

## COL. EDWARD JESSUP BRANCH

### 1968 Spring

The above branch of the U.E.L. is being formed by Lt.Col. Sterling LeR. Spicer, M.D., and Mr. E. J. Chard to commemorate the sacrifice, patriotic military service, loyal administrative ability and empire-building far-sightedness, of one of the greatest U.E.L. patriots to participate in the loyal exodus of faithful British subjects to Canada after the American Revolutionary War, in order that they might remain under the Union Jack and maintain its type of representative government. To this cause Colonel Jessup sacrificed his 500,000 acre American estate. He was a Major commanding The Loyal Rangers 1781 - 1784, and continued in that rank until 1788, when he was made a Lt.-Colonel, Commandant of Militia. He personally promoted the settlement of Leeds, Grenville. Addington, and almost as far west as Adolphustown. Founded the town of Prescott in 1810.

The Col. Edward Jessup Branch is to be especially representative of U.E. Loyalists in the area from Gananoque on the west to Cornwall on the east, with active headquarters in Prescott (his home town.) An itinerary of meetings throughout the representative area is anticipated.

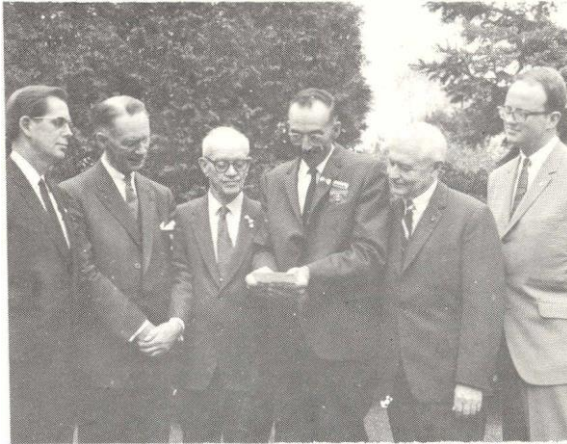
The Charter meeting is to be held on May 11.

### 1968 Autumn

Saturday, May 11, was an historic day for Prescott and district as the charter was presented to the new "Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada". Mr. John Robinson of Maynard, the charter president received the charter from Mr. E. J. Chard of Pickering, retiring President of the Dominion Council and co-founder with Lt..Col. S. L. Spicer, M.D., of the new branch. The presentation was at the home of Colonel and Mrs. Spicer, "U. E. Lodge", built by their U. E. L. forebears, on Chippenhook Creek, Maynard.

Two descendants of Lt. Col Jessup, the founder of Prescott, were present for the charter presentation and are honorary members of the branch. Major Winston Maxwell Jessup, U.E., of Brynhyfyd, Kirk's Ferry, Que., is Honorary President and Edward Jessup, U.E., of Ottawa, is Honorary Mace Bearer. Officers of the new U.E. Branch are: President, John M. Robinson, U. E., descendant of one of the first settlers of the community which became known as Brundige's Corners, then Chippenhook, and finally Maynard; Hon. Vice-President, the Hon. J. A. C. Auld, Minister of Tourism and Information, of Brockville; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Walter G. W. Webb, U.E., 10th generation descended from John Lake who married Ann Spicer in Newport, Rhode Island:, in 1649; her U.E. L. ancestor James Lake made his way to Canada after serving in the Loyalist forces during the American Revolutionary War; Treasurer, Hubert Preston Buell UE, Brockville, a descendant of the founders of that city; Herald, Mikael Gord. on Buell, U.E., son of the treasurer, and youngest member of the branch; Genealogical Committee; Lt.-Col. Sterling LeRoy Spicer, U.E.; H. W. Warner, U. E., Past President of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, Ottawa, and Vice-President of the Dominion Council; Hubert Preston Buell, Brockville; Standard Bearer, Mansell Hough.

Charter members of the branch are J. M. Robinson, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Spicer, Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Hough and Gerald Hough, Maynard; Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Rowsome, Jellyby; Herman Moulton, Smiths Falls; Mrs. Ethel Ruby Bass, Pembroke; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Webb, Prescott; Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Buell and son Mikael, Brockville; Mr. E. J. Chard, Pickering.



Prominent United Empire Loyalists who attended the charter presentation were, left to right, E. J. Chard, Pickering, retiring President, Dominion Council and editor of The Loyalist Gazette; H. W. Warner, a Dominion Vice-President, and Past President of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, Ottawa; Lt.-Col. S. L. Spicer, M.D., of Maynard, host of the occasion; John M. Robinson, charter president; Dr. J. G. R. Dillane, Hamilton, President Dominion Council and M. B. W. McRae, President of Sir Guy Carleton Branch, Ottawa.

Attending the charter presentation from out of town were: Dr. J. G. R. Dillane, President elect of the Dominion Council, and Mrs. Dillane, of Hamilton; Mr. Chard; Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Burleigh, Bath, Ontario, Major W. M. Jessup, Kirk's Ferry, Que.; and Mrs. Maxwell W. Jessup, O.B.E.; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jessup, Ottawa; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Warner, Ottawa; Mrs. W. Warner, Norfolk Hall, South Augusta; Mrs. Harvey Rowsome, Jellyby; Mr. and Mrs. E. Murray Billing, Brockville; Mr. Murray B. W. McRae, Ottawa, President, Sir Guy Carleton Branch; E. J. Munro, Brockville; Geo. F. Jowett, White Gables, Riverside Heights, Morrisburg; Mr. and Mrs. H. P.

Buell and Mikael, Brockville; Miss Moffat of Ottawa and South Africa.

Mrs. Jean Wadds, M.P. for Grenville-Dundas, brought greetings, as did J. A. Morris, Prescott, president of the Grenville County Historical Society, and Mr. G. F. Jowett.

Edward Jessup presented a tomahawk-shaped gavel to the Sir Guy Carleton Branch of Ottawa. It was fashioned from wood of a locust tree from the old Jessup home in Prescott, and the handle was of wood from the 135-year-old Maiden's Blush apple tree still bearing fruit at U.E. Lodge.

*-The Prescott Journal*

### **HISTORICAL PLAQUE UNVEILED IN PRESCOTT TO EDWARD JESSUP**

On the 11th of October, 1958, an historical plaque commemorating Col. Edward Jessup, the founder of Prescott, was unveiled in that town. This is one of a series of such plaques being erected by the Historical Branch of the Department of Travel and Publicity on the advice of the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board of Ontario.



Ontario Department of Travel and Publicity

Shown in this picture left to right are: His Worship M. P. Salmon, Mayor of Prescott; The Rev. Frederick Payne, Rector of St. John's Church; Mr. W. H. Cranston, Chairman of the Historic Sites Board; Mr. Lee McKnight, local historian; Mr. W. E. Nott, a descendant of Col. Jessup; The Hon. F. M. Cass, Q.C., Ontario's Minister of Highways; Mrs. A. C. Casselman, M.P. (Grenville-Dundas); and Mr. L. G. Crabbe, President of the Prescott Chamber of Commerce.

**E**dward Jessup was born in Stamford, Connecticut in 1735 of a family with very strong attachments to the British Crown. During his life in the American colonies, he acquired a vast tract of land in the old province of New York amounting to some 500,000 acres and was considered to be one of the most prosperous men in the region. With the coming of the American Revolution in 1776, Jessup was amongst the first to volunteer his services to the Crown and took it upon himself to raise a corps of Loyalists which was known as the Loyal Rangers or Jessup's Corps which he commanded himself.

The corps performed with distinction throughout the conflict and, at its termination, was disbanded. As in the case of other Loyalist regiments, many of its members gave up their land and belongings in the old colonies and moved to the remaining British North American possessions determined to remain faithful to the Crown. Jessup accompanied his men, some of whom settled in the region which was later to become the Counties of Leeds and Grenville, while others went to the Bay of Quinte area. He received an extensive grant of land which included the present site of the town of Prescott and settled here with his family.

Early county histories state that, before 1810, there were only three houses in the vicinity - Jessup's home, that of his son and the home of his farm manager. In 1810 a town site was surveyed on the property which was named Prescott in honour of a former governor-in-chief of British North America, General Robert Prescott, who held his appointment from 1797 to 1807. Further buildings were erected on the town site shortly after 1810, notably a school house and teacher's residence. Old plans and Jessup's official claims for losses sustained during the War of 1812 indicate that the entire area of Fort Wellington and the adjacent park formed part of the original homestead until the outbreak of that war.

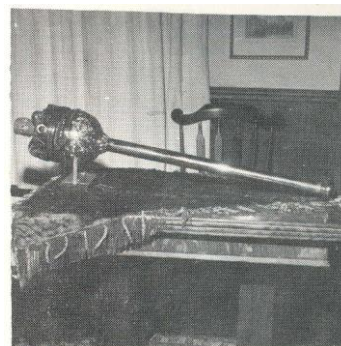
Jessup was the outstanding citizen of his community during its early days. He was a local justice of the peace, a position which, in those times, had administrative as well as judicial significance. Convened in Quarter Session, the justices performed many of the duties now assigned to municipal authorities. He was also the leading military figure in the area during the period between the end of the American Revolution and the War of 1812. In 1788 he was appointed Lieutenant - Colonel of the Edwardsburg, Augusta and Elizabethtown militia.

Jessup's initiative in clearing the town site was followed by William Gilkison who constructed a wharf and warehouse, and Prescott soon became an important river port and centre for the freight forwarding trade between Montreal and Kingston. Edward Jessup died in February, 1816. He had two children, a son, Edward, Jr., who became one of Prescott's leading citizens and a daughter, Abigail.

-Ontario Department of Tourism and Information

### **The Mace**

**T**he headpiece consists of an embossed brass semi-sphere surmounted by a polished Crown. It is attached by two equilateral triangles which represent the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada. Each of these triangles contain a capital "C" for "Canada" and



two circles which are emblematic of the continuity and unity of the Association.

Cresting the velvet - lined diadem is a polished hardwood two-inch cylinder, the circumference of which is decorated with four red velvet-lined Crowns, surmounted by the British Coat-of-Arms. The long hollow shaft of the Mace contains the regulations and bylaws of the Branch, which are secured within the shaft by a brass retaining cap.

The Mace rests on a polished hardwood base with two upright supports on a red kid surface, decorated by two ancient Crowns symbolic of antiquity. The Colonel Edward Jessup

Branch is grateful for the gift of the Mace to the creative skill of Col. Sterling S. Spicer, M.D.

### **1969 Spring**

**T**he Col. Edward Jessup Branch held a meeting at the home of Col. Sterling LeR. Spicer, M.D., at which time the branch received a gift of a George III Flag from Major Edward Jessup of Ottawa for the Col. Edward Jessup Branch. This was much appreciated. Another meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Walter Webb to draw up By-laws for our Branch.

### **Information Offered Regarding Loyalist Ancestry**

Since the inauguration of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association was founded last year, a fine response in membership has followed. The greater interest sparked during Expo year in early Canadian history is shown by the number of citizens seeking to build a family tree.

The Genealogical Department of this branch has been busy providing valuable information to enquirers regarding ancestors who located in these parts after 1784, when, following the Revolutionary War, they first arrived to found Upper Canada. Lt.-Col. Sterling Spicer also reports interest in the Dundas area. Accordingly, this Branch offers its services to those seeking proof of genealogy who are building a family tree in the Williamsburg-Matilda area of Dundas, or any part of Dundas County. If interested, write Mrs. Webb, secretary of the branch, Prescott, Ontario, or Lt.-Col. S. Spicer, RR2, Prescott, Ontario, for further information, and for the date of meetings, which all history-minded Canadians in these parts will find interesting to attend.

by G. F. Jowett

### **1969 Spring**

**T**he regular meeting of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch was held at the home of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Sterling LeR. Spicer, with a good attendance of members and guests.

As our president, Mr. John M. Robinson, was unavoidably absent, Mr. E. Murray Billings, Vice-president, occupied the chair and called the meeting to order, after which the regular Union Jack and Mace were trooped in by the Standard Bearer, Mr. Mansell Hough, and Mace Bearer, Col. Sterling Spicer, M.D.

After the reading of the minutes by Mrs. Walter Webb, Corresponding Secretary, Jamor Winston Maxwell Jessup, our Honorary President, from "Brynhfryd", Kirk's Ferry, Quebec (a descendant of Col. Edward Jessup, founder of Prescott), presented to our branch a beautiful silk King George III flag in honour of his father, Mr. Alexander Jessup of Ottawa. At the conclusion of Major Jessup's presentation

address, both Mr. Billings and Colonel Spicer expressed the deep appreciation of the branch to Major Jessup for his outstanding gift.

Following the presentation, Mr. Howard W. Warner, Vice-president of the Dominion Council and Past President of the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, gave an entertaining account of the unveiling of the memorial to Sir John A. Macdonald in Scotland during the summer, which he attended as a representative of the U.E. Loyalists of Canada. Mrs. Walter Webb of Prescott then gave an illuminating account of her visit to England in July, when she addressed a Women's group in historic St. Leonard's Church of England, in Wiltshire on "The Status of Women in Canada".

Mr. Stanley G. Loucks, President of the Toronto Branch U. E. Loyalists, extended greetings from the Toronto Branch.

### 1969 Autumn

At the first Annual Meeting of the Col. Jessup Branch, which started a year ago, with twenty charter members, a membership of thirty-eight was reported. During the year the meetings have been interesting and well attended.

The President, Mr. John Robinson, was host for the April meeting. Rev. Canon Coleman, chaplain of the branch, gave the opening and closing prayers. Reference was made to the newly approved bylaws created by Dominion Council and this sparked a lively question and answer period led by the indefatigable Loyalist, Col. Spicer, and animated by Dr. Williams, Mr. Hugg, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Wallter Webb, who for many years was the Worthy Curator of Fort Wellington Museum. The guest speaker was Mr. George Jowett. His talk on "The Loyalist of Today" covered many little known facts and contained much of interest.

Mr. Jowett was given an Honourary Membership in the branch, a well deserved honour, as it was through the efforts of Mr. Jowett that many of the U.E.L. buildings, including the Whitney Memorial Church (now the official U.E.L. Church), and many traditions for posterity were saved during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway. He has also been asked by Mrs. McMillan, President of the Dominion Council Historical Committee, to serve with that group whose aim is to procure historical data. To add to his activities, Mr. Jowett has been appointed with Rev. Lloyd Lakes, by the Diocese of Ottawa and the approval of Bishop E. Reed, as Anglican historians to collate and write the history of all the old Anglican churches in Ontario.

At the Annual Meeting, tribute was paid to the memory of Mrs. W. Maxwell Jessup, O.B.E., wife of the charter honorary president. Mrs. Mildred Spicer and Mrs. Ruby Webb spoke of her work and character. Brief addresses were given by Dr. Williams, Mr. Jowett and E. Munro.

We were very saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. George F. Jowett at Winchester -Memorial Hospital on July 11, 1969, and extend our deepest sympathy to his family. Mr. Jowett was an Honourary Member of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch and a member of the Historical Committee of the United Empire Loyalists' Association. He succeeded in 1964 in having Trinity Church dedicated as a United Empire Loyalist Church.

The first Church Parade of the Branch attended Trinity Church near Morrisburg. Mr. John Robinson presented the flag accompanied by Masters Mikael Buell and Charles William Murray. The sermon by Rev. Canon H. K. Coleman was based on the sixteenth verse of Isaiah 42-"I will lead them in paths they have not known." This quotation was of special significance to the Loyalists who shared a mass migration

even as the people of Israel in Biblical times. Present at the service were Lt.-Col. Sterling L. Spicer, M.D., founder of the branch, Mr. Murray McRae, President of the Sir Guy Carleton in Ottawa and other members of that branch.

### 1970 Spring

Last Fall, the members of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch met at U.E. Lodge, the home of the founder of the Branch, Lt.Col. Sterling L. Spicer and Mrs. Spicer.

After the opening ceremonies the Charter was draped and a period of silence was observed in memory of a valued member, Mr. George Jowett, who had recently passed on. Mr. Jowett had been instrumental in having the old Anglican Church moved stone by stone, from the path of the Seaway and reassembled on Highway #2, north of the original site. Letters of condolence had been sent to the bereaved family. Dr. Spicer was congratulated on having been made a Life Member of the U.E.L. organization.

The picnic which was to have been held on this date had been cancelled owing to rain. Much disappointment was voiced as Dr. Spicer had prepared a fine programme of sports and amusements. As the By-Laws had been approved, it was decided to have them printed in booklet form so that each member might have a copy. The meetings for fall and winter were cancelled as the secretary reported the difficulty in procuring a hall for the meetings and the rentals quoted were prohibitive.

Orders for the souvenir plates and for Christmas cards were taken by Mrs. Walter Webb. The meeting closed with God Save The Queen. A dainty lunch was served by the hostess, Mrs. Spicer, assisted by Mrs. Pansy Lane.

We welcome to the branch Mrs. Joyce Daphne Hutton Raw, Box 991 Nairobi, Kenya, Africa, descendant of Commissary Ephraim Jones, U.E.L., 1750-1812, who settled in the Brockville-Prescott area of Augusta Township 1784.

### 1971 Spring

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch, Prescott, Ontario, has had three applications for membership during 1970.

1. Mrs. Martin W. Phelan, nee Gladys Beatrice Landon. Ancestor: Asa Landon, U.E.L. or Landen. Settled in E. District, Herron's Corners, North Augusta, Ontario, in 1784. First arrived in Canada in St. Johns 1777. Application signed April 14, 1970, and accepted as Regular Member of our branch; but not accepted by Dominion Council.

Genealogy of Mrs. Martin W. Phelan: born at Prescott, Ontario, July 13, 1901, married Martin W. Phelan October 28, 1936. Father: William Daniel Landon, U.E., born 1865, married Isabella Jane Dales in 1890. Grandfather: James Landon, born 1831, married Eleanor Anderson in 1860. Great-grandfather: William Landon, born 1795, married Minerva Shepard, A.D. 1819. Great-great-grandfather: Herman Landon, born 1768, married Dorothy Brown, A.D. 1790. Great-great-great grandfather: Asa Augusta Landon, born 1736 or 38, married Jerusha Grifface, A.D. 1757. Great - great- great-great-grandfather James Landon, b. 1711, married Sarah Bishop. Great great-great-great-great-grandfather, James Landon, b. 1685, married Mary Vail. Great-great great-great-great-great-grandfather, Daniel Landon, born-, married An Lobdell.

2. Harold Roy Landon, born 1893, married Emma Barton, A.D. 1926. (A brother of Mrs. Martin W. Phelan), application signed September 21, 1970.

Genealogy: the same as his sister's above.

3. Mrs. Margaret Ozolla Tyler Pearson, nee Margaret Ozolla Tyler. born 1908, married Milford Stanley Pearson, A.D. 1931. Father: Frederick Valentine Tyler, born 1880, married Mary Florence Kedey, A.D. 1906.

Grandfather: Moses W. Kedey, born at Fitzroy Harbour. Ontario, Feb. 1, 1847; married Margaret Pringle Learmouth in Ottawa. Ontario, August 31, 1871. Great-grandfather: John Moses Kedey, married Rebecca Minerva Landon, born in Aug., A.D. 1818. Great-grandmother: Rebecca Minerva Landon. Great-great-grandfather. John Landon, U.E., born 1793 in Augusta, Canada. He married Elizabeth (Betsey) Phillips, July 21, 1816. Great-great-great grandfather: Herman Landon, born 1768, married Dorothy Brown. Great-great-great-great-grandfather: Asa Landon, born 1736 or 38. married Jerusha Grifface, A.D. 1757. Also Jessie Brown. Sr., married Ziba Marcus Phillips, U.E.

Thus. she traces her lineage back to common ancestors, Herman Landon and Asa Landon, U.E.L., with her cousins. Mrs. Martin W. Phelan and Harold Roy Landon.

Her application signed Oct., 22, 1970, is accepted for our branch by Mr. Howard W. Warner UE, and myself Nov., 12, 1970, and by Dominion Council Genealogist, Mrs. Audrey Kirk, December 29, 1970, as an Affiliate Member.

### 1971 Autumn

The annual meeting of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch, U.E.L., Prescott, Ontario, was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Rowsome of Jellyby, Ontario, on Sunday, August 8, 1971, and the following list of officers was elected for the ensuing year: President: Mrs. Florence M. Rowsome; Vice-president, Mr. Gerald Hough; Lady Vice-president, Miss Gladys Eleanor Clow; Treasurer, Mr. John M. Robinson. Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. Mansell Hough; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Myrtle E. Johnston; Chaplain, Rev. Canon Henry K. Coleman; Representative to Dominion Council, Mrs. A. E. Morris; Standard Bearer, Mr. N. Mansell Hough; Mace Bearer, Dr. W. O. Williams. Receptionist, Mrs. P. M. Lane; Herald, Mr. John A. Morris; Historian, Mr. Walter Webb; Archivist (Hon.) Mrs. Adelaide E. Francey; Genealogical Adviser, Mr. Howard W. Warner; Genealogist, Dr. Sterling LeR. Spicer.

The former Honorary Officers are all retained in office.

All past officers were gratefully eulogized for their loyal service to the branch during its arduous pioneer years.

After all business had received attention, refreshments were served by Mrs. Florence Rowsome, following which the assembled members enjoyed a show of coloured pictures of Upper Canada Village and interesting pictures of a tour through the historic home of the Fulford family.

The Branch expressed appreciation for the enjoyable meeting in the home of the President, with it being a case of history repeating itself.

*- from The Prescott Journal*

### 1972 Spring

#### U.E. Loyalists Branch Meets At Maynard

The regular meeting of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada was held on October 3rd, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. N. Mansell Hough of

Maynard (Prescott, Ontario) with Mrs. Florence Rowsome, President, in the chair.

An application from Mrs. Gladys H. Ross Rojem of Dearborn, Michigan, was received and accepted for affiliate membership. Mrs. Rojem is a descendant of John Ross, also of the Land Family which produced active U.E.L. soldiers during the American Revolution.

The members and guests were pleasantly entertained by Osgoode members, Mr. and Mrs. Martin W. Phelan with selections of piano and violin duets which were much appreciated. This interesting meeting was then formally closed with Benediction by the Chaplain, Rev. Canon Henry Ker Coleman, U.E.

Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Hough, assisted by other lady members of the Branch.

After a most enjoyable meeting a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. and Mrs. Hough by the Chaplain for their much appreciated hospitality.

### **1972 Autumn**

The regular meeting of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch was held on May 28 at Maynard Women's Institute Hall near Prescott, Ontario, with the president, Mrs. Florence Rowsome in the chair. Three prospective members requested application forms. Lt. Col. Sterling LeR Spicer, M.D., accepted the position of Branch Historian. Members paid fees for the present year. Several items of correspondence were dealt with.

The group was taken on a delightful trip to Alaska by Miss Ella Montgomery who showed her beautiful coloured slides and gave a very informative commentary. Mr. Martin Phelan thanked Miss Montgomery for her kindness and generosity in sharing her trip with us. The next meeting is to take the form of a pot luck picnic on July 18th. The meeting closed with the singing of God Save the Queen.

Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Wm. Durant, Mrs. Mansell Hough and Mrs. Pansy Lane.

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association held a family picnic on July 16 on the beautiful and spacious lawn at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Sterling Spicer, U.E. Lodge, Maynard. After grace by Canon Coleman a delicious pot luck dinner was enjoyed. Dr. Spicer read a poem which he had composed in honour of the birthday of Mrs. Maude Durant.

### **1973 Spring**

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association met in October at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Durant of Maynard, near Prescott, Ontario.

The meeting was opened by the President, Mrs. Florence Rowsome. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary, Mrs. Myrtle Johnston.

A number of letters from Dominion Council were read and discussed. Conditions at Read's Cemetery will be investigated.

Two new members have been accepted and two more have sent in applications. Ways of attracting more members were discussed.



The present slate of officers will continue for another year. The next meeting will be in May of 1973. Congratulations were extended to Dr. Sterling Spicer on having been honoured by St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto, in commemoration of his being the first doctor there when that institution opened 51 years ago. An oil painting of Dr. Spicer was unveiled by his daughter, Ileana, at the hospital in August.

Canon Coleman entertained with varied selections of recorded music. The hostess served a delicious lunch. The members of this branch of the U. E. Loyalists invite enquiries from anyone interested in joining the group. Dr. Spicer of Maynard has application forms for prospective members.

The Flag was retired by Mrs. Daverne and the ladies in Belleville convened by Miss Helen Fraleck served delicious refreshments.

### **1973 Autumn**

**A**t Loyalist Lodge, the home of Dr. and Mrs. Sterling Spicer, the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch, Prescott, Ontario held their meeting on April 29. The President, Mrs. Florence Rowsome, opened the meeting with the singing of The Queen and the minutes were read by the Secretary, Mrs. Myrtle Johnston. The committee which had visited Read's Cemetery reported and stated that they had found conditions there to be most satisfactory with no basis for concern which had been previously expressed. The Grenville Historical Society requested help in saving the home of Dr. Solomon Jones from demolition. This house which was built in 1800 is located near the Blue Church.

Miss Ella Montgomery who has travelled extensively showed beautiful coloured slides which she had taken. Lunch was then enjoyed by all.

On June 24, 1973 the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada met at the Maynard Institute Hall, north of Prescott.

Highlight of the meeting was the presentation of slides by Mr. Edwin Livingston, Vice-President of the Governor Simcoe Branch. Through his slides the group was able to follow the tour of Canadian Loyalists who visited the Mohawk Valley last Thanksgiving and also views of Basking Ridge, New Jersey. This was a remarkably fine presentation.

After a delicious lunch a short meeting was held. Dr. Spicer read a poem which he had composed in honour of the visit of Queen Elizabeth to Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Warner brought greetings from Dominion Council. The date of the next meeting was set for October 14 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Durant.

Dr. Spicer gave examples of riddles and games enjoyed by our ancestors when they gathered together. Games were played and group pictures taken.

A family picnic was held at U.E. Lodge, Maynard, the home of Dr. and Mrs. Sterling Spicer, when the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of The United Empire Loyalists met on August 12.

### **1974 Spring**

**T**he "Get-acquainted and Christmas Party" was held December 8, 1973 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Livingston near the "Blue Church" Prescott, Ontario, with fifteen members and friends of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch present.

The informal social evening enjoyed by those present was followed by refreshments. During the evening a long distance telephone call was received from the Dominion Council President. Mr. Howard W. Warner, who regretted he and his wife could not be present but extended greetings to the group.

### **1974 Autumn**

The annual meeting of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch was held April 20, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mansel Hough, RR 2 Prescott.

New officers elected were Mr. Edwin A. Livingston, President and Genealogist; Mr. Mansel Hough, Vice-President; Mr. Edgar Clow, Treasurer; Mrs. Mansel Hough, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Florence Rowsome, Past President and Corresponding Secretary.

A very interesting illustrated tour of Newfoundland, Spain and Morocco was given by Dr. L.B. Nutall of Prescott. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served.

### **1976 Autumn**

Lt.-Col. Sterling LeR. Spicer, a co-founder of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch in 1968, celebrated his 90th birthday this year. His picture appears in full page colour in the Bicentennial book, Canada's gift to the United States, Between Friends on page 179. Col. Spicer is standing on a piece of property that has been owned by his family since 1784. From the original apple tree that grew on this property beside the original homestead, United Empire Lodge at Maynard north of Prescott, Ontario, Col. Spicer made the historic gavel presented to the U.E.L. Association of Canada used at each of its meetings.

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch reached its greatest enrolment in 1975. Several new members have joined recently.

### **COL. SPICER CELEBRATES 90th ANNIVERSARY**

Dr. Sterling LeRoy Spicer, Grenville County's poet laureate, celebrated his 90th birthday this year at his former home, United Empire Lodge, Maynard, north of Prescott, Ontario.

Dr. Spicer was born Feb. 15, 1886 near Maynard and later attended the University of Western Ontario where he graduated in medicine with the highest standing in toxicology. The following day he became a member of the faculty of UWO and was a lecturer in toxicology until the outbreak of World War One. He served in the Canadian Army during WWI as a captain in the medical corps and following the war he became the first surgeon to join the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto. A copy of an oil painting of the doctor in his Lieut.-Col.'s uniform hangs in the lobby of St. Joseph's.

He served as head of surgery for six years and at the outbreak of World War Two he re-enlisted and became Lieutenant-Colonel. Dr. Spicer examined the very first WW II recruit for the Canadian Army. He left the army in 1946 after receiving letters of appreciation from then the Governor General, the Earl of Athlone and from the Queen's uncle, the Duke of Gloucester.

Following his retirement from the service, King George VI made him an Officer Brother of the Grand Priory in the British Realm of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. The order is the oldest in the British Empire.

Following his retirement from medicine a few years later, Dr. Spicer and his wife retired to U.E.L. Lodge. Dr. Spicer has spent his retirement years pursuing his hobbies of reading and writing poetry, for which he is known throughout the county, and tracing U.E.L. genealogical histories of area families.

Dr. Spicer was a co-founder of the Colonel Edward Jessup U.E.L. Branch and served as its first president and genealogist. The members of the Association extend their good wishes to Dr. and Mrs. Spicer.

## **1977 Spring**

### **Edgar Clow addressed UEL meeting**

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Clow, RR 4, Brockville, Ontario, (Highway 29 at Clow's Country Market), was the locale for a meeting of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association. The meeting was held on Saturday, March -26. A very large group attended from as far away as Lancaster, Mr. Alex Fraser, and from Lombardy, Ont. Lt. Col. Francis Wyght.

Speaker for the occasion was the host, Mr. Edgar Clow with the topic "This Old House". At least two of the original Loyalist families lived in the Clow home, and Mr. Clow maintains that Loyalist homes in the area should be sought out and identified as a project leading up to the Bicentennial of the loyalist settlement in 1984.

He has carried out research into his own home, at one time known as the "Six-Mile House", and had some interesting local history to reveal.

As a spokesman for the local Loyalist Association, he pointed out that this area is rich in history of the Loyalist' settlement. Pictured by several today as being reactionary, the Loyalists are unjustly accused on this score, stated the spokesman. Essentially the Loyalists were displaced American refugees; not all of them were of British origin, many having Dutch, German and French backgrounds. Many of them were in the forefront of movements which led to the establishment of Responsible Government in Upper Canada. They were bound together by a love for British traditions on the one hand, and the benevolence of Great Britain for minorities entrusted to her care. The overriding consideration was that they "joined the Royal Standard in America before the Treaty of Separation in the Year 1783."

Mr. Edwin Livingston of St. Lawrence Court, RR 1, Prescott Ontario, KOE ITO, is president of the Col. Jessup Branch, U.E.L., with Mr. Edgar Clow as treasurer. Mrs. David Johnston is the new secretary.

*Recorder and Times, Brockville*

## **1977 Autumn**

In July Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Livingston attended a summer course in Genealogy and Family History at the University of Connecticut. The course was well organized, with classroom sessions which were very informative to those doing research in the New England States. Field trips were made by bus to the Connecticut State Library, the Connecticut Historical Society Library, Middlesex County Court House at Cambridge, Mass. and the New England Historic and Genealogical Society Library at Boston, Mass.

The Col. Edward Jessup Branch welcomes queries regarding Loyalist ancestors who settled in the old JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT along the St. Lawrence River.

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch held its Fall meeting on September 17 at the home of the President, Mr. Edwin A. Livingston, St. Lawrence Court, R.R. 1, Prescott, Ontario with thirty persons attending from as far away as Morrisburg, Manotick, Lombardy, Brockville and Kingston.

Lt. Col. Francis C.L. Wyght, U.E. of Lombardy gave a stirring and interesting address urging Canadians to be aware of their heritage and always be ready to protect it.

### **1978 Spring**

Colonel Edward Jessup Branch held a meeting on November 12 at St. Lawrence College, Brockville. The local branch of U.E. Loyalists is named in honour of Col. Edward Jessup, the founder of Prescott. Many of the original settlers of Leeds and Grenville were members of Jessup's Corps.

Any person who can provide proof of lineage from a Loyalist ancestor, may apply to become a regular member of the association. Associate membership is open to anyone. Members of the association are located in every province of Canada and several states of the U.S.A.

First organized in 1914, the association was formed to unite the descendants of those families who retained their loyalty to the British Crown during the American revolutionary war. The association also aims to preserve the history and traditions of that important epoch in Canadian history.

D. Stuart Gilmor, president of the U.E.L. Association addressed the branch on the Unity of Canada. Gilmor said, "I ask you to join in the support of a noble, patriotic principle, the unity of Canada." If Quebec separates from Canada, about one million Quebec residents will leave for other sections of Canada, said Mr. Gilmor. He estimated 30 percent of ardent federalists will leave immediately, joined by about 15 percent of unilingual French who do not want to live in a separatist state.

Mr. Gilmor was introduced by Edgar Clow while Edwin Livingstone, president of the Col. Edward Jessup Chapter, presided over the meeting.

During the evening, Mrs, Nora Miller of Athens was presented with her membership certificate by Mr. Gilmor.

### **1978 Autumn**

#### **Solomon Jones House**

The complex nature of the restoration work at the Solomon Jones house, known as Homewood, at Maitland, Ontario (formerly Johnstown), is what has kept out public involvement in the project, Richard Dumbrille, a director of the Ontario Heritage Foundation (OHF) said in an interview.

The age, style of architecture, and that it remained in the same family for 175 years are some of the reasons Mr. Dumbrille considers Homewood one of the 24 most important houses in Ontario.

Upon opening date, Homewood will be a museum depicting an early 19th century country doctor's home.

"When we are ready to start showing the house in its completed form, we will look to the people of Grenville County and particularly to the Grenville County Historical Society GCHS for participation in the operation of the house as a showplace for Eastern Ontario. The OHF board members felt it best to engage specialists such as John Leaning, a restoration architect, to do the work.

Solomon Jones, a United Empire Loyalist, was the first medical doctor in Grenville County, and his home, built in 1800, remained in the Jones' family until 1975 when the entire property was purchased by DuPont of Canada. That same year, the OHF expressed interest in restoring the home to its original state, and the property was donated to them by the company.

Total cost of the project is estimated at \$500,000. Thus far the foundations have been rebuilt, the metal roof replaced by an original cedar-type shingle roof, partitions added over the years have been knocked down, and rooms restored to their original design, chimneys and fireplaces have been rebuilt, the heating system changed and the building insulated. Landscape work is presently underway.

As far as furnishing the house is concerned, Mr. Dumbrille said the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has early 19th century furniture including medical equipment that will be given to the OHF on permanent loan. It is hoped the entire ground floor, including a wing added in 1835, will be furnished.

The restoration was to take place over a five-year period, but Mr. Dumbrille said the tentative opening date will be in 1979, reducing the term of the Project to four years.

*Prescott Journal*

### **1980 Spring**

**T**he Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of the United Empire Loyalists met in the Brockville Public Library on March 26th.

The slate of officers prepared by the nominating committee was accepted by the members. The president is Mrs. Florence Rowsome, Vice President - Dr. Williams. Treasurer - Mr. Edgar Clow. Secretary - Mrs. Myrtle Johnston. The executive will serve as a membership committee with Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Livingston being genealogical advisors.

The speaker for the evening was Mr. Edgar Clow who spoke on "The People of the Wild Sea - The Wiltse Family". He traced the family from their home along the Baltic Sea. from which they received their name: to Luxembourg; to Leydon. Holland and then to North America, where they settled at the present site of New York City before the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock.

Two of the sons of this first settler had adventures that would be almost unbelievable had they not been recorded by the Jesuits. After being captured by the Delaware Indians, they were held prisoner by two other tribes and then by the Jesuit priests. In 1640, on a trip with Father Brébeuf, they escaped and made their way back from Canada to the colony on the Hudson River. After running a trading post and making a return visit to Holland they joined Jessup's Rangers and eventually became Loyalist settlers in Yonge Township, Leeds County, where many Wiltse descendants still reside.

### **1981 Spring**

**T**he Col. Edward Jessup Branch embraces the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, carved out of the old Lunenburg District of which Johnstown was the capital. The early Loyalists of this area were

mostly veterans of Jessup's Rangers, and the town of Prescott was founded by Col. Jessup. The earliest settlement took place in the Townships of Edwardburg, Augusta, and Elizabethtown, all named for children of George III.

The Col. Edward Jessup Branch is currently undertaking to secure more local members, since the area is heavily populated with Loyalist descendants. The branch has embarked on an ambitious programme for the years leading up to the Bicentennial celebrations. This includes a compilation of a list of Loyalists who settled in the United Counties, with an attempt to identify as many of their descendants currently living in the area as possible. Also, the branch will attempt to seek out and identify as many of the original homes still standing in the United Counties as possible, and also to identify the burial places of the original Loyalist settlers. Officers of the group are president: Mrs. Florence Rowesome; secretary: Mrs. Myrtle Johnston; treasurer: Mr. Edgar Clow. The executive is also a membership committee, and genealogical advisors are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Livingston.

In October the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch met at the North Augusta Community Hall. Mrs. Gwen Smith, President of the Bay of Quinte Branch brought many of her books, and resources to assist new members in proving their U.E. ancestry. She was most helpful in giving personal assistance to several of those present.

In November this Branch held a joint meeting with the Leeds and Grenville Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society at "Homewood" a museum which is being developed near Maitland. The house in which it is located was built in 1800 for Dr. Solomon Jones, who was an United Empire Loyalist, a very early settler and a prominent medical doctor. His descendants lived in "Homewood" until the early 1970's and contributed greatly to the development of the area. Mrs. Barbara Sargeant, President of the Grenville County Historical Society, and Mrs. Goldie Connell, its archivist, explained the background of the house and the resources of the Society which is in charge of the museum's development.

#### Obituary : **Lt. Col. Sterling Spicer**

Lt. Col. Sterling LeRoy Spicer, M.D., died in Mississauga, March 21 in his 96th year. He was born at Maynard near Prescott, Ontario, February 15, 1886, son of Chester A. and Mary (Hodges) Spicer. He is survived by a daughter Ileana (Mrs. A.E. Morris) of Mississauga, two grandsons, Sterling Edward and Bryon Albert, and four great grandchildren.

After receiving his early education at Prescott he later graduated from the School of Medicine, University of Western Ontario and became a professor there in toxicology. Between serving in World War I as a captain and World War II as a Lt. Colonel he was chief of staff at St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto. He received several outstanding honours for his life's work.

In 1936 Dr. Spicer was president of the Toronto Branch of the U.E.L. Association and in 1968 was co-founder with Mr. E.J. Chard of the ,Col. Edward Jessup Branch in the Brockville area and served as charter President.

In the early 1960's he retired to his family's original Loyalist homestead, U.E.L. Lodge, and there enjoyed hobbies of tracing genealogical histories of area families and writing poetry, several on Loyalist themes. Dr. Spicer donated to Dominion Headquarters a gavel which he hewed from a tree planted by his original Loyalist ancestor. The gavel is used regularly at meetings of the Association.

### 1981 Autumn

The executive of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch at Brockville is making an effort to ensure that as many as possible of those of Loyalist extraction in that area become identified with plans to celebrate the Bicentennial. The Branch is publicizing the fact that out of the 32 sets of great great grandparents that people may have who are six generations away from the days of settlement (1784-1800 approximately) only one of these needs to have been a Loyalist for the term "United Empire Loyalist" to be applicable to the descendants. The Branch is trying to make more people aware that anyone who can prove such descent can qualify for regular membership in the U.E.L. Association.

The Col. Edward Jessup Branch is compiling a list of the Loyalists who settled in the United Counties. It is identifying as many as possible of their descendants currently living in the area. The Branch is seeking out and identifying original Loyalist homes still standing. It is attempting to locate the burial places of the original Loyalist settlers and with the co-operation of their descendants, marking them appropriately.

Mr. Edgar Clow, R.R. 4, Brockville, K6V 5T4, is assisting in the planning of these projects. He attended a meeting in Toronto early in the year to hear the proposals from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. The Branch has instituted monthly meetings under the leadership of the president, Mrs. Florence Rowsome, R.R. 4, North Augusta, Ontario K0G 1R0. In late May Mr. Wendell Camm, of Stirling, was asked to show slides of Loyalist sites and events in other parts of the province. On Sunday, May 31, the Branch welcomed two buses from the Ottawa Convention, when the Blue Church and its cemetery were visited. Mrs. Laura Carr, a descendant of Daniel Fraser, recently received her membership certificate

### 1982 Spring

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch enjoyed a pot luck picnic lunch at beautiful Jones Falls on the Rideau Canal on August 30th. A tour of the museum and the blacksmith shop with the smithy at work added to the pleasure of the outing.

On September 28th the Dominion President, Mr. John Eamon, and Mrs. Eamon were our special guests. He spoke on the role of the Loyalists in the 1980's. He feels that we, because of our Loyalist background, can be a strong force for stability and continuity in Canada. He also encouraged us in our efforts to attract more members to our local branch.

The October 28th meeting took the form of a "Show and Tell" night in which all the members were contributors. Shown were pictures, books, land petitions, Loyalist clothing patterns and slides of soldiers in the uniforms of various regiments. Of particular interest was an unpublished book compiled by member Bill Miller about Major William Read, Loyalist settler in Kitley township.

Mary Beacock Fryer, a native of Brockville and author of a number of Loyalist books, was guest speaker at the November 25th meeting. Mrs. Fryer told of the life and military exploits of Major Edward Jessup, after whom our branch was named. Many of the Loyalist settlers in Leeds and Grenville were members of Jessups Rangers and ancestors of present day residents of this area. Mrs. Fryer answered questions knowledgeably and autographed some of her books for members.

Work is continuing on the location and identification of Loyalist families, houses and graves. We believe that increased knowledge will encourage Loyalist descendants to become members of our branch.

Branch officers are: Mrs. Florence Rowsome, R.R. 4, North Augusta, Ontario K0G 1R0; Secretary, Mrs. W. Myrtle Johnston; Treasurer, Mr. Edgar Clow; and Genealogist, Mr. E.A. Livingston, St. Lawrence Court, R.R. 1, Prescott, Ontario K0E 1T0.

### **1982 Autumn**

**T**he Colonel Edward Jessup Branch has met at the Brockville Public Library on the fourth Wednesday of the month throughout 1982.

The first meeting of the year heard reports from committee chairmen on progress made on the various projects - listing descendants of area Loyalists, researching cemeteries to find ones with Loyalist headstones and photographing Loyalist homes.

At a later meeting Myrtle Johnston told the story of Reuben Sherwood, "Loyalist Surveyor". Although he was only 14 years of age when he came to Elizabethtown with his Loyalist parents, he had already served as a private in Capt. Meyers Company of The Loyal Rangers. He later served with great daring during the War of 1812. He was in charge of surveying several townships in Leeds, Grenville, Lanark and Pittsburg. Many stories of his exploits have survived the passage of time.

Edwin Livingston gave a slide presentation on Burgoyne's route and battle sites and on the Mohawk Valley. At our latest meeting our President, Florence Rowsome gave a report on the U.E.L. convention which she had attended at Waterloo.

We were disappointed to have our application for a grant for a student summer work project turned down. Much work had been put into the preparation of this project for much-needed work to be done in our area.

### **1984 December**

**O**n June 23, 1984, the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch re-enacted the landing of the Loyalists in Brockville.

A large, flat-bottomed boat with about thirty people, all dressed in Loyalist Bicentennial costumes, came up the St. Lawrence River to Buell Bay where they landed at Hardy Park. Each person carried a bundle or basket or iron cooking utensils. Each represented a Loyalist ancestor and was introduced thus upon disembarking.

We met the commissary, Mr. Whitney Shannon, whose great, great, grandfather, Ephraim Jones, was the original commissary, and lots were drawn for land. Blank forms similar to original forms were used. A map on the tree, under which Mr. Shannon sat, showed the location of land lots drawn. A United Empire Loyalist flag was flying in the area.

Mr. Herbert Baldwin, a descendant of Thomas Sherwood, the first settler in Elizabethtown, arrived with a team of oxen under the charge of Eileen Rose from Kemptville College of Agriculture and Technology. The oxen were drawing a wagon loaded with bags of grain to be distributed to pioneer settlers.

The Jessup's Corps of the King's Loyal Americans, in colourful uniform with fife and drum and muskets, were present from Fort Wellington in Prescott. They demonstrated army drill, erected a tent, and fired a volley to signal the arrival of the Loyalists.



A band of Indians from the St. Regis Indian Reserve near Cornwall put on Indian dances and supplied the newly arrived settlers with bannock.

Edgar Clow, our president, gave a running commentary over a loudspeaker before and during the landing.

Heatheranne L. Jessop, who represented Barbara Heck, expressed in prayer thankfulness for a safe journey to our new land.

A crowd had gathered to participate in our celebrations.

Edgar Clow is to be congratulated for organizing and carrying out this very authentic landing of the Loyalists in this area.

Our local Elizabethtown Township was generous with funds they had received for Bicentennial Celebrations so that the grant assigned to our branch was of great benefit in helping us carry out this re-enactment of the Loyalist Landing.

### **1985 December**

**C**hairman Egerton Brown of the Brockville (Ontario) Foundation on August 7, 1985 unveils sundial as a memorial dedicated to the first settlers of Leeds County who were mainly Loyalists.

Brockville's first sundial, a Bicentennial gift to the city from the Brockville Foundation, was unveiled on August 7, 1985, on the southeast corner of Blockhouse Island. Brockville Foundation Chairman Egerton Brown declared the sundial was more than a beautiful time-piece, describing it as "a memorial to loyal, independent, resourceful, hard-working British subjects." Among the dignitaries present were Leeds-Grenville M.P. Jennifer Cossitt, Leeds M.P.P. Bob Runciman, Mayor Stephen Clark, and Edgar Clow, president of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch of the U .E.L.

Mounted on a base of Leeds County granite, and weighing approximately half a ton, the sundial has an attractively designed bronze face which also functions as a compass. A legend on the bronze plaque reads "like flowing water glides the time," and also indicates the geographical position of the sundial.

President Edgar Clow, whose ancestors settled the Brockville area two hundred years ago, reminded those present that the date of the unveiling came on the eve of the anniversary of the death of Brockville's founder, William Buell, a staunch Loyalist. Mr. Clow said it was an honour to have a memorial dedicated to the first settlers of Leeds County who were mainly Loyalists.

Chairman Egerton Brown stated that the gift of the sundial was made possible by the donations of Brockville individuals and businesses, and a year and a half's committee work. No grants federal, provincial, or local were requested. Mr. Brown thanked all who contributed their moral and financial support

### **1986 December**

**A** new facility for local history to be called "The Loyalist Library" was opened recently at Brockville Collegiate. Our branch president, Edgar Clow, attended and presented a copy of our book, Matters of Loyalty written by Professor Ian MacPherson. It is the story of William Buell, who was the first settler in what is now Brockville.

Those who took part in the celebration of the bicentennial of the Fulford Pioneer Cemetery were very much impressed by the occasion. This cemetery which was established in June 1786 with the burial of the infant child of Jonathan Fulford is one of the earliest of Loyalist burying grounds. It is rare to find one so old and well cared for as this. It was good to see our Loyalist flags flanking the graves of John and Catherine Elliott UE. who were buried there in 1795 and 1791 respectively. The Elliotts were forbears of the wife of our branch president. Mary Beacock Fryer and the Rev. David Davidson, both of whom have Loyalist ancestors buried there, were our guest speakers. This event was well attended and generated considerable interest for the Fulford families. It was sufficient to hearten us in the belief that the Loyalist "presence" is still a need in our area.

We were also pleased to be associated with the anniversary of the First Presbyterian Church here in Brockville, which is celebrating its 175 years since the arrival of the Rev. William Smart from England in October 1811. Prominent among those inviting him and making up his first congregation were several Loyalist families. On Monday evening, November 10th our branch attended a meeting of the Leeds and Grenville branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society held in the church hall. The Rev. Allan Duncan, minister of the church spoke on the parish records left by the Rev. William Smart.

Our Annual Charter Night had to be celebrated much less formally this year owing to the illness of several in the branch.

### **1988 Fall**

**N**earing twenty years of existence, Col. Edward Jessup Branch still had at least one member in 1987 who had joined before 1971 and had not received a certificate. Mrs. Florence Rowsome, a charter member and relative of the founder, Dr. Sterling Spicer, was in that category; nevertheless, she had served the branch faithfully as president, secretary and archivist. The executive determined that it would secure Florence's certificate to be presented at its charter dinner in the fall of 1987. In this Florence was a willing collaborator. The executive was powerless to get a regular membership certificate for Florence's husband, Harvey, since all his ancestors appeared to be Irish!

While all these plans were going on, the executive was arranging a more pretentious fete, without Florence's knowledge, to mark the occasion. The village of North Augusta near the Rowsome home was selected as the locale, and the ladies of St. Peter's Anglican Church, of which Florence still occasionally acts as organist, agreed to cater. On Saturday, October 17th, some 50 people including Col. Jessup Branch members, relatives, neighbours and fellow retired teachers sat down to a sumptuous repast in the Community Hall. Dominion Council was represented by past-president, Mrs. Gwen Smith assisted in the presentation of Florence's certificate as a descendant of Timothy Hodge UE.

The real surprise of the occasion was the presentation to Florence of a beautifully scripted parchment scroll. The citation referred to Florence's long career as a church organist, a music teacher, an organizer of Loyalist, church and community enterprises, a long time elementary school teacher (Princess, now Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands had been among her pupils during World War II), and a very helpful neighbour in a wide community. "In a day when volunteerism is becoming the exception rather than the rule" the citation concluded "you demonstrate capably one of the precepts of loyalism that hopefully will long continue, that of service to others,"

On the same occasion, Mrs. Doris Chant of Athens received a certificate as a descendant of John Asselstine UE, one of several Loyalist certificates that Mrs. Chant has received. President Edgar Clow was master of ceremonies and was assisted by Treasurer Norma Moug, Genealogist Myrtle Johnston and by Whitney Shannon.

Earlier in the year Mrs. Rowsome had received a fifteen-year Volunteer Service Award from the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

## 1989 February

The Col. Edward Jessup Branch of the U.EL. held their charter dinner October 29th.

At the dinner a brief history of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch of the United Empire Loyalist Association was given by Mrs. Florence Rowsome which is reproduced below The date on our charter is Feb. 24, 1968 so we are celebrating our 20th anniversary. Our charter presentation took place on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 1969 at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Stirling LeRoy Spicer at Maynard Two descendants of Lt. Col. Jessup, Major Winston Maxwell Jessup and Edward Jessup were present and made honorary members. Major Winston Maxwell Jessup presented the newly formed group with a Loyalist flag in honour of his father, Edward Jessup. Outstanding members were present from Hamilton, Bath, Kirk's Ferry, Ottawa and Morrisburg. Our newly formed group was made up of 16 members who were transferred from Sir Guy Carlton Branch, Ottawa, and at least 8 others who became members.

Honorary members included Major Maxwell Jessup, Hon. James A. C. Auld, Edward Jessup, LL Col. Hubert Burleigh, and Mr. John Morris. Our first president was John Robinson, with corresponding secretary Mrs. Walter Webb, recording secretary Mrs. Maude Durant, treasurer Hubert Buell, Herald Mikael Buell, genealogist Dr. Spicer, standard bearer Mansell Hough.

About four meetings a year were held in the homes of members, Dr. Spicer, Mansell Hough, Maude Durant, Florence Rowsome and some in the Institute Hall in Maynard.

In 1971 at the annual meeting the following slate of officers were installed. President Florence Rowsome, vice-president Gerald Hough, lady vice-president Gladys Clow, treasurer John Robinson, corresponding secretary Mrs. Mansell Hough, recording secretary Mrs. Myrtle Johnston, chaplain Rev. Canon R. K. Coleman, representative to Dominion Council Mrs. A.E. Morris, standard bearer Mansell Hough, mace bearer Dr. Williams.

Pot luck picnics were held during the summers, several at the home of Dr. Spicer at 10nes Halls, at SL Lawrence Park, Mallorytown Landing and Fulford Point. In 1974 the following held office, president Ed. Livingston, vice-president Mansell Hough, treasurer Edgar Clow, recording secretary Mrs. Mansell Hough, corresponding secretary Florence Rowsome, Meetings were held in the homes of Edgar Clow, Ed. Livingston, at St Lawrence College, North Augusta Community Hall and Brockville Public Library.

No meetings were held from 1977 to 1979. Mr. John Aikman, President of Dominion Council visited our group to encourage us to continue to hold meetings. Edgar Clow, Myrtle Johnston and Florence Rowsome agreed to serve as a nominating committee. Florence Rowsome became president, vice-president Dr. Williams, treasurer Edgar Clow, secretary Myrtle Johnston, genealogist advisors Mr. & Mrs. Ed. Livingston.

Branches are active in all provinces across Canada. Annual conventions are held at which members from most branches are represented. I have attended conventions in Ottawa in 1972 & 1980, in Waterloo in 1982, in Shelburne, N.S. in 1983, and in Belleville in 1986 In 1982 we organized a bus trip around Brockville and east through Loyalist country. Edgar Clow and Goldie Connell acted as commentators on the bus trip. We had speakers from other branches at various times. In 1982 we had a Christmas dinner at Calamity Jane's restaurant at Addison. In 1983 members attended the bicentennial in the Maritimes.

In 1984 the following held office: president Edgar Clow. vice-president and genealogist Myrtle Johnson. secretary. Florence Rowsome. treasurer Norma Moug and Ed. Livingston resigned as genealogist. Meetings were held at Dr. Carr's. the Municipal Building in Prescott and in the Brockville Public Library. A great deal of work went into re-enacting the Landing of the Loyalists which took place at Hardy Park in Brockville on June 24th 1984. Along with our group was Jessup's Corp the King's Loyal Americans from Fort Wellington. Indians from St. Regis Indian reserve near Cornwall. a team of oxen and many interested people in costume. Mrs. Dorothy Albert took pictures and presented us with coloured slides which showed all the events of the landing at Hardy Park. For several years some of our members attended Mohawk Sunday when special annual ceremonies are held on the Tyendinaga Indian Reserve on the Bay of Quinte.

We held a special service in Fulford cemetery in 1986 with Mary Beacock Fryer and Rev. David Davidson as guest speakers. I was honoured at our charter dinner last year held in North Augusta. We decided to hold our charter dinner in Maynard this year since our Cot. Edward Jessup Branch was organized here twenty years ago by Dr. Spicer who gave the following explanation of UEL and U.E. stating they are to the descendants of United Empire Loyalists what the ancient seals and family crests were to noble families of all nations and are distinctive of Canada. The letters U.E. are distinctive and outstanding conveying special reference to the honorable and historical acts of loyalty. defence and sacrifice performed by our ancestors. of which we. their descendants are humbly and appreciatively proud. The honour mark of U.E. is inherited and maintained similar to family crests and coats of arms. which are personal possessions inherited. Those who have this enviable right should strive to maintain it as a distinction worthy of and demanding emulation.

By Mrs. Florence Rowsome. R.R. 4. North Augusta. Ontario. K0G 1R0.

### **1994 Fall**

Col. Edward Jessup Branch had its annual meeting with its usual bountiful pot luck supper and an unusual programme format. Rev. Stan Riiey, a member and the featured speaker, told of his forays into Loyalist genealogy in a way that was both practical and humorous. Peter Ladd, a descendant of William Clow, UE (1758-1814) showed original family documents dating back to 1784. Some of the sixty or more items involved related to the family of William's brother Henry (1753-1789). Copies were distributed to members of both families and the local genealogical society, and appreciation was extended to Mr. Ladd for his care of and willingness to share such a unique collection.

For the first time in ten years a major change in officers included replacement for long-serving president Edgar Clow as well as secretary and former president Mrs. Florence Rowsome. New president is William Hamblen of Athens and new secretary is Roy Lewis of Brockville. Lewis is a member of the editorial staff of the "Brockville Recorder and Times".

In a statement issued for the branch summer newsletter, President Hamblen said in part "...I would like to have information sessions open to the public to inform them who we are."

In the same newsletter, retiring president Edgar Clow voiced his appreciation for those who faithfully supported him in his ten years as president. He recalled the euphoria of Ontario's Bicentennial year, 1984, when the landing of our Loyalist forefathers was re-enacted on June 24th on Brockville's waterfront. He went on to say that "in the intervening years there have been things disappointing, even disillusioning, but never dull. In fact, there have been many things downright satisfying. We leave the office on a cheerful note."

Plans are under way for the information sessions referred to by Mr. Hamblen and members are being received at a more accelerated pace. There is no dearth of membership potential, and the need continues to exist for an organized Loyalist presence in the Upper St. Lawrence Valley.

### 1995 Spring

**D**oris Chant, 80, a long time member of the Col. Edward Jessup Branch, UEL, and the Leeds and Grenville Genealogical Society passed away on December 15, 1994 in Athens, Ontario. Mrs. Chant was born Doris Elizabeth Young on September 14, 1914, in Trenton, Ontario, to Clarence Young and his wife, the former Clarissa Asselstine. Mr. Clarence Young was the editor of *The Athens Reporter* in the mid 1900s. Doris grew up in Athens and attended school there. She married Perly Chant in the Frankville United Church parsonage on July 26, 1939, and the couple farmed at Plum Hollow until their retirement in 1969, when they moved to Athens. Interested in history and genealogy, Mrs. Chant compiled the Tweedsmuir history of Athens as a member of the Athens Women's Institute. Mrs. Chant is survived by five daughters.

By Edgar Clow, Brockville, Ontario.

*[Editor's Note: My grandmother, Jenney Kelsey, died in Athens, Ontario after living in Newboro. David K. Dorward, UE.]*

### 1997 Spring

**A** full house of Loyalists and friends turned out for the annual Charter Dinner held on Saturday, November 9th, at Sam Jakes Inn, Merrickville, Ontario. President Bill Hamblen welcomed the guests, noting the presence of the Hon. John Matheson and Mrs. Matheson, as well that of a number of first-time guests.

The guests were invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 10th, to celebrate the opening of the new quarters of the Leeds and Grenville Genealogical Society, downstairs at the Brockville Museum.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Alice Hughes, a retired teacher turned historian. Much of the work she has done has been published and donated to various historical and genealogical societies. She received her UE certification through the Hodges of Maitland.

Alice spoke about some of the men who left their mark on the area: William Merrick, Stephen Burritt and Joseph Easton. Their names live on in Merrickville, Burritt's Rapids and Easton's Comers.

For the first time, the Col. Edward Jessup Branch was invited to raise its flags and create a display at Fort Wellington National Historic Park this past July. This was in conjunction with the Town of Prescott's annual Loyalist Days event.

The two days of staging the display were well worth the effort even though the strong winds on Saturday kept the volunteers on the jump re-erecting the flags. Much interest was shown and considerable information was dispensed. The courteous and capable assistance of the Fort Wellington staff in setting up the tables and chairs and storing our displays overnight was very much appreciated.

There have been inquiries about the progress of a proposal to establish a Loyalist tree plantation at Upper Canada Village.- On 9 Sept members of the Branch Executive met with Gary Clarke, Chairman of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, to discuss the proposal which was first made by Mr. Clarke at the Branch's charter meeting in Merrickville last year.

Mr. Clarke said that an opportunity could be created, not only to move forward with the Loyalist plantation, but to consider, as well, a consolidation of the scattered monuments and memorials, etc. that have been put in place since the late 1950s. A viable plan for the plantation, probably in consultation with the St. Lawrence Branch and the Sir Guy Carleton Branch, has yet to be made.

### **2003 Fall**

**T**he Branch is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. A website with Anna Carr as Webmaster is progressing well. Go to the Dominion website and click on the Branch.

Among our forty new members within the past two years, we are pleased to have had several family groups. These include four descendants of Matthew Howard UE, five descendants of William B. Wright UE, four descendants of William Cow UE, five descendants of Augustus Seeley UE, and seventeen descendants of Hendrick Jackson. In the latter group there were ten Young Loyalists.

We were also pleased that John Chard UE, who was instrumental in setting up the Branch, joined us at our latest meeting. The mace and charter, which were part of the original meetings, were on display. We hope to make progress on our Loyalist Burial Places project, with plaques at both Loyalist cemeteries and individual graves. Loyalist Day will be celebrated with a picnic at Buell's Bay, (now Hardy Park), where many of our Loyalist ancestors landed in 1784.

By Myrtle Johnston UE

### **2004 Fall**

**T**o celebrate Loyalist Day in June the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch joined the congregation of St. Andrews United Church in Prescott where branch member, Don Galna, gave a presentation on the life and contributions of Barbara Heck whose death occurred 200 years ago.

After the service members and friends traveled to the Blue Church cemetery where Barabara Heck and her family are buried. After a picnic lunch on the beautiful grounds which surround the famous Blue Church, costumed guests gave presentations. Barry and Dianne Brown representing his ancestors, David and Hester Breakenridge, told their story. Gordon Strowger, also in costume, told the story of Harry Horwood who had crafted one of the stained glass windows in the church.

The executive of the Branch have spent countless hours at the Wiltse Pioneer cemetery where the restoration project is progressing. The Loyalist flag now flies as we continue our work. The fencing is completed; the grave markers will soon be back in their original positions. Landscaping is continuing and we hope to soon be ready for our rededication service.

## 2005 Spring

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch is very proud to have completed its first 2014 project with the restoration of the Wiltse Pioneer Cemetery. Thanks to the United Empire Loyalist organization, Athens Township, the executive of the Jessup branch, Wiltse descendants., friends and neighbours who contributed both financially and with “sweat equity” our official dedication was held in early October.

A most successful joint meeting in November with the Leeds & Grenville Branch OGS brought Barry Wilson, author and speaker on Benedict Arnold. (Arnold’s sons were early settlers in Augusta and Kitley.

We were deeply saddened by the death of the person who almost single handedly rescued our branch a few years ago when it had fallen off hard times. Edgar Clow was a dedicated Loyalist, Life Member of the UELAC, Pat and Honorary President of the branch and always ready to champion the cause of Loyalism. Another member, Mary Kathleen Bowden, descendant of Henry Jackson, also passed away recently.

Our website, in the capable hands of Ann Carr , has proved to be very popular and informative. Many people are contacting the branch looking for Loyalist information. Our members are kept up to date on activities and can review events that have taken place.

Another 2014 Branch project has been initiated. **100 Years – 100 Houses** has two components. Firstly, homeowners whose houses were built prior to 1845 have the opportunity to purchase line drawings of their homes professionally drawn and framed. In the second phase of the project these pictures will be included in a book along with carefully research information about each of the houses.

A major activity during our up-coming busy year, will be the staffing of three venues during **Doors Open** in Ontario.

Grave markers for Loyalists have been designed and will be available when suitable weather arrives.

By Myrtle Johnston UE, Branch President.

## 2005 Fall

The 2005 Annual meeting of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch was held at St. Andrew’s United Church Hall in Toledo with President Doug Grant UE giving an excellent presentation. John Gardiner, George Smith and Bonnie Morley received their UE certificates.

Care of the Wiltse Pioneer cemetery has been ongoing. Visitors signing the guest book on a weekly basis reinforce the importance of this 2014 project. Our “*100 Years – 100 Houses*” project, which has reached 25% of the goal, will be our major focus for the next few months. We have produced very attractive Burial Sites markers that are being offered for sale.

During Ontario’s Doors Open on May 28th the Branch was involved at three locations: Johnstown, the Wiltse cemetery and Athens Public Library. Don Ruston, a Wiltse descendant in uniform, accompanied by member Don Clunas, welcomed visitors to the Wiltse Pioneer Cemetery.

On Friday 24 June 2005, the Leeds and Grenville Counties Courthouse, built in 1842, was officially opened after a \$15 million make-over. Colonel Edward Jessup Branch member, Don Ruston in Jessup’s

Rangers uniform, carried the Loyalist Flag in the parade of local and provincial dignitaries, pipe bands and a colour party that preceded the opening ceremonies. In his speech, the Counties' Warden praised the Loyalists for what we have today.

Kristen Bruno, a Branch member from California, initiated our involvement in PBS's television program "*History Detectives*." Kristen, a descendant of Daniel Dunham UE, and fellow Dunham descendant and Branch member, Bill Hamblen, along with Branch President Myrtle Johnston UE, Dominion Education Chairperson Fred Hayward UE and a group of re-enactors took part in the program. Since the airing of this episode we have fielded many queries about Loyalists and the UELAC from across the US and Canada. This has been excellent publicity for the Loyalists.

By Myrtle Johnston UE

### **2007 Spring**

**D**uring Heritage Week the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch UELAC and the Tincap Women's Institute teamed up for displays at the Brockville Museum.

The Annual Meeting in the spring featured Judge Charles Anderson at an over-flow gathering at the Athens Anglican Church Hall. Ruth Bracken and Eleanor Irvine were present to receive their certificates.

Our Charter meeting in October moved to Spencerville Presbyterian Church where Brad Hubbard spoke on the restoration of old houses. We also had a tour of the adjoining cemetery where several generations of the Loyalist Drummond family are buried. Certificates were presented to Ron Tackaberry UE for himself as well as his mother. Lyle Johnston accepted a certificate on behalf of his son, Timothy, as a descendant of Loyalist Timothy Buell UE.

Others receiving certificates during the year were Barry Je UE, John Brown UE, Pat Mackie UE, Rod MacDonald UE and Eleanor Beardsley UE. Throughout the year maintenance continued on the Wiltse Pioneer Cemetery. Contacts continue to be sought for our book on houses of the Loyalist period. For the second year, we presented a bursary to a history student at Brockville Collegiate Institute in memory of the late Edgar Clow UE. The recipient this year was Amber Brown from Front of Yonge. We also have Loyalist grave markers that we are selling.

On Sunday August 27th, the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch UELAC held its Annual Church Parade at St. John's Anglican Church in Lyn, ON. After the service members toured the adjacent cemetery and the church grounds. Photos were taken by Fraser Carr.

By Myrtle Johnston UE

### **2007 Fall**

**T**he Colonel Edward Jessup Branch UELAC held their Annual Meeting on 14 April 2007 at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Lyndhurst. We were fortunate to have Timothy Comepeau of Gananoque as guest speaker, his subject being Loyalist and founder of Gananoque, Joel Stone UE. We are pleased to learn that Tim has since been named the recipient of the UELAC scholarship to further his Loyalist studies.



Much of our energies this year are focused on involvement in the International Plowing Match that will be held in Crosby, Leeds County this September. We are grateful for the receipt of a grant from Dominion Council for developing our display there. Since our membership increased to 100% then to 110%, we received two cheques that will also be used for our IPM display.

We continue caring for the Wiltse Pioneer cemetery. The recipient of our Edgar Clow Memorial Scholarship to a Brockville Collegiate Institute history student was Amber Brown. Work continues on our book project, 100 Years – 100 Homes, that is planned to celebrate 2014.

By Myrtle Johnston UE, Branch President

## **2008 Spring**

### **39th Charter Meeting of Branch**

**O**ur Branch held their thirty-ninth Charter Meeting at the Grenville Snowmobile Club at Charleville on Saturday, 3 November 2007. Fifty-four members and friends enjoyed a delicious roast beef meal provided by the Snowmobile Club.

President Myrtle Johnston presented certificates to many members this year. A number of certificates are being processed as this Loyalist branch continues to grow.

Diane Brown wrote the following account about her grandchildren receiving their UEL certificates at that meeting:

Saturday, November 3rd was a very special day for Elizabeth Nicole Crain, 5 and her brother Gregory William Crain, 3, children of Wil and Leanne Crain. They were proud recipients of UE certificates to honour their eighth generation exalted ancestor, Captain Joseph Brant UE. It was a day filled with memories for all, proud grandmother Diane said, “Stars still shine in the eyes of these little people.”

I can still remember Wil (their father) sitting at our dining table announcing he was a Joseph Brant descendant, “I nearly fell off the chair with excitement!”

As soon as the young couple left, a quick search on the Internet brought up a picture of Brant and “Wil’s eyes were staring back at me.” The search was on. Proving Native ancestry is often a difficult and arduous job and these certificates were the result of nearly six years of research. Early tribes moved around and were very social with families intermingling. Add to that the general distrust of why people are looking for information on their family and it is easy to see the stumbling blocks encountered.

Joseph Brant is a legend, a man well ahead of his time. He was Chief among his people, a fierce, courageous fighter, joining the Loyalist cause for Britain when he was just thirteen. He was a complex man, a scholar in a white man’s school, a translator and a man of religion. He saw his people re-settled in Canada after a personal visit to the court of King George III. Perhaps his greatest achievement though was translating the whole Bible into the Mohawk language for his people. It is easy to see why having him on the family tree is a cause for excitement.

Edward Mansell Blake, whose Loyalist descent is yet to be traced, with an array of medals on his chest, spoke about the battles of World War I and II. He had pictures from a trip with his wife, Helen UE, to the battlefields of Europe.

By Myrtle Johnston UE

## 2008 Fall

The Colonel Edward Jessup Branch held their Annual Meeting this spring in Portland in the Rideau Lakes Township, Leeds County. The guest speaker was Diane Haskins, an authority on old buildings in that area.

Through the summer our activities have centered in Prescott where costumed members were among those greeting the *Bluenose II* on both its upstream and downstream stops in Town. In early August we will be back in Prescott for Loyalist Days, again in costume with our display and flag.

The first 2014 project undertaken by the Branch was the restoration of the Pioneer Wiltse Cemetery. We committed after its dedication to maintain the cemetery. The Loyalist flag continues to fly there, the area is mowed, and flowers are blooming.

Our second 2014 project is the publication of a book, 100 Years – 100 Houses. We hope to have all the houses on contract this year. Research is ongoing and, with the hard work of a few dedicated people, the project is progressing.

Past President, Fraser Carr and Web Master, Ann Carr, represented the Branch at Conference in New Brunswick.

At our Charter meeting in the fall we will welcome the President of our neighbouring Branch, Kingston's Lin Good.

By Myrtle Johnston UE, Branch President

## 2010 Spring

In August costumed members of the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch carried their banner down Prescott's main street in the parade opening Loyalist Days. A booth on the grounds of Fort Wellington where re-enactors were in action, had displays of research material and branch information. The next day, 9 August, we celebrated the return of Col. Edward Jessup's cartridge box to its rightful place at Fort Wellington with a special cake and speeches.

Of special significance was the presence of Gary Jessup, a direct descendant of Colonel Edward Jessup, now a resident of Prescott and a member of the UELAC.

Costumed members attended the 150th Anniversary service at Maynard United Church that stands on land originally owned by the Loyalist Heck family. Member, Ron Shannon UE, had prepared a most interesting display for this occasion.

President Fred Hayward UE, guest speaker at our Charter meeting in October, was, as always, both informative and entertaining. He brought a display of Loyalist books, especially those geared to the younger readers. President Hayward presented new member, Marilyn Meyers UE, with her certificate. Branch President, Myrtle Johnston UE, presented a session on Loyalists at the Genealogy Course held by the Leeds & Grenville Branch OGS.

In November the Colonel Edward Jessup Branch and the Leeds & Grenville Branch OGS had a joint meeting with Mike More speaking about the Loyalist Billings family of Leeds County and Ottawa.

In addition to the Edgar Clow UE Memorial Bursary, presented yearly to a Brockville Collegiate Institute student, we are now presenting one at the Grenville County Secondary School. This year's recipients were Robert Kilpatrick and Rebecca Williams.

Planning is underway for Conference 2011 to be held in Brockville. We hope to welcome everyone to "*The Garden of the Great Spirit*" from June 2nd to June 5th, 2010.

By Myrtle Johnston UE, Branch President

## 2013 Fall

On 06 April, we had our annual meeting and elections. Dominion President, Robert McBride UE, and his wife, Grietje McBride UE, were our guests of honour. Members of our Executive were returned by acclamation with the exception of Barbara Law UE and Gary Jessup UE, who switched places. After the delicious dinner made by the ladies of the Delta United Church, Bob talked to us about Freemasonry and its connection to the United Empire Loyalists. It was a very different perspective and helped us to understand more of what our ancestors went through.

On 25 May, we had a booth at the Escott *Doors Open*. It was very cold and windy that day so not a lot of people came out, but the few that did seemed very interested in joining.

On 16 June, our branch had a booth at the Tall Ships Festival in Brockville. As this was the first stop for the *Tall Ships* most of the crews were checking out the booths. I talked to a number of crew members and, since most of them were from old *Tall Ships* and were in costume, they were interested in our organization even though they were not Loyalist descendants. I also noticed that a lot of new Canadians came right over to our booth and asked for more information or our web site, so they could read more. As well, a lot of them knew our flag and what it meant.

On 20 July, we had a booth at the Athens Steam Fair & Tractor/Truck show, held at the 34th Annual Farmersville Exhibition, in Athens, Ontario.

On 24 August, we will be having a booth at the Mallorytown Fair.

To help us with our booths, last fall we purchased a gazebo, a couple of fold-up tables and a few fold-up chairs. The gazebo works great outside and inside for hanging displays on the frame. Most of us who are working at the booth dress in period costume, which helps to attract people to our booth.

Our branch now gives out bursaries to History students in four different high schools in our area. This is very much appreciated by the schools because they say not many people give bursaries to History students. Our second 2014 project, a book entitled Still They Stand (about older houses in the Leeds & Grenville area), is now at the printers. We are hopeful that it will be ready for Christmas this year.

We were busy: at fairs; helping new members obtain certificates; holding executive meetings; and trying to attract new and young members.

By Barbara Law UE, Branch President

## 2014 Spring

In 2013, Colonel Edward Jessup Branch marked the 45<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

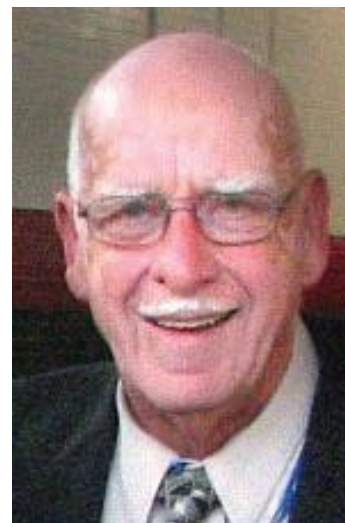
By Barbara Law UE, Branch President

### Fraser William 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 came up with innovative ideas to promote the Loyalist cause. Unfortunately, these were often not realized because of lack of manpower in the branch. For every Annual and Charter meeting, he contacted a long list of potential attendees via e-mail and phone with follow-up reminders when necessary. When the Branch had displays around the counties, he was there greeting people, searching his books for a Loyalist family connection and encouraging involvement in our activities. He enjoyed his time at Council meetings, Conferences and visiting neighbouring Branches, accompanied by his wife, Ann, who is a faithful part of our executive. He was also famous for lightening the moment with an appropriate pun.



At our latest Executive Meeting, less than a week before his passing, though unable to attend, he was in touch by phone, making suggestions and learning about our decisions. He will be missed. A Loyalist to the last.

By Myrtle Johnston UE and Barbara Law UE

## 2015 Spring

2014 was an exciting year. First it was the Association's 100th Anniversary, and our Branch started the year off with Dominion President, Bonnie Schepers UE as guest speaker at the annual meeting in April. A few of our members attended the UELAC Conference in Toronto. We attended different fairs etc. in the summer and fall with our UEL display, talking to local people about Loyalist history.

In the fall, we had our charter meeting at the Grenville Snowmobile Club. The guest speaker was Fraser Laschinger who talked to us about the book, *12 Years A Slave*. You might wonder what that has to do with Loyalists. For those of you who haven't read the book or seen the movie yet, this is a true story about Solomon Northup, a free-born black man living and working in New York State. Work was scarce so when a couple of white men asked him to help them with some work in Washington City in 1841, he took the job to help feed his wife and children. After they got south the men drugged him and sold him as a slave. When he tried to tell people he was a free man he was beaten. He soon learned that black men didn't have a voice in the south and were not supposed to be educated, so he acted like the other slaves to avoid being beaten or killed. Over the years he did try to escape, but was always caught and returned for another beating from the different masters who owned him.

A Canadian carpenter, named Samuel Bass, happened to get a contract job at the last plantation where Solomon was working. As Solomon was also a very good carpenter, he was told to help Samuel with the job. As they worked and talked, Samuel Bass realized that Solomon was educated and well travelled in Northern New York and Canada along the St. Lawrence River. After many months, Solomon of his friends up north. After a number of months, his friends did go to the plantation and freed him, twelve years after he had been kidnapped.

Of course many things happened in those twelve years so I am not spoiling the book for those who haven't read it and, as usual, the movie is much different than the book. Solomon was talked into writing this book after he was reunited with his family. It was first published in 1853. What we learned at our meeting was that the house that Samuel Bass lived in was less than a mile south of the snowmobile club where we were meeting, so, on the way home, a number of us drove to the old rundown, abandoned house to see where Samuel had lived back in 1853. It's amazing how much history is at our back door.

Our Branch started off the New Year with the loss of another long-time member, John Gardiner UE, on 07 January 2015. During his funeral service, the family and minister mentioned his love of being a Loyalist descendant many times. Each of his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren has received a certificate.

At the funeral home, we noticed the Loyalist Flag in front of John's urn, displayed on what looked like a quilt rack. There was also a small UE flag on one side of the urn and a brass UE plaque on the other side. Under John's photo was his UE Certificate. Talking to one of his granddaughters, I learned that the family took John's things in and the funeral home staff displayed them this way. If any members would like to see a photo of this please contact us at [jessupbranchuel@atgmail.com](mailto:jessupbranchuel@atgmail.com). Rev. David Davidson UE passed away on 13 January 2015. He had been a member and our Branch Chaplain for many years until becoming ill. We will miss both these members very much.

By Barbara Law UE, Branch President

## 2016 Fall

**W**e held our forty-eighth Annual Meeting at the Addison United Church in April with a very interesting guest speaker, Peter Alexander, talking about long guns that he makes for re-enactors.

In May some of our members attended a church service in Loyalist outfits for the Settlers Trek. This was a group of people who followed in their ancestors' footsteps. Back in March 1816, about forty immigrant families from Scotland left Brockville after spending the winter at the military barracks and headed to Perth, about one hundred kilometres to the North West, to start their new lives. After the church service, lunch and speeches by local dignitaries, the Trekkers were on their way on foot, horseback, or in wagons. Sadly, it started to rain just as everyone left the church, but that didn't stop anyone, as they were all excited about the six-day trip to Perth.

The people going on the Settlers Trek were from different cities in Ontario and one family even came over from England to learn what their ancestors had to deal with in their new land. For more information go to [www.settlerstrek2016.ca/](http://www.settlerstrek2016.ca/) We realize that these people were not Loyalists, but our ancestors would probably have attended the church service to wish these new Canadians well on their trip, as other people had done for them.

Along the route, the Trekkers would stop to rest overnight and the people in the towns and villages would come out to wish them well and give them a meal or a place to stay overnight. Myrtle Johnston UE, our Past President and Genealogist, attended one of the breakfasts that was put on for them and she said that everyone was enjoying the trip and the people they met along the way.

In July, our Branch attended the Thirty-seventh Annual Farmersville Exhibition in Athens, Ontario. Lucky for us, the booths were put inside the arena so we didn't have to sit out in the hot sun for two days. A number of people showed interest in the UELAC, but time will tell if any of them follow up on becoming members or not.

In August we had our booth at the Mallorytown Village Fair. This is a small village just west of Brockville and it is always a lot of fun as they have many activities going on all day. Later in the fall we will have a joint meeting with the Leeds & Grenville Branch of OGS as we have done for the past few years.

We are all looking forward to our Branch Charter meeting on 01 October 2016 with guest speaker, UELAC President Barb Andrew UE.

By Barbara Law UE, Branch President