The Loyalist Gazette

By Robert Collins McBride
UE, B.Sc., M.Ed., Editor

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Our sincere thanks to the proofreading team for this issue:
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• Debra Turrall UE.

If you can help with this essential task, please send me an e-mail.

Doug Grant UE is the editor of the excellent UELAC e-mail newsletter, Loyalist Trails. To subscribe, contact him at: loyalist.trails "at" uelac.org. All paid-for advertising for the Gazette should also be sent to Doug.

The Loyalist Gazette, "the window to the world for the UELAC," may contain viewpoints in some submissions that do not necessarily reflect the philosophy of the UELAC or this editor.

I am always thankful for your feedback and suggestions to ensure that we continue to maintain our high quality.

Remember: Teamwork Encourages Active Members!

Loyally yours,
Robert Collins McBride (Bob)
UE, B.Sc., M.Ed., Editor.

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This issue of the Gazette is leaner than in the past, now containing forty pages. Sections such as the Young Loyalist Page and Branch Articles for Sale have been removed. We invite you to visit the UELAC website at http://www.uelac.org/promotion/catalogue.php to browse through the catalogue, overseen by Patricia Groom UE, to select sale items on-line.

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Diane was born in Vancouver. Her first trip was as a baby, when her family went to Arizona for six months. When they returned to BC, they lived at Kalamalka Lake near Vernon until Diane was seven years old. Then the family moved back to the Vancouver area where Diane still lives; one of a rare breed that was born and raised in Vancouver. She is the third generation in her family to live in Vancouver. Her father grew up there, and perhaps it was his stories and his pointing out houses where he had grown up that sparked Diane’s interest in family history and tying that history to places.

Diane’s Loyalist ancestor, Ozias Ansley UE, was an ensign in the First Battalion of the New Jersey Volunteers.

Diane graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of British Columbia and worked for Agriculture Canada for thirteen years as a research assistant, first at the Research Station in Agassiz in the Fraser Valley, and later at the Vancouver Research Station on the UBC campus. While she was working at the Vancouver Research Station, she had the opportunity to participate in a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) project in Nicaragua. Diane had already visited Nicaragua a number of times and had fallen in love with the country. She had also volunteered for non-profit agencies that supported peace, social justice, democracy, and development in Central America, so she jumped at the chance to participate in a development project there. The Nicaraguan partner for the CIDA project, that involved developing strategies to lessen the effects of plant diseases that attacked food crops in Nicaragua, was the Agricultural University in Managua. Staff from the University came to the Vancouver Research Station and Diane helped to train them, based on methods developed at Agriculture Canada. Then she travelled to Managua to work at the Agricultural University in Managua for six weeks. That was the more creative part of the project as she had to try to find ways to help them do the work and accomplish their goals in light of shortages of supplies, equipment, etc.

When the Federal Government decided to close the Research Station in 1995, Diane saw it as an opportunity to strike off in a new direction. She attended a two-year intensive writing program at Douglas College in New Westminster and since then has been working as a Technical Writer, translating technical information into user-friendly steps.

Diane has always been interested in history and researching family history. She is most interested in ferreting out the details of ancestors’ lives. She also loves to combine travel with family history research, something she has done on trips to Ireland, New Brunswick, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Boston, wherever her roots take her. If there are no cemeteries or local records to search for, she loves just knowing she is in the town where her family once lived. For example, in Dublin, Ireland, she tracked down existing houses where the family had once lived and attended a service in the Presbyterian Church that her great-grandparents attended and where her grandfather was baptised.

Diane has traced her ancestors in North America back to the Winthrop Fleet that arrived from England in 1630. Diane’s Loyalist ancestor, Ozias Ansley UE, was an ensign in the First Battalion of the New Jersey Volunteers, commanded by Lt.-Col. Stephen Delancey. He enlisted in December, 1776 and was stationed at Staten Island for most of the Revolutionary War. At the end of the war, he came to New Brunswick aboard the Duke of Richmond. As well as the land grant he received, he purchased a number of other lots in Saint John and the nearby Kings County, New Brunswick. He also served as a magistrate in the Court of Common Pleas.

Diane’s second Loyalist ancestor, Henry Buchner UE, was married to Ozias Ansley’s daughter, Joannah. Henry joined the First Battalion of the New Jersey Volunteers in 1778, at the age of 18, and achieved the rank of sergeant. After the war, Henry and Joannah settled in Lyon’s Creek, Crowland Township, Lincoln County, in what is now Ontario.

On 02 January 1809, Henry was commissioned as a captain in the Third Regiment of the Lincoln Militia, that later took part in the War of 1812. His son, Ozias, Diane’s third great uncle, was commissioned as a lieutenant in the same militia unit on 25 January 1813. The Lincoln Militia evolved over the years into the Lincoln and Welland Regiment, that still exists and, at over 200 years of age, is one of the oldest regiments in the Canadian Forces.

When his wife, Joannah, died in 1820, Henry donated part of his land for the Lyon’s Creek cemetery. Henry, who died in 1842, is also buried there. For Diane, the best part of finding the Lyon’s Creek Cemetery was to know that she was standing on land that had once belonged to her ancestors. A huge oak tree shades the graves of Joannah and Henry Buchner UE.

Diane joined the Vancouver Branch of the UELAC in 2007. She has served as Secretary of the Vancouver Branch since 2011, acts as a liaison with the Community Centre where the branch holds its meetings, and attends outreach events in the community. In 2013 she was elected to the position of Pacific Regional Vice-President.
After months of planning and preparation, our year of celebration has arrived. The recognition of the 100th anniversary of the UELAC involved delving into archives, searching library stacks, and perusing well-worn copies of UEL transactions. And while we may sense a flurry of activity as we begin 2014, in fact our attention has been directed to the recognition of our 100-year anniversary for a number of years.

As a new member in 2000, I listened as Bernice Wood Flett (UELAC President 1996-1998), Chair of the Project 2014 Committee, encouraged us to focus our attention on 2014. At that time it felt so far away.

In an address at the 2003 UELAC AGM and Conference, Bernice spoke of the Inukshuk as a symbol of preserving history and the importance of leaving a marker to point the way for future generations. A quote taken from an encounter between a Mountie and his Inuit friend explains the significance of the Inukshuk - “Now the people will know we were here.”

Bernice asked that all branches of the UELAC have some project accomplished by 2014, “an Inukshuk pointing to the future.” I believe we have achieved that goal.

The Project 2014 Committee, with the approval of Dominion Council, provided funding to two major projects that will see completion this year. The restoration of the Sir John Johnson Family Burial Vault at Mont Saint-Grégoire, Quebec pays tribute to the contribution of the Johnson Family and specifically to Sir John Johnson, 2nd Baronet of New York (1774), knighted by King George III (1765) and, himself, a refugee from his home province in 1776.

The original vault was inadvertently destroyed by a bulldozer in the 1950s. Archaeological investigations in 1999 and again in 2002 found a number of human bones believed to be those of members of the Johnson family.

For a number of years this project was supported through UELAC grant funding. In November of 2009, Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch requested that the UELAC adopt the vault restoration as a 2014 Legacy Project. On 05 March 2011, Dominion Council approved $30,000.00 to support the Sir John Johnson Family Vault Restoration. A dedication ceremony is planned for September 2014.

Bay of Quinte Branch brought a 2014 Legacy Project proposal to Dominion Council requesting funding to support the restoration of the first and oldest monument dedicated to the United Empire Loyalists of Ontario. The site at Adolphustown marks the spot of the first landing of the Loyalists in Ontario in 1784 under the leadership of Major Peter Van Alstine UE. The original obelisk was unveiled on 16 June 1884. On 09 March 2013, Dominion Council approved a grant of $15,000.00. A rededication ceremony is planned for July 2014.

These are just two examples of major projects supported by the UELAC to mark 100 years. In preparation for 2014, branches were encouraged to increase visibility within their regions through projects that would draw attention to the United Empire Loyalists and their contributions to Canada’s history. With the financial support of the Grants Committee, a number of these projects have already been completed and others are still being developed. One need only read the highlights from branch newsletters or visit the Projects page on the Dominion website to see how our members have embraced the significance of this celebration.

Some branches are planning their own celebration of the UELAC centenary. In May, I will tour the Atlantic Region branches with plans to attend the Loyalist Day celebrations in Saint John on May 18. The following week, Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch hosts a 2014 Gala dinner at Queenston Heights for their members. Vancouver Branch will be celebrating its Fall Fleet Gala banquet in recognition of the 100 year anniversary of the Association with invitations to all members of the Pacific Region. Our AGM and Conference in Toronto this year, “A Centennial Celebration 1914 – 2014” includes a Gala evening honouring Dominion Presidents of the UELAC. I am honoured to participate in these outstanding events.

Drivers in Ontario this year will be seeing Ontario Loyalist licence plates featuring the UELAC Badge, a project approved by Dominion Council in 2012. In early June we look forward to the launch of the UELAC 2014 Commemorative book, another initiative supported through Project 2014 funding. This keepsake publication is a compilation of branch histories, the history of our Association, and a fresh overview of who the United Empire Loyalists were. A commemorative membership pin and specially designed membership cards also acknowledge our anniversary year.

In June 2013, I invited you to join me as we explore our past, engage in the present, and embrace our future. With the successful completion of each of these projects and initiatives your enthusiasm and commitment shine through.

Bernice Flett challenged us with these words, “By 2014, we should have built enough Inukshuks to show the world that the Loyalists were here and what they did.” I trust she will agree when I say, “We surpassed our expectations.” Congratulations!
NOTICE OF MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada will be held on Saturday, 07 June 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Eaton Chelsea Hotel, 33 Gerrard St. W., Toronto, Ontario

The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada By-laws, Article III, Section 3.4 allows for each Member to have one (1) vote. While we hope you will attend the Annual General Meeting of Members on Saturday, 07 June 2014 at 10 a.m., a proxy form is available from your Branch President to ensure that your vote may be recorded. This ballot proxy must be deposited with the Dominion Secretary no later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the meeting. For further details contact your Branch President.

Remember how you enjoyed the last conference? Come, smile again ...

We’re expecting you.
Some highlights will be:
- Bradley Museum in Clarkson, including the Loyalist home of Lewis & Elizabeth Bradley
- Springcreek Cemetery, the final resting place of 1812 soldiers
- St. Peter’s Anglican and Dixie Union Cemetery
- the lovely Benares, where Mazo de la Roche wrote a series of 16 novels about the fictional Whiteoaks family
- a village-in-miniature replica of Meadowvale in the 1800s
- the Grange, built for Sir John Beverley Robinson, Upper Canada’s first Chief Justice
- the Cawthra Estate.

Back at the Eaton Chelsea, an interesting day will start with memorable presentations by ... 

2. Jane MacNamara: Early records of inheritance that are a great source of records for the period from between the UCLP and civil registration. She’ll discuss prerogative, probate and surrogate courts, as well as wills in land records.
3. Lesley Anderson, the Canadian Representative for Ancestry.ca, will give a talk on Pre-Confederation Records at Ancestry.ca. Explore the Loyalist, British Military in Canada, the Revolutionary War and early Immigration records at Ancestry.ca.
5. A representative of The Archives of Ontario will speak on “Accessing and Preserving Family Heirlooms.”

The Toronto Branch UELAC library will be open for researching on Thursday and Saturday.

The Centennial Celebration Banquet is shaping up to be a great event. After dinner we will have a concert performance of “Molly Brant.”

Our service of worship on Sunday will be in the Chapel of St. Alban the Martyr at Royal St. George College. The UELAC has had a long relationship with St. Alban’s and it is fitting that we end our Centennial Celebration there with a service and luncheon.
When the Great Man Died

July 1774, Johnstown, Tryon County, Royal Province of New York

By David B.J. Snyder UE, CD

When the great man died there were those who half expected the sky to darken and rain to fall in torrents, but that sad week in July it was blue sky hot, so hot indeed that the body was stored in the ice house. That week was as hot as any could remember and remember they did, as everyone had a story of the valley legend. Like flights of Passenger Pigeons, legends true and false reappeared. Every man, woman, child and servant would remember what they were doing when they received the news of the great one’s death. Who knew that on that Wednesday, as the death bell tolled, black birds of change that would affect us all were taking flight.

Although he was gentry and lived in the grandest wealth and circumstance, he was as well-loved as any Mohawk Valley man. A vast majority spoke of his passing as the great loss of a fine and important man. Everyone had a public and a private story of the great man – of his generosity, his passion, his good natured teasing. How he bypassed the Dutch traders making a fortune and earning the unforgiving ire of Albany merchants and traders. How he had defeated the French at Lake George and saved the famous Dieskau. How ten score tenants of Kingsborough Patent had the easiest terms of any tenant in the Province. How he was adopted by the Mohawks. Women and men recalled that he “did not suffer pretentious fools” and loved “taking the Mickey out of the half gentry” (deflating the egos of the overly arrogant).

Two thousand people bore witness at his funeral. In silent awe they watched the funeral cavalcade tramp from Johnson Hall to St. John’s Church, a small stone church he built in the town named after his son, John. His large family wore black gloves of grief, the Masonic Brethren their aprons, soldiers marched with reversed arms and Indian chiefs had painted their faces black. Along with the Anglicans, Catholics, Lutherans, and Dutch Reform, stood silent as the funeral party passed. Joining in as a vast rear guard were the Germans, Irish, and Scots, yeomen, traders and tenants. It was the largest gathering Johnstown had ever seen. Important men and officials from four (then) provinces, and over six hundred Indians from ten nations were there in their regalia. It was even whispered that Pontiac himself was there, dressed as a Cayuga (although he had been dead for five years.) Many also said that if he were not so far away, the King of England, George III would have attended, as the great man was so important.

After the proceedings inside, the funeral service moved outside for the burial. The Indian Chiefs were significant participants: “Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust” – after each dramatic pause from the minister those holy gaps were filled by the Iroquois chief with a pronounced ‘Amen.’

The chiefs were men of honour and dignity of the Real People and they too performed their own ceremony, laying double belts of black wampum across his coffin because they believed Johnson was the doer of great deeds and held them high as an elder brother, and, in their words, “He never deceived us!”

In a private ceremony at Johnson Hall later that afternoon, the six elder chiefs bestowed the sacred condolence ceremony – touching eyes, heart and lips to and for each family member. Some said that nearly thirty ceremonies were performed.

It was said that as the ambassadors from four provinces, six cities and ten Indian nations from the green hills, streams and the river, you could feel the change in the land. Yes, the people went back to their business. Most remembered the great man in quiet thoughtful ways: for his assistance, his honest dealing, for grain milled, or horses shod. Some recalled getting their lumber cut at half the going rate. In the taverns in the Dutch Village his wit and clever wisdom were remembered and celebrated with much laughter.

As the human creation is an imperfect copy of the creator, not everyone grieved. There were those who rubbed their hands in glee – perhaps a couple of dozen men in Tryon County who cursed his influence, some of whom still owed him money. The other half owed their fair wealth and general welfare to him. A few parsimonious River Dutch, some vain Germans and an odd sour Scot in Cobbleskill could hardly refrain, when in Johnstown, drunk or sober, to dance a jig upon his freshly flowered grave in St. John’s Church. There a leaden vault contained the remains of Sir William Johnson.

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Man who Undertakes Great Things

Sir William died of a stroke 11 July 1774 while meeting with natives at Johnson Hall, his home in Johnstown, NY. He had been made a member of the Mohawk tribe and given the name Warraghiyagey, that can be taken to mean a man who undertakes great things. Johnson Hall should be a place of pilgrimage for any UELAC member with ancestors who settled along the St. Lawrence or north shore of Lake Ontario as Sir John was very influential in the settlement and development of these areas.

—Alex Lawrence UE

Liked or Held in Contempt

Sir William Johnson was eldest son of Christopher Johnson of Smithtown (Ireland) and Anne Warren, sister of Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Warren. While records show that many held William Johnson in high regard, some accounts identify him as one of their principal exploiters. He was a man of great advantage: through birth; his office; and in his connection to the Indian community. Liked or held in contempt, he was a man of his times: a civil servant, yet few men were able to compete with his breeding, education and opportunity.

—Jacqueline Murdoch

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Spring 2014 • 9 •
In The Loyalist Gazette, Volume XLIX, Number 1, Spring 2011, I wrote an article entitled Who Were Sir William and Sir John Johnson? It described their lives.

At the 05 March 2011 Dominion Council meeting it was decided that $30,000 of the 2014 Legacy Project Funds would be designated for the Restoration of the Sir John Johnson Family Burial Vault Legacy Project. The vault, located on the southwest slope of Mont Saint-Grégoire (originally Mont Johnson) about forty kilometres south-east of Montreal, Quebec, was constructed between 1810 and 1812.

Sir William Johnson (circa 1715, Ireland – 1774, Province of New York), the owner of extensive estates in the Mohawk Valley, developed trade with the natives in Albany County, treating them justly and fairly. He became the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and a member of the Governor’s Council.

Sir John Johnson (1742, Province of New York – 1830, Province of Quebec), the only son of Sir William Johnson, served as a volunteer under the command of his father in the battle against the French at Lake George during the Seven Years’ War. Growing up amongst Mohawk half-brothers and Joseph Brant, he was thoroughly bilingual in Mohawk and competent in Oneida. At the age of 23, in 1765, John went on a two-year “grand tour” of the British Isles and was knighted by King George III in fulfillment of a promise made to Sir William.

As Sir William lay on his death bed in 1774, despatches arrived under the King’s seal, warning him that an outbreak of revolution among the colonies seemed imminent and urging him to keep the Indians of the Six Nations loyal to the Crown. Calling the Indian chiefs to his bedside, he pleaded with them to stand by the King, undaunted and unmove. A few hours later he was dead. ¹

A year later the Revolution began and Sir John, now in possession of Johnson Hall and the vast estates in the Mohawk Valley, did not hesitate to risk everything by declaring his allegiance to the Crown. In May 1776 he decided to flee to Canada and led about 170 of his tenants and allies among the Iroquois Confederacy to Montreal, Quebec. He was commissioned, on 19 June 1776, to recruit the first battalion of the King’s Royal Regiment of New York, known as the “Royal Greens.” Following the Revolution he settled in Montreal where he lived elegantly, having received an indemnity of about £50,000 for the loss of his estates in New York, and income from remunerative offices held under the Crown. ²

On 13 November 1971, The Gazette in Montreal, reported, “On St. Paul Street, he had a huge mansion on land now covered by Bonsecours Market. As a ‘country house’ he built a villa near the corner of Craig and de Lorimier (previously called Colborne). This villa was one of the first, if not the first house in Montreal to be built with bricks, the bricks having been imported. He also owned Mount Johnson in the Richelieu Valley near Chambly, the seigneurie of Argenteuil on the North River, and large holdings up the St. Lawrence River in Glengarry County where he founded Williamstown, named in honour of his father.” ³

Saint Stephen’s Anglican Church was built in 1820 in Chambly, Quebec. The Johnson Bell, donated in 1822 by Sir John Johnson, had been cast in London, England, in 1812 by Isaac Tod. ⁴ There was a North West Company ship named the Isaac Tod that was shipwrecked and salvaged in the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Perhaps Sir John Johnson bought the bell from that ship and that might be the bell in Saint Stephen’s Anglican Church in Chambly.

Mr. H. R. Derick, President of Sir John Johnston Centennial Branch UELAC, unveils plaque commemorating the Johnson Bell at St. Stephen’s Church in Chambly, Quebec, 14 November 1971.
It hung in the original belfry from 1822 to 1885 when it was supplanted by a larger bell that had been manufactured in Boston. In 1915 the original bell was sold for $10.00 to a new Anglican church in Ahuntsic. When that church closed in 1971 the bell was returned to St. Stephen’s Church. In November 1971, Sir John Johnson, Sixth Baronet, presided over a ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the death of his namesake and the bell was placed on the lawn beneath a plaque identifying it as the Johnson Bell.  

However, on 06 September 1975, the Montreal Star reported that the “St. Steven’s Historic Society is seeking the public’s assistance in locating a brass belfry bell stolen on Sept. 2 from St. Steven’s Church in Chambly. The bell, which weighs about 100 pounds, was on a pedestal in the church grounds … Chambly police are investigating reports that two young men were seen in the vicinity of the church at the time of the afternoon theft.”  

Then, in 2002, the manager of Fort Chambly indicated that “Someone came to see us and said that he had the original Saint Stephen’s bell and that it had been in his possession for a long time. He did not identify himself but only asked if we wanted it. We said ‘Yes’ ….”  

The Sir John Johnson Branch UELAC will be unveiling the restoration of the Sir John Johnson Burial Vault on 13 September 2014. All are welcome to attend!

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**Endnotes**

6. Tim Humphreys, Stolen bell hunted here, Montreal Star, 06 September 1975.

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The Nine Legends of Kate Fowler

By Stephen Davidson UE ©

She dashed through the enemy’s forces on a horse—or was it a farm wagon? Her father was a Patriot—or was he a Loyalist? Did a Rebel’s bullet kill her—or a broken heart? Such is the confusion surrounding the exploits of the Loyalist heroine, Kate Fowler.

The War of 1812 has Laura Secord as its brave heroine, a woman who walked twenty miles to tell the British forces of an impending American attack. The British newspapers of the 1850s described Florence Nightingale as a “ministering angel” for her role in providing medical care during the Crimean War. Four centuries earlier, the guidance of Joan of Arc led the French army to victory in the Hundred Years War. All of these examples raise the question: Is there no Loyalist woman from the American Revolution whose accomplishments would make her the equal to these heroines of the past?

Kate Fowler might be such a candidate, but before we can consider her worthiness as a Loyalist heroine we need to review some facts regarding the Siege of Fort Ninety Six in the summer of 1781.

Built to protect the settlers in South Carolina’s backcountry, Fort Ninety Six gained strategic importance during the American Revolution because it was where several important roadways converged. The fort was built as a star redoubt, a design favoured by Europe’s military engineers, and thus it was sometimes referred to as the Star Fort. Fort Ninety Six was in a part of South Carolina that had witnessed horrendous violence; Rebels and Loyalists routinely murdered and pillaged one another.

After 1780, the British command put Lt.-Col. John Cruger, a New York Loyalist, in charge of the fort. Everyone who served at Fort Ninety Six was a colonist except for one British officer. Ann Cruger accompanied her husband to his new posting. Ann Cruger was a colonist except for her husband to his new posting as the people did, was beloved … for her kindness and hospitalities upon all occasions.”

In May 1781, Continental troops, led by General Nathanael Greene and a local militia, laid siege to the Star Fort for thirty-one days. Cruger saw to it that his wife was safely installed in the home of a Presbyterian minister a mile away.

Cut off from military supplies and food, Cruger wondered if he should surrender and risk entrusting his Loyalist forces to the mercy of the Continental Army. Sometime around the twelfth of June, word came to the Star Fort’s defenders that Lord Francis Rawdon and two thousand British troops were on their way from Charlestown to rescue the besieged Loyalists.

Revolutionary War records note that the bearer of this good news was a man named Hugh Aiken. His report raised the morale of Cruger’s men, giving them the spirit to continue their fight until Rawdon arrived.

One more set of facts needs to be kept in mind before we turn our attention to young Miss Fowler. Today in South Carolina’s Ninety Six, a town that is very proud of its Patriot history, there is a Kate Fowler Road. About two and a half miles from the town is a stream called the “Kate Fowler Branch.” Why would these places bear the name of a woman who had absolutely no connection to the victorious Patriots?

It seems that if a story about a woman has sufficient elements of heroism and romance, it has the power to make generations of patriotic Americans cherish her even if she had been a Loyalist. For this is how Kate Fowler’s name has survived to the 21st century. There are no fewer than nine different versions of this Loyalist woman’s adventures.

In the first of these legends, our Loyalist heroine is described as “a young woman of the neighbourhood” of Ninety Six, a pioneer’s daughter who fell in love with a British officer of “Star Fort.” A later novel, perhaps William Gillmore Simm’s 1855 book, The Forayers, is credited with naming her Kate Fowler. This brief account was the “grain of sand” around which eight other legendary “pearls” would eventually grow.

In 1896, Francis Muench published a book of poems called Palmetto Lyrics. Included in this volume was an 18-stanza-poem titled Kate Fowler. This would become her second legend.

Notes from William Gilmore Simms’ 1842 History of South Carolina accompanied Muench’s ode to the Loyalist heroine. This historian maintained that Kate was the “instrument employed by the British for encouraging Cruger to protract the siege.” She lived near the fort; her father and brothers were all Patriots. Kate had been on such good terms with General Greene as to have once shared a meal with the Patriot officer. However, the
Kate, thou? My Kate! It cannot be.

When Cruger realized it was Kate, “Called he with wild emotion: Kate, thou? My Kate! It cannot be.” The melodrama continued. “He held her still in his embrace and with his tears he bathed her face.”

Cruger’s men opened fire on the Rebels “with thunders of resentment.” Greene could not capture the fort, and all because of Kate, the “martyr-carrier.” The Rebels retreated, and Cruger returned to where Kate lay, discovering that she had not died of her gunshot wound. Thanking God, Cruger exclaims, “to thee alone we owe, to thee, our rescue and our victory – then smiling she expired!”

This legend contradicts several facts. Cruger was an American Loyalist and not a British officer. Although officers had certainly taken mistresses with them on military campaigns, Cruger’s alleged relationship to Kate seems improbable given the proximity of his wife during his time at Ninety Six. Also, contemporary sources had identified the messenger as being a man.

By the 20th century, a third version of Kate’s exploits contained so many details that, if one did not know the historical facts, it would seem to be the definitive account.

In his 1927 book, History, Stories and Legends of South Carolina, E.C. McCants retells a lengthy story. He begins with Kate Fowler’s birth at her family’s home on the edge of a creek, the one that would later bear her name. Her father, Anthony Fowler, was a great horseman and farmer. Kate had a horse named Bullet that she regularly rode into Ninety Six where she sold produce from the family farm.

Among the Loyalists in the Star Fort was a young lieutenant who often visited the Fowler farm. Over time, the two young people fell in love. Their meetings came to an end when the Continental Army surrounded the fort. Unable to sell eggs or vegetables to the Loyalist soldiers, Kate found new customers among the Rebel forces.

As she overheard conversations and observed the Patriots digging trenches toward the fort, Kate discovered that General Greene planned to blow up the Loyalist stronghold. Later, when one of Cruger’s messengers stopped at the Fowler home with news of coming reinforcements, Kate offered to deliver the letter to the fort herself. She hid the envelope in a basket of farm produce and rode Bullet into town.

Kate dashed past the Rebels, flashed over the barricade and raced for the fort’s gates. The Loyalists shot at the Rebels pursuing Kate, allowing her to safely enter the fort. The story concludes that “when Ninety-Six was evacuated by Royalists, Kate went with her lover to Charleston, but many years later, when the war was only a memory and she an old woman, she came back to her old home and lived until she died on the banks of Kate Fowler’s Branch.”

This third version of Kate’s exploits provided a reason for a local stream bearing Kate’s name, but then again, so did a fourth legend.

Rather than having her die in old age, the Star Fort Historical Commission cited a variant of the legend in which Kate’s soldier lover deserted her, leaving her to die of a broken heart. She was then “buried in a clump of white oaks beside a little stream, ever after called Kate Fowler’s Branch.”

In 1932, Mrs John B. Sloan of the Star Fort Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution offered a fifth version of Kate Fowler’s story. She recounted how a young Tory snuck out of the fort to carry a message to Lord Rawdon. On his way back to the fort, the messenger stopped at the home of Anthony Fowler. His “beautiful daughter, Kate” offered to take Rawdon’s message to Cruger.

Sloan went on to say: “Kate’s lover was a British lieutenant inside the fort, but she, herself, was neutral, and equally beloved by both sides.” This explains why she was able to pass through the Rebel camp and why the Loyalists allowed her into the fort. Sloan’s account also includes a “swift young horse” that helped Kate on her “mission of love.” However, the author noted, “we have no reason to believe that Kate’s lover was true to her.”

In 1938, a guide to the Palmetto State said that Kate was a “colonial lady with amorous inclinations and a preference for the Tory uniform.” This sixth variation of the Fowler legend alluded to “scandalous tales” about Kate and said she was buried somewhere on the banks of the stream that bears her name.

In their 2006 book, Old Ninety-Six: A History and Guide, Robert Dunkerly and Eric Williams refer to a “local legend” about a Kate Fowler who sold food and other articles to the Rebel troops on a regular basis. In this account, Kate drove her wagon through the camp of the besiegers and was welcomed by the soldiers inside the fort. There she told the Loyalists of Rawdon’s imminent arrival. In another book, Dunkerly claims that Kate made arrangements for a man to inform the garrison. It was this lone man who raced his produce wagon toward the fort’s gates.
Kate ... did something of such a romantic or heroic nature

General Greene recorded that before this Loyalist messenger arrived in Ninety Six, a lady of “Tory persuasion” had come to the Rebel camp holding a white flag. Despite the fact that the girl’s father and brothers were Loyalists, she had supper with Greene and then “retired to a nearby farmhouse.” Two days after this strange dinner, a young man rode his horse “through the pickets and into the British fort with a message from Lord Rawdon.” Local legend later identified this bold Tory spy as Kate Fowler in disguise.

After reviewing the nine legends that connect Kate Fowler to the siege of Fort Ninety Six, one is left wondering which of the versions, if any, is true. Whether she ever helped to deliver a message of hope and rescue to the Loyalist garrison directly or indirectly, it seems certain that a local girl named Kate Fowler did something of such a romantic or heroic nature that the people of the area named a stream after her. Beyond that, one can be certain of very little.

Many of the Loyalist soldiers who successfully resisted the siege of Fort Ninety Six eventually immigrated to Nova Scotia. They settled in a community in Hants County that they named Rawdon in honour of their 1781 saviour. The unusual name of Ninety Six was given by early traders in the 1700s because they mistakenly believed it was the estimated number of miles to the Cherokee village of Keowee in the upper South Carolina foothills.

The British abandoned Ninety Six in the summer of 1781, but the town was reborn as Cambridge in 1787. Today the Ninety Six National Historic Site protects the British Star Fort and other features of the colonial and Revolutionary era.

On the eve of the Revolution, Ninety Six was a thriving village of twelve houses, a sizable courthouse, and a sturdy jail. At least a hundred persons lived in the vicinity, and the land was cleared for a mile around.

Departing Loyalists set fire to the few buildings still standing and tried to destroy Star Fort. At its height, the population of Cambridge was about 300 residents. By mid-century, both old Ninety Six and newer Cambridge were little more than memories.
When a soldier can be brought to take delight in his dress, it will be easy to mould him to whatever else may be desired, as it is general proof that he has thrown off the sullen, stubborn disposition which characterizes the peasants of most countries; therefore every method should be pursued to accomplish what may so justly be looked on as the foundation of order and œconomy* in a corps.

(*œconomy means economy.)

—Bennet Cuthbertson, from A System for the Compleat Interior Management and Œconomy of a Battalion of Infantry. (Dublin, Ireland, 1768)

In the 18th century, just as it is today, the uniform a soldier wore conveyed the nationality, regiment, rank and years of service of the soldier, and set him apart from the ordinary people of his community. Today, in order to make an authentic uniform of an 18th century soldier, consideration must be given to the colour, style, silhouette, and decoration of the uniform. Officers wore uniforms of fine or superfine quality; dyed with expensive dyes, and decorated with taped buttonholes in wool tape, or silver as befit their rank. Sergeants wore lesser quality than the officers, with wool taped buttonholes, but better than the rank and file, who wore even lower quality fabrics, coloured with inexpensive dyes and no extra decoration.

Today, in order to re-create the look of 18th century clothing, material needs to be carefully sourced. Colour and quality are both important to achieve the appearance of the soldier’s rank.

Wool
The King’s Royal Yorkers are fortunate, as the wools for their uniform shells are obtained from Gavin Watt, through his contact with a mill in England. Wool tape is obtained from Coghlin & Upton in Jordan Station, Ontario and any silver tape from Roy Najecki.

Linen
The linen used for shirts, waistcoat backs and lining as well as for the coat lining is medium weight linen, which has proved to be more durable than factory cotton. It can be found in some Fabricland stores, in some fabric stores on Queen Street in Toronto, and in some stores in the fabric district in Hamilton, Ontario. It is not as cheap or prevalent now as it was in the 18th century, and it cannot be made at home as it was then, but it can be found at a reasonable price if you shop carefully.

The linen is washed before use, dried in the dryer, and ironed to remove the wrinkles. This is called pre-shrinking the fabric, and ensures the finished garment will not shrink when laundered.

Canvas
Canvas is used for gaitered trousers, breeches, haversacks, and backpacks. It should be either white or natural, in plain or twill weave, and 10 oz. in weight. Anything lighter will not hold up to the rigors of wear, and anything heavier would be uncomfortable to wear and difficult to sew. Canvas is also preshrunk before the patterns are cut out.

Buttons
The various buttons, both large and small, are obtained through the Regiment.

Thread
Linen thread is obtained from sutlers, and comes in various thicknesses for the various weights of fabric. It should be waxed for strength and easy passage through the fabric.

Wax
Beeswax used to wax the thread is supplied by sutlers and local beekeepers.

Historically, the uniforms were made up in two or three sizes by the manufacturer in England, and shipped to the colonies to be fitted by the regimental tailor to individual soldiers. A good fit was, and is now, important for more than just looks. If the uniform did not fit properly, it would impede the soldier’s movement, and would hang improperly, causing the cross belts etc. to hang improperly as well.

An Officer’s coat, KRRNY, 2nd Bttn. Red coat with navy facings, gold braid and buttons, and white breeches.
All inside seams are sewn by machine; every bit of visible stitching, including the 36 buttonholes, and all the top stitching is done by hand.

The measurements required to ensure a proper fit are:

**Circumferences:**
- Chest
- Arm – bicep, forearm, and wrist
- Neck

**Lengths:**
- Underarm to waistline
- Centre front – from the dip at the throat to the waistline
- Centre back – from the back of the neck to the natural waistline
- Waistline to required hemline (mid-thigh for flank companies; 5” from the knee for hat companies)
- Point of shoulder to neck
- Distance between the shoulders
- Arm from shoulder to elbow, and from elbow to wrist

Pictures show adjusted patterns after cutting out of the lining and wool.

**Waistcoats:**
Waistcoats are to fit snugly to the body. The top of the garment should be very high and close to the base of the throat. The “points” at the bottom of the garment are to cover the placquets of the fall of the trousers. For flank companies, the hemline is straight across, and low as to cover the waistband of the trousers; the “points” are removed.

The waistcoat is wool, as are the front facings. The remainder of the waistcoat is made up in linen. There are no working pockets, except for officers, and the waistcoat front is correct with or without false pocket flaps. The neckline is bound in a bias strip of linen, and 12 buttons and buttonholes are spaced evenly down the front edge (10 for flank companies).

In order to reduce labour, all inside seams are sewn by machine; every bit of visible stitching, including the 12 (or 10) buttonholes, and all the top stitching is done by hand.

Measurements needed for a proper fit are:
- Neck
- Side seam: underarm to waistline & hip
- Chest
- Neck to point of shoulder
- Waist
- Centre front from base of the throat to bottom of trouser waist band
- Hip Centre back to waist

**The Shirt:**
The shirt is made of linen in sizes small, medium, large or extra large, and is a loose fitting garment which buttons at the neck and cuffs. It is long enough to reach mid-thigh, with loose sleeves. Officer’s shirts have neck and sleeve ruffles. There are reinforcement strips on each shoulder, a front slit facing, and a small reinforcement at each side opening in the hem. The sleeve length, wrist, chest and neck measurements are required. The inside seams are machine sewn, with all visible stitches, including three buttonholes and all hems and top stitching, done by hand.

**Gaitered Trousers:**
These are to be constructed to be roomy in the seat, to fit tightly from the crotch to the knee, and virtually skin tight from the knee to over the shoe. At the rear, the trousers should come as low as just above the heel of the shoe. At the front, the extension over the shoe is to fit low, very tight, and well forward on the shoe, completely hiding the buckle or laces. A leather strap is attached to the inseam at the bottom, to go under the shoe at the instep, and buttons on the outside to the lowest button.
The information I gathered for my submission came from my own experience, from information sent to me years ago from Gavin Watt, and an article, “From Recruit ... to Rank & File: Equipping the Soldier,” in the 1999 Brigade School publication.

The measurements required for the proper fit of the gaiter trousers:

**Lengths:**
- Waist and Hip
- Inseam to the knee
- Outseam – waist to top of the sole of the shoe
- Side hip to crotch seam while in a crouched position
- Centre back crotch seam while in a crouched position
- Depth of arch of foot
- Distance from ankle to end of shoe laces

**Circumferences:**
- Thigh
- Above the knee
- Mid-calf
- Ankle

For each garment but the shirt, the pattern is adjusted to the soldier’s measurements. A “Toile” or mock up is constructed out of cheap cotton and fitted to the soldier to “tweak” the fit. The garment pattern is given a final adjustment, and is pinned to the fabric.

First, the fabric, after it has been pre-shrunk, is folded in half lengthwise. The adjusted pattern pieces are pinned to the fabric with as little wasted material as possible. Sharp shears are needed to cut the double thickness of coat wool. Seams are steamed open, and all lining edges are turned in to prevent fraying. The inside seams of the shirt and gaitered trousers are flat felled (like the inseam on your jeans) by hand stitches.

**Labour:**

Working 8+ hours a day, it takes about 4 to 5 weeks to make a complete uniform, provided an interim fitting can be arranged. The labour breakdown is as follows –

**Regimental Coat:**
1-2 weeks depending on Rank.

By way of example each buttonhole for a rankers coat takes 15 minutes to hand sew.

A sergeant’s or officer’s taping can add an additional half hour per button due to the loops added for decoration, so all 36 buttons will take 18 hours to secure. Waistcoat: Just under a week for the regimental cut but if the officer wants embellishment, more time is needed.

**Trousers or breeches** are again about a week. Fitting of the trousers is absolutely necessary for the proper fit.

While a fully machined shirt is readily and inexpensively available “off the rack” at most sutlers, a hand-finished ranker’s shirt takes about a week, with more time required for fancy ruffles for neck and cuffs which are added to the shirts for officers or NCOs.

The wool and buttons are to be supplied by the soldier through the regimental stores. The thread, linen, canvas, hooks and eyes, and cotton for the mock up are supplied by the seamstress, and charged to the soldier along with the cost of the labour.

Thus, an 18th century regimental uniform is constructed.

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Debra Turrall UE in one of her own lovely creations.

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Thank you very much Debra

Not only did Debra Turrall UE provide the **Gazette** with this article on uniforms, she also created the meticulously sewn clothing seen on our front and back cover. What a splendid dress. Debra was very cooperative in providing us with photos, captions and checking the final product.

—Michael Johnson, **Gazette** designer.

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Note by author, Debra Turrall UE

The information I gathered for my submission came from my own experience, from information sent to me years ago from Gavin Watt, and an article, “From Recruit ... to Rank & File: Equipping the Soldier,” in the 1999 Brigade School publication.

Debra Turrall UE in one of her own lovely creations.
Bay of Quinte

By Peter W. Johnson UE, Branch President

W e were saddened by the passing of nationally-known broadcast journalist and author, Roy Bonisteel UE, on 16 August 2013. His Loyalist ancestors included Capt. John W. Meyers UE, George Finkle UE, James McMasters UE and Nicholas Peterson UE. He was inducted into our Hall of Honour in 2004.

On 14 September, two Loyalist descendants were inducted into the Branch’s Hall of Honour during our meeting at Ameliasburgh. The first, Marie Dressler UE (1868-1934), an early film actress, was a descendant of Ruliph Ostrom UE and William Marsh UE. Farley McGill Mowat OC was the second inductee. His acclaim as an author is well known, but it is less appreciated that he is the descendant of Loyalists Ephraim Jones UE, Archibald Thompson UE and William Ruttan UE. The September meeting also featured two speakers: Diane Godbout and Hugh Heal, friends from 7th Town Historical Society.

Our Branch was presented with a nice gift from Quinte Branch Ontario Genealogical Society at their October meeting. It was an original Land Patent complete with wax seal, dated 1802. The Patent was for a lot in Murray Township granted to Isaac DeMille UE. It will be of great interest to the many DeMille descendants. The Patent was on display at our November meeting. Our thanks to Quinte OGS!

In November we met in Belleville for an informative presentation by history teacher, Geoff Audas. His topic was the War of 1812 as it affected the Quinte area.

Early in 2014 we held our annual Potluck Show ‘n’ Tell at Napanee. One of the highlights was a detailed display about the Randall family courtesy of Richard Randall UE.

The ongoing project to restore the UEL Monument at the United Empire Loyalist Heritage Centre and Park at Adolphustown is of continued importance to us and, we hope, of national interest. It is the oldest monument to the Loyalists in Canada, dating from 1884. Please consider a contribution.

Chilliwack

By Shirley Dargatz UE, Branch President

F ast on the heels of celebrating the Second Annual Loyalist Day in British Columbia on 21 July 2013 at Queen’s Park in New Westminster with Vancouver Branch, Chilliwack Branch celebrated the first Flag Raising Ceremony at City Hall on July 22nd. Her Honour, Mayor Sharon Gaetz, and the Honourable Mark Strahl, Member of Parliament for Chilliwack Fraser Canyon, gifted us with their official presence. Piper, Jim McNeill, of the Sons of Scotland Fraser Glen Camp, piped in the Colour Party. Our Standard Bearer, Alan Reid UE, led the youthful entourage that included Graeson and Olivia Lounsbury and Caden Clayton.

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From left: Angela Johnson UE, Chantelle Tamblyn UE and Phyllis Bement UE. Chantelle and Phyllis received certificates for David Babock UE. Photo: 11 January 2014 by Peter Johnson UE. Note: Janet Eggleton UE (not shown) received a certificate for Thomas Goldsmith UE.

Chilliwack Remembrance Day service attended by Jerry Brown UE, daughter Deleine Perrie UE and pet Selyca.
After the ceremony on the steps of City Hall, Piper Jim led the procession to the flag poles. What a thrill it was to see our First Union Flag unfurled and fluttering in the breeze!

The birth of Prince George, born on the very day of our B.C. Loyalist Day, added further excitement!

Our Fall Fleet Celebration, on November 2nd, featured Vancouver Branch member and Dominion Trustee, Dr. Warren Bell UE, who gave us a fascinating presentation on the Canadian Arctic Exploration. He told of his ancestor, Peter Warren Dease UE, son of Loyalist, Dr. John Dease UE, who took on the arduous task of exploring unmapped Canadian territory from 1837 to 1839.

On Remembrance Day, Deleine Perry UE, and her canine companion, Selyca, laid the wreath at our Chilliwack Cenotaph.

“Heirlooms and Memories” was the theme of our annual Christmas Tea. Marlene Dance UE, our guest speaker, enhanced this theme with a talk on some of her treasured items handed down through the generations. Jeff Curtis UE spoke of his Loyalist ancestor, Sir John Johnson UE, and gave us an update on the progress of the restoration of the Johnson burial site project.

Our 2014 Centenary Project will be the placing of a plaque at the Chilliwack Museum, the former City Hall, to commemorate the many, many descendants of Loyalists who came west and pioneered in the Chilliwack Valley.

Chilliwack: Marlene Dance UE spoke about Heirlooms and Memories in December.

Chilliwack: Colonel Edward Jessup Branch

By Barbara Law UE, Branch President

In 2013, Colonel Edward Jessup Branch marked the 45th anniversary of receiving its UEL Charter. We celebrated our Charter meeting in the fall by sharing old photos. We learned how many years some of our members had served on the executive. Myrtle Johnston UE has been our Branch Genealogist for thirty years and has been on the Jessup Branch executive in one or more position since 1971. That’s dedication to the UELAC.

We had a book launch for our book on Loyalist period homes in Leeds & Grenville entitled Still They Stand. This is our second 2014 project. The book has beautiful drawings of local houses and tells the reader about the building of these houses as well as a bit about some of the house owners. You can order a copy of the book by sending an e-mail to jessupbranchuel “at” gmail.com. The books are $20 plus $5 postage and handling in Canada ($9 to the USA).

On 24 August 2013 our branch had a booth at the Mallorytown Fair. For a small town a lot of people came out. We will definitely be going back to this one. On December 7th we had our UE display booth at Christmas in Merrickville. The whole town gets involved. The main street is closed off and they have barrel fires to warm your hands, wagon rides, hot cider, re-enactors and singers who wander the village streets entertaining visitors.

Colonel Edward Jessup Branch

By Shirley Lockhart UE, Branch President

After a busy summer season, members turned out in large numbers for our fall luncheon meeting. We average 105 members and guests for each meeting. The draw is without a doubt a combination of delicious food, fellowship and interesting speakers.

In September, John Nixon, a history buff from Stoney Creek, spoke about his new book of historical fiction, Redcoat 1812, that is centred on James Fitzgibbon, Maj. Gen. Sir Isaac Brock’s secretary, and based on Fitzgibbon’s memoirs. Our October presenter was Gayle Ann Livecchia, her topic being “Warrensbusch: The Raid of 1781.” Not only did she offer us a wonderful account of the raid and the resultant effect within the Mohawk Valley, she provided our members with interesting web-sites to enhance genealogical research capabilities. In November, Bryan Kerman offered glimpses of his new book, Democrats and Other Traitors. He focused his presentation mainly around Joseph Willcocks who was involved with the burning of Newark in 1813.

A lovely Peace Garden in the tiny hamlet of Cook’s Mills (now part of Welland) was dedicated in October. The 199th anniversary of the Battle of Cook’s Mills was celebrated as well. Three area trees growing at the time of the War of 1812 are still alive today. The oldest, a white oak, was judged to be 256 years of age.

From left: Colonel John Butler President Shirley Lockhart UE, Treasurer Ted Huffman UE, Secretary Deb Sherk UE, Membership Chair Ann Huffman, Genealogist Rodney Craig.
Past President, Eugene Oatley UE, was one of the speakers at the event.

On Remembrance Day, the UELAC Standard Bearer, David Ellsworth UE, placed a wreath at the cenotaph in Ridgeway again this year. To honour Veterans’ Week, one of our younger members, Flt. Cpl. Catharine Lockhart UE, spoke to us about her experiences last summer at Cadet Camp Blackdown located within CFB Borden. Her time there left her deeply impacted by the sacrifices of soldiers serving in wartime situations, both past and present. She reminded us of the importance of remembering these men and women all year long, not just on 11 November.

At our AGM in December, certificates of volunteer recognition were presented to outgoing Executive members: Eugene Oatley UE and Elaine Gill UE. Their contributions to the Branch were invaluable and much appreciated. We welcomed Treasurer, Ted Huffman UE, to the Executive, and Dale Smout UE as our Program Chair. Approval was received for our newly-amended Bylaws, Policies & Procedures, made necessary by the changes in the new UELAC Bylaws. After the official close of the meeting, members enjoyed our annual Christmas Social.

We are eagerly anticipating our Branch gala on 24 May 2014 to celebrate the UELAC’s 100th Anniversary.

Edmonton

By Earle Fladager UE, Branch Membership Co-Chairperson

Our Branch became very active early in 2012 with presentations made by members on various selected battles in the War of 1812. The objective was both to learn more of the War and to have members participate in an interesting project. This was a two-year project that will be completed in 2014. One of those battles was presented at the Branch Annual Banquet in conjunction with the Prairie Regional Conference in October 2013.

Another social activity was a Branch barbeque on 18 July 2013, hosted by President, Len Thornton UE with assistance from Treasurer, Martie Workman, and her husband Paul. It was a beautiful day in a small lovely park behind the Workman residence. A good time was had by all.

The 2013 Prairie Regional Conference on the weekend of 4 to 6 October 2013 was hosted by the Edmonton Branch. A “Meet and Greet” was held Friday evening at the Villa Maria where the Regional Conference was held. It was a great opportunity to meet: Dominion President, Bonnie Schepers UE; Dominion Vice-President, Barbara Andrew UE; Prairie Regional Councillor and Chair of Dominion Membership Joyce Lidster UE; Regional Vice-President Gerry Adair UE; and his wife, Pat Adair; Saskatchewan Branch President, Ken Fader UE; and Calgary Branch President, David Hongisto UE. All attended the Edmonton Branch Annual Banquet at the Day’s Inn on Saturday, October 5th. The theme for the Banquet was “Loyalist Kids – Then and Now.”

The evening programme commenced with a dance presentation called “No Boys Allowed.” Six young girls, including Adara Thornton, did a great job. Another dance called “Skyscraper” featured Zoe Thornton. A video presentation on the Battle of Crysler’s Farm followed the dances. This was prepared by two young people: Katharine and Victoria Ratke, both UEs, with assistance from their grandmother, Betty (Chrysler) Fladager UE. They are descendants of the Chrysler Loyalist family. Dominion President, Bonnie Schepers UE, closed the evening with her vision of the future of the United Empire Loyalists; this presentation was extremely interesting with a positive approach. Jackson Ratke UE presented President Schepers with a gift on behalf of the Edmonton Branch.

On Sunday, 06 October, members from Dominion, Regional and Edmonton Branch attended a special Church service at Edmonton’s 101-year-old First Presbyterian Church. A big thank you to Len and Valerie Thornton for all of the hard work they put into the preparation and activities to make the Banquet a great success.

We are planning a new project to celebrate the UELAC’s 100th Anniversary.

Grand River

Submitted by Bev Balch UE, Branch President

We returned to the Best Western in Brantford for our fall meetings. In September, Jean Rae Baxter of Hamilton Branch presented One King, Two Nations about the difference in the treatment of the First Nation People by the British and American governments after the Revolution. Jean has written many books for young readers as well as adults.

Dorothy Duncan, our guest speaker in October, spoke about her latest book, Hoping for the Best, Preparing for the Worst: Everyday Life in Upper Canada, 1812-1814. We were treated to a number of food tastings as she talked about food and food preparation in those early times. What a feast.

Our final presenter for the year was Brad Melle, the recently appointed curator of Chiefwood, the home of Pauline Johnson. Brad spoke about the life and poetry of Pauline Johnson; her family history and her love of the Grand River which inspired much of her poetry. Grand River Branch donated money to rebuild and refurbish Chiefwood in the past. The July meeting will be held at Chiefwood to learn more and tour this lovely historic site.

2014 marks the 40th anniversary of the formation of our Branch. It was originally

On 19 May 2013, Dominion President, Bob McBride (far right), presented certificates to Dan Young, Gary Young, Roger Young and Heather Hewson assisted by Branch Genealogist, Cathy Thompson, and President, Bev Balch. Their Loyalist ancestor was Adam Young. After the presentation Bob McBride read a biography of Adam Young who was also one of his Loyalist ancestors.
formed in the early 1930s as Brantford Branch, with Rev. J.A. Bloodsworth, President, and a membership of twenty at the time of chartering. The Branch became inactive with the outbreak of war in 1939. It was re-activated on 24 February 1973 as Grand River Branch. Dr. Vera Vanderlip received the Charter from Mr. John A. Aikman, Second Vice-President of the UELAC, at the Brant County Museum with representatives of the provincial and federal governments present. The organizational meeting was held on 15 April 1973 in Waterloo, Ontario, at the home of Dr. Vera Vanderlip, pro tem President.

In September, a meeting was held at the home of Ruth Gould in Waterloo, with twenty-six present. Officers chosen were Dr. Vera Vanderlip, President and Secretary; Wilma Burns, Genealogist; and Noel Thompson, Treasurer. Members were present from Toronto, Governor Simcoe and Hamilton Branches. John Chard was a great help in organizing and establishing the branch. John Aikman and Mrs. C.C. Strahm helped us to process our genealogies. Over the years, the membership has grown from the original twenty-six to a peak of two hundred and seven members.

We completed our 100th anniversary project of placing plaques on the Loyalist Burial Grounds. Money from the Dominion Grant Fund enabled us to erect signs at cemeteries where known Loyalists were buried. A special thank you goes to Cathy Thompson for leading this project.

We are looking forward to officially celebrating the 100th Birthday of the UELAC on Saturday, 15 June, in Simcoe. We are planning a Family Heritage Day with the raising of the Loyalist Flag at the Town Hall followed by traditional music from the time, a picnic lunch and display of family history at Trinity Anglican Church in Simcoe. To add to the festivities this year, we will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary on Sunday, 21 September. We are planning a dinner in the Banquet Room at the Best Western Plus in Brantford. Nathan Tidridge, keynote speaker at last year’s Annual Conference banquet, will be our guest speaker. More details will follow and information will go out to the other Branches in the South Western Ontario Region.

We start the new year at Brant Park Best Western in Brantford’s Gretzky Room on 16 March 2014, with our AGM followed by a video presentation: Chiefs: The Worlds of Joseph Brant.

On Sunday, 13 April 2014, Elaine Cougler, author of “The Loyalist Wife,” will speak in the Gretzky Room, Brant Park Best Western, Brantford.

Trevor Delvos, will speak about World War I on May 18th in the Alexander Graham Bell Room, Brant Park Best Western, Brantford and on Sunday, 20 July 2014, Brad Melle, Curator of Chiefwood Museum, the home of Pauline Johnson, will give a presentation and tour of the facilities.

This is a very significant year for Grand River Branch. We celebrate both the 100th anniversary of the UELAC as well as our own 40th anniversary. In preparing for this year, it has been a wonderful opportunity and an education to delve into the archives searching for our early beginnings and to read about the people and events that are part of our history.
In five years the Hamilton Branch has plaqued ten cemeteries:
- Union Cemetery, Plains Road, Burlington (at the front of IKEA);
- Hamilton Cemetery, York Blvd., Hamilton;
- Bowman United Church Cemetery, Garner Road, Hamilton;
- Bethesda United Church Cemetery, Garner Road, Hamilton;
- Smith Cemetery, Kennedy Road, Hamilton;
- Rock Chapel United Church Cemetery, Rock Chapel Road, Dundas;
- Millgrove Cemetery, Millgrove;
- Christ’s Church Cathedral, Hamilton;
- Camp Skinner Cemetery, Orkney, Beverley Township, Wentworth County;
- First Place, King St. E., Hamilton.

The Hamilton Branch Loyalist Burial Plaquing Committee is very proud of the work done so far. This project will continue for several years as the detectives of the Committee search for Loyalist burials. Our plaques have gone as far as New Brunswick. The Hamilton Branch would also like to thank the financial support we have received from the Dominion Council.

The success of this project could never have happened without the help of our plaquing committee who always helped us pull through. Thank you Doug Coppins UE, Sharon Coppins UE, Colin Morley UE, Ruth Nicholson UE, Pat Blackburn UE, Marilyn Hardsand UE and Ray Cummins UE.

Kingston & District

By Jim Long UE

Our summer began on 02 May 2013 with a one-day heritage fair at the reception centre at Fort Henry.

Our annual banquet meeting was on 14 May at the Donald Gordon Centre, Queen’s University. The speaker was Ms. Jean Rae Baxter UE, who spoke about her latest book called Freedom Bound. This is the second time that we have had Jean as our guest speaker at our annual banquet dinners, and she did not disappoint.

June 12th was once again declared Loyalist Day in Kingston with our Mayor in attendance and the “Duty Band” (fifes and drums) from the Fort Henry Guard.

The pews and balcony were filled with worshippers on 25 August 2013, when the Rev. David Jones presided over the annual pilgrimage service at the Old Hay Bay Church. Another event was the rededication of a new tombstone for Philip Ball at Union Cemetery in Loyalist Township. Philip was the son of the Loyalist, Solomon Ball UE, who served with the Colonel Edward Jessup regiment. A good crowd attended this ceremony.

On Saturday, September 28th at St. Paul’s Anglican Church, Kingston Branch gathered for a sandwich and squares luncheon. Our guest speakers were our own Peter Davy UE and his wife Carol Davy UE. The topic was “In search of the White Oak – An 1806 Saga.”

Then on November 23rd, the branch met at the Golden Rooster for lunch before moving over to St. Paul’s for a business meeting that began at 1:00 pm. Our guest speakers were Brig. Gen. (Ret.) William Patterson UE, the chair of the St. Paul’s Burial Ground Committee for St. Paul’s Anglican Church, who just completed a book on the Treasury Loyalists from this area, and Alex Gabov from Queen’s University, who pioneered the procedure to raise the faded lettering on tombstones. Both speakers talked on the restoration work that is going on in the Lower Burial Ground cemetery and their latest project of reading the faded tombstones with Alex’s camera techniques.

In September our branch put up a display at the Bath Heritage Day, located near the Fairfield House in the village of Bath.

The Kingston Branch lost three important members of the Executive Committee in 2013. These members are Librarian – John Chard UE; Membership – Gordon Smith UE; and House Chair – John Buck UE. This is a great loss to our branch as all three were great friends to our members and worked hard behind the scenes at every meeting.

Loyalist Plaquing Committee: From left: Marilyn Hardsand UE; Pat Blackburn UE; Colin Morley UE; Doug Coppins UE; Sharon Coppins UE; Ruth Nicholson UE

Anne Redish UE in early settler’s costume at the Bath Heritage Day, September in Bath, Ontario.
Members of Little Forks Branch continue to strive and build strength within our Branch and the community.

Of course over the summer we had many visitors not only at the Little Hyatt One-Room Schoolhouse but also viewing the Interpretation Panel. Mr. Jean Rousseau, MP for Compton-Stanstead, visited our schoolhouse and was extremely amazed and interested in what we have accomplished, not only saving the one-room schoolhouse, but documenting the local history of the area. Our schoolhouse is in his riding!

Four members manned a table set up at Townshippers’ Day in September that was held on the campus of Bishop’s College School in Sherbrooke (formerly known as Lennoxville). There was lots of activity and interest all day and that gave us a feeling of great accomplishment.

As usual, we took part in the Armistice Day festivities in Lennoxville, where member Marilyn Barter placed our Little Forks Branch wreath at the Cenotaph. We participated in the luncheon held at the Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans Association (Unit 318), thence on to attend the service in North Hatley.

Our latest adventure was to have fourth year Bishop’s University students (completing their Bachelor of Education degree), visit our little one-room schoolhouse and co-incidentally MP Jean Rousseau dropped by at the same time and participated in their activity. Very interesting!

Following is a text written by two of the students Karen Painter and Katrina Paxton.

“The goal of the field experience was to spend an afternoon discussing the various possible teaching opportunities that could arise using this venue. Once the entire group had arrived they were called to the schoolhouse by an old school bell, which was a lovely, authentic way to set the mood. The student teachers explored the classroom and took in the history of the building. They learned about a typical day in the life of a one-room schoolhouse from the perspective of the teacher as well as the students. Many similarities and differences were discovered and discussed. The pre-service teachers took the time to analyze how society and education has changed over the years.

This particular visit sparked discussions centering on religion in schools, as well as whether penmanship still holds a necessary place in the classroom. Social and personal responsibility was a topic of interest, comparing those of a time past with present. Fetching firewood and water were often the responsibilities of the students, making them an integral part of the daily life of the one-room schoolhouse. The rights, responsibilities and obligations of a school teacher were also greatly discussed. Various differences and similarities were noted, such as having multiple grades in one classroom and sometimes being responsible to prepare lunch for the students.”

Later in the week Karen and I were interviewed on CBC Breakaway Radio, attracting a broad interest amongst many seniors who attended a one-room schoolhouse; we have since collected many amusing anecdotes.

The schoolhouse is buttoned down for the winter and now is the time to work on increasing our membership. We feel that we have reached our fruition with our schoolhouse and sincerely thank the Dominion Association for their financial assistance with the restoration and maintenance of our Little Hyatt One-Room Schoolhouse and Historical Site.
At our well-attended Christmas dinner, speaker Stephen Kenny, a Canadian History professor at the University of Regina, offered some thought-provoking ideas on how Loyalists shaped our history and how they continue to do so with each generation.

New Year’s Day we gathered at the Lieutenant Governor’s Levee. “Loyal” Saskatchewan Roughrider fans got a photo with the Grey Cup along with a cup of cheer and munchies.

Sir John Johnson Centennial

By Michel Racicot UE, Branch Genealogist

Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration 2013

The 199th Anniversary of the Battle of Plattsburgh, one of the most strategic battles in the War of 1812, was celebrated in September. The highlight of the celebrations was the Battle of Plattsburgh Parade that took place on Saturday, 14 September. The Grand Marshals of the parade were Okill Stuart UE and his wife, Sylvia (see photo). Okill is the Past President of Heritage Branch and was the UELAC Dominion President 1994-1996. Branch members, Gerald Thomas UE, Rod Riordon UE and Michel Racicot UE, were present at the parade. Both Okill and Sylvia are also branch members of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch. That Saturday night, the Concert Band of Cobourg, Ontario, was featured in a concert in the beautifully restored Strand Theatre.

Heritage Branch Charter Night Dinner

The 40th Heritage Branch Charter Night Dinner was held on Wednesday, 23 October, at the Officers’ Mess of the Black Watch (R.H.R.) Armoury, on Bleury Street in Montreal. The guest speaker was Sam Elison who spoke on “The Scottish Loyalists and their Contribution to Canada.” A graduate of the London School of Economics (BSc Honours) and McGill University (MA in Education), Sam Elison had a long career as a high school history and economics teacher. On retiring, he became an adjunct professor of Education at McGill, teaching Canadian history to secondary teachers. He is the author of numerous works in history and economics and a frequent contributor to the Montreal Gazette.

Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch was well represented that evening. Among those present were: Roderick Riordon UE, Adelaide Lanktree UE, and Michel Racicot UE. Also present were Heritage Branch members Okill and Sylvia Stuart, Robert and Maura Wilkins, and Gary Aitken who are also Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch members.

Restoration of the Sir John Johnson Family Burial Vault

In 1967, the UELAC formed its first branch in the Province of Québec and this new branch chose to honour both Canada’s Centennial and Sir John Johnson, a great Loyalist, by naming the branch, Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch. Since the Province of Québec was the home of Sir John Johnson for so many years and many members of his Regiment came to live in this part of the country, it seemed most fitting that this new branch be named in his honour.

Sir John died in January 1830 and was buried beside the remains of his wife and four of their children in the family vault on the south side of Mount Johnson. It is this crypt that was accidentally bulldozed fifty-six years ago and is now being restored. In 2011, the Restoration of the Sir John Johnson Family Burial Vault was accepted as a UELAC 2014 Centennial Project.

The construction of the new burial vault at Mount Johnson (now known as Mont Saint-Grégoire) near Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu in Quebec is finally underway. Since the fall of 2013, a metal chamber, embedded in a cement base, nestles in the slope of a hill immediately in back of the foundation of the original Johnson Vault. The restored, original
metal door secures the entrance to the vault. To replicate the original façade of the new vault, the stone mason worked from a photo of Henry R. Bunnett’s 1885 painting of the original vault. A niche over the door will house a black granite stone bearing the inscription “Sacred to the memory of the Honourable Sir John Johnson who departed this life on the 4th Jan. 1830, aged 88 years.”

The bones of the members of the Johnson family who were buried in the vault will be returned from Quebec City and will repose in two ceramic urns fashioned specifically for this purpose.

We are most grateful to the UELAC for their financial support and for naming the Sir John Johnson Vault project a UELAC Centennial project. We greatly appreciate the initiative of Jean-Paul Lasnier who, on learning that the structure he had been hired to bulldoze, was Sir John Johnson’s burial vault, set about to repair what he said was the worst mistake of his life.

Landscaping will be attended to in the spring and commemorative plaques will be installed. We look forward to the re-dedication ceremony that will be held 13 September 2014. Please join us then!
Our second annual Loyalist Day on 22 July 2013 was celebrated with a garden party at the home of our President, Elizabeth Aberdeen UE. Vice-President, David Clark UE, read the Proclamation and gave the toasts to Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II and new baby Prince George born on that day. There was also a toast to our Loyalist ancestors.

In September we were invited by Michael and Norma Sealey, directors of the Saanich Pioneer’s Society, to hold our meeting at the Saanich Pioneer’s Log Cabin Museum in Saanichton. The Log Cabin was built in 1933 as a museum. They showed a film entitled Saanich Peninsula Pioneer Days starring Norma Sealey. Norma interviewed many pioneers of years gone by, especially from the Mount Newton Valley. We enjoyed looking at all the displays of artefacts in the museum.

Our annual general meeting was held in the Monterey Centre in Oak Bay on 16 November. Our guest speaker was the sister of our Branch Secretary, Wendy Cramer: author, Cynthia Faryon, who gave a very interesting talk on World War I, World War II, and War Brides.

Our student scholarship will be renamed the Alvin Huffman UE Canadian History Scholarship in honour of Al’s dedication to the UELAC.

David Clark discussed the work he is doing with the stone and plaque to go at the bottom of our Loyalist Tree in the Mayor’s Grove in Beacon Hill Park. We are waiting for final approval from The City of Victoria. It is our branch project for 2014. The Oak Tree was planted by the United Empire Loyalists of Victoria Branch on the evening of 29 May 1939 to commemorate the visit of Their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. David also gave a brief update on the UELAC Conference 2015 being held in Victoria.

Most executive members were returned by acclamation. New executive members are Aurelie Stirling, President, and Wendy Cramer, Secretary. We have a new home for 2014. We will be meeting at The Lakes Grill, Howard Johnson Hotel at Royal Oak.

Janet is the person most responsible for the success of B.C. Heritage Fairs. The four boys were amazing, speaking from memory and answering questions with knowledge and confidence. Although every one of the boys spoke about the War or 1812, each presentation was unique.

The Tri Stakes Seminar at the Family History Centre in Surrey is one event that we try not to miss. It is a full day of classes on everything “genealogy.” Vancouver Branch member, Judith Ueland UE, led a class in Ontario Research. This year our display was especially impressive.

On Remembrance Day, members attended the ceremony at the City Hall in New Westminster. Branch President, Gwen Dumfries UE, and Branch Secretary, Diane Faris UE, laid a wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of our members. Later we went for lunch at a local restaurant.

At our November meeting Jason Testar UE was congratulated on receiving his Commissioner of Oaths Certification from the B.C. Department of Justice. Jason then received his Loyalist Certificate for his Loyalist ancestor, Benjamin Betts UE. He also accepted certificates on behalf of his mother, Cora Lee Testar UE, son Daniel UE, and brother, Daniel Testar UE. Branch President, Gwen Dumfries UE, accepted twelve certificates on behalf of her nieces and nephews.

Our Christmas Luncheon was at the home of members, Linda and George Drake. It is always a good start to the holiday season. Certificates were presented to Betty Dumbrell UE (2), Phyllis Stratford UE (2), and Brody Mader UE.

Lastly, the Vancouver Branch now has its own Loyalist pin. They are for sale through our branch for $7.50. Carl worked with Bart Nygard of Vulcan Enterprise to create this striking pin.
MATHESON

Illustrious Brother, The Honorable Colonel Judge John Ross Matheson UE, OC, K.St.J., CD, QC, MA, LLM, LLD, 33º Freemason


On 02 October 1972, John Ross Matheson UE received his UELAC Certification for his Loyalist ancestor, Peter Ferguson UE, who settled in Glengarry County, and eventually became their Branch President before becoming the UELAC Dominion Honorary President from 1991 to 2003. In 1997, John Ross Matheson received The Most Honourable Order of Meritorious Heritage Companions of the Order at the UELAC Heritage Branch, in Montreal, Quebec. John’s paternal Matheson family also owned the farmland where the present-day town of Havelock, Ontario, is now located.

The only son of Gertrude (McCuaig) and Rev. Dr. Alexander Dawson Matheson, John was born in Arundel, Quebec, on 17 November 1917, and raised in Quebec City. He attended Queen’s University, graduating in 1940 with a B.A. Honours in Economics.

The son and grandson of Masons, Bro. John Matheson was Initiated into Queen’s Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 578 G.R.C., in Kingston on 13 November 1940, just before returning to Petawa on a motorcycle, boarding a troop-train the next morning for Halifax and sailing for England with the First Regiment of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, First Canadian Infantry Division.

As a Forward Artillery Observation Officer, he was wounded near Ortona, Italy, in December 1944. He experienced the vicious fighting of the Italian campaign until, whilst preparing to cross the Moro River and move into battle with the West Nova Scotias, he was wounded by an airburst shell planned to harass and deny the obvious route to Ortona. “I didn’t like to wear helmets,” he told Queen’s Journal in 2008. “I was a forward observation officer and I used to like a beret, which I thought was cooler than the helmet.” Captain Matheson’s life was ultimately saved by his decision, made only moments before, to don a steel helmet. With six pieces of shrapnel in his skull, Captain Matheson was initially triaged as dead. After several months of recuperation, and then meeting his bride, Edith, at St. Anne de Bellevue Hospital in Montreal, he was discharged in 1945. After the war, he served with the 30th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, and retired with the rank of Honourable Colonel.

John was Passed and Raised in Freemasonry at the Farnborough and North Camp Lodge, No. 22013, Grand Registry of England, for many years was an active member of Sussex Lodge A.F. & A.M. No. 5 G.R.C., in Brockville, Ontario, became a Life Member of Queen’s Lodge No. 578 in Kingston, True Briton’s Lodge No. 14, in Perth and Heritage Lodge No. 730. He was the recipient of the William Mercer Wilson Medal for Meritorious Service, on 11 February 1989.

He served in several capacities in Scottish and York Rite Masonry as well as the Rameses Shrine Temple in Toronto and the Tunis Shrine Temple in Ottawa.

John studied Law at Osgood Hall in Toronto. He earned his Masters of Arts degree at Mount Allison University, and his Master of Laws degree, LL.M., at the University of Western Ontario. John was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1967 and received Honorary Doctorates, Honoris Causa, from his Alma Mater, Queen’s University, and from the Royal Military College in Kingston.

The John Matheson Sword is awarded annually to the Preparatory Year cadet at the Royal Military College Saint-Jean who achieved the highest results in Academics, Leadership, Athletics and Bilingualism.

John practised law with Donald F. MacLaren K.C., in Barrie, Ontario, in 1948 and 1949 and, that year, John and Edith settled in Brockville, Ontario, where he was a founding member of the firm, Matheson, Henderson and Hart, a position he held until 1968. John was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1967, the same year that he was named Brockville Citizen of the Year. He was appointed a Judge of the Judicial District Ottawa-Carleton, from 1968 to 1978, was a Judge of the Judicial District of Lanark from 1978 to 1984, a Judge of the District Court of Ontario from 1985 to 1990, a Justice of the Ontario Court (General Division), 1991 – 1992, and served on the international electoral mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1996.
As a judge, John said his proudest moment was in 1982 when he ruled that a young man, named Justin Clark, who lived with cerebral palsy, was competent to live on his own. He later told the CBC that, while Clark’s physical condition wouldn’t change, “certainly his mind could and his spirit and his soul could.”

In 1961, John Ross Matheson won a by-election to become Liberal Member of Parliament for Leeds. Re-elected in 1962, 1963 and 1965, he lost in 1968 to the Conservative challenger by four votes. He served as Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson from 1966 to 1968, being appointed by Pearson to head up a committee to select a new national flag, having just designed the Brockville Coat of Arms.

The final design, slipped in at the eleventh hour by Mr. Matheson, was designed in large part by historian and Royal Military College Dean of Arts, Colonel Dr. George F.G. Stanley, who in turn was influenced by the college’s own flag. Years later, John Ross Matheson’s Master’s thesis was published under the title, *Canada’s Flag: A Search for a Country* (1980, 1986). John was praised on Flag Day, 15 February 1965, by Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, as “the man who had more to do with the creation of the new Canadian Flag than any other person.”

“This design … was instantly recognized as Canadian.”

John also provided the concept and the background research that led to the design of the Order of Canada in 1967, being largely responsible for its distinctive snowflake design, and became an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1993. The Order of Canada was only one of many medals that decorated his chest at official events. Every year at Kingston’s Sir John A. Macdonald Day on 11 January, he wore his Sovereign Military Order of Malta, Golden Jubilee Medal, Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Order of St. John and the Canadian Forces Decoration, among others. Honourary Major John R. Matheson was a very enthusiastic supporter of the Royal Yorkers, being a descendant of Peter Ferguson UE, King’s Royal Yorker, Major’s Coy, 1st Battalion. He officiated at both dedication ceremonies for the Royal Yorker Stands of Colours, the first dedication ceremonies taking place at Historic Fort York on 23 May 1982, and the second set of Colours, also at Historic Fort York, on 05 June 2004.

Proud of his military associations, he held honorary militia appointments of Lt. Col. and then Col. with the 30th Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery from 1972 to 1982. The *Toronto Star* published a Canadian Press picture on 06 August 1998 with the following article: “Retired judge and former MP John Matheson, 80, and parachute instructor, Gilles Dutrisac, complete a tandem jump in
Gananoque, Ont., Tuesday to mark Matheson’s 53rd wedding anniversary. Matheson’s wife, whom he married in 1945, didn’t join him.”

In 1999 he was the first recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians. 10

In 2009, CFB Kingston put his name on the Matheson Gate, a flower-lined brick wall flanking a decommissioned Howitzer. In May, 2013, he was brought by wheelchair into downtown Brockville for the unveiling of the John Ross Matheson Way that runs in front of the city’s courthouse. 11

A member of the United Church of Canada, on Friday, 27 December 2013, John Ross Matheson passed away at the age of 96 years in Kingston, Ontario. A committed member and executive officer in the United Empire Loyalists’ Association (UELAC) for more than forty years, he was responsible for seeing that all his children and grandchildren became Life Members of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch of the UELAC, bringing, in total, twenty-one members into the Association.

In the words of Marg Hall UE, Editor of The Ottawa Loyalist, “his wisdom, sense of humour and his dedication to his country, his family and his friends will be very much missed.”

Endnotes

3. Illustrious Brother Col. The Hon. John Ross Matheson, 33º, a Freemason, in an e-mail to Robert C. McBride from Kenneth Rutherford, COO/Executive Secretary, Supreme Council/SRFC, 4 Queen Street South, Ph. 905-522-0033. Fax 905-522-3716, krutherford@supreme33.ca, 20 February 2014.
Fraser Carr UE

Fraser William Carr UE received his Loyalist certificate from the UELAC through the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch in 1997. His mother, Laura Fraser Carr UE, had been one of the very early members of that branch before her death in 1983. They were descendants of the Loyalist, Daniel Fraser Senior UE, an artificer during the Revolution, a magistrate and Loyalist settler in Ernestown.

Fraser volunteered in so many ways: in his church, St. Paul’s United; in Prescott at community events such as Loyalist Days; delivering Meals on Wheels; as a driver taking cancer patients and others to appointments in Ottawa, Kingston, Brockville, wherever there was a need. He was passionate about the usage of both computers and cameras. Each group he belonged to benefitted from those talents.

Most important to us was his work with the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch where, from the time he joined, he was active in promoting Loyalism. He served as Branch Vice-President, Branch President and continued with the executive as a Director and Photographer. He was also famous for lightening the moment with an appropriate pun.

He attended the Loyalist Days, the annual meetings to discuss Branch and Loyalist affairs, the Centennial Branch until ill health forced him to move into Place Sanborn, Ayer’s Cliff, Quebec.

Thelma May Gage UE

Thelma May Soule Gage UE died peacefully at her home on 01 November 2013 at the age of 87. She was the loving wife of the late Gordon Gage of Stanbridge East, Quebec. She leaves to mourn many nieces and nephews, other relatives and special friends, especially Bryan Larose who took very good care of her.

Thelma was a regular member of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch since 1987 and participated regularly in the branch activities. She will be sorely missed.

Persis Eleanor Irwin UE

Persis Eleanor Soule Irwin UE (1924-2013)

Persis Eleanor Soule Irwin UE passed away at Manoir Lac Brome on 05 August 2013 in her 89th year. She was the loving mother of Sharron (Peter Giddings) and Sandra (John Parry) and the cherished grandmother of Madison, Mackenzie and Kasper.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Eric Irwin, by her second husband, Ralph Crosby, and her sister, Elaine Clow. She was also the sister of Thelma Gage and, like her sister Eleanor, was a regular and faithful member of Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch. Our deepest sympathies to the family.

Mary Stewart King Shepard

Mary was born on 28 February 1922 in Penzance, England, daughter of William Stewart and Lilian Barnes. She married Murray King on 05 September 1941. Of this union, four children were born: Marilyn (Rodney Bray), Bev (late Peter Ross), Sydney (Judy) and Valerie (John Arminio).

Murray predeceased her in 1973. She re-married in 1980 to Charles Shepard and gained two stepsons, Peter and Philip. Charles was the First President of the Little Forks Branch and accepted our Charter in 1990 from the UELAC Dominion President, Col. Frank Cooper UE. Mary passed away on 18 September 2013. She was a devoted and loving grandmother of eight grandchildren and had eight great-grandchildren. Mary was a member of Little Forks Branch.
We’ve all seen the images: the Loyalists landing at a rough, but not too rough, location by the water, dressed in their finery. They resemble English gentry more apt to sit down to tea rather than heft an axe in the wilderness.

While a certain percentage of the Loyalists were of English background, and the assemblage in general did contain professionals and some from the upper echelons of society, that was far from the whole story. Loyalists came from varied origins, (much like their Rebel neighbours) and the humble private in a Loyalist Corps was more likely to return to farming than take up new duties as a government official.

In this regard Esther Clark Wright’s celebrated book, The Loyalists of New Brunswick, offers some interesting observations:

Since the New Brunswick Loyalists represented a cross section of the older communities from which they came and not merely the upper levels or the recent arrivals, and since more than half of them came from New York and New Jersey, it is not surprising to find a considerable proportion of descendants of New York State and New Jersey Dutch among them. 1

Esther Clark Wright also adds that her own Clark family included branches with Dutch connections.

The fleets out of New York City in 1783 would have included a large component from lower New York and New Jersey, both with a strong Dutch presence. Both areas were turbulent during the War and, for every Loyalist of Dutch extraction, it is probable there was a Rebel with the same surname. For example, the Vandewater and Van Tassel families produced a number of Rebels, but both had at least one Loyalist of the same name who found his way to New Brunswick. Even the celebrated Van Buskirk name included a Rebel or two.

Todd Braisted UE, in his book Bergen County, Voices from the American Revolution, covered some of this territory with twenty-four brief biographies split between Loyalists and Rebels. He also played a bit with the readers’ expectations and took some names, usually associated with one side or the other, and portrayed them in a less familiar guise. For example, the Ryerson selected was a Rebel. Some of the Dutch names in Todd’s book include: Blauvelt, Bogert, Van Allen, Van Buskirk, Van Orden and Zabriskie.


Knowing that one has Loyalists descended from such older communities can open new avenues for research. For those with Loyalists of Dutch ancestry, research in America can easily go back into the 1600s. At a presentation a number of years ago, Canadian Genealogist, Brian Gilchrist, encouraged the participants to do themselves a favour and continue their genealogical research beyond the Loyalist generation and into those older communities. If your Loyalists settled in New Brunswick you may be in a very good position to try it.

Endnote
1. Wright, p. 159

Selected Sources
The Loyalists of the Lake Maskinongé Settlement and their Monument

By Robert C. Wilkins UE, President, Heritage Branch, Montreal

In the early nineteenth century, it would seem that some Loyalists (or perhaps their children), who (or whose parents) had at one time been at Sorel or another of the Loyalist refugee camps, moved northwards from land grants they had originally occupied on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River around Louiseville, towards the shores of Lac Maskinongé. The lake is situated in the gentle rolling hills of the Lanaudière region of the province, about 100 km. northeast of Montreal, a little east of Rawdon. The settlers were granted land there, on the eastern shore of the Lake, and founded what they called the “Lake Maskinongé Settlement” in about 1816.

One of these hardy pioneers, a certain Benjamin Page, had a plot of his land in the Settlement surveyed in 1842, in order to establish a cemetery and lot for a school/church. In 1849, he and John Page sold that tract of land to the then Anglican Lord Bishop of Montreal, the Right Reverend George Jehoshaphat Mountain, D.D., administering the Diocese of Quebec, for seven pounds, 10 shillings. The cemetery was consecrated by the Anglican authorities in or about 1850, at the request of the sellers. It is unclear to me if the school or church was ever built. Many of the original settlers and their descendants, including Benjamin Page, were eventually laid to rest in the field that he had sold. In 1927, a brass plaque listing the names of the founders of the Settlement, and designating them as United Empire Loyalists, was affixed to a large boulder on the property, known locally as the “English cemetery.” Among the family names thus recorded on the plaque were Armstrong, Dunn, Elliott, Munday, Hibbard, etc. One may note, in particular, Simon Elliott, ancestor of the late Grace Elliott, mother of former Canadian Prime Minister, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and grandmother of Justin and Alexandre. Simon Elliott married Rebecca Armstrong, whose grandfather Jesse was at the Sorel Loyalist refugee camp in 1784.

In the early 1990s, Bernice Flett of London and District Branch, a former Dominion President of the UELAC, in London, Ontario, came across a copy of the 1927 order of service for the dedication of the Loyalist monument in “Saint Gabriel.” Bernice asked me in which of the several Quebec municipalities called “Saint Gabriel” the monument might be located and whether more information could be had about the Loyalists commemorated there. I surmised that the place was Saint-Gabriel-de-Brandon, because the late Gerry Rogers of Heritage Branch, shortly before his death in 1997, had become aware of the existence of the Lake Maskinongé settlers and had intended to publish something about them in the Loyalist Gazette, but died before being able to do so. The cemetery is not in the town of Saint-Gabriel proper, however, but on Route 348, known as the “Rang Saint-David,” about 5 kilometers outside the Town limits, in the rural territory of the Municipality of the Parish of Saint-Gabriel.

For years, the property (now having only one other cemetery marker on it apart from the big boulder), has been maintained voluntarily by the local Roman Catholic parish. There are few, if any, Protestants left in the area, although I was assured that some descendants of the settlers remain.
In 2012, one of the descendants of Benjamin Page, living in Pennsylvania, and knowing the location in question, while surfing one day on Google Earth, was shocked to see that the 1927 brass plaque was no longer on the boulder that he remembered seeing on a visit to the place concerned years earlier. The plaque had been stolen (like several other brass plaques in different parts of Quebec). He contacted various people, including Jeanne Pelland, the Secretary-Treasurer of the Parish Municipality in question, and another UELAC Branch President, who referred the inquiry to me.

Through the generosity of the UELAC, for which I thank then Dominion President Bob McBride and Dominion Treasurer James Bruce, at my behest, a grant of $500 was made available to assist the Parish Municipality in paying for a replacement plaque. The cheque was held by Heritage Branch pending further action. I kept in touch with Madame Pelland and, in the spring of 2013, a contract was awarded by the Parish Municipality to Bernard Longpré Inc. of Saint-Gabriel to make and install on the same boulder a granite plaque, engraved with the original 1927 inscription, including the names of the Loyalist settlers concerned. On 15 August 2013, my wife Maura and I met with Madame Pelland and Manon Rainville, one of the municipal councillors of the Parish Municipality, and presented the cheque, much to their delight, as the grant covered about 25% of the total cost of the project. All four of us then went together to the big stone on the Rang Saint-David and took photos. The new black granite slab catches the eye of passersby. It is sure to attract attention, but, we hope, no longer from would-be metal thieves. We did not find a single spelling error in the long English text engraved on the granite. After our visit to the “cimetière anglais,” we toasted the settlers and the new plaque at a nearby winery and took a brief tour of the area. Then it was home to Montreal.

Before leaving, we discussed with Councillor Rainville and Madame Pelland the idea of organizing some kind of rededication ceremony for the monument, but that will have to wait until 2014 (the UELAC’s centennial year), because the Municipality of the Parish is very busy right now with several other projects and priorities, including its forthcoming municipal election in November. Councillor Rainville was open to the idea in principle, however, and promised to consult with her Council colleagues in due course. It would be great to bring together some of the descendants of the first settlers, the local MP, the MNA, the municipal elected officials, some clergy, and (who knows) perhaps even Justin or Alexandre Trudeau! Only time will tell if that proves possible.

Before saying good-bye to our hostesses, we presented Jeanne Pelland with a copy of the French translation of Ann Mackenzie’s brochure on the Loyalists, for the local library. We also gave her and Councillor Rainville Queen’s Jubilee lapel pins, with the compliments of Heritage Branch and the UELAC. They were delighted with these personal souvenirs and we parted on excellent terms. In September, the municipal council passed a resolution of thanks for the grant.

Reflecting on this whole story, it is heartening to think of an almost totally French-speaking community in rural Quebec, where few, if any, anglophone inhabitants remain today, caring enough, for all these many years, for a now-abandoned Protestant cemetery and a monument to United Empire Loyalists, who were of a different language and religious denomination. The reason for the caring, of course, is that these people, as Jeanne Pelland proudly proclaimed, were “nos fondateurs” (our founders). This is a truly Canadian story, in which we can all sense the deep bonds that our UEL heritage can forge, over time and, indeed, across cultural boundaries. Long may it be so.
United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada

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- For further information contact: donation “at” uelac.org.

When you rise in the morning, give thanks for the light, for your life, for your strength. Give thanks for your food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason to give thanks, the fault lies in yourself. —Tecumseh.
The Loyal Atlantic:
Remaking the British Atlantic in the Revolutionary Era

Edited by Jerry Bannister and Liam Riordan

University of Toronto Press, 2012

Reviewed by Stephen Davidson UE

The opening decades of the 21st century have witnessed an ever-widening and ever-deepening study of the Loyalist era. Scholars based in Australia and Great Britain, as well as in Canada and the United States, are shedding new light on the events of the late 18th century. Fortunately for the lay-historian, re-enactor and genealogist, this growing body of knowledge is just a bookstore away. An excellent starting point is The Loyal Atlantic, a compendium of nine of the papers given at a week-long Loyalist Studies conference held at the University of Maine in June 2009.

As the book’s subtitle indicates, Loyalist-era history is being presented to the public in a variety of avenues ranging from university textbooks to historically-based fictional novels and television documentaries. The Loyalist Gazette invites publishers to send publications for review to: The Loyalist Gazette Review Editor, Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc., c/o Maple Grove Farms, Indian River, Ontario. K0L 2B0. Phone: 1-705-295-4556. E-mail: gazette.editor@nexicom.net.

Imperial and Atlantic histories.” The editors call for studying loyalism (“a body of thought, opinion and self-understanding”) rather than simply studying specific Loyalists. Loyalism, maintain the editors, includes a rich mixture of people from different ethnic, religious and geographical groups. Seeing the Crown (rather than a Rebel republic) as liberty’s guarantor, loyalism became a force that reshaped the British Atlantic. This isn’t your father’s Loyalist studies! The editors conclude their comments with the affirmation that the Loyalist “legacy is still felt, contested and debated.”

Here are just some highlights of the nine articles to be found in The Loyal Atlantic. Keith Mason demonstrates the ever-changing way that Loyalists thought of themselves as they tried to work out a definition for what it meant to be a British subject. John G. Reid shows how Britain’s Native allies defined loyalism in the context of friendship with the Crown. Philip Gould gives an in-depth exploration of the Loyalists’ literary and philosophical rebuttals to Thomas Paine’s Common Sense. Writing in the form of journalism is considered in Gwendolyn Davies’ article on Loyalist printers, demonstrating how the publishers of newspapers in Newfoundland, New Brunswick and the Barbados helped to shape the Loyalists’ view of themselves and their new “regional sense of place.”

Jennifer Snyder’s article delves into the fate of white Loyalists’ slaves after the Revolution. For the most part, the enslaved workers from southern colony plantations ended their lives labouring in the West Indies. Carole Watterson Troxler focuses her study on the role the Bahamas played in this aspect of slave history.

Allison O’Mahen Malcom makes a very interesting argument that Orangeism hijacked Loyalist values in Upper Canada during the 19th century. Allan Blackstock shows that loyalty during the Rebellions of 1837 had political repercussions in Ireland, an unexpected New World influence on the Old.

Robert Calhoon’s paper is the final chapter in The Loyal Atlantic. It summarizes how the study of the Loyalists has changed over time. Current scholarship, he maintains, “helps us to revisit the revolutionary era in wholly new ways.” This is good news, indeed, for those interested in a vital and on-going appreciation of Loyalist heritage.
Sometimes just one great chapter can make it worth the price of an entire book. Such is the case with What If? The World’s Foremost Military Historians Imagine What Might Have Been. While armchair generals and military history majors will certainly want to read the entire book, those interested in the Loyalist era will find Chapter Ten most compelling.

Thomas Fleming, the author of Chapter Ten: Unlikely Victory, analyzes thirteen ways that the Rebels could have lost the American Revolution at various junctures between 1770 and 1783. Sometimes sheer luck decided a crucial outcome; at other times it was the weather. One general made a daring gamble; another disobeyed an order. Sometimes personal quarrels had a ripple effect that shaped all subsequent history. As Fleming clearly demonstrates, the United States should have expired at birth. It was hardly “inevitable.”

This admission is what makes What If so interesting for Loyalist historians and descendents. Usually, in reading books about the American Revolution, one repeatedly encounters an underlying incredulity when it comes to the Loyalists. How could any American colonists not see the validity of the Rebel cause? How could anyone have put his faith in a British victory? Why endure so much agony for what was so clearly a lost cause?

Fleming, however, demonstrates that the American Revolution could very easily have been won by the British on at least thirteen separate occasions. The sheer volume of these “what if” moments demonstrates that a Patriot victory was anything but pre-ordained. There was nothing illogical about the Loyalist conviction that the crown would triumph, even up to 1783, the final year of the conflict. It is only hindsight and the subsequent histories “written by the victors” that make the success of the Patriots “inevitable” and the Loyalists’ faith so hard to fathom.

The thirteen alternate scenarios Fleming explores in his chapter, Unlikely Victory, are:

• What if Samuel Adams had gotten his way after the Boston Massacre?
• What if the British plan had worked at Bunker Hill?
• What if Washington had attacked the British Army in Boston in early 1776?
• What if the British had trapped Washington’s army on Long Island or Manhattan?
• What if Washington had decided not to attack Trenton and Princeton or failed in either attempt?
• What if General Benedict Arnold had not turned himself into “Admiral” Arnold on Lake Champlain?
• What if Benedict Arnold had obeyed orders at Saratoga?
• What if Captain Ferguson had pulled the trigger?
• What if Gates had replaced Washington as commander-in-chief?
• What if the British army had destroyed the French expeditionary force within days of its arrival? • What if Daniel Morgan had lost at Cowpens?
• What if Washington had refused to march to Virginia to trap the British at Yorktown or the British had escaped after the siege began?
• What if George Washington had failed to stop the Newburgh Conspiracy?

Thompson concludes his “counterfactual history” with a telling anecdote. Years after the Revolution, George Washington corresponded with Charles Thomson, the Secretary of the Continental Congress, about the notion of writing a memoir of the war. They came to the joint conclusion that such a book would be too disillusioning for the American people, for then they would see how many times the “glorious cause” almost came to ruin. Washington and Thomson agreed that the real secret to America’s final victory could be summed up in two words: Divine Providence.

The focus is on the individual houses built from the time of the Loyalists’ arrival to as late as the 1860s in Leeds and Grenville. Many of the sturdy, permanent houses on lots that originally hosted shanties or log cabins were constructed mostly after the passing of that first generation of Loyalists. There are also some houses associated with early settlers other than Loyalists.

There are almost seventy entries. For each house there are a couple of pages outlining the location, history of the property, information about the various owners, and Loyalist links, where applicable. Before one gets to the individual houses, there is a section defining the Loyalists and information about the land system, building materials and architectural styles, all of which serve as a very useful introduction.
The illustrations are simply stunning. I can't stress how impressed I am by these line drawings. The majority were done by Mark Andrew Adamson, who passed away during the project. The remainder were submitted by Hilary Avery and Fraser Laschinger. The detail, texture and contrast of the drawings are remarkable, and I would be hard-pressed to pick a favourite. The intent was to picture the buildings closer to their original appearance, free from later additions and renovations.

Could the book be improved? An index would help but would have substantially increased the size of the book. Given the amount of family information, there will inevitably be a few errors. On page 158, there is some confusion about the spelling of Sir John Johnson’s surname. As well, “King’s Royal Rangers” should read “King’s Royal Regiment of New York,” as they were not rangers. There is also a short section on scalping that is a bit gratuitous and unsourced in the book. That is not much, considering the amount of information covered.

All in all, it is a most informative book and a feast for the eyes.

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**Loyalist Rebellion in New Brunswick: A Defining Conflict for Canada’s Political Culture**

Author: David Bell

Publisher: Formac Publishing Company Limited, Halifax
Paperback, 184 pages © 2013

Reviewed by Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc.

From a great distance, the surface of a planet loses most of the details that define its structure. In the same way, but measured in time, the 231 years since the American Revolution have eroded the collective memory of the original Loyalists and their tribulations at facing not only resettlement in a hostile land in what is now New Brunswick, but also the political interests of those who had power to shape self-interested political favour.

David Bell has the talent and training to flush out details and analyse them. He is a professor of Law at the University of New Brunswick and a graduate from Queen’s and Harvard Universities. His interest in law, and constitutional law in particular, gives him the advantage of being able to sift through large amounts of data while paying undivided attention to dissecting political intrigues and motives of the main political groups who settled in the Upper and the Lower Coves areas of New Brunswick.

From the moment one begins to read this engaging book, the reader senses integrity in his scholarship and enthusiasm for the “sport” of delving into the fray to pull out the nuggets of truth from the documents that have survived. Sources used by David Bell to examine the problems in governing a large body of new immigrants are mainly from three perspectives: the British Army records by the administrators in New York and Saint John; the local administration in Nova Scotia; and the thoughts of the settlers themselves, as viewed in the early Saint John newspapers.

Although short (184 pages), this concisely-written book covers the period between 1775 and 1786; a time of great discontent among the people, discontent that the political elite feared would lead to rebellion. How civil unrest was quashed and “perfect tranquility restored” is the subject of this book.

Loyalist Rebellion is organized into short chapters, separated by bold subtitles. Endnotes and a detailed index are supplied, as well as excellent suggestions for further reading. This is a must-buy book to support history programmes in upper elementary and secondary schools.

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**The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship**

Awarded by The UELAC
The George Brown House, 50 Baldwin St., Suite 202, Toronto, ON M5T 1L4

The UELAC Loyalist Scholarship can be awarded to any graduate student who is interested in researching in the Loyalist era on a subject that will benefit the UELAC. Masters (2 years) and PhD (3 years) students will be awarded $2,500 per year. Upon graduation, the thesis must be presented to the Association.

The President and Scholarship Committee members will review the application with its summary of intended study area and decide who should receive the award.

To be eligible:

a) the student must intend to use the award in the academic year following the receipt of the award and use the money for fees and books;

b) the student must provide a succinctly-written research proposal to the United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada Scholarship Committee in which he/she sets forth his/her interest in the Loyalists before donation of the award. An interview may be scheduled.

Priority will be given to a student of proven Loyalist descent. The United Empire Loyalists’ Association of Canada reserves the right to award the Scholarship at its sole discretion.

Preference may be given to students who have taken an undergraduate degree in history and to students at universities in Canada.

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Applicants are directed to the UELAC website: http://www.uelac.org/scholarship.php, for more information about this scholarship and an application form.

Application is due by February 28 each year, at Dominion Office (address above).

— Arnold Weirmeir UE, Chairperson of the UELAC Scholarship.
The following received certification from the UELAC on the dates indicated and from the branches shown. Note 1 indicates members who requested on the certificate application form that their names be unpublished. However, the name of the ancestor and branch remain. They may reconsider by notifying Dominion Office in writing. 

Editor’s Note: UELAC privacy policy dictates that individuals’ personal information will not be shared. If one wants to contact any member listed below, please indicate whom and contact their branch via e-mail. Branch contact persons can be found on the UELAC website: http://www.uelac.org/branches.html. The branch contact person will then notify that branch member on your behalf, and the member will then be able to respond to you.

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Branch  
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Note 1 Alexander Ross Victoria 2013/10/28
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Note 1 Christy Ross Victoria 2013/10/28
Note 1 Christy Ross Victoria 2013/10/28
Note 1 Hugh Munro Victoria 2013/10/28
Note 1 Hugh Munro Victoria 2013/10/28
Erika Jan Goodridge Capt. Garrett Miller Victoria 2013/10/28
Jane Hawley Sutherland Jehiel Hawley Calgary 2013/10/28
Jane Hawley Sutherland Marcus Snyder Calgary 2013/10/28
Grace Hawley Sutherland Jehiel Hawley Calgary 2013/10/28
Grace Hawley Sutherland Marcus Snyder Calgary 2013/10/28
Emma Catherine Sutherland Jehiel Hawley Calgary 2013/10/28
Emma Catherine Sutherland Marcus Snyder Calgary 2013/10/28
Lois Martha Reid Peter Brouse Sr. Calgary 2013/10/28
Lois Martha Reid John Holmes Calgary 2013/10/28
David Allan Laskey Daniel Odell Jr. New Brunswick 2013/11/04
Susan Nicole Roberts Lieutenant John Ness Victoria 2013/11/04
Susan Nicole Roberts Lt. John Simonson Victoria 2013/11/04
Mason Henry Roberts Lt. John Ness Victoria 2013/11/04
Mason Henry Roberts Lt. John Simonson Victoria 2013/11/04
Trevor Wylie Williams Lt. John Ness Victoria 2013/11/04
Trevor Wylie Williams Lt. John Simonson Victoria 2013/11/04
Eddythe Elizabeth Dumbrell Amos Pine Vancouver 2013/11/04
Eddythe Elizabeth Dumbrell Hazard Wilcox Vancouver 2013/11/04
Nora Kathleen Dignan-Lippa Thaddeus Davis Toronto 2013/11/12
Christine Ethel Manzer Daniel Parent Vancouver 2013/11/12
Helen Mavis Pickett Daniel Parent Vancouver 2013/11/12
Mckinley Nicole Bates Paul Trumpour Toronto 2013/11/12
David Matthew Bates Paul Trumpour Toronto 2013/11/12
Frances Ann Bates Paul Trumpour Toronto 2013/11/12
Alan Arthur Crawford James Crawford Hamilton 2013/11/12
Joan Victoria Yearsley Jonas Wood Grand River 2013/11/12
Phyllis (Angel) Stratford John Albright Vancouver 2013/11/18
Logan Ryan McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Sean Edward McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Michelle Marie McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Sharon Elizabeth McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
John Charles McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Georgia Grace Saunders-McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Jackson Ryan Saunders-McConomy Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Jane Elizabeth Hunt Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Jessica Anne Hunt Jonathan Fulford Manitoba 2013/12/02
Deborah Ellen Trask Isaac Gulou Nova Scotia 2013/12/02
Roy Stanley Merritt Joseph Merritt Chilliwack 2013/12/02
Eric J. Boris Thomas Allen New Brunswick 2013/12/02
Henry Robertson George Currie John Mersereau New Brunswick 2013/12/02
Donald Albert Praast Thomas Hatter Nova Scotia 2013/12/02
Susan Nicole Roberts Lt. John Simonson Victoria 2013/12/02
Elizabeth Agnes Aberdeen Jehiel Hawley Victoria 2013/12/09
Elizabeth Agnes Aberdeen Jehiel Hawley Victoria 2013/12/09
May Anne Taylor William Samuel Adams Sir Guy Carleton 2013/12/09
Elizabeth Anne Crouch Abiathar Camp Jr. Little Forks 2013/12/09
Lauren MacNeil before her wedding day. The dress was sewn by Debra Turrall UE who has been re-creating Loyalist clothing for 27 years. An avid seamstress and a stickler for historical accuracy, Debra is a member of the re-enactment community. She wrote: “When I started, there were no Loyalist-period patterns. I’ve refined my 18th century sewing techniques over the years, assisted by paintings, books and research. Currently, I recreate the uniforms and civilian clothes for male and female re-enactors of many eras: Loyalist, War of 1812 and WWI.” —Debra Turrall, UE, The Loyal Needle. Photo by Scott Turrall, Debra's husband.