lieutenant, he took part in several skirmishes, 1807-1809, while with His Majesty's *Bomb-ship Aetna*, and was recommended for promotion, that did not come. The major battles were those of Copenhagen and Basque Roads. A bomb-ship was armed with mortars and designed for firing at fixed targets. The *A etna* in 1810 bombarded Flushing and Cadiz. Rubidge was wounded several times.

In 1810 and 1811 he was advanced to Post-rank and commanded the *Hardy*, a gun-brig. In May 1812 he commanded another gun-brig, the *Bloodhound*, and headed to Maryland. He did not know that war had been declared while he was at sea, and so was declared captured and many sailors deserted to the Americans. The ship was hit by lightning in August 1812. He commanded the *Bloodhound* until the peace in 1815.

He hoped for more assignments but, when none were coming, he emigrated with his wife and three children in 1819.

He reached Cobourg in July and then had difficulty getting the land he had been promised. His family were house guests with Captain Boswell, R.N. and his family until the spring of 1820 when he went to Otonabee, where he was the second actual settler after George Kent. He complained to Major General Sir Peregrine Maitland, the Lieutenant-Governor.

Rubidge's long letter to Captain Basil Hall, Peterborough's first tourist, was published in *Hall's Travels in America* in 1827 & 1828 (Edinburgh 1829) v. 3, pp. 325-339, and is reprinted in E.C. Guillet, ed., <u>Valley of the Trent</u> (Toronto 1957), pp. 353-358.

Here he tells in some detail the building of his house and clearing the property.

Much of the work he did himself, rather than have local carpenters take advantage of his situation.

He had acquired considerable expertise working with tools in the navy.

Captain Rubidge and his wife Margaret (nee Clarke) (1787-1868) were married in 1810 and had three sons and three daughters that survived to adulthood.

The sons were Charles (1813-1871), John (1815-1896) and Walter (1827-1900).

The daughters were Margaret Elizabeth Orde (1816-1893); Catherine Mary Dunsford (1820-1893); and Elizabeth Toker Clementi (1822-1889).

Judging from what he told Hall, he made great progress in a period of eight years. He learned that whatever common thing he did was possible after a few days. With some help in the first year he cleared about seven and a half acres, and planted potatoes, corn and turnips. He added windows and doors to his house. He raised a cow and a yoke of steers, three years old. He chinked his house, laid the floors and added rooms, and added whitewash to the exterior. The clearing went slowly, but he gained experience and saved money. In the spring of 1822 he made a flower and kitchen garden and fenced the plots; he was amazed at how well his fruit trees grew. He added sheep, horses and poultry. By 1825, he received his deed for 600 acres, had performed his settlement duty, and had cleared 36 acres. He also had deeds for an additional 200 acres, and for a town lot and a park lot in Peterborough. He was also building a new two-storey frame house, 36 feet by 26 feet. He felt that he had "surmounted every difficulty."

In his autobiography, he said that he had cut and cleared a road from Rice Lake to Peterborough, that was, for a while, called Rubidge Road. Maitland was so pleased with this, he granted Rubidge the town and park lot.

Moreover, his immediate vicinity was changing. There were about 500 people in 125 families on 2,000 cleared acres. A town was growing nearby that had a bridge and four saw mills, as well as "useful businesses." Land was generally valued at five shillings an acre. Several roads, 33 to 66 feet wide have been cut and cleared. He proved, he told Hall, that, with prudence "a gentleman of small income may better his situation." He felt that his half-pay salary went further in Otonabee than it had in Britain.

He was a magistrate from 1820 until he died. In 1825 and 1826, he helped Peter Robinson in the settling of the Irish immigrants. In 1831, Sir John Colborne, later Lord Seaton, appointed him Immigrant Agent at Peterborough, and during 1831 he located 4,000 immigrants from England, Ireland and Scotland.

In his autobiography, he felt that he had been successful because he had been impartial. He was a Returning Officer at four elections. And beginning in 1841, he became the Registrar of Peterborough County.

Because of his familiarity with the Irish emigrants brought out by Peter Robinson, and because he had been reading some of the reports of the British Parliamentary Committee on Emigration, Rubidge had interesting observations. As he told Hall, the government did too much for the emigrants, and was still thinking of doing too much. People should be "left to find resources from their own industry and energy." He worried that they were idle when everything was supplied. He would still give some supplies. "Let the settlers be put on their land with a shanty up; give them a family of persons, five barrels of flour and one of pork, with two axes and two hoes, and, with this assistance, let them work their way."

Rubidge also favoured in 1828 a Trent Canal to open navigation of the Otonabee [River] to Lake Ontario. Then the Newcastle District would be the most prosperous in the province. Goods would easily flow from this area. He knew that people were advocating such a canal for military purposes, as both Kingston and Toronto had been vulnerable to American attacks during the War of 1812. His arguments, however, were commercial and economic. The canal would allow the District to grow and have easy and cheap access to other provincial markets. In the 1820s, water was still the cheapest way to move goods.

Wendy Cameron, an historian, has argued that Rubidge was most significant for his contributions to immigration. This was best illustrated by his role in bringing 181 settlers from Ireland to the Cobourg District in 1839.

H

It is not clear why Rubidge was recruited to work with Colonel Wyndham, but when he returned to Cobourg on July 9, 1839, the *Cobourg Star* noted the event. Rubidge, who had been in England for nearly two years, had returned with 181 settlers from Ireland who had travelled aboard the *Waterloo*.

"ARRIVAL OF LIEUT. RUBIDGE, R. N. WITH 181 SETTLERS.

— We had yesterday morning the gratification of welcoming back to Cobourg this long looked for and much respected gentleman after an absence in England of nearly two years; the chief purpose of which had been unceasingly devoted to the advancement of colonial interests in the estimation of the parent country, and equally in making known the numerous natural advantages of this his favourite District.

As an earnest of his success, Mr. Rubidge brings with him a most welcome and valuable acquisition to our shores in the addition of near two hundred stout, healthy and loyal – for they are Irish – emigrants to our population. They come in good season for the approaching harvest, and we doubt not all who need it will readily find profitable employment and soon acquire property of their own."

(Cobourg Star, 10 July 1839)

While in England, Captain Rubidge raised £48 towards the construction of St. John's Anglican Church in Peterborough. He was armed with letters from the Rector of Peterborough, the Archdeacon of Kingston and the Bishop of Montreal.

While in England he put together a pamphlet on emigration which seemed to match closely the emigration objects of Colonel George Wyndham, who was Rubidge's patron in the 1839 emigration. Wyndham's father, the third Lord Egremont, had presided over a significant emigration scheme that, between 1832 and 1836, sent about 1,600 emigrants from Sussex and neighbouring counties. The Petworth emigrants had passage paid for their family, and were paid landing fees at the destination. Sometimes, in the 1830s, the Canadian government issued rations and provided transportation inland to their first place of settlement.

Wyndham succeeded to his father's estate in 1837, but did not commit to continuing the Petworth emigration scheme. Rather, he seemed more concerned to send Irish poor to Upper Canada or Australia. Critics have pointed out that absentee landlords, such as Wyndham, would save money by trading long-term support of Irish families for the short-term expense of paying their expenses to Canada. Others have countered that the emigrants fared better in Canada than they would have in Ireland.

Rubidge's concern was on the colonial side of the emigration. As he argued in his 1838 pamphlet, *A Plain Statement of the Advantages Attending Emigration to Upper Canada*, it was possible to "avoid the errors and expenses" of previous colonization efforts. His credentials for entering the emigration debate were his roles in assisting Robinson settlers in 1825 and in his role as Emigrant Agent in the Newcastle District, in 1831 and 1832.

He criticized plans that sent emigrants to Canada without planning where they would be placed. The Robinson settlers, he argued, were detained in Cornwall, Cobourg and Peterborough, while officials scrambled to find locations. During these detentions, he maintained, intending settlers acquired "idle habits" and consumed provisions at the expense of the government.

Based on his experience in 1831 and 1832, he recommended that governments should select large townships with lots of good land, and that land should be given fairly to all the emigrants. The Emigrant Agent would hire people to clear ten acres in ten different spots.

Sites would be chosen for easy access to established towns and to main roads. The chosen spots should also avoid "bad lands, swamps or ridges." Contracts for the clearing would be awarded in the previous fall or spring for a fall occupancy. They should also include provision for fencing, harrowing and planting. An overseer should make certain the new emigrants dig cellars under their shanties. Rubidge felt the costs could be estimated in advance and then the English parish or patron sending out emigrants would know the cost they were incurring.

In the major study of the Petworth emigration scheme, written by Wendy Cameron and Mary McDougall Maude, the authors discuss the Irish emigration scheme. Assisted emigration became an option as the 1838 revised poor law legislation made landlords responsible for supporting paupers who had claims to be residents on their lands. It was also expected that Lord Durham, whose report was in preparation, might have something to say about assisted emigration. The Rev. Henry Socket, who had worked on the Petworth projects, persuaded Wyndham to organize an emigrant ship based on the Petworth model. Socket had been critical of the way earlier Irish emigrations had been organized. Captain Rubidge was hired as the superintendent for the sailing of the Waterloo, but the preparations were done by those who had worked on the earlier Petworth emigrations.

There were problems. Some thought the English model could not be applied to Ireland. There were fewer safeguards against people dropping out at the last moment; that is why fewer than 200 sailed. The cost of the assisted emigration proved more costly than Wyndham had anticipated; £12.7s compared to budgets under £10.

An anonymous correspondent in the *Toronto Colonist* in February 1840 claimed that only one of Rubidge's emigrants remained in Canada, and the rest had gone to the United States to seek work mainly because the canal construction that Rubidge had favoured and expected never materialized. The *Cobourg Star* refuted the claims. It claimed the 130 were still in the District "in contented and profitable employment." Apparently about 50 were tempted to go to the United States, apparently enticed by false promises of better paying jobs. The *Star* was expecting some of these to return.

Rubidge could have found jobs for some of them along the way to Cobourg, but preferred to bring them to the Newcastle District. The demand for workers was very high, and within three days all had been hired. The original story continued to have legs. The story probably hurt Wyndham's enthusiasm.

Still, Wyndham did several Irish assisted emigrations, and apparently sent as many from Ireland as his father had sent from England. Cameron thinks this reflects the greater pauperism in Ireland. After 1830, he transferred the managing of the Irish emigrations to his Irish agent, Thomas Crowe. However, Wyndham was preferring to move his paupers to other parts of the United Kingdom and instructed Crowe to only accept for Canada those who specifically requested it.

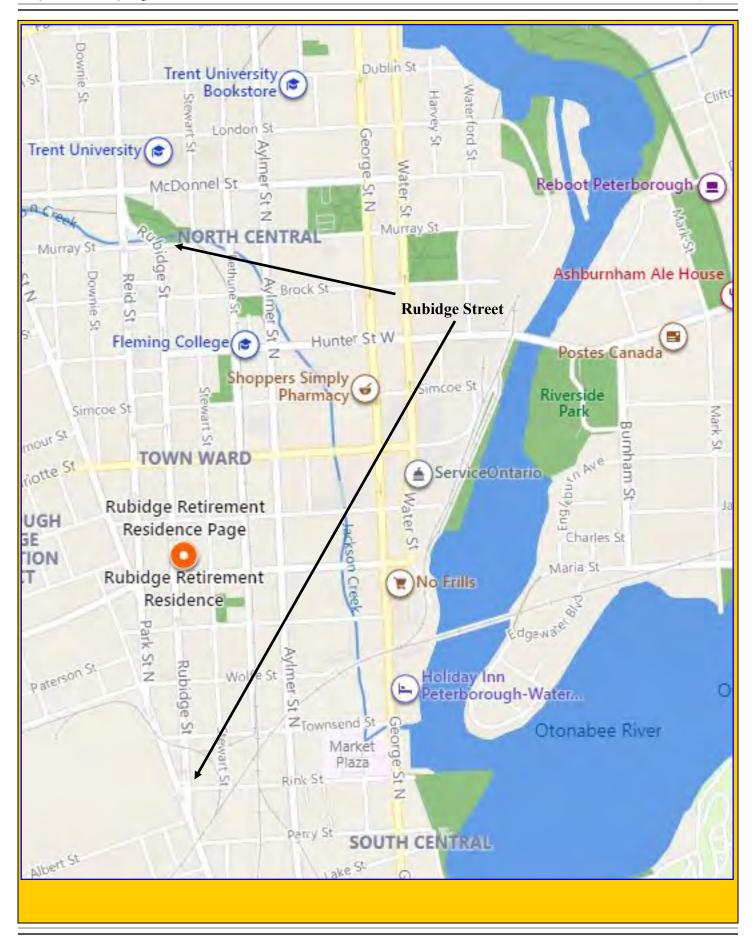
Most of Rubidge's Irish emigrants of 1839 came from County Clare. One of the consequences of the 1838 poor laws was the building of four workhouses in County Clare, each with a capacity of about 800 people. Managers of the workhouses were sending people to Australia as that was cheaper than maintaining them in workhouses. In the 30 years between 1851 and 1881, over 100,000 people left County Clare.

Rubidge was proud of his work in promoting emigration to the Newcastle District and in his conscientious efforts to find jobs and land locations for them. His views were certainly respected locally.

[source: https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/opinion/columnists/2013/03/25/]



Captain Charles Rubidge commanded the *Bloodhound* gun-brig from May 1812 until the peace in 1815.



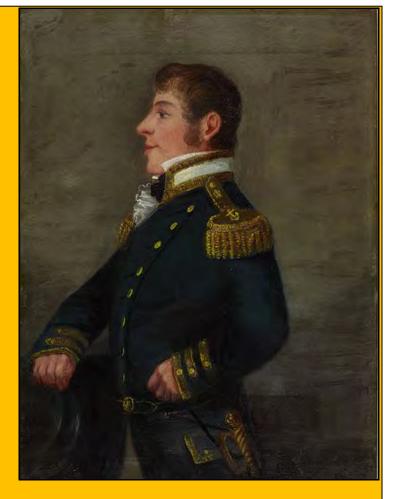
# **Francis Brockell Spilsbury**

Portrait of Captain Francis Brockell Spilsbury R.N. Source: Library and Archives Canada/MIKAN 3670149

SPILSBURY, FRANCIS BROCKELL, naval officer, colonist, and improver; b. 1784 in Plymouth, England, only son of Francis Brockell Spilsbury and Maria Taylor; m. 20 Dec. 1815
Fanny Bayly in Deptford (London), England, and they had six sons and three daughters; d. 6 Oct. 1830 near Colborne, Upper Canada.

When Francis Brockell Spilsbury followed his father, a naval surgeon, to sea he was not yet a teenager, but the Napoleonic Wars provided the circumstance for a rapid advance through the ranks of the Royal Navy.

Between 1798 and 1812 he served in the Mediterranean fleet, first as a midshipman, during which service he was cited for "conspicuous bravery" at the siege of Acre ('Akko, Israel) in 1799.



On 27 Dec. 1805 he was promoted to Lieutenant and, during the battle of Málaga, in 1812, he led a party that captured French shore batteries and a privateer.

In the spring of 1813 he and his father were among those sent to North America to reinforce the British fleet on the Great Lakes. Following his arrival in Kingston, Upper Canada, Spilsbury Jr. was promoted to Commander on 08 March 1813 and took command of the armed schooner, *General Beresford*.

In May, he was part of Commodore Sir James Lucas Yeo's squadron on Lake Ontario that raided Sackets Harbor, N.Y., and, in June, Spilsbury's detachment captured the American shore batteries and stores at Forty Mile Creek, in the Niagara peninsula. On 11 September, he commanded the brig *Lord Melville* during an engagement off the Genesee River and, though his ship was hit below the water-line, his skilful action allowed repairs to be made during the battle. He was also present at the actions off Burlington Bay (Hamilton Harbour) on 28 September and French Creek, N.Y., on 01 November.

In the campaign of 1814 he commanded the ship *Niagara*; shortly after the successful attack on Oswego, N.Y., on 06 May, Spilsbury was taken prisoner during the bungled advance up nearby Sandy Creek and was later confined at Cheshire, Mass., until the end of hostilities.

Following the peace in 1815, Spilsbury was promoted Post Captain on 19 September and was soon retired on half pay. He returned to England, where he married, and settled at Newark (Newark-on-Trent).

Though he was only 31 and possessed of a small pension, post-war England offered few prospects for naval officers with social pretensions but no landed estates. In 1818 he returned to Kingston, where his father had established a medical practice, and applied for and received 1,200 acres as a military claimant. Thereafter, he went back to England and organized a scheme for a colony in Upper Canada under the Colonial Office's £10 deposit plan.

When his party of 10 families arrived in 1819, Spilsbury sought to locate them in Otonabee Township, where he and a number of former officers, including his father and Charles Rubidge, were drawing land.

Although Spilsbury had set out an elaborate plan for a town on the Otonabee River and had proposed to provide a ferry across Rice Lake, the colony largely collapsed because delays in locating suitable property for the settlers, as well as deaths and illnesses in several families, had greatly demoralized the colonists. It was also evident that few were prepared to endure the rough isolation. Indeed, Spilsbury, who was later described by William Hamilton Merritt\* as a "brave, determined fellow" who could "endure any hardship," chose to reside in the relative civility of the settlement at Cobourg, where other half-pay officers and genteel English immigrants had collected. Spilsbury nevertheless completed his settlement duties and received deeds for the lands granted to him in Otonabee and Monaghan townships. In 1822 he bought land east of Cobourg near the village of Colborne; there he built Osmondthorpe Hall, the farm on which he remained until his death.

Like many of his class who had small incomes and pretensions to become gentry, Spilsbury indulged an interest in agricultural improvement and was Vice-President of the Northumberland Agricultural Society when it was organized in July 1829.

The activities of these men bore little practical relation to the economic realities of the colony.

When most farmers were struggling to clear land and develop a cash staple, improvers like Spilsbury were organizing agricultural libraries, competitions for prize farms, and ploughing contests. Spilsbury espoused high tory principles and ran unsuccessfully as the tory candidate for Northumberland in the general election of 1830. He died shortly afterwards, forcing his wife to support a young family by opening a boarding-school in Colborne in 1831.

Peter Ennals

- ♦ AO, Map coll., "Plan of the township of Otonabee . . . with the locations therein made at the Surveyor General's Office prior to the 6 Jan. 1820; surveyed by Richard Birdsall, Comd, Dec. 8th 1819"; ms 787, memorandum no.1052; RG 1, A-I-6: 5750−51, 5817−18, 5857−58; C-I-3, 90: 59; 123: 4; 146: 12; C-I-4, 4: 12, 114, 117;
- RG 21, United Counties of Northumberland and Durham, Otonabee Township, census and assessment rolls, 1821; RG 22, ser.187, reg.1, 12 April 1831.
- Northumberland East Land Registry Office (Colborne, Ont.), Cramahe Township, deeds, 1 (mfm. at AO).
- PAC, RG 1, L3, 457A: S11/167; 460: S12/205–6, 276; RG 5, A1: 21177, 21259, 21261, 22307–8, 22487–88, 23369–70, 27372–75.
- PRO, CO 42/365: 143–46. Select British docs. of War of 1812 (Wood), 3, pt.i: 61, 73; pt.ii: 628, 639–40. Church (Cobourg, [Ont.]), 16 Feb. 1844, 8 May 1846.
- Cobourg Star, 25 Jan., 31 May 1831; 27 June 1838; 25 Jan. 1843.
- ♦ *Colonial Advocate*, 11 Nov. 1830.
- ♦ *Kingston Chronicle*, 16 July 1819, 17 Nov. 1820, 12 July 1822, 3 July 1830.
- G.B., ADM, Navy list, 1811, 1813, 1815, 1819.
- Officers of British forces in Canada (Irving), 225, 229.
- ♦ Joseph Allen, Battles of the British navy (rev. ed., 2v., London, 1898), 2: 389–90.
- William Canniff, <u>The medical profession in Upper Canada</u>, 1783–1850 . . . (Toronto, 1894; repr. 1980), 622–27.
- ♦ H. I. Cowan, <u>British emigration to British North America</u>; the first hundred years (rev. ed., Toronto, 1961), 44–46.
- ◆ T. W. Poole, A sketch of the early settlement and subsequent progress of the town of Peterborough, and of each township in the county of Peterborough
- (Peterborough, Ont., 1867; repub. 1941, 1967), 132.
- E.A. Cruikshank, "The contest for the command of Lake Ontario in 1814," *OH*, 21 (1924): 99–159.

General Bibliography

© 1987–2021 University of Toronto/Université Laval

[source: www.biographi.ca/en/bio/spilsbury francis brockell 6E.html]

In the campaign of 1814, Captain Francis Brockell Spilsbury R.N. commanded the ship *Niagara*.





If you haven't already ordered your UELAC Ribbon with your Loyalist ancestor's name plate(s), please contact Patricia Groom UE at: Patricia Groom patricia.groom.uel@gmail.com>.
A number of us here in Kawartha Branch have already bought our own and they are fabulous !!!

You can also order other Loyalist items at uelac.ca





# 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 fifty vignettes, we have none left in our archives. Thus we are in desperate need of new material to ensure the continuation of the **Iopalist 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 05 of this newsletter.

Vignettes or histories of your Loyalist ancestor need not be lengthy nor fully documented. Our readership is most interested in the story of your Loyalist ancestor and it is best described in your own words.

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: uelbob@nexicom.net.



Did You Know??

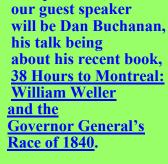


# **UP-COMING MEETINGS !!!**

On Sunday, 20 February 2022, our guest speaker will be David Smith UE talking to us about the War of 1812 Veterans.







Then, on Sunday,

17 April 2022,

See You There

Hope to see you at both these meetings !!!

# **Important Reminder of Dues**

In November 2021, it will be time to renew your membership in Kawartha Branch and the UELAC.

Our Branch Constitution and By-laws state:

### AR-16.06

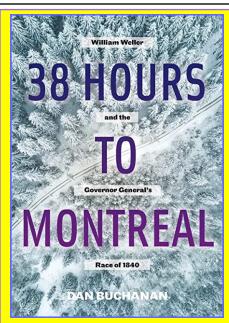
The Treasurer shall, upon receipt of membership dues, provide a membership card of the year to each member the Branch and shall maintain records of the Branch membership in consultation with the Branch Genealogist and Branch Membership Chairperson. These up-to-date membership lists will be made available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

AR-16.07 The Treasurer shall work with the Membership Chairperson who will record payments electronically using civiCRM. He or she will pay all appropriate per-capita dues to the UELAC on an annual basis by 01 February. Using data from all sources, he or she will complete the Membership form, as well as *The Loyalist Gazette* choice of paper or e-copy, 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. Per capita dues paid after July 1 are half the annual rate. i.e. \$20 for a single membership and \$27.50 for a family membership. Mail your Dues Cheque to

Grietje R. McBride UE
2260 North Esson Line,
Indian River, Ontario. K0L 2B0

705-295-4556 e-mail: maplegrm@gmail.com



# 38 HOURS TO MONTREAL: WILLIAM WELLER AND THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S RACE OF 1840

by Dan Buchanan

Governor General Charles Poulett Thomson is in a hurry. In response to the Rebellion of 1837-38, he has been urgently tasked by his masters in England to modernize and improve the governments in the Canadian colonies. In just three months in Toronto, the Governor General has managed to pass all the legislation he wants, but with politics heating up in Quebec and his bosses in England dangling a peerage over his head, now he must get to Montreal as fast as he can to do the same thing there. Enter "The Stagecoach King," William Weller, who is famous for operating the Royal Mail Line of stages between Toronto and Montreal. Weller utilizes a complex system

of stage stops staffed with experienced workers and is confident he can take the Governor General to Montreal in under thirty-eight hours. Driving a very unique sleigh, specially modified for this trip, Weller pilots the Governor General and his aid-de-camp, Captain Thomas Le Marchant, over 370 miles of snowy and muddy roads, avoiding dangerous obstacles and constantly moving forward. In a meticulously researched account of this epic trek, author Dan Buchanan brings the reader along on a breathlessly exciting journey that intricately explores Canadian history through the people, places, and buildings that existed along those treacherous roads in 1840.

www.danbuchananhistoryguy.com



Dan Buchanan proudly describes himself as a "history geek." He runs a successful genealogy and history website, www.treesbydan.com, that is used by researchers all over the world to make connections and gather information about the family tree they are pursuing. In 2014 his genealogy work won him a Civic Award from the Municipality of Brighton.

His first book, Murder In The Family: The Dr. King Story, mines local and family lore about a crime involving a notorious relative. Dan is also an engaging storyteller, recounting many different history stories as a guest speaker for clubs and groups across Ontario.

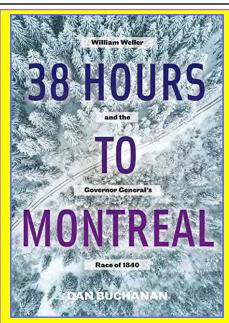
He lives in Brighton, Ontario, and serves the community as "The History Guy".



From the Executive of the Kawartha Branch UELAC,

We wish you a very Merry Christmas

And a healthy and Happy New Year 2022 !!!



# 38 HOURS TO MONTREAL: WILLIAM WELLER AND THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S RACE OF 1840

by Dan Buchanan

Governor General Charles Poulett Thomson is in a hurry. In response to the Rebellion of 1837-38, he has been urgently tasked by his masters in England to modernize and improve the governments in the Canadian colonies. In just three months in Toronto, the Governor General has managed to pass all the legislation he wants, but with politics heating up in Quebec and his bosses in England dangling a peerage over his head, now he must get to Montreal as fast as he can to do the same thing there. Enter "*The Stagecoach King*," William Weller, who is famous for operating the Royal Mail Line of stages between Toronto and Montreal. Weller utilizes a complex system

of stage stops staffed with experienced workers and is confident he can take the Governor General to Montreal in under thirty-eight hours. Driving a very unique sleigh, specially modified for this trip, Weller pilots the Governor General and his aid-de-camp, Captain Thomas Le Marchant, over 370 miles of snowy and muddy roads, avoiding dangerous obstacles and constantly moving forward. In a meticulously researched account of this epic trek, author Dan Buchanan brings the reader along on a breathlessly exciting journey that intricately explores Canadian history through the people, places, and buildings that existed along those treacherous roads in 1840.

www.danbuchananhistoryguy.com



Dan Buchanan proudly describes himself as a "history geek." He runs a successful genealogy and history website, www.treesbydan.com, that is used by researchers all over the world to make connections and gather information about the family tree they are pursuing. In 2014 his genealogy work won him a Civic Award from the Municipality of Brighton.

His first book, <u>Murder In The Family: The Dr. King Story</u>, mines local and family lore about a crime involving a notorious relative. Dan is also an engaging storyteller, recounting many different history stories as a guest speaker for clubs and groups across Ontario. He lives in Brighton, Ontario, and serves the community as "*The History Guy*".



From the Executive of the Kawartha Branch UELAC,

We wish you a very Merry Christmas

And a healthy and Happy New Year 2022 !!!



For the next while, Bill Russell UE, President of Kawartha Branch, and Central East Regional Vice-President for the UELAC, will include an article in each issue of *The Kawartha Periodical*.

Here's his fourth one:

# 1984 UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST STAMP

This stamp was issued on July 3, 1984 to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists in Canada. The stamp was designed by Bill Davies and produced by the British American Bank Note Company in Ottawa. The design features a group of people in 18th century attire. They represent the cross section of the classes of society who were Loyalists. In the background is the Grand Union Flag, the British Flag used from 1600 to 1801.

Thirty million stamps were issued in panes of 50 subjects at a cost of 32 cents per stamp. On November, 4, 2005, the UEL Heritage Centre and Park in Adolphustown, was granted permission to reproduce the Loyalist (1984) stamp on literature and advertising, promoting the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Park.

As part of the Ontario bicentennial celebrations, Canada Post held the commemorative stamp launch at the UEL museum, in Adolphustown. The original artwork sign was given to the museum for permanent display.

Next time you are in the Adolphustown area, plan a visit to the UEL Museum and other Loyalist Historical sites in the area.

Credits to: Brian Tackaberry, Bay of Quinte Branch and Tom Meyerhof, Sir Guy Carleton Branch.

Bill Russell UE





# Chad Corley UE

Passed Away Tuesday, 19 October 2021

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Chad Corley UE, son of Jan Corley UE, on Tuesday, 19 October 2021.

Predeceased by his brother, Brandon Corley UE, there was a Memorial Service for Chad on Sunday, 31 October 2021, at 2:00 p.m. ET, at the Salvation Army Temple in Peterborough, Ontario.

The Corley family are descendants of the Loyalist, Donald Ross UE of the Royal North Carolina Regiment.

# 'Addiction is not a moral failing': Friends mourn the death of Peterborough's Chad Corley

By Taylor Clysdale, Reporter, Peterborough This Week. Thursday, October 21, 2021

Friends and loved ones of Chad Corley will never hear him riffing on a guitar or playing a piano in Peterborough again.

Described by those around him as selfless, full of life and for years trying to kick his drug habit, Corley is being mourned after the news on Wednesday, Oct. 20, that his life was claimed by addiction.

"Chad was a huge advocate for people on the street," says friend Alex Bierk.

"It's really sad to see someone like him, who was this one-of-a-kind energetic person, be gone."

For more information about Corley, please visit:

https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/local-peterborough/news/2021/10/21/addiction-is-not-a-moral-failing-friends-mourn-the-death-of-peterborough-s-chad-corley.html

PeterBio: Chad Corley

By Taylor Clysdale, Reporter, *Peterborough This Week*. Saturday, May 13, 2017

To read more about the biography of Chad Corley, written in 2017, please visit:

https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/local-peterborough/life/2017/05/13/peterbio-chad-corley.html

෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯෫෯

Chad Corley UE, 1982 - 2021
Rest in peace, Chad.

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of



# Shirley Frances Lowes UE

Peacefully at P.R.H.C. on Thursday, September 2, 2021. Beloved wife of Graham Lowes (1970). Loving mother of Cathy, Karen, and Rennie (Adriana). Devoted grandmother of Grace, Avery, Graham, and Morgan. Predeceased by her parents, Gordon H and Kathleen (Litt) Rennie,

and her sister, Jean Anne Rennie (1942).

Special friend of Jay Hayes (2014) and his children Brenda (Bob), Robert (Anita), and Bill (1983) and grandchildren.

Shirley was a graduate of Peterborough Civic Hospital class of 1956, and a graduate of the University of Toronto Community Health Program.

She retired from the Peterborough County City Health Unit in 1998. Shirley spent her life supporting people either as a nurse, friend, parent, or grandparent, and will be missed by all who knew her.

Shirley was a proud descendant of the Loyalists, Jacob Frederick Dittrick UE and William Prichard UE





We also bid fond adieu to

Donna Marilyn
Sidey
(née
Burton) UE



November 26, 1937 - April 24, 2021

Donna passed away peacefully in her 84th year in Lindsay, Ontario, after a short battle with cancer. Predeceased by her husband, Norman (Norm) James Sidey, in London, Ontario, and her mother, Edith (Graham) Burton Westaway, of Lindsay. Donna is lovingly remembered by her sister Eleanor Burton of Toronto, and her four children: Carolyne Darimont (Albert) of Oakville; Eleanor Everett (Dave) and Janet Sidey (Gord Erickson) of Ottawa, as well as Amy Cutler (Kevin) of Chauvin, Alberta. Donna is also survived by eight grandchildren (John, Sarah, Leah, Kathryn (Nick), Zachary, Emma (Phil), Paul, and Andrew) and by numerous cousins and their families. Donna was born in Stouffville, Ontario. During her childhood, she also lived in Markham, Agincourt, and Ringwood until settling in Lindsay, where she finished elementary school and attended Lindsay Collegiate. Donna worked for many years as a Registered Nurse after graduating from the Peterborough Civic Hospital School of Nursing in 1959 where she made many life-long friends. Norm's job took the family around Ontario every few years and, after starting married life in Peterborough, Donna also set up house in Belleville, Lindsay, Sarnia, and finally in Byron (London) in 1972. After a few years in Byron, Donna retired from nursing and she and Norm opened Buns A Plenty, a successful bakery / deli / butcher shop. In 1999, nine years after Norm passed away, Donna moved back to Lindsay to be closer to her mother and she reconnected with many of her cousins. She was a member of the UCW at Cambridge Street United Church and helped with the Walter Auld Fellowship Luncheons and the Browsers' Nook at the Joys of Christmas Sale, assisted at the Community Soup Kitchen, and prepared lunches at King Albert Public School. Donna enjoyed researching family history with her sister and was happy to share details of various branches of the family with anyone interested. She loved old houses, and milestone birthdays were often celebrated with the family at historic inns and hotels in small Ontario towns. A celebration of Donna's life took place at Mackey Funeral Home on Monday October 18, 2021.

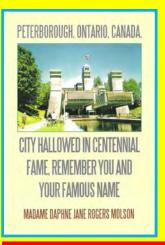
Donna was the proud descendant of Loyalists: John Bice UE and James Humphrey UE.

ているいっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっとっと

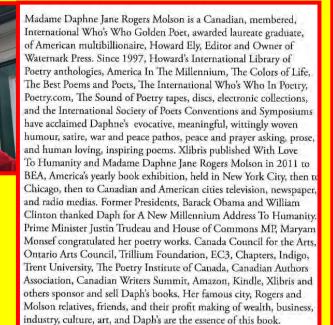
United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Web Site: http://www.uelac.org/ Kawartha Branch's Web Site: http://www.uelac.org/Kawartha/

# VIEWS IN AND AROUND KAWARTHA BRANCH

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our planned meetings and events were cancelled.



On Wednesday, 15 September 2021, a Member of Kawartha Branch, Daphne (Rogers) Molson UE, held a book launch of her latest book, Peterborough Ontario, Canada, City Hallowed in Centennial Fame, Remember You and Your Famous Name, in her backyard.





On Sunday, 19 September 2021, Kawartha Branch UELAC held its first Fall Meeting virtually with our guest speaker being the Dominion President, Trish Groom UE, who is also a Member of Kawartha Branch.



Then, on Thursday, 11 November 2021, Members of Kawartha Branch UELAC visited the cenotaph in Peterborough, Ontario, where Branch Past President, Bill Atkinson UE, laid our wreath at 10:00 a.m., prior to the service that was held at 11:00 a.m. ET.



On Sunday, 21 November 2021, Kawartha Branch UELAC held its next virtual meeting with our guest speaker being Brian McConnell UE, who stepped in at the last minute, replacing Debra Turrell, who was having technical difficulties, and spoke about the *Old St. Edwards Church & the Loyalists*, in Clementsport, Nova Scotia:





# KAWARTHA BRANCH MEMBERSHIP: DECEMBER 5, 2021

Good News:

As of October 31 2021, Kawartha Branch had 136 Members.

In 2020 Kawartha Branch joined the majority of Loyalist Branches

across Canada in managing and processing our memberships and per capita dues

using the new-to-us accounting system called civiCRM. What once seemed daunting,

has become much more manageable with the help of Doug Grant at Dominion, Stewart Smith, accountant and system advisor, and our very patient out-going treasurer, Frank Lucas.

When you pay your Membership dues, only \$10.00 per person (per capita dues) is returned to our Branch. The rest goes to support and pay for the UELAC national headquarters in Toronto. Although challenging to balance our books within the new accounting system, we did it in November and the per capita dues owed to Kawartha Branch has been paid to us.

# Why become a Member of Kawartha Branch?

# With Membership you can:

- Join a "family" of like-minded people interested in social or military history of the Loyalist Era.
- Share information about your Loyalist and work with Genealogists to lead to Certificate applications.
- Receive four publications per year: The Loyalist Gazette produced by the Dominion UELAC and our local newsletter, The Kawartha Periodical.
- Access the Members Only part of UELAC.ca which is a treasure trove of on-demand presentations that includes Branch newsletters from across Canada,
- Receive weekly free Loyalist Trails on-line newsletter by subscribing to Doug Grant < loyalist.trails@uelac.org>
- Write an article and have it published in any of the above publications.

Ouite a few members have already renewed either by cheque or on-line.

Here is a handy chart to help you calculate your dues. (Note that your per capita fee is included)

Kawartha - Individual = \$ 50 Kawartha - Family of 2 = \$75

Kawartha - Family of 3 = \$85

Kawartha - Family of 4 = \$ 95

Kawartha - Family of 5 = 105

Kawartha - Family of 6 = \$115

Kawartha - Family of 8 = 135

Kawartha - Family of 11 = \$165

Kawartha - Family of 13 = \$185

Kawartha - Family of 14 = \$195

Kawartha - Additional Branch = \$ 10

(An Additional member has a different Home Branch

and is joining Kawartha Branch in addition to renewing their Home Branch membership).



Membership Renewals for 2022 have been ongoing since November 2 2021.

Individual (Half-year) as of July 1st of any year = \$25

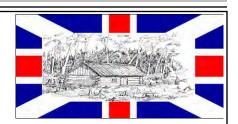
Membership for 2021 expires on January 31, although, it can be reactivated simply by paying the dues.

I am looking forward to seeing you at future meetings in 2022.

Grietje McBride UE, Kawartha Branch Membership Chair.







# KAWARTHA BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

c/o Grietje R. McBride UE, Membership Chair

2260 North Esson Line, Indian River, Ontario, K0L 2B0

# Membership Renewal Form

Please complete the following form and submit with payment to the address above or electronically at uelac.ca.

Name
Address
Phone home Cell
Email
Cheques may be made out to: Kawartha Branch UELAC and mailed to Grietje McBride c/o 2260 North Esson Line, Indian River, ON K0L 2B0
Please select one category for Membership:
Single \$ 40.00 Add \$10.00 for the Branch = \$ 50.00
Family \$ 55.00 Add \$ 10.00 for each person in your household.
* Additional Branch \$10.00
If you have selected Family, please print names. (This enables us to accurately order pin-less magnetic badges for Members)
*If a second Branch is selected, What is its name?
Would you like to receive your twice-yearly national magazine, <i>The Loyalist Gazette</i> , in electronic form? or in print form by postal delivery?, or both?
Signature
Note: This form can be saved into your computer

Note: This form can be saved into your computer and returned to me electronically at the above address.



# Kawartha Branch WELAC



Grietje McBride U.E. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR FREE PERSONALIZED NAME TAG FOR KAWARTHA BRANCH UELAC CONTACT

GRIETJE R. MCBRIDE UE at maplegrm@gmail.com!!!