



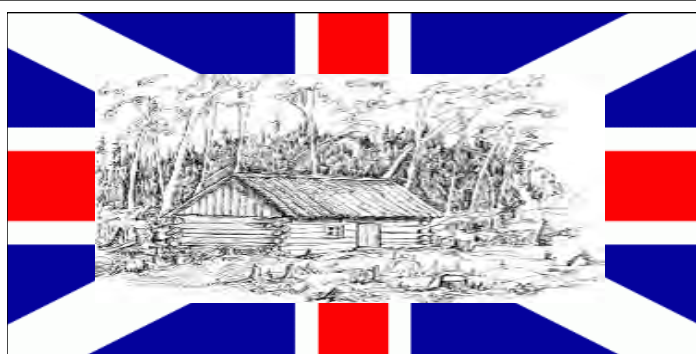
The Kawartha Periodical



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

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

Volume 25, Issue 02 *The Kawartha Branch was granted its charter on 23 June 1979* Fall/Winter 2025 - 2026



The President's Message

Kawartha Branch UELAC has been very active this fall doing business and having fun.

We had a very interesting speaker, Dan Buchanan, for our meeting in September and again in November. We met in person at Activity Haven to hear about the George Gibson schooner and how the American raids progressed to the burning of this schooner and the attempt by the family to get compensation for their loss. Dan's talk was illustrated with Power point slides showing the geography of the Presqu'ile area, copies of hand written accounts of the time, and events taking place during the War of 1812.

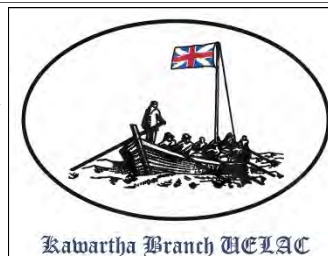
On November 16th, this time via Zoom, we learned about the building of the Murray Canal, dreamed of in the 1790s but not completed until 1889. Why? We learned that it takes priorities, politics and momentum to accomplish great deeds.

Meanwhile, Grietje and I presented a talk with slides and a display table to the Learning in Leisure club at St. Stephen's church about our Kawartha Branch and what we do in the community.

This was followed by three Remembrance Day services in Ennismore, Peterborough and Keene. Thank you to Brandon McDermott UE for piping us to the cenotaph, to Jason Camp UE for being part of the Colour guard and to Verne Hope for playing the drum. Special thanks to Richard Staples



for organizing each event. Graham Hart UE and Bill Atkinson UE laid the wreath at the Peterborough Cenotaph and Judy Bell carried the Charter of Rights and Freedoms at the parade in Keene.



Our Annual Fun party at Kelseys Restaurant was well-attended and gave us an opportunity to catch up with news about our Members and friends. A quiz show demonstrated that we know a lot about horses as we recalled experiences and family lore from parents and grandparents. It was great fun and we promised to give ourselves more time next year!

In the New Year we will plan, through our Executive meetings, to set up our Valentine's gathering in February, and plan the Zoom meeting for February 15th with our guest, Brian Tackaberry UE,

In This Issue

| | |
|---|-------------|
| President's Message | pp. 01 - 02 |
| National President's Message | p. 02 |
| From the Editor's Desk | p. 02 |
| Genealogists' Report | p. 03 |
| Treasurer's Report | p. 04 |
| Membership Report | p. 05 |
| Kawartha Branch Executive and Committees for 2025 - 2026 | p. 06 |
| From the Historian's Corner by Joan Lucas UE | pp. 07 - 10 |
| <i>The Loyalist Corner</i> | p. 11 |
| <i>"John Munroe: Patriot/Loyalist" Part Three.</i> By Bill Russell UE | pp. 12 - 15 |
| A "No Price Too High" to Members of our Canadian Armed Forces | pp. 17 - 19 |
| <i>"United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada"</i> Article in New Brunswick Prime Time newsletter | pp. 22 - 23 |
| <i>"Members of Keith Lodge No. 23 F. & A.M., Moncton, New Brunswick"</i> | p. 24 |
| <i>"A Poem written by a new Loyalist settler"</i> Bicentennial Branch newspaper, "Loyalist", 1999, #1, p. 5 | p. 25 |
| <i>Views In And Around Kawartha Branch</i> | pp. 31 - 43 |
| Kawartha Branch Sales Items | p. 44 |
| Renewal Form for 2025 - 2026 | pp. 45 - 46 |

who will speak about "1775: *Canada under Attack*".

One important decision we need to make as a Branch is to move a motion to support the Bay of Quinte Trailer Park, and to select a speaker for April 19. We really do appreciate you renewing your memberships as we try to make good use of the time you have entrusted to us.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year,
Ken Spry UE, President, Kawartha Branch UELAC.

The National President's Message

Dear Members of the UELAC, as the Festive season approaches, I wish to extend greetings from the UELAC Board Members. We wish all a safe, joyous and peaceful holiday season.

Please renew your Membership as we need Members to carry on our Loyalist ancestors' history and traditions. Please volunteer for Branch positions.



The first recorded Christmas tree was erected in Sorel, Lower Canada, in 1781 by Baron Riedeset and his wife, Baroness Riedeset. The Baron served with Burgoyne and after their troops were defeated at Saratoga, the Baron and his wife were taken prisoner. After two years of captivity, they were released in a prisoner exchange and went to Sorel. The Baroness wanted to celebrate their new freedom and ordered a balsam to be cut down and put up in their home. She decorated it with fruit and candles as was the tradition in Germany. This was the first Christmas tree in Canada. In 1981, on the 200th anniversary, Canada Post issued a 15 cent stamp to commemorate the anniversary. So, whether people know it or not, they are celebrating a Loyalist related tradition by putting up a Christmas tree.

Getting on to Loyalist business, the Board will be presented with our new privacy policy in early January 2026 by lawyer, Shane Morganstein, via a ZOOM meeting. We are seeking a location to hold our 2027 UELAC Conference. If any Branch would like to host the Conference, we will assist you with the preparation and finances. Please contact us ASAP.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year.
Bill Russell UE, UELAC National President.



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 2025 issue of our *Kawartha Periodical* newsletter of interest and we look forward to hearing from you !!!

**A very Merry Christmas
and a happy and healthy New Year 2025 !!!**

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





Genealogists' Report



It is a desirable thing to be well-descended,
but the glory belongs to our ancestors — Plutarch

We are braver and wiser because they existed,
those strong women and strong men...

We are who we are because they were who they were.

It is wise to know where you come from, who called your name. — Maya Angelou

To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root. — Chinese proverb



When you read these reflections from great thinkers around the world, if you are like me, you realize there is much to do to make our family history come alive. We are living in the best of times (for the capture and storage of knowledge) and the worst of times... (for the lack of time to organize it.)

This is why I am so interested in Genealogy. We are making progress in completing Certificate applications and raising awareness about who the Loyalists were and what their impact was on the history of Canada.

If you get a chance to talk to the elders in your family, take it and enjoy learning something old and something new. Any questions about your searches, please email us at maplegrm@gmail.com.

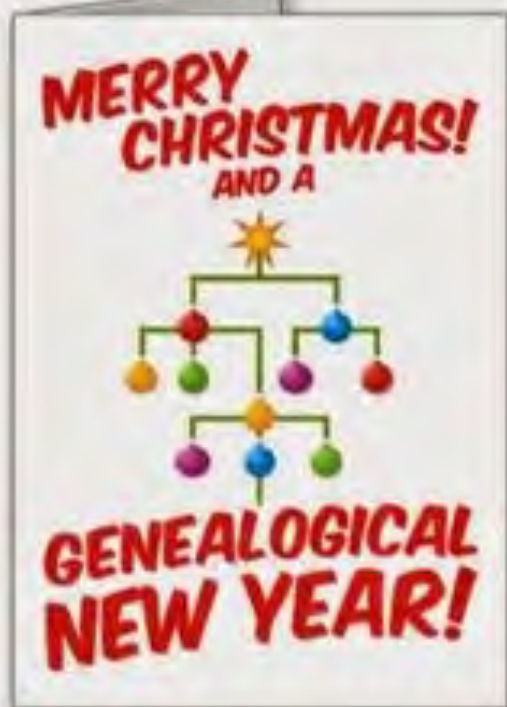
Grietje and Bob McBride UE
Kawartha Branch Co-Genealogists
Phone: 705-295-4556
E-mail: maplegrm@gmail.com
or: uelbob@nexicom.net.



Shhhh!
Be vewy,
vewy quiet.
I'm hunting
forebears.



Good news, Mr. Smith!...





Treasurer's Report

September 01, 2025 – December 11, 2025,
all figures rounded



| | |
|---|-----|
| Opening Bank Balance, September 1 | 780 |
| Received from CIBC Wood-Gundy | 500 |
| Received from National Office per Capita Dues | 45 |
| Paid bank fees | 8 |
| Paid Guest Speaker(s) | 200 |
| (Dan Buchanan, September 21 and November 16) | |
| Paid Room Rental | 140 |
| Paid Genealogy Supplies | 56 |
| Paid In-person Meeting Supplies | 31 |
| Paid Insurance | 702 |
| Closing Bank Balance, December 11 | 188 |



A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026 !!!

Madeline Lucas UE, Kawartha Branch Treasurer,



LOYALISTS DRAWING LOTS FOR THEIR LANDS, 1784.



Membership Report

Thank you sincerely to our Members who have already renewed their Kawartha Branch membership. Your membership gives you access to four meetings each year as well as the opportunity to see or participate in events planned by the Kawartha Branch Executive at the local level.

Events include flag raisings, museum visits, attending 4th Line theatre productions, and attending fun luncheons at Kelseys Restaurant

At the national level you can access the *Loyalist Gazette* twice yearly and read about Loyalist history nation-wide.

You can read a weekly online newsletter called *Loyalist Trails* to keep up with regional news and upcoming events. We are aiming to increase

our membership from the current 82 Members and we encourage anyone with an interest in history to join our community of like-minded family searchers.

If you can spare a little time, we need volunteers to help with leadership roles of Branch President and Vice-President as well as Branch Secretary (which has an honourarium of \$400.00 attached to it and payable at the end of each yearly term). Please call or email me if you could join the Executive Board and help us out.

Merry Christmas 2025 and **Happy New Year 2026 !!!**

Sincerely and loyally yours,

Grietje R. McBride UE, Kawartha Branch Membership Chair.

Up-Coming Kawartha Branch Meetings:

**February 16, 2026 via Zoom: Brian Tackaberry UE,
1775: Canada Invaded**

**Valentine Friendship Gathering at Kelsey's:
to be announced.**

**April 19 Annual General Meeting in-person
and via Zoom at Activity Haven**

June 19, 2026, Flag Raising Ceremony at Peterborough City Hall, 10:00 a.m.

Special Events are being planned during the year. Look for poster announcements in your inbox. They may include theatre opportunities, dinner celebrations at Kelsey's in Peterborough and pot luck/games afternoon gatherings.

Our aim is to celebrate what connects us as Kawartha Branch Members and share our memories, experiences, frustrations, and successes with each other.

As Membership Chair, I invite feedback from you about how we can serve you better.

If you have an idea about an interesting person who could entertain or inform our Members, please contact anyone on the Board.



Kawartha Branch Board of Directors and Committees for 2025 - 2026

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------------|---|
| President | Ken Spry UE | 705-745-6422 | ken309810@gmail.com |
| Immediate Past President | Bill Russell UE | 705-313-9820 | billrussell10@gmail.com |
| First Vice-President | To be announced | | |
| Second Vice-President | To be announced | | |
| Secretary | To be announced [Interim: Grietje McBride UE] | 705-295-4556 | maplegm@nexicom.net |
| Treasurer | Madeline Lucas UE | C: 705-957-7990 | madelinelucas@ymail.com |
| Co-Genealogists | Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | maplegm@nexicom.net uelbob@nexicom.net |
| Programme Convenor | Graham Hart UE | 705-743-6837 | grahamhart302@yahoo.com |
| Newsletter Editor, Publicity and Publications Chair | Bob McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | uelbob@nexicom.net |
| Sales and Displays | Bill Atkinson UE | 705-313-9828 | xpiscop@gmail.com |
| Historian-Archivist | Joan Lucas UE | 705-876-9800 | jflucas@sympatico.ca |
| Membership and Telephone Chairperson | Grietje McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | maplegm@gmail.com |
| Web Master, Constitution & By-Laws Chairperson | Bob McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | uelbob@nexicom.net |
| Education Advisors | Grietje McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | maplegm@gmail.com |
| | Bob McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | uelbob@nexicom.net |
| Social Treats Convenor | To be announced | | |
| Lending Library | Ken Spry UE | 705-745-6422 | ken309810@gmail.com |
| | Patricia "Trish" Staples UE | | trishstaples@gmail.com |
| Colour Party | Dr. Richard Staples | 705-930-6408 | richardeveryman090@gmail.com |
| | Graham Hart UE | 705-743-6837 | grahamhart302@yahoo.com |
| Directors | Bill Atkinson UE | 705-313-9828 | xpiscop@gmail.com |
| | Graham Hart UE | 705-743-6837 | grahamhart302@yahoo.com |
| | Frank Lucas | 705-876-9800 | Frank.Lucas@sympatico.ca |
| | A. Joan Lucas UE | 705-876-9800 | jflucas@sympatico.ca |
| | Bob McBride UE | 705-295-4556 | uelbob@nexicom.net |



**If your surname
is Cooper,
what was the likely
occupation of one
of your ancestors ?**



Barrel Maker
Cooperage is the name given
to the occupation of barrel,
or wooden cask, making and Cooper
is the name given to the craftsman.
Many surnames developed from the family
occupation in ancient times, hence the common
surnames of Smith, Potter and Fletcher
in English-speaking countries.

I, OF COURSE, VOLUNTEER!



**We need volunteers
to serve as:**

**First Vice-President,
Second Vice-President.
Branch Secretary.
Social Treats Convener.**



**If you are interested, please contact
any Member of our Board of Directors !!!**



FROM THE HISTORIAN'S CORNER:

Our Kawartha Branch UELAC Historian, Joan Lucas UE, has offered to share with you an article in each up-coming issue

of *The Kawartha Periodical* newsletter.

Here's the one that she wrote for this issue:

CROWN LAND SURVEY FOR PETERBOROUGH COUNTY

In 2002 I visited the Crown Land office, then in the Ministry of Natural Resources Building, looking for any records relating to Sons or Daughters of United Empire Loyalists who received land grants in our county.

Settlement began in the townships before the official dates of settlement. The townships of Smith, Otonabee, Dummer, Belmont, Asphodel, and Monaghan were surveyed between 1818 and 1830. Some lots went to Loyalists and their sons and daughters as the lots along waterways in the south were already settled.

These were considered "*back townships*" and were newly surveyed as more land was needed as Loyalists and their families expanded. Loyalist farms were increased from 100 acres to 200 acres as per the new settlement laws, and as the children of Loyalists became of age to receive government Land Grants of 200 acres.

Not all lands granted were settled on by those who received them. Some were sold or traded for other land, better suited to the owner's situation. Not all records were complete but were copied as they appeared in the Land Grant records.



Samuel L. Wilmot was the Crown Surveyor in Peterborough County in 1817-18, and surveyed the Township of Smith that included Harvey at that time. His records show 37 lots laid out on 30 June 1818. The survey shows the name, the lot, concession and acreage and the designation as to how these land grants were awarded. The information was by lot and concession, and was not in alphabetical order.

Richard Vanarnon, OC 5 Aug 1809, 500 acres, granted 2 December 1818

William Dixon, OC 23 October 1818

Wait Wright, SUE, OC 12 November 1818 lot 15, 16, con 5

Charity Wood, DUE. By fiat, #3018, 12 November 1818, lots 15, 16, Con 4

George Lee, UE, 4 November 1818, lots 15, 16, con 3

William Dixon, OC 4 November 1818, lot 13, con 1

Isaac Dixon, OC 13 October 1818, lot 15, 16, con 2

John and Benjamin Stapleton, OC 18 December 1818, lot 12, con 6

William Stapleton, 18 December 1818, lot 12, con 6

Arch McLean, OC 27 February 1818, lot 19, con 5

Elizabeth Hartle, Fiat #4162, lot 17, con 7

Jane Bradshaw, warrant #37, lot 18, con 7

Margaret Rambough, warrant #65, lot 19, con 7

There were other land grants surveyed by Sam Wilmot but not recorded until Richard Birdsall copied them in 1830. They appear at the end of this article.

The township of Monaghan was surveyed in 1818, probably by Sam Wilmot but not so recorded.

William Smith, OC 3 December 1817, lots 8,9, con 3

Joseph Morris, OC 28 October 1817, lot 7, con 3

Elizabeth Harris, OC 28 October 1817, by Fiat # 2973

Rachel Hannah, lot 14, con 4

William Claus Jr, lot 13, con 4

Joseph Charmley and Francis Spilsbury also appear in name only

Also of interest in Monaghan was land granted to Sir Isaac Brock and Representatives, a large tract of land: lots 3-11, con 1, and the broken front, also lots 16, 17, 18, 19 in con 2 and 3.

There were also many lots granted to the King's College. It's a mystery what became of them.



Belmont Township was surveyed in 1823 by Henry Ewing:

James Chisholm, UE, lot 28, con 12

Elijah Wallbridge, UE, lots 28, 29, con 11; also lot 29, con 2

Peter and Adam Meyers, SUE, lot 17, con 12

Ann McKenzie DUE, lot 37, con 3

Dummer Township was surveyed in April 1823 by Richard Birdsall

Jacob Hough, UE, lot 1, con 3

Michael Dafoe, UE, lot 3, con 1,

Samuel Barnhart, SUE, lot 1, con 5

Hannah Lasher, DUE, lot 16,17, con 1

Asphodel Township was surveyed by Richard Birdsall, year not given:

Elizabeth Fisher, DUE, lot 13, con 2

Allan McDougal, SUE, lot 12, con 2

Allen McLean (UE)

Birdsall family lands (UE)

Everett Family lands (UE)

Otonabee Township surveyed in 1829 by Richard Birdsall

Elizabeth Rice, DUE, lot 31, con 10

James Goheen, UE, lot 26, con 14

Catherine White, DUE, lot 25, con 12

Nancy Randall, DUE, lot 29, con 12

Elizabeth Gifford, DUE, lot 30, con 12

Ann Woolcott, DUE, lot 31, con 12

Alex Bowie, SUE, lot 31, con 11

Hannah Morvin, DUE, lot 14, con 11

Simeon Stevens, SUE, lot 13, con 12

Susan Loucks, DUE, lot 14, con 5

Lydia Lapp, DUE, lot 24, con 1

Anthony Lapp, SUE, lots 30, con 3

Rachel Williams, DUE, lot 27, con 5

Susan Lapp, DUE, lot 29, con 5

John Clark, UE, lot 28, 29, con 4

Edmund Marsh, SUE, lot 23, con 1

John Lawson, SUE, lot 22, con 1

Sarah Corbitt, DUE, lot 15, con 4



**Smith Township surveyed by Samuel Wilmot in 1818
but recorded by Richard Birdsall, 15 January 1830.**

**Christopher Robinson, UE, lot 17, con 8
William McIlmoyl, SUE, lot 23, con 8
Robert Johnson, UE,
Joshua Wright, by warrant # 1756, SUE, lot 25, con 14
Hannah Wright, DUE, by warrant # 1771, lot 25, con 15
Pamela Wright, DUE, by warrant # 1770, lot 36, con 15
James Wright, SUE, lot 37, con 15
Reuben Wright SUE, by warrant # 1791, lot 42, con 14
Wait Wright UE, lot 25, con 14 and 15
Joseph Rogers, SUE, by warrant # 1785, lot 42, con 14
Sgt. John Leahy, UE, lot 39, con 13
Eleanor Sage SUE by warrant # 2134, W 1/2 lot 26, E 1/2 lot 27
William Rankin, SUE, by warrant # 2004, lot 32, con 17
Erasmus Batten, by Fiat # 3080, lot 26, con 16
William Sherwood, SUE, lot 29, con 15
William Bice, SUE, lot 29, con 14
Moses Wood, SUE, lot 31, con 14
Elizabeth Clifford DUE, lot 30, con 12**

In summary, Loyalist-related Land Grants in Peterborough County:

**Smith Township, 1818, 31 UE Land Grants
Monaghan Township, 1818, 6 UE Land Grants**

A total of 37 Loyalist Land Grants made in 1818

**Dummer Township, 1823, 4 UE Land Grants made
Belmont Township, 1823, 4 UE Land Grants**

A total of 8 UE additional Land Grants in the county in 1823

**Asphodel Township, 11 UE Land Grants by 1830
Otonabee Township, 18 UE Land Grants in 1829**

A grand total of UE Land Grants in Peterborough County 1818-1830 was 74

If any of you are related to any of these UE ancestors, you will need to see and copy the original Petitions for Land Grants in the Ontario Archives. Land was granted by Orders in Council, by Fiats and by Warrants so you will need to look in all these sections.

You may also look in the Peterborough County land records knowing the township, lot and concession number for a detailed ownership of a known lot, including wills kept on file. Ask for the Abstract Land Records of a given township that contain the earliest settlement records. To find a will look for a small “w” under the instrument number of the lot record. These may also be seen and copied.

Joan Lucas, UE, Kawartha Branch Historian. 28 October 2025





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 · McGregor 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 | - Ordella 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 |



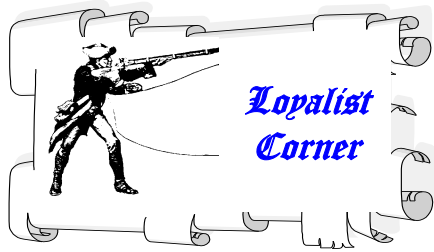
| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Volume 16, Issue 1 | - "Old" John Conklin UE |
| Volume 16, Issue 2 | - Fort Ninety Six and Robert Graham UE |
| Volume 17, Issue 1 | - My Morden Trail by Douglas G. Morden UE |
| Volume 17, Issue 2 | - Murder of John Irish by Anna Isabel (Irish) Wessell UE |
| Volume 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 |
| Volume 22, Issue 1 | - Loyalists As Absentee Owners by Allan McGillivray UE |
| Volume 22, Issue 2 | - General James Wolfe, Sir Guy Carleton, Chief Joseph Brant THAYENDANEGEA |
| Volume 23, Issue 1 | - A Descent into Heritage Research by John Hooper UE |
| Volume 23, Issue 2 | - "Christmas With The Loyalists" by Marcus Van Steen (originally published in the <i>Family Herald</i> , No. 26, December 21, 1967, pp. 33, 35. |
| Volume 24, Issue 1 | - "Frederick Keller UE, a United Empire Loyalist" By Brandon Edward Thomas McDermott UE |
| Volume 24, Issue 2 | - "How We Were Flooded Out" By Lois Barron (nee McNairn) UE - "John Munroe: Patriot/Loyalist: Part One" By Bill Russell UE |
| Volume 25, Issue 1 | - "John Munroe: Patriot/Loyalist: Part Two" By Bill Russell UE |
| Volume 25, Issue 2 | - "John Munroe: Patriot/Loyalist: Part Three" By Bill Russell UE |



Important 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 !!!

She can be reached at: Grietje McBride UE
Maple Grove Farms, 2260 North Esson Line,
Indian River, Ontario. K0L 2B0
705-295-4556 or maplegm@gmail.com



Our Immediate Past Kawartha Branch President, and now the National President of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Bill Russell UE, thought that you would enjoy reading this article:



"This is about my 6th great grandfather, John Munroe. It is a three-part series, with the third part in the Fall issue."

JOHN MUNROE: PATRIOT/LOYALIST

PART THREE

John Munroe cleared and improved a piece of vacant wilderness land east of Camp Creek at Beaver Harbour, Pennfield, N.B., and applied on February 3, 1812 for a Land Grant in Charlotte County, N.B. (Petition 1812). John received this grant of land in 1815 for his service in the corps of the Queen's Rangers during the American Revolutionary War. John was granted 200 acres.

Beaver Harbour was originally called "*Belle View*" and had been settled in 1783 by Quakers fleeing the War. The area back from the harbour was later named Pennfield after William Penn, the Quaker leader.

They built the house on the northern portion of the property, by which the present-day road passes. The neighbours stated it was a beautiful house. The house remained in the family for almost 200 years and was destroyed by fire. The cellar hole, showing the stone foundation, laid by John, and the barn, remain. The property remains in the Munroe family.

John and his wife, Hannah, moved to Pennfield with seven children. They all grew up to be adults and have families. The children worked the farm with their parents and records show that they had little schooling as they signed documents with an "X".

The Munroes raised cattle, hogs, and sheep and must have been profitable as John arranged in his will for each of his children to receive five pounds for the "*rents and profits*".

John and his boys supplemented their farm income from doing local carpentry, cutting logs and hauling hogs to market for neighbours.

John worked until he was 80 years old and became blind in both eyes.

He made his will on November 07, 1840, at Pennfield, "*being sick and weak in body, but of perfect mind and memory.*"

John divided the farm and acreage amongst his children. His wife, Hannah, was to reside in the house and have control during her lifetime and, upon her death, revert it to his daughter, Martha.

As a result of his blindness, John became totally dependent upon his wife and children and, because of this, he was induced in 1841 to apply for a pension as an American Revolutionary soldier.

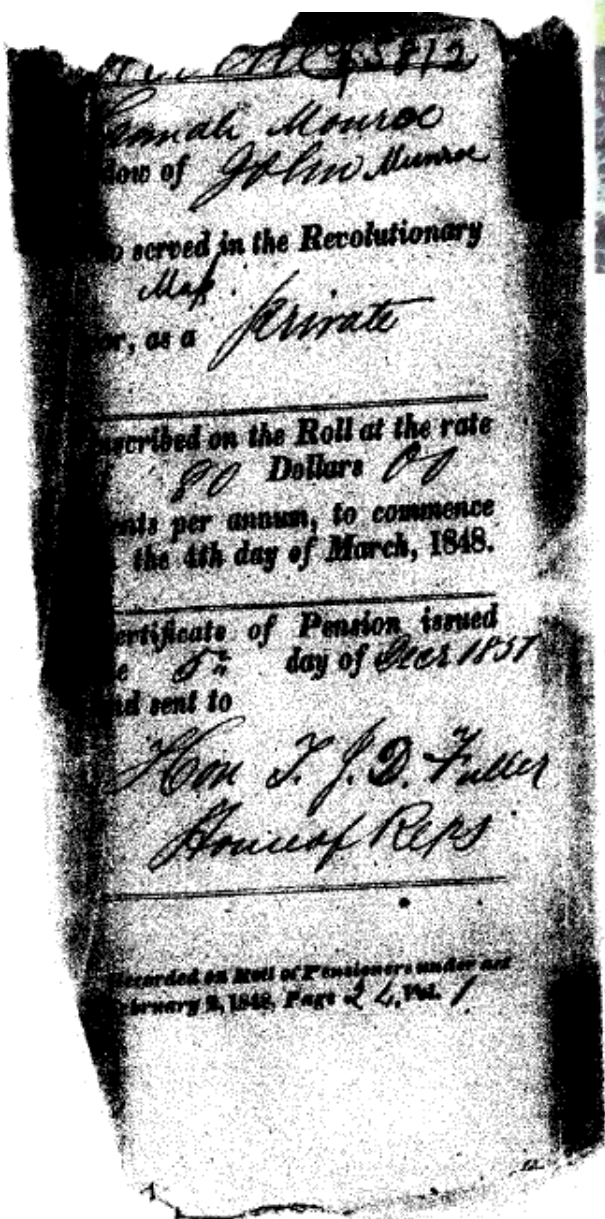
John, Hannah, and several family members travelled to Eastport, Washington County, Maine, to make application.



Figure 47: Old barn on Munroe property



Figure 48: Cellarhole of Munroe Homestead
Pennfield, N.B.



Daniel T. Granger, Justice of the Peace, took his depositions on John's behalf: Testifying to his honesty and integrity and that they had heard Munroe speak of his Revolutionary service. Also testifying were John Woodworth, a neighbour at Pennfield for 35 years, John Burgin of Eastport, with whom he had traded for 32 years, and Joseph Gunnison of Eastport, with whom he had traded for 16 years.

Testifying as to their relationship as his children and that they had heard their father's stories of his "service" were his sons, John and Samuel.

Royal Humphrey, of Athol, Massachusetts, was contacted. He was about the same age and testified to knowing him in Athol and that John had lived with James Lombard.

Hannah {Lombard} Young, daughter of James Lombard, also made an affidavit attesting to John's life in their family until he entered the army.

Earl Cutting, of Philipson, Worchester County, MA, testified that he had been born in Athol and knew John when he lived there. He also testified that they had joined the Patriot Army together and told of their service together.

BOUNTY LAND CLAIM.

State of Maine

County of Washington

On this fourteenth day of June A. D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me Marshall Hastings a Justice of the Peace, duly authorized to administer oaths within and for the County and State aforesaid:

Hannah Monroe - aged Eighty seven years, a resident of Calais in the State of Maine who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the Widow of John Monroe who was a Private Soldier in the Revolutionary War and is inscribed on the Pension List at the rate of Eighty Dollars per annum as is recorded on the Roll of Pensioners under act of Feb. 2nd 1848 on Page 24 Vol 1. That her name before marriage to said, John Monroe was Hannah Wood. That she was married to said Monroe by Rev^d Mr. Beardsley in 1790 - (as she thinks) That her said husband died on the 10th July 1846. at Calais in the Province of New Brunswick. That she is still a Widow and begs leave to refer the Department to the Pension Certificate by the Secretary of Interior issued as above, bearing date Dec^r 3rd 1851 and to the medical evidence furnished the Department heretofore; to substantiate the claim now preferred, ~~and certify a land warrant thereon~~

I do make this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the additional bounty land to which she may be entitled under the act approved the 31 day of March, 1855. She also declares, that she has never applied for nor received, under this or any other act of Congress, any bounty land warrant except the one above mentioned.

Hannah Monroe
mark

We John Stedding and Robert C. Hastings residents of Calais in the State of Maine upon our oaths, declare that the foregoing declaration was signed and acknowledged by Hannah Monroe in our presence, and that we believe, from the appearance and statements of the applicant, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be.

John Stedding
R. C. Hastings

On July 29, 1844, John received his pension for two years of actual service in the Massachusetts regiment. He was granted a pension of \$80.00 per year, and he received \$800.00 in arrears.

His pension application, Claim N0. W24022, is on file in the National Archives in Washington, D.C. It contains a considerable amount of information about his military career and life.

John died in Pennfield on July 10th, 1846, at the age of 86 years. He was buried in the churchyard cemetery of the Penfield Baptist Church. John's gravestone was found at the cemetery and the inscription of the date of death seems to be blatantly in error as the date of death differs from that given by his wife, Hannah, in 1851.

The story does not end here.

John's wife, Hannah, applied for a widow's pension and was granted a pension on December 5, 1851, in the amount of \$80.00 per year. At the time of the petition, Hannah was a resident of Pennfield, N.B. but was visiting her daughter in Calais, Maine. This pension application is also on file in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Hannah also applied for a Bounty Land Grant on June 14, 1855, in Calais, Maine, as a widow of a Revolutionary soldier.

Hannah was granted 160 acres of land by the U.S. Department of the Interior on June 22, 1856, by Bounty Warrant 30929-160-55. On July 8, 1856, Hannah sold the land over to John Stickney.

Hannah moved in with her daughter, Leah Munson, in 1858, in Calais, Maine. Hannah passed away in September 1861 and was buried in Calais.

As you can see, John led a very eventful life, torn between being a Patriot and a Loyalist. However he wasn't shy on claiming his just due for serving both factions.

I am descended from John through his oldest son, Andrew. Andrew left New Brunswick and settled in Hallowell, Prince Edward County. His daughter, Leah Munroe, married William Blake in Consecon, Prince Edward County, Ontario. They settled in Rednersville, PEC, and are buried in the Albury Cemetery.

William Blake is descended from Susan Wannamaker from the Loyalist family of Andrew Wannamaker UEL.

I wish to acknowledge the research done by my cousin, Rachael Duffalo UE. She visited the Pennfield area, personally interviewed relatives and took pictures of the area in the 1970's.

Bill Russell UE



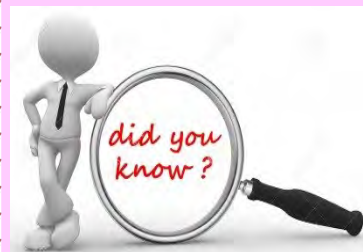


The Loyalist Corner Wants Your Stories !!!

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 *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 11 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.



Please help !!!



DID YOU KNOW ???



A “NO PRICE TOO HIGH” TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF OUR CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

The photographs on these postcards represent Canadian Loyalist Re-enactors portraying those brave Canadians who repelled multiple American invasions of Canada during the war of 1812 – 1815.

The War of 1812 re-enactors on these postcards were students in an exceptional History program at Norwood High School in Ontario.

These students were present on June 19, 2007 at the official Kawartha Branch Flag Raising ceremony at Peterborough City Hall.

By their marching they portrayed a powerful historical truth:

Canadians defended Canada from American invasion, first in 1775, and again in 1783, and again in 1812, and once more in 1865 in response to the Fenian Raids.

Think about it:

By Confederation 5 generations has stood up for Canada.

For generations Canadians very strongly believed (and still do) that

“Canada is founded upon Principles that recognize the Supremacy of God and the Rule of Law” –P.E. Trudeau, 1981, Past Prime Minister.

The beliefs of these early defenders of Canada are enshrined in the Preamble to our 1981 repatriated Constitution in the form of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It's clear proclamation remains our collective destiny as Canadian Citizens. However, it costs dearly to do so.

The first and second generations of Canadian Loyalists repeatedly “*went into harm's way*” to proclaim, protect and defend, the solid foundations of the Canadian Heritage that we enjoy today.

Over the centuries, Canadians have followed the examples of the heroes of the past by serving in our CDN armed forces. Their creed over the centuries was and remains today: “*No price too high*”. (MP Barney Danson, 2002)

These principles serve as the Preamble to our Constitution and also continue to serve today as the “*raison d'être*” as to why, in 2025 and beyond, loyal Canadians, both men and women, will continue to stand on guard from coast to coast to coast but most especially in the CDN Far North, to protect and defend Canadian Sovereignty at all costs. (PM Mark Carney 2025)

One way we can recognize this Service in our Armed Forces is simply to make sure that these same DND personnel receive greeting cards at Christmas or Valentines' Day that show in handwritten notes that Canadians are thinking of them with respect and appreciation.

**The Ceremonial Colour and Honour Guard (CCHG)
of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada, Kawartha Branch UELAC,
together with our Executive and Branch Members, invite you to write a postcard
to thank them for their service, whether on land, on the sea, or in the air,
as they serve and protect Canada at all costs.**

Cards are available by contacting

**Richard Staples, Colour Guard < richardeveryman090@gmail.com >
or Grietje McBride < maplegm@gmail.com >.**

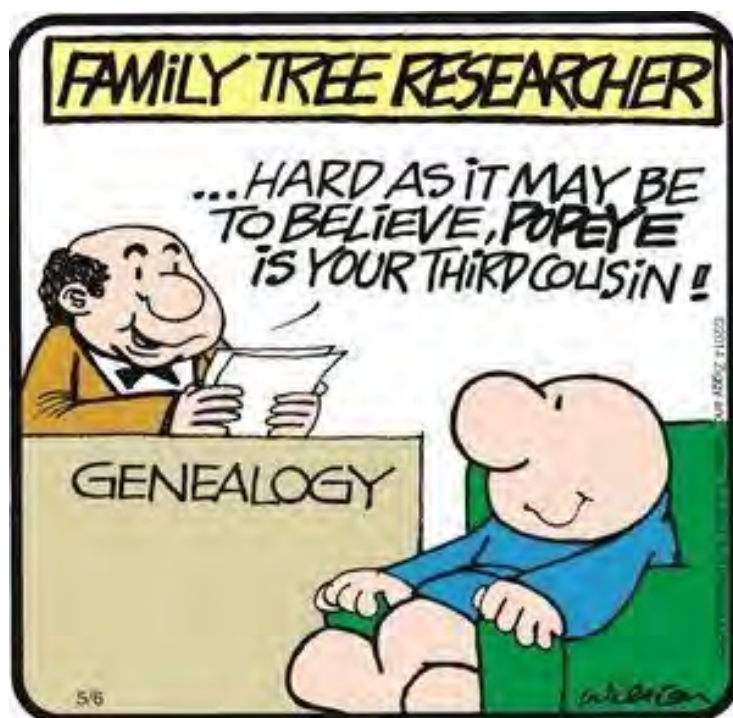
You might also choose your own post card and mail it to:

**Captain and Crew HMCS Frederick Rolette
PO Box 99000 Stn Forces
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. B3K 5X5**

**Post Card one: The Second World War postcard
shows the HMCS Cobourg, May 25, 1944
at Cobourg Harbour with her new RCNVR (RCN) crew
going aboard for Atlantic Duty.**



Post Card two: 2007 Student re-enactors from Norwood High School.



NOMINATIONS REPORT

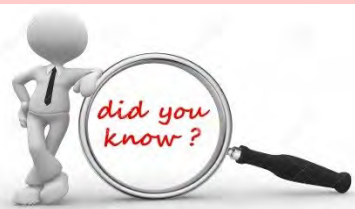
2025 is the year that our April Annual General Meeting took place.

We are still accepting Nominations for the following positions: Secretary, Social Convener, President, and First-Vice President.

Mentor guidance is available and will make every position on the Board much easier for volunteers.

**Please contact: Bob and Grietje McBride UE,
Ken Spry UE or Bill Russell UE.**

(See contact information on Page 06.)



DID YOU KNOW ???

**If you haven't already ordered your UELAC Ribbon with your Loyalist ancestor's name plate(s), please contact Rodney Appleby at:
< uelac.office@gmail.com > or P.O. Box 189,
Station Main, Cornwall, Ontario. K6H 5F7**

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





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

**Elections are held
every April.**

**The June meeting
is our annual
Loyalist Flag-Raising ceremony
at Peterborough City Hall.**

**Did You
Know ??**

***UP-COMING
EVENTS!!!***

**Sunday: February 16, 2026,
2:00 p.m. ET.
via Zoom:**

**Brian Tackaberry UE
1775:
*Canada Invaded***



**HOPE TO
See You
There**



Important Reminder of Dues

**You can now
renew your 2026 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 Genealogists 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.

Kawartha Branch Fees are:

- Individual Member pays \$40.00 plus \$10.00 for Branch operation.
- Individual half-year pays \$20.00 plus \$10.00 for Branch operation.
- Family pays \$55.00 and plus \$10.00 for each Member **including self**.
- Family half-year pays \$27.50 plus \$10.00 for each Member including self.
- Student pays \$20.00 plus \$10.00 for Branch operation.

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**



Immediate Past President of Kawartha Branch and now National President, Bill Russell UE, sent me an article, thinking that you would enjoy reading it. It was published in:



UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Moncton resident, William (Bill) Russell, was elected as National President of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) at the National Conference held last July in Saint John, N.B.

The Conference was attended by members from across Canada and the USA.

UELAC has 2100 registered members and 3500 face book followers.

Saint John Mayor, Donna Reardon, attended the Gala dinner along with Ralph Thomas of the New Brunswick Black Heritage Society of New Brunswick and the guest speaker was Dr. Bonnie Huskins, Professor of Loyalist Studies at the University of New Brunswick.

Members were treated to historical events at Loyalist House, Old Loyalist Burial Grounds and a drumhead church service put on by Delancy's Brigade at the Loyalist Church, Trinity Anglican Church.

UELAC has branches in every province except Newfoundland and Labrador. Members also live in Great Britain, the Bahamas, Australia, USA, and Canada.

A Loyalist was an American colonist who remained loyal to the British Crown during the American Revolution. Also known as Tories or Royalist, these individuals came from all social classes and occupations, including farmers, merchants, clergy, Indigenous tribes of the Iroquois Confederacy and Black enslaved peoples who were promised their freedom after one year of service.

When Britain lost the war, the Loyalist's property was confiscated, and they were ordered out of the United States. The Loyalists gathered in New York City and it is estimated that 30,000 Loyalist refugees were sent to Canada.

When George Washington and Ben Franklin demanded the British turn over the enslaved people to their former owners, the British refused and offered payment, which was accepted.

The Black Loyalists' names were recorded, and the document was named the Book of Negroes, which was turned into a best-selling book and movie.

Loyalists landed in Parrtown which is now Saint John, that was part of Nova Scotia in 1783. The arrival of Loyalists fundamentally altered the demographic and political landscape of the area, leading to the creation of New Brunswick and Ontario. The refugees were given land and supplies to last them for three years.

The Loyalists were also granted the designation of the post nominal, U.E., which signifies they are direct descendants of a United Empire Loyalist. This designation was granted by Lord Dorchester, Governor of Canada, in 1789.

This post-nominal title uses the letters "UE" after the person's name to signify their ancestral connection to those who upheld the "*Unity of the Empire*" and is the only post nominal designation granted in Canada.

The present-day United Empire Association promotes the history of the Loyalists and their contributions to Canada, as well as giving out bursaries to colleges and universities across Canada.



Flag bearers from Left to Right:
Carl Stymiest UE, David Ellsworth UE ,
Gabe Leckie UE, Barb Andrew UE.



William (Bill) Russell UE

Immediate Past President of Kawartha Branch and now National President, W. Bro. Bill Russell UE, sent me this item, thinking that I would enjoy reading it. As Editor of *The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* monthly newsletter, I included it in the September 2025 issue:



The Electronic Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!

Teamwork
Encourages
Active
Masons

**Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award of Merit: 2012
Grand Lodge Award for the Best District Newsletter: 2009**
Began in September 1995 as the *Peterborough District Masonic Newsletter*
with two hard-copy issues per year.
Editors: 1995 - 1998: R.W. Bro. Frank E. Lucas
1998 - 2001: V.W. Bro. Thomas J. King
2001 - present: R.W. Bro. Robert C. McBride
Recipient of the Grand Lodge Award: 2002, 2003, Award of Merit: 2004, 2005, 2006
Became the *Peterborough District's Electronic Beacon* in July 2007.



Ontario Masons

Volume Nineteen, Issue 01
Monday, 01 September 2025

Whole Number 186

Sections In This Issue:

- Message from R.W. Bro. James J. Dunn, Peterborough D.D.G.M. 2025 - 2026 p. 03
- From The Editor p. 04
- District Calendar: *September 2025* p. 05
- Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Project pp. 06 - 07
- Peterborough District 2024 - 2025 pp. 08 - 26
- Fun Facts about *September* p. 25
- Around and about Peterborough District and beyond: photos pp. 27 - 38
- Statistics for the *Lighthouse Trophy* p. 39
- Announcements pp. 40 - 51
- Daily Smile from V.W. Bro. Eric Lakien: "Boss" p. 50
- Monthly Communique From Grand Lodge: *June 2025* pp. 52 - 57
- Elected and Appointed Grand Lodge Officers: 2025 - 2026 pp. 58 - 60
- What is the Significance of the Northeast Corner? p. 61
- Items from *The Ontario Mason* magazine: *Grand Archives - John Ross Robertson Lodge's Installation and Investiture of Officers* pp. 62 - 64
- *"KING SOLOMON'S PLOT CONTINUING THE TRADITION"* pp. 65 - 66
- THE LIBRARY MUSEUM ARCHIVES HISTORY COMMITTEE pp. 67 - 68
- From Mackey's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry: *Tie, Tile, Tiler* p. 69
- Index of Masonic Education within *The Beacon: Lighting the Way !!!* pp. 74 - 76
- "The Talk" By Bro. Trevor Donnelly, Golden Rule Campbellford / Hastings Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 126 G.R.C. pp. 76 - 78
- "A Masonic Moment: The Geometry of Masonic Symbols" pp. 79 - 80
- by Bro. Bill Hodwitz, Niagara B District pp. 81 - 89
- "The Enduring Pursuit of Light" from *The Square Magazine* pp. 90 - 99
- The Peterborough Examiner political cartoons
- "The Hourglass" from *The Grand East* monthly newsletter from the Grand Lodge of Manitoba pp. 100 - 102
- "Cartoons" etc. from R.W. Bro. Jim Ellis, Grand Lodge, Linlithgowshire, Scotland pp. 116 - 127
- "Tips to Improve Lodge Meetings" from the *Alberta Freemason* magazine pp. 130 - 131
- Excerpts from *Whence Come We* by R.W. Bro. Wallace E. McLeod p. 145
- "A History of the Thoughts for the Enquiring Mason" by V.W. Bro. Brendan Kyne, Secretary, The Victorian Lodge of Research No. 218, Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia pp. 146 - 148
- "The Old Tyler Talks - SHOOTING THE MASONIC GUN" by Carl H. Claudy pp. 149 - 151
- "THE MASONIC PIPER", poem by R.W. Bro. Robert A. Keay pp. 152 - 153
- "Opportunities For Further Light" including Correspondence Courses on Masonic Education and *Heritage Lodge No. 130 聖方及聖保, 0 & C.* pp. 154 - 158
- Final Words: *Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part, Happy to Meet Again !!!* p. 159



Members of Keith Lodge No. 23 F. & A.M., Moncton, New Brunswick, hosted Ontario Masons, John Castle (London) and Bill Russell (Peterborough), as well as other Masons at their summer whiskey and cigar-tasting night.



W. Bros. John Castle and Bill Russell

Photo by Clinton LaBute
at Bro. Ken Arsenault's garage,
on August 15, 2025,
in Riverview, New Brunswick.



Founding Member of Kawartha Branch UELAC,
Past President Kawartha Branch, Past Branch Genealogist,
and now Branch Historian and Director, A. Joan Lucas UE
sent me this item that she thought you would enjoy reading:



*"I came across this letter
from a newly settled Loyalist's description
of her new home."*

A POEM WRITTEN BY A NEW LOYALIST SETTLER

*"There was no floor laid, no windows, no chimney, no door,
but we had a roof at least.
A good fire was blazing, and Mother had a big loaf of bread
and she boiled a kettle of water and put a good piece of butter
in the pewter bowl.
We toasted the bread and all sat around the bowl
and ate our breakfast that morning
and Mother said: 'Thank God we are no longer in dread
of having shots fired through our house.
This is the sweetest meal I ever tasted for many a day.'"*

*From the Narrative of Hannah Ingraham UEL,
Loyalist, about 1783.*

Thanks to the Bicentennial Branch newspaper, "*Loyalist*", 1999, #1, p. 5



Immediate Past President of Kawartha Branch and now National President, Bill Russell UE, sent me this item, thinking that you would enjoy reading it.

Every time Canada has faced an invasion—during the American Revolution, the War of 1812, or the Fenian Raids—the attacks were repelled and the borders held. For nearly 250 years, attempts to take Canadian land have ended the same way: Canada won. 🍁

[#canada](#)

One source:
Jo Ann Tuskin UE,
on *Facebook*.

UNSUCCESSFUL INVASIONS OF CANADA

INVASION OF QUEBEC

1775 - 1776

WHO: United States (Continental Army)

WHERE: Quebec City, Montreal

RESULT: American forces repelled,
Canada survives



WAR OF 1812

1812 - 1814

WHO: United States

WHERE: Ontario (York, Queenston Heights,
Fort Erie), Quebec

RESULT: American invasions repelled,
borders unchanged



FENIAN RAIDS

1866 - 1871

WHO: Irish-American Fenian
Brotherhood/Civil War Vets

WHERE: Ontario, Quebec

RESULT: Raids defeated, no territory lost



Bill Russell UE, also sent me this item, thinking that you would enjoy reading it.



What an honour for [Mary Frances](#) and I to meet [Tom Hanks](#), [Ken Burns](#), and [John Lithgow](#) (R-L). How did we all end up here together?

Hector The Hero, A track from mine and Donnell's CD, ONE, is being used on the Ken Burns film, The American Revolution on [PBS](#). As a result, we were invited to play at the Town Hall in New York City for its premiere. Tom did voiceovers for the film.

Ken shared with me the story of why he picked Hector the Hero as the theme piece.

He was having a routine massage from his masseuse and she asked him if he wanted to have some music on. He said sure and she played our CD. Within hearing the first few notes of track 6, he says he knew immediately he had found the music for the film. And it was so sweet to hear his enthusiasm recounting that moment to me.



I'd like to thank that Masseuse 🙏



UELAC National Secretary, Jo Ann Tuskin UE, published this newsletter:



The Munro Beacon

Caisteal Folaís na Theine



Autumn 2025

Vol. 47, No. 3

It contained the first article by Bill Russell UE, about *John Munroe: Patriot & Loyalist*, taken from *The Kawartha Periodical*, Volume 24, Issue 2, Fall-Winter 2024 - 2025, pages 9 - 14.

JOHN MUNROE: PATRIOT & LOYALIST

By Bill Russell UE, National President, UELAC



I recently received my Loyalist Certificate for my 6th great grandfather, John Munroe UEL. While researching his life, I was surprised to discover that he originally served in the Massachusetts 9th Regiment during the Revolutionary War. He

later switched sides and served with Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe in the Queen's Rangers and received land as a Loyalist in Pennfield, NB.

Part 1 - The Patriot

John was born on Indian Island in the Passamaquoddy Bay, Massachusetts, in the spring of 1760, but he did not know his exact birth date. John's father died before he was a year old and his mother moved with him to Truro, Massachusetts, where she worked as a domestic for the Lombard family. His mother died before he was 10 years old and he was indentured to the Lombard family.

When the War broke out, James Lombard was called to duty. He took 16 year old John with him to the army headquarters in Athol, Massachusetts. James Lombard signed John up to serve in his stead, as was permitted by law, and returned home. John was assigned to the 9th Regiment of the Massachusetts Colonial Army with a local friend, James Hutchins. James kept a diary during the War and later wrote a book on his experiences and this is how John Munroe later recounted his war service.

On page 10, she included an article entitled:

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BAGPIPES

Bagpipes are thought to have been first used in ancient Egypt.

The bagpipe was the instrument of the Roman infantry while the trumpet was used by the cavalry.

Bagpipes existed in many forms in many places around the world. In each country the basic instrument was the same, a bag with a chanter and one or more drones. Some of these were mouth blown while others used a bellows attachment to supply the air. The bag provided a sustained tone while the musician took a breath and allowed several tones to be played at once.

The origin of the pipes in Scotland is uncertain. Some say it was a Roman import. Others believe that the instrument came from Ireland as the result of colonization. Another theory is that they were developed there independently. Historians can only speculate on the origins of the Scottish clans' piob mhor, or great Highland bagpipe, but the Highlanders were the ones to develop the instrument to its fullest extent and make it, both in peace and war, their national instrument.

The original pipes in Scotland probably had, at the most, a single drone. The second drone was added to the pipes in the mid to late 1500s. The first written mention of the "*Great Pipes*" was in 1623 when a piper from Perth was prosecuted for playing on the Sabbath. The third drone, or the great drone, came into use early in the 1700s.

In the Lowlands of Scotland, pipers occupied well-defined positions as town pipers, performers for weddings, feasts and fairs. There was no recorded "*master piper*" nor were there any pipe schools. Lowland pipers played songs and dance music, as was expected by their audience. Over the mountains and glens, however, Highland pipers were strongly influenced by their background of the Celtic legends and the wild nature of the Highlands. The Highland piper occupied a high and honoured position within the Clan system. To be a piper was sufficient and, if he could play well, nothing else would be asked of him.

As bagpipe use faded throughout most of Europe, a new form of music was starting in the Highlands. Beginning with Iain Odhar, who lived in the mid-1500s, the MacCrimmon family was responsible for elevating Highland pipe music to a new level, according to historians. This music is called piobaireachd (pronounced piobroch). This classical music is an art form which can compare to the music of any other country and most of it was composed 100 years before the piano and without written notation.

Clan pipers' titles were mostly hereditary and held in much esteem. The best known were the MacCrimmons, pipers to MacLeod of Dunvegan; the MacAuthurs, pipers to MacDonald of the Isles; the MacKays, pipers to the MacKenzie; and the Rankins, pipers to MacLean of Duart.

As a musical instrument of war, the Great Pipes of the Highlands were without equal, according to historians.

The shrill and penetrating notes worked well in the roar and din of battle and pipes could be heard at distances up to 10 miles.

Because of the importance of the bagpipes to any Highland army, they were classified as an instrument of war by the Loyalist government during the Highland uprising in the 1700s.

After the defeat of Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745, kilts and bagpipes were outlawed, the pipes being classified as instruments of war.





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

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

VIEWS IN AND AROUND KAWARTHA BRANCH



On Tuesday, 19 July,
 after enjoying a wonderful meal
 at the local Swiss Chalet
 restaurant on Lansdowne Street
 in Peterborough,
 a number of
 Kawartha Branch Members
 went to the
 Fourth Line Theatre
 production of

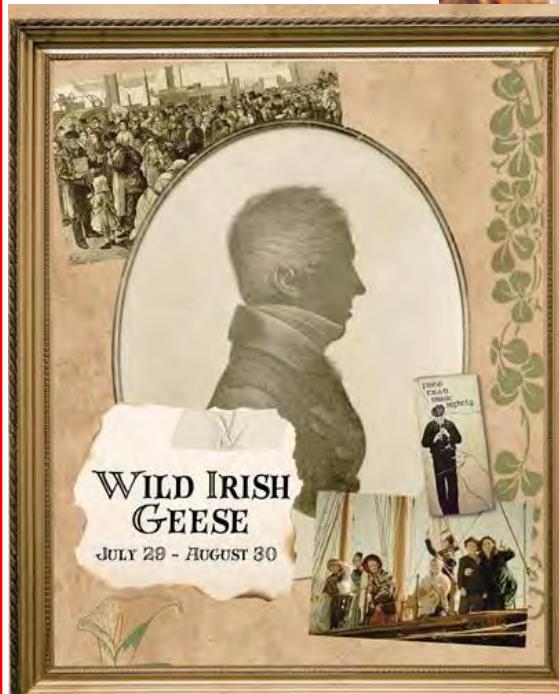




Photo featuring Megan Murphy by Wayne Eardley, Brookside Studio.

Wild Irish Geese

**Wild Irish Geese is the story
of Irish settlers
and their journey
to the Peterborough region.**



**Peter Robinson was the architect
of an 1820s emigration plan
which saw thousands of Irish families come to Canada
to escape the brutal poverty which they were facing in Ireland.**

**Eventually over 2,000 impoverished Irish settled in Scotts Plains,
later renamed Peterborough, and began their lives anew.**

**These new Canadians planted deep roots in the Peterborough area
and have thousands of descendants both locally and across the globe.**

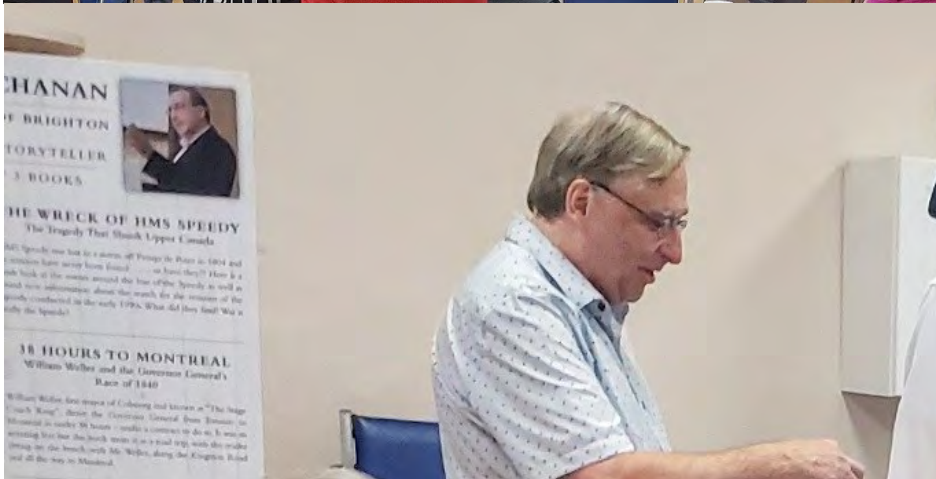
**As Liz Kerr UE wrote about the evening: *"The 4th Line Productions
are always excellent, but I thought this one topped the others I've seen.
The story was rich in detail, the performers so energetic - even in the heat -
and the staging so innovative. A great evening."***

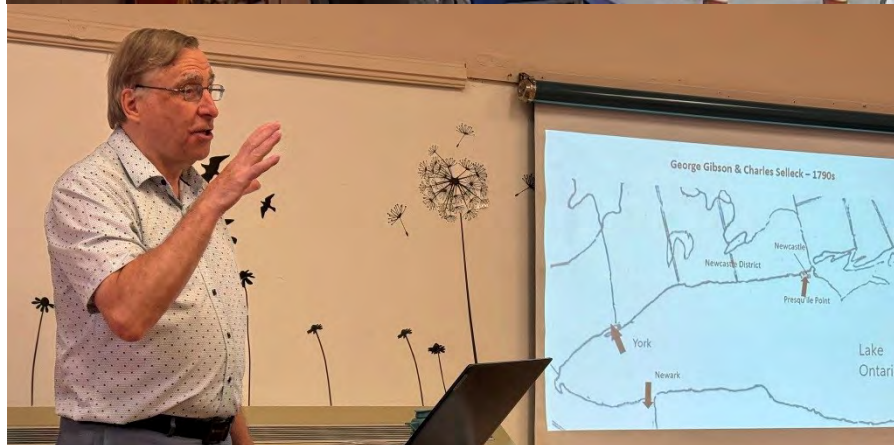
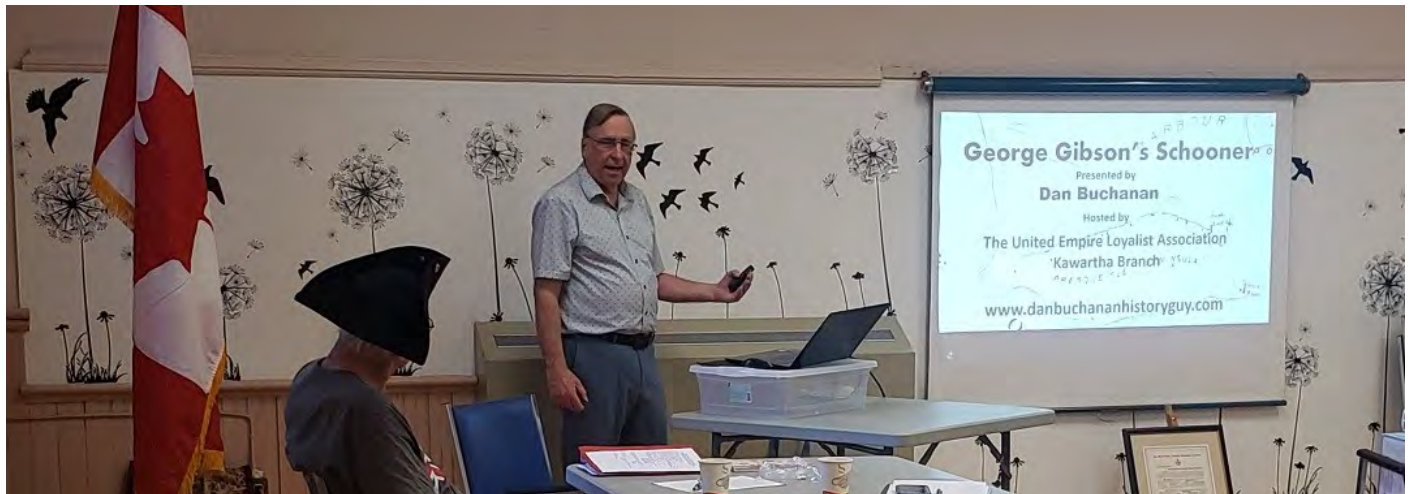
The theme of our some of our meetings this year is defending Canada from American expansionist dreams.

On Sunday, 21 September, we held an in-person and hybrid ZOOM meeting at the Peterborough Activity Haven, 180 Barnardo Avenue,



with our guest speaker, Dan Buchanan, *The History Guy*, who spoke about the burning of the schooner, “Betsy”.





The British and Americans were engaged in a deadly arms race on the Great Lakes and the outcome could mean defeat or victory on a large scale.

On a more tactical level, the British must be able to move massive amounts of men and material from Montreal and Kingston to the battle front on the Niagara peninsula

in order to support the armies fighting to keep the Americans from invading the province. Every ship, no matter how large, would add to the effort.

Dan presented, for the first time, the story of George Gibson and his partner, Charles Selleck and their boat building business in Presqu'ile Bay at the turn of the 19th century. Dan spoke about why this particular schooner was being built, the American raiding parties, why a lot of the action on the lake was quite close to shore and why batteaux or smaller ships were used in raids on both sides of the American Revolution.



His talk was illustrated with power-point slides showing the geography of the Presqu'ile area, copies of hand-written accounts of the time, how the American raid progressed to the burning of George Gibson's schooner, and the attempt by the family to get compensation for their loss.

On Saturday, 27 September, Grietje and Bob, together with Grietje's twin sister, Foskea, went to the 95th birthday party for an Honourary Member of Kawartha Branch, Connie (nee Brummel) Crook UE.



By the way, Connie was Bob's Grade 9 English Teacher at Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School (P.C.V.S.). Connie now lives at Chartwell Bowmanville Creek Retirement Home to be closer to her family.

An interesting side story:

Bob taught at Bowmanville Senior Public School from 1975 to 1982 (7 years), where he was the Chairman of Geography Department:

- Co-ordinator of Geography Curriculum within school for five colleagues,
- Grades 7 & 8 Geography, Mathematics, Science
- Co-ordinator of school assemblies,
- Co-ordinator of Grade 8 graduation,
- Partial Withdrawal Programme for Intellectually Gifted Students (1979 – 1982)
- Associate Teacher, Faculty of Education, Queen's University (1975 – 1982)

It was the site of the former Bowmanville High School and, after being Bowmanville Senior Public School, it was torn down to create the new Chartwell Bowmanville Creek Retirement Home.

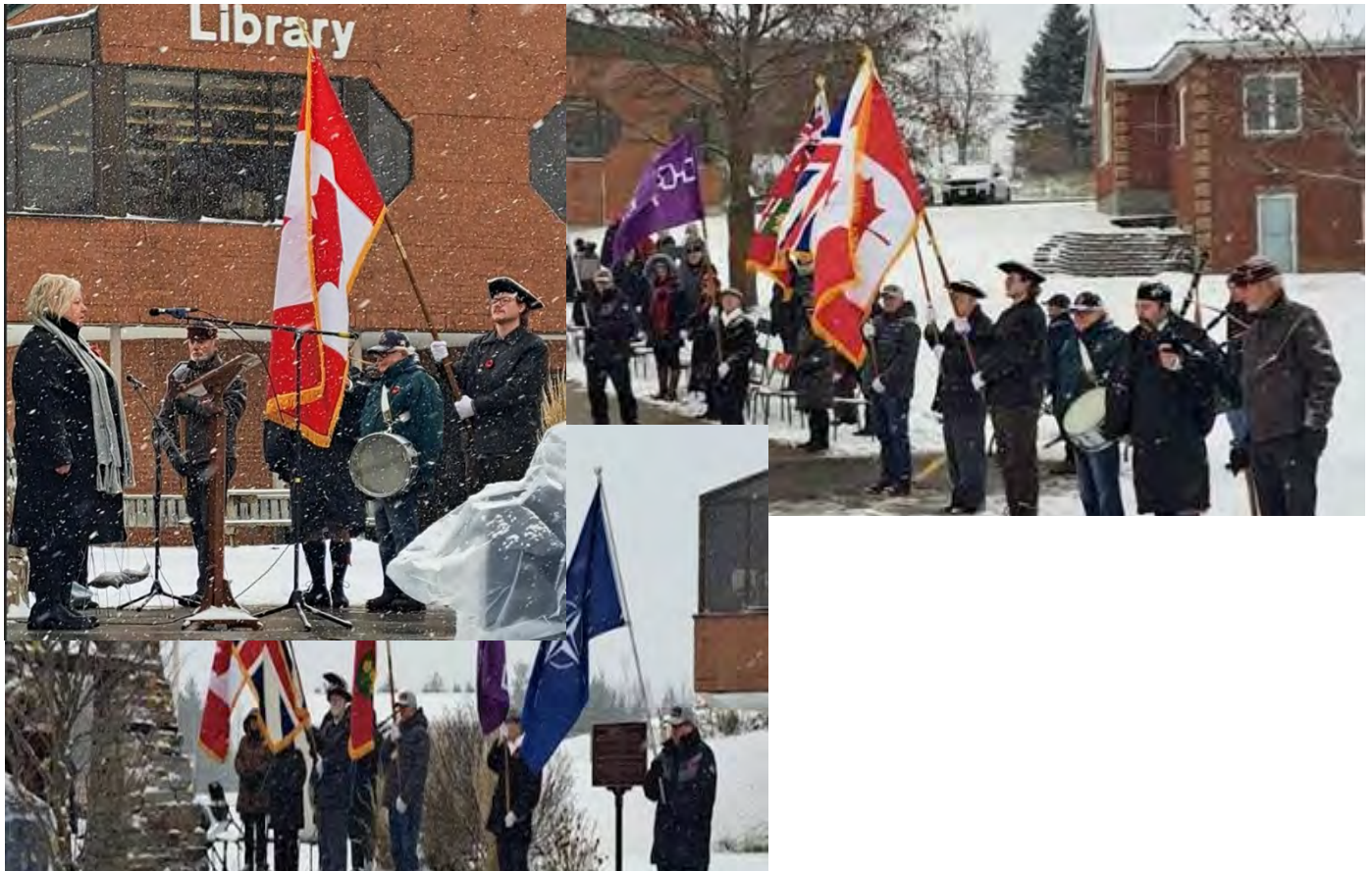
Founding Kawartha Branch Member, A. Joan Lucas UE, Past Branch President, Past Branch Genealogist, among many other roles, celebrated her birthday on 06 November.



We all wish her all the best !!!



On Monday, 10 November, Members of Kawartha Branch assembled in Ennismore with the Colour Party, accompanying Ken Spry UE, who laid a wreath at their Cenotaph.



This was followed, on 11 November, when Graham Hart UE and Bill Atkinson UE laid the wreath for Kawartha Branch at the Peterborough Cenotaph.



The on-line *Peterborough Examiner* wrote:

May we never forget:

Peterborough marks Remembrance Day

with one of their images being this photo:



when Bill Atkinson UE
retrieved the Kawartha Branch wreath.

In the Village of Keene, Ken Spry UE laid the wreath for Kawartha Branch
and R.W. Bro. Bob McBride UE laid a wreath for the Masons, some of whom
were also Loyalist descendants.



Our National President, Bill Russell UE, also Immediate Past President of Kawartha Branch, wrote:

"Greetings fellow Kawartha Branch Members.

I would like to commend the Branch on its Remembrance Day Celebrations throughout Peterborough County.

It is our duty and responsibility to remember and honour our veterans who sacrificed their lives so that we can live in freedom.

Kawartha Branch has led the UELAC Branches across Canada by celebrating in three locations. Well done.

Loyally

--

Bill Russell UE, UELAC National President

URL: www.uelac.ca

uelac.president@gmail.com

Cell: 705-313-9820"



Then, on Sunday, 16 November, Kawartha Branch hosted a ZOOM meeting with Dan Buchanan returning, this time talking about the building of the Murray Canal.

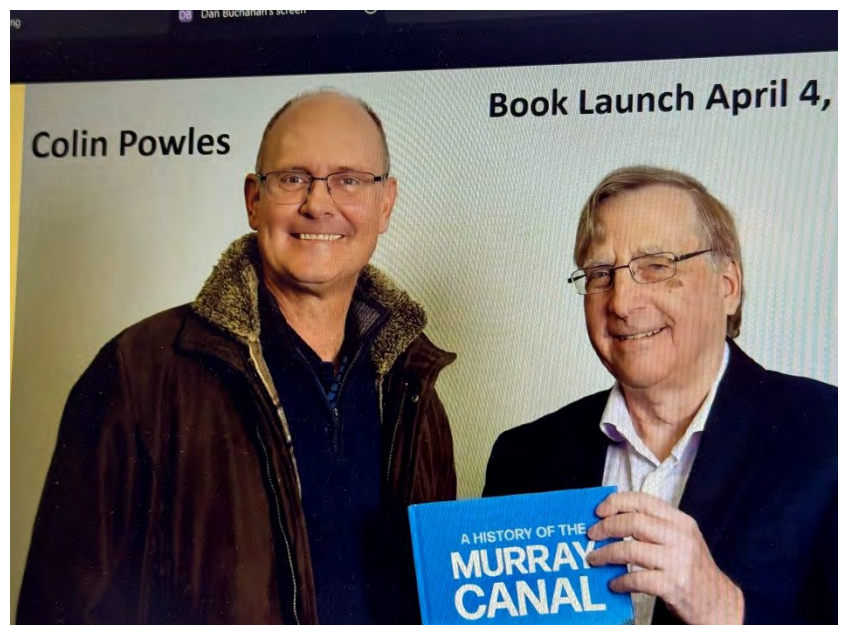
The Murray Canal is almost forgotten in today's bustling world, but, for several decades after it was finally opened in 1889, barges delivered all sorts of products to market, steam boats carried passengers to summer resorts and for Sunday day trips.

The question has always been ***"Why did the canal not get built until the 1880s?"***

"The History Guy" of Brighton answers this question along with others about how the politics finally came together to have it built.

In fact, the Murray Canal is still there, providing a vital link between Lake Ontario and the Trent Severn Waterway, but you won't see many barges.

Dan's spoken and written book detail of a true historical project, portraying the local figures involved and the local people and how this impacted the area and families for business and pleasure, is a fantastic addition to preserve our local stories.



The Murray Canal

**United Empire Loyalists
Kawartha Branch**
Presents
**A History of the
Murray Canal**
by
Dan Buchanan
The History Guy of Brighton, Ontario
November 16, 2025
Virtual Presentation via Zoom

**A HISTORY OF THE
MURRAY
CANAL**
DAN BUCHANAN

Contract to J.D. Silcox
Signed: Aug 24 1882 Est. Completion: Jul 1 1885

1883
First full year of work

Three Dredges in Presqu'ile Bay; canal entrance and channel

Two Dredges at Bay of Quinte canal Entrance

One Dredge in Dead Creek Marsh

Scrapers at work removing top layer

**Murray Canal
Building Timber Cribbs
for bridge piers
c. 1883**

George Reddick

**MURRAY CANAL
Demonstration!**
On WEDNESDAY, Oct. 6th, '86
At Twelve O'Clock Point, near Trenton,
SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD
WHITE, FOSTER & BOWELL
EXCURSIONISTS
Special Trains

**MURRAY CANAL
Demonstration!**
The preliminary opening of the Murray Canal will be celebrated
On WEDNESDAY, Oct. 6th, '86
At Twelve O'Clock Point, near Trenton,
Preliminary Opening of the Murray Canal

1889
Open to Traffic (Unofficially)

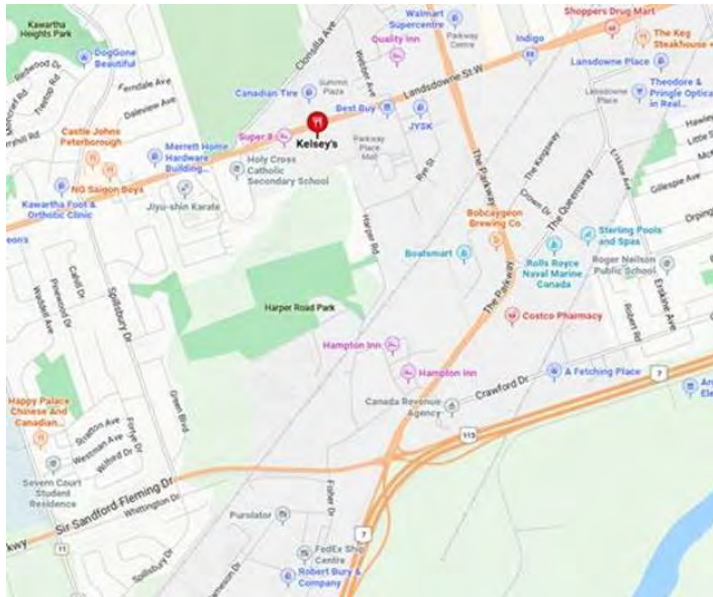
Last of the construction dams removed
Water flowed across entire canal

Brighton Road Bridge
Completed during 1888



It was great to see another Honourary Member of Kawartha Branch, Past Branch President, Chuck Ross UE, on the ZOOM call.

Then, on Thursday, 20 November 2025, twenty-four Members attended a Christmas luncheon at Kelsey's Road House, 1211 Lansdowne Street West,



Peterborough, Ontario, from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. ET.

There were treats for everyone,



small
gifts,
and a
good
time
was
had by
all who
attended !!!





Have a very Merry Christmas

and a wonderfully healthy, and

Happy NEW YEAR 2026 !!!

Kawartha Branch Mugs

These mugs are now available through Kawartha Branch Sales

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

Cost: \$ 7.00 each



Contact
Bill Atkinson UE
Kawartha Branch Sales and Displays
855 Kensington Drive
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 6J8
Cell phone: 705-313-9828
E-mail: xpitcop@gmail.com

COOKBOOKS For Sale

\$ 20.00 each




Contact
Bill Atkinson UE
705-313-9828
xpitcop@gmail.com





Kawartha Branch *UELAC*



Grietje
McBride U.E.

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED
YOUR FREE PERSONALIZED NAME TAG
FOR KAWARTHA BRANCH UELAC

CONTACT

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



REMINDER

Please send any changes in contact details to Grietje McBride UE so that we can keep our Kawartha Branch Membership List up to date.



You will receive a dues card and a thank you letter as well as two Branch newsletters informing you of local historical events and opportunities to meet others sharing your interest in the Loyalist era.

Regular renewals for 2026 Membership began on 01 November 2025.

You can use the registration page at the back of this newsletter to complete and mail to me with a cheque written out to Kawartha Branch UELAC. You can also renew online by searching < uelac.ca > Click on renew or join and follow the prompts.

Why renew?

- * To read about what is happening in your area and to learn about Loyalist history.
- * To make or renew friendships in the Branch.
- * To share your research that you have spent up to a lifetime gathering.
- * To hear interesting presenters talking about books they have researched and written.
- * To access the Branch Co-genealogists who will review your research and help you to apply for your UE Certificate.
- * To access regional and national news



- through the online **Loyalist Trails** UELAC Newsletter.
- * To find a place to publish your photos or stories or break-throughs in family research.
- * To buy Loyalist memorabilia such as rings, pins, clothing, badges, mugs and the like.
- * To share fellowship when we meet to eat together at a local restaurant like Kelsey's. Watch for up-coming dates !!!
- * To support your local Branch which has been active in this community since 1979.

Thank you to those Members who renew their membership regularly.

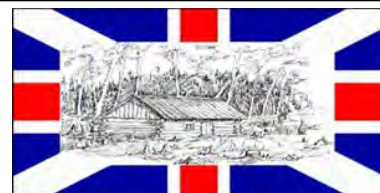
Your support is very much appreciated.

Grietje McBride UE, Membership Chair.



Kawartha Branch UELAC

Note: Your Renewal Form
is to be used after 31 October 2025:



Renewing your membership helps our Branch plan for the future.

Please complete the following form
and submit with payment to the address below
or renew on-line at www.uelac.ca.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Or...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 \$50.00 (which includes \$10.00 for Branch operations).

_____ Family \$55.00 Add \$10.00 for each person in your household starting with you.

_____ * Additional Branch \$10.00 Branch name _____

_____ Student Total cost \$30.00 which includes 10.00 Branch operation fee

If you have selected Family, please print their names

(This enables us to accurately order pin-less magnetic badges for Members)

Please list UE ancestors you are descended from or that you are researching.

Would you like to receive your twice-yearly national magazine, **The Loyalist Gazette**,
in electronic form? _____ or in print form by postal delivery? _____, or both? _____

Signature _____

Please check any statement that apply to you:

- _____ I would be willing to help with Branch events
_____ I would be available to help others with research
_____ I would be willing to phone local members about Branch activities
_____ I am interested in giving a talk about my family research.

Note: This form can be saved into your computer
and returned to me electronically at maplegrm@gmail.com.