

KAWARTHA BRANCH – Charter – 23 June 1979

1979 Autumn

The first meeting of the Kawartha U.E.L. Branch was held in the Bata Library, Trent University, Peterborough, October 14, with an attendance of forty-four persons from Peterborough, Lakefield and Lindsay areas, also, Mr. R.W. Camm, Secretary of the Bay of Quinte Branch, Reverend E. McCrea of the Grand River Branch, and Mr. K.J. Chard of the Dominion Headquarters and Editor of the Loyalist Gazette. Mr. Guy Thompson, President, pro-tem, opened the meeting with the singing of "God Save the Queen" and made introductory remarks.

Beginning in the early fall of 1978 Mr. E.J. Chard searched out persons with Loyalists ancestry in the general area between Toronto and the Bay of Quinte and fostered interest in membership and in the possibility of forming a U.E.L. Branch. During the following months a great deal of work was undertaken in contacting interested persons and in helping them with their applications. Mr. C.C. Strahm of Toronto had a major role in this research. After extensive effort throughout the winter there were sufficient qualified members and many others working on their applications to provide the nucleus for a possible branch. Mr. J.G. Brownscombe and Miss Elizabeth Richardson provided good support in this preliminary work.

On June 23rd, Mr. K.J. Chard arranged for approval by the Dominion Council of the U.E.L. Association to grant a charter for a Kawartha Branch. This was the official beginning of this branch. Charter members are: Mr. J.G. Brownscombe, Mr. K.J. Chard, Miss Elizabeth Richardson, Mr. S.N. Hagerman, Mrs. Jean H.I. Steinburgh, Mrs. W.A. Davidson, Mr. Guy Thompson, Mr. J.D. Sharpe, Mrs. C.H. McBride, Mrs. M. Haggas, Mrs. W.A. Scott, Miss Grace M. Caddy and Mrs. Gordon Roper.

The pro-tem officers for the new branch are: Mr. Guy Thompson, President; Mr. Jack Brownscombe, Treasurer; Mr. Stuart Hagerman, Genealogist; and Miss Elizabeth Richardson, Secretary. Mr. Brownscombe stated that the present membership fee is \$8.00. Mr. Stuart Hagerman spoke about genealogy and said that he would be pleased to assist anyone in the field. He thanked Mrs. Jean Lake, Chairperson, for the Peterborough Genealogical Society, for being present. Miss Elizabeth Richardson outlined her expectations for the Branch and suggestions for communications over the rather large area. She asked for names and addresses for a mailing list.

Mr. Thompson introduced Mr. Chard and thanked him for the extensive display of Loyalist reference materials he had brought from Toronto. Mr. Chard said how very pleased he was to be present at the meeting in such attractive surroundings in the conference room of the University Library overlooking the Trent River. He then mentioned the importance of each member as well as the branch having U.E.L. purposes. Young and old should all feel proud to know about their heritage and to belong to the United Empire Loyalists. This group is different to a Genealogical Society or a Monarchist League and other groups and has its own unique identity. On May 27, 1914 the first Dominion Association was started by a grant of parliament and today there are twenty-two branches across Canada. One gets out of any association what one puts into it and the main thing to remember is that 'All members unite to preserve their traditions and heritage'. Mr. Chard made reference to the flags, U.E.L. banner bearing the Loyalists' coat-of-arms, jewelry, plaques and many other items of interest which are available to members through the branch treasurer from the Dominion Headquarters.

Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Chard to present the first United Empire Loyalist certificate to the new member of the Kawartha U.E.L. Branch: Mrs. Jean Roper. A short question period followed and Mr. Chard answered questions from the floor.

Mr. Hagerman presented a beautiful gavel which he made for the new Kawartha F.E.L. Branch. Appreciation was expressed to him. Mr. Thompson then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. R.K. Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong, an historian and head of the history department in a Peterborough secondary school spoke on Sir John Johnson, whose primary role was arranging to move many Loyalists into Lower and Upper Canada at the end of the 1700's.

His talk was most informative and he made reference to the King's Royal Regiment of New York, The Jessup Rangers and the Palatines. Very interesting was Mr. Armstrong's personal explanation re the settlements around the Cornwall area and the method of the land distribution by Governor Haldimand. Mr. Armstrong stated that the early Loyalist settlers laid the foundations for our nation. They wanted to stay here no matter what hardships they faced.

Young and old should study their history of Canada and the Loyalist history which should be kept alive. He said how pleased he was to speak about the Loyalists at this first meeting of the Kawartha Branch. Mr. Chiles thanked Mr. Armstrong for his informative talk which had brought back memories of his own family history around the Cataraqui area.

The next meeting will be on December 2nd, at the Bata Library featuring presentations in early Loyalists of the area - Adam Scott, Peter Robinson and others.

Bountiful and delicious refreshments were provided by Mrs. J.G. Brownscombe and Miss Elizabeth Richardson and served by these ladies assisted by Mrs. Jean Steinburgh and Mrs. Cliff Turner. An enthusiastic social time followed with many persons using the large display of books, documents and other resources

1981 Spring

CHARTER PRESENTED TO KAWARTHA BRANCH

The charter banquet of the Kawartha Branch was held at Rock Haven Motor Hotel on October 4 in Peterborough. A friendly social hour preceded the banquet. The head table guests were ushered in by Gavin Watt, Jr., in Royal Yorkers uniform playing his fife in a typical 18th century manner. .

Chairman, Guy Thompson asked Maj. J. D. L. Howson, F.E., to say the blessing which was then followed by the singing of 'God Save the Queen' and a toast to Her Majesty. Near the end of the dinner Mr. Thompson introduced the head table. Mr. William Dom, MP for Peterborough, presented a gift of a Canadian flag for use at Branch meetings. The chairman read many letters of welcome and congratulations to the new Branch, also greetings from London, Grand River, Hamilton and Bay of Quinte Branches.

Mr. Thompson, charter president of the Kawartha Branch in his welcome address, stressed our responsibility to preserve the gifts we have received from the past. Through the Loyalist Branches across the country this dream is being fulfilled. He concluded with the Churchillian quotation "Let tradition be a rudder. but not an anchor on the voyage of life". The unity of Canada's future has been and will be multicultural success, and this is thanks to our glorious and historical past.

Wellington Borland then introduced an excellent entertaining musical rendition of highlights from the operetta "Oklahoma", by performers from the Peterborough society. Visitors from the Governor Simcoe, London and Bay of Quinte Branches were then introduced.

Prior to presentation of the Kawartha Branch Charter there were comments by the Dominion President for the Loyalist Association. Mr. Eaman said on this occasion of the Branch Charter event, how pleased he was to be able to attend, and what an excellent musical rendition we had just heard. He felt that the musical selections sung gave an interesting beginning for a new Branch in its undertakings and activities as portrayed in the song 'Oh What a Beautiful Morning.' He said the Loyalist Branches will grow and unite through their loyalty to Canada. A united Canada will help to preserve the history of the Loyalists. Mr. Eaman expressed a very warm appreciation to Mr. E. J. Chard for his enthusiastic efforts made to create Association branches across the country. Mr. Chard and Mr. Eaman presented the Charter to the Kawartha Branch president, Mr. Guy Thompson. Mr. Thompson expressed gratitude to the Executive who had worked to make this day a reality for the Kawartha Branch of the United Empire Loyalists. A special thank-you was given to Mr. Chard for his encouragement and many hours of work he had put in for the Branch to get organized. Mr. E. J. Chard thanked Mr. Thompson for his kind words. He then thanked Elizabeth Richardson and Jack Brownscombe for their early work in helping to promote the Branch. Mr. Chard asked for the continued support of all to the Kawartha Branch, and encouraged members to bring new friends to future meetings.

The guest speaker, Mr. Gavin K. Watt, was introduced by Jack Brownscombe. Mr. Watt, in period uniform of the Royal Yorkers, spoke on "The Role of the Loyalist Regiments in the Canadian Department." He mentioned that his interest and hobby in the Loyalists lay in the field of military history of the eighteenth century and that it was a project in 1975 he had undertaken to study. He has pioneered in the field, searching documents in the United States and Canada through newspapers, old letters, etc., which helped to give him a true picture of the Royal Yorkers Regiment during the Revolutionary Period in the United States.

Mr. Watt felt Canadians do not seem to be greatly concerned about their historical past. The Americans on the other hand are very proud of their history - be it through stories of Daniel Boone who was pushed south from Detroit by Butlers' Rangers regiment, or other events they can enact. His interest in the Royal Yorkers Regiment was carefully researched as training had to be realistic as possible. He has organized numerous encampments in replica uniforms, following drills and mock battles in New York State and Ontario. Today over sixty men are active in the militia along with their sons.

Mr. Watt felt that the Loyalist history had been abused. Many books and history texts stress the work and achievement of the Loyalist. but no mention is given to the person who took up the musket and believed in his reason by so doing it was for defence, protection, or for some other reason. He said that perhaps the Kawartha Branch could think of making a list of members' ancestors who had fought in the Royal Yorkers, or to make a study of a regiment which could be more pertinent to the Branch's interest as this would help to bring up-to-date another fact of lost Canadian history.

Joan Lucas thanked Mr. Watt for his most inspirational talk, and presented him with a book on Canadian History written by Pierre Berton, The Invasion of Canada.

The banquet closed with the singing of 'O Canada.'

1981 Report

The winter meeting of the Kawartha Branch was held on December 7th, in the Conference Room of the Bata Library, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. The President, Guy Thompson, presided.

Reports were made by Betty Richardson, Secretary, Stuart Hagerman, Genealogist and Jack Brownscombe, Treasurer. Mr. John Turner, M.P.P. for Peterborough and Mrs. Turner attended the meeting and Mr. Turner presented the Ontario flag to the Branch. His short address stressed the importance of Loyalties and the

value of our heritages. Mr. Turner had earlier donated the Canadian flag to our Branch at its charter meeting.

Mr. John P. Creighton was welcomed to the Branch and presented with his certificate by Guy Thompson. Mrs. Joan Lucas, daughter of Mr. Creighton, assisted in the impressive presentation. Our Branch member Keith Chiles delivered an entertaining and humorous speech entitled, "Doodles". Keith is a member of the International Toastmaster Club and was runner-up to the winner at Trenton.

Mr. Ken Armstrong then introduced the film, Upper Canada Village and gave a short background to the events surrounding the settlement of the area and the changes that occurred prior to the erection of Upper Canada Village. Most of the 35 members and friends who attended the meeting stayed for the special Christmas refreshments prepared and served by Mrs. Ruth Turner and Mrs. Brownscombe.

The February meeting was held as usual in the Bata Library, Trent University, Peterborough. Mr. Guy Thompson welcomed members and guests and introduced Mr. Stuart Hagerman, our Branch genealogist, with the suggestion that guests might like to speak to Mr. Hagerman regarding membership. Mr. Thompson gave a brief report of the executive meeting and of his talk in February on Loyalists and the Loyalists' Association to the Kiwanis Scotts Plains Branch.

A membership and treasurer's report was given by Jack Brownscombe. Mr. S. Hagerman gave a report on new members' applications and books available for Loyalist research. Mrs. R. Wessell (ancestor Peter Irish) was presented with her certificate by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Hagerman. Our president then gave a short report on the recent heritage meeting in Toronto on February 14 concerning historical conservation and promotion, with Mr. E. J. Chard representing our Branch. Mr. Thompson also reported on the coming U.E.L. Convention hosted by the Sir Guy Carlton Branch in Ottawa, May 28 June 1. More information will be available at our next meeting.

The loss to all Canadians on the death of Mr. John Fisher, F.E., was expressed by our president. Members and friends were asked to reserve Saturday, October 3, which is the date of our annual dinner when our guest will be the Honourable John Black Aird, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Mr. W. Borland gave a report on plans for the annual dinner which will be held at the Peterborough Golf and Country Club.

Our Branch is investigating the possibility of a bus tour of the Mohawk Valley on June 5, 6 and 7 and Mr. Borland outlined the trip with the request that interested persons notify members of the executive by our next meeting in April so plans can be formalized.

Mrs. Florence Maynes then gave a brief outline of some of the plans for the Kawartha Conference Heritage Festival June 19 - 20, where our Branch will have a display. Mrs. Jean Lake is our representative for this conference.

The new executive for 1981 was installed as follows: President, Mr. Guy Thompson; Vice-President, Mrs. Joan Lucas; Secretary, Mrs. Mary Scott; Treasurer, Mr. W. Borland; Genealogist, Mr. S.N. Hagerman; Publicity, Mr. J. Brownscombe and Mr. K. Borland; Historical Committee, Mr. K. Armstrong and Miss Betty Richardson; Refreshments, Mrs. Ruth Turner and Mrs. Norma Brownscombe and Bicentennial, Mr. K. Chiles and Mrs. Jean Lake.

Mr. Keith Chiles outlined possible Bicentennial projects. This was followed by a discussion and proposals from the floor. Mr. Guy Thompson then presented some slides of a tour of the Mohawk Valley prefaced by a short talk on the Importance to Ontario of the Loyalists from the area of the Mohawk Valley.

Our next meeting will be on April 26 with Mrs. Mary Beacock Fryer, Canadian historian, genealogist and author as the guest speaker. The meeting concluded with a social and refreshments served by Mrs. J. Brownscombe and Mrs. Ruth Turner.

1981 Autumn

The General meeting of the Kawartha U.E.L. Branch was held at the Bata Library, Trent University, April 26th at 2:00 p.m. with twenty-seven members present.

Mr. Guy Thompson, President, opened the meeting with a welcome to the members and guests, and thanked the members of the Executive who prepared and mailed the Newsletter for the branch.

Presentation of her Membership Certificate was made by the President along with Mr. Borland to Rosalie Terry.

There will be a meeting on May 20th for the Executive and any others interested to meet with Mr. Carl Thorpe, Supervisor, Historical Research Section, Heritage Administration Board, Ministry of Culture and Recreation Board, to advise our Branch of the Ontario Government support in promoting events of historical interest. The Executive has agreed as a bicentennial project to establish a scholarship fund to provide prizes in some secondary schools each year to begin 1984. The Branch would solicit assistance through government grants, service clubs, or private donations. The interest should provide appropriate prizes to worthy students each year. Keith Chiles as Chairman of the BiCentennial Committee reported that Jack Brownscombe had been interviewed on T.V. by a local media person, on the purposes and background of the Kawartha Branch.

COMING EVENTS:

Kawartha Conference June 19-21st. Anyone with appropriate materials for display in our booth to contact Jean Lake who will be in charge of setting up the displays. To be in her hands by June 18.

Mr. Stu Hagerman reported as Genealogist that there were two new applications with one application in process.

Mrs. Jean Lake then introduced the guest speaker, Mary Beacock Fryer, from Brockville. She attained a B.A. at University of Toronto with M. A. at Edinburgh University. She is a U.E.L. member, having worked as a town planner, and lectured in the Geography Department at University of Toronto. Her U.E.L. family is Caleb and Martha Seaman. She has written books such as Loyalist Spy, Escape 1975, Thousand Islands 1976, and has now just published "King's Men" 1980, principally with interest in five regiments 1775 1784. Other books are "Rideau Waterway", "Buckskin Pimpernel" and "New Beginnings" .

Mary Beacock Fryer explained that in her way of thinking, the U.E.L.'s are not myths, but heroes. She gave many interesting anecdotes about loyalist figures and regiments. Her great wish would be to have the Haldimand Papers published as were Sir John Johnson's. One particular but rather unknown reference was to the fact that it was Butler's Rangers along with the Indians met and defeated the Americans at the Ohio Valley where Israel Boone, son of Daniel Boone, was killed. Mary Beacock Fryer felt that the importance in history of the U.E.L. landing was "killed" by the Victorian Influence. Mr. Ken Armstrong thanked Mary Beacock Fryer on behalf of the Branch for her enjoyable speech.

MOHAWK VALLEY TRIP KAWARTHA BRANCH

Friday June 5th. 5 p.m. was the departure time of the bus carrying members and friends of the Kawartha Branch to the Mohawk Valley to visit the historical sites of interest where the ancestors of Loyalists fled from that part of the American colonies during the American Revolution.

Stops were made at Port Hope and Belleville to pick up members of the tour from other branches of the Association enroute to our destination at the Holiday Inn in Johnstown. A pleasant social trip with many laughs due to Russ Curry's countless jokes and ad libs was capped off by coffee after midnight prepared by the courteous staff to make our two nights stay a memorable experience at the Holiday Inn.

The next morning began with the visit to Johnson Hall which was the home of Sir William Johnson built in 1763 and has been painstakingly restored. There was a well conducted guided tour with responsible and honest comments pertaining to the role and plight of the area residents who in 1776 chose not to support the rebellion and as a result became known as Loyalists. Many of these Loyalists fled to Canada led by Sir John Johnson, the son of Sir William Johnson.

In appreciation of the tour and in response to the interest shown by the curator the Branch donated a copy of Mary Beacock Fryer's book the King's Men to the Johnson Hall's library. We trust the 'King's Men' will add to the historical perspective of the visitors to the Hall.

The next stop was downtown Johnstown (founded by and named after Sir Wm. Johnson) which has several points of historical interest. A short visit to the Fulton County jail and Court House was followed by a longer visit to the Johnstown Public Library which has a Genealogical Room with numerous reference books, newspaper clippings, family histories and documents pertaining to the early families many of whom are our kith and kin.

After a short lunch which was conveniently timed with a violent thunder storm, a lengthy visit was made to the local museum where the staff extended the most cordial and enthusiastic support and assistance answering many questions put forward by members of our tour group.

Our next stop was at Butlersbury. the home of John Butler. commander of Butler's Rangers. This delightful old home is several miles from Johnstown and sits on high ground overlooking the Mohawk Valley. The present owners had tried to have the house declared a National Historical Site but were turned down.

The turbulent story of the Butlers, hated today because of the revolutionary raids on Cherry Valley, the support of the British at Oriskany and their knowledge of the Iroquois who helped in many raids up and down the valley, long ago destined the house to ignominy. We Canadians cannot be too critical as we tore down a later Butlersburg at Niagara to make room for a highway.

After refreshments at Butlersburg served by the owner. Mrs. Lang and her daughters, we headed to Sir William Johnson's earlier home known as Fort Johnson which is now a museum and historical site. A pleasant hour was spent touring the restored building which houses many interesting antiques of that period and in particular the attic where several old pieces of equipment are stored.

Our next stop at Guy Park Manor was a disappointment as the Manor was closed for the day however, we toured the grounds and enjoyed the view of the Mohawk River and locks located in front of the Manor. The bus returned us to the Inn for an excellent dinner and an evening of reading, socializing or touring the city of Johnstown.

The next day. Sunday, was touring and return home but the first stop was for church at St. Johns Episcopal Church in Johnstown. Our group paraded in for the service led by Keith Chiles and Stu Haggerman bearing our flags.

The original church was built by Sir William Johnson for "Churching the people of his settlement about 1760". It should be noted that in 1762 Sir William also gave fifty acres to be divided equally between the Lutheran and Reformed Churches 'an example of tolerance somewhat uncommon for that period.

On October 25, 1781, a battle took place at the "Stone Church" which was six days after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. Fire destroyed the original church in 1836 and the present church was built in 1837. In erecting his church Sir William built a crypt under the chancel for his place of burial. He was buried there in July 1774 at the age of 59. Rumour has it that the present church was located slightly to the east so that Sir William's grave would be outside the church because of his royalist feelings.

After the church service, the members of the church hosted a light lunch and a social hour sharing many interesting stories with us. One especially interesting note is that the names of those who died at the battle of Johnstown are being collected and the parishioners are anxious to include the names of Loyalists who died in the last battle of the war. At present they have only one name.

Leaving Johnstown we headed up the beautiful Mohawk Valley which followed the river passing numerous historical sites. Time did not allow us to stop for visiting until we reached Herkimer House near Little Falls.

Two unplanned stops were made, the first was a tunnel we wanted to go through, but it was too low. The driver would not follow the advice of one of our group who suggested that we back up and take a run at it. The other stop was when we were crossing the Mohawk River. The old bridge had a sign stating the load capacity, which was lower than our loaded bus. In this case the driver did take our advice when it was pointed out that "we had attended church in the morning".

The tour of Herkimer House was very interesting, particularly since that day was craft day and numerous exhibits and demonstrations were being presented, including sheep shearing, spinning, the dyeing of the yarns and weaving. Of particular interest, was the weaving being done on a machine with a label "made in Elmira, Ontario, Canada".

The last stop of the trip was the Oriskany Battlefield where on August 6, 1777, one of the bloodiest battles of the war was fought with more than a third of the contestants on each side being killed or wounded. This site is an excellent example of how history can be utilized and distorted to satisfy the aim of any group or country. The monument was erected in 1883, to honour a Rebel victory which was actually won by the Loyalists when they defeated Gen. Herkimer who was marching to relieve the besieged garrison at Fort Stanwix. There is even some doubt as to why "the American hero General Nicholas Herkimer the intrepid leader" of the Rebel forces was on the rebel side. No mention was made of his wife or brother who fled to Canada as Loyalists. His home was passed to another brother George, after General Herkimer's death due to the unskilled amputation of his leg after the battle.

It is encouraging that current historians on both sides of the contest are attempting to document more honestly the true circumstances and events of those tragic times.

With the roll called and the bus loaded we headed for Canada and home. It is with regret that we passed up so many spots of Loyalist interest. But it allows us to look forward to another visit later. Since a trip to Butlersburg or as it is now known, Niagara-on-the-Lake, is planned for next year, the return trip to the beautiful Mohawk Valley, the starting point for most of Ontario's Loyalists, is some time in the future.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The Peterborough Golf and Country Club was the location Saturday, October 3, for the second annual dinner of the United Empire Loyalists, Kawartha Branch.

As well as members from Peterborough County, others came from an area stretching from Lake Ontario to Lake Nipissing, Kingston to Orillia.

As the special guest of honour, Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, John Black Aird, was present to give greetings on behalf of Queen Elizabeth.

Chairman for the special event, Ken Armstrong, who was representing Guy Thompson, president, who is in Nottingham, England, said "68,000 UEL's had a great impact on this part of British North America 198 years ago and their descendants still cherish the finest of ideals and principles upon which this province was founded. Nothing is more vital to the survival of Canada as an identifiable nation of the Western Hemisphere than its remaining loyal to its own traditions. What we need in Canada today is the same sort of loyalty that inspired the UEL to leave their homes for the wilds of a new frontier. The suffering and sacrifices endured by the UEL are not demanded of us today, only the same state of mind. "

The Lieutenant-Governor, in his short address, said that this was his first time in Peterborough. He said the UEL's are a guardian of our heritage, a trust passed on through the generations.

Guest speaker of the evening was Sheriff Stan McBride who was dressed in full regalia and made an impressive entrance carrying a sword followed by the rest of the Vice-Regal party led by Piper Tom Chalmers. Stan was introduced by Wellington Borland, who described Stan's active past and his devoted loyalty and contributions to Peterborough.

He said "the UEL's might not be royalty but they have a lot of nobility." He is presently attempting to qualify to become a U.E.L. To be a member "One must prove his ancestor took the side of the king during the American Revolution and fought for the crown or suffered hardships by being persecuted by the loss of land, and homes, pulling up roots, etc., for the crown. The original UEL's settled from the Maritimes to Niagara and earned what their country owed them. They brought with them a God fearing belief, courtesy and respect, not only for people but for their rights and belongings. It costs us nothing to be linked to the country that provided us with our roots and no one in our lifetime has had to suffer through the connection with the crown.

"It is of the utmost importance that we today believe in the good of today's youth. It's the exception that makes the news. We must support our young people. They are all that we have."

Mr. McBride brought a fine spirit of humour and stirred the U.E.L. spirit.

In appreciation Elizabeth Richardson presented Mr. McBride with a book, The King's Men, by Mary Beacock Fryer, the story of the Loyalist regiments who became the soldier founders of the province of Ontario, the Loyal Colonials who joined the Provincial Corps of the British Army, Canadian Command, during the American Revolution.

As an added treat, entertainment was provided by The St. James Church Players - Lois Hurley, Shirley Lannen, Tom Chard and Fred Huffman with piano played by Ruth King.

It was a great banquet and a great spirit among all who attended. Appreciation is due to those who so carefully prepared and directed the gala event Ken Armstrong, Wellington Borland, Keith Borland, Jack Brownscombe, and Mrs. Mary Scott.

The present membership is forty. We invite persons of Loyalist descent with ancestral proofs to write for membership to Mr. J.G. Brownscombe, 87 Benson A venue, Peterborough, Ontario K9H 5X8.

- *Peterborough Examiner*

1982 Autumn

The 1982 Annual bus trip of the Kawartha Branch, took members and friends of the branch and Belleville and Toronto branches to Niagara Peninsula, and in particular to Niagara-on-the-Lake - a United Empire Loyalist stronghold.

On Friday, June 4th, we arrived at the historic Prince of Wales Hotel in Niagara-on-the-Lake built in 1864 and more recently completely renovated to include all modern amenities.

The cold, windy, wet weather this weekend did not dampen our spirits too much, but did dampen our pedestrian excursions. Our first stop on Saturday, was at the Niagara Historical Museum. Here we viewed historical displays relating to Isaac Brock, Laura Secord, U.E. Loyalists, the military, the monarchy and the pioneers. Also, there were special collections relating to specific area families such as the Kirby family, the Secord family, the Servos family and the Ball family.

We enjoyed lunch at the Oban Inn in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Situated "by the Golf Course and overlooking the Lake, the Oban Inn began as the home of a ship's captain in the 1820's." The next stop was Fort George which was built between 1796 and 1799 to replace Fort Niagara as the British Army Headquarters on the Niagara Frontier. We had a wonderful tour of this Fort thanks to our well informed guide. "In 1937 Fort George was restored, and today it provides an authentic and colourful look at a soldier's life in the early 1800's." As we walked through the soldiers' living accommodation those of us not warmly attired could appreciate how difficult life was in winter. The gun holes along the walls must have allowed the snow and penetrating cold to make life miserable in the poorly heated barracks. The uniforms displayed certainly did not appear as warm as those used by the military today. Although outnumbered by the Americans throughout the War of 1812, the British forces eventually managed to retain the Niagara Frontier. Much of the area around Niagara-on-the-Lake was used for quartering and training troops during the two World Wars. The area includes Fort George, Fort Mississauga and Butler's Barracks. During World War I "a field of canvas" sprang up on the Garrison Reserve Land. Today's Shaw Festival Theatre stands where many of the tents were pitched but today there is little or no evidence of its having been used for this purpose. The wind and the rain hampered our progress and enjoyment of the tour somewhat, but, even so, it was the highlight of the trip.

Following our tour of Fort George, we set out for Niagara Falls. On our way we passed the Laura Secord Homestead and at Queenston Heights battleground we could see Brock's Monument. In Niagara Falls we visited Lundy's Lane Historical Museum which is housed in a cut stone building erected in 1874. It is located on the site of the fierce Battle of Lundy's Lane where British and Canadian and American forces fought on July 25, 1814. We enjoyed a brief glimpse of the Falls and travelled the scenic route back to our hotel.

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, still with raindrops falling on our heads, many of our group squeezed in a few minutes of shopping. One shop of particular interest was the Niagara Apothecary dedicated in 1971 as an authentic restoration of a pharmacy that first opened its doors on the premises in 1866 after having served the town at other locations since the early 19th century. Many of the buildings in Niagara-on-the-Lake are being restored in a manner reminiscent of the early 19th century.

Following dinner Saturday evening at The Buttery Theatre Restaurant, the tourists visited the Shaw Festival Theatre where, unfortunately, the controversial play "Camille" by Robert David MacDonald was presented.

Sunday morning we had a bus tour of the historic sites and buildings of Niagara-on-the-Lake conducted by John L. Field. We visited St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church which dates from 1831. After a wind storm in 1855 which severely damaged the roof the architect recommended its reconstruction as a hipped form at the rear. In 1937 restoration took place. "Its graceful columns at the entrance and its striking interior have a charm that certainly endures." We worshipped at St. Mark's Anglican Church and received a hearty welcome. Mr. Field gave us an outline of the history of St. Mark's stating that in 1813 the Americans captured Niagara and it was occupied territory for seven months. St. Mark's Church was turned into a hospital and barracks. Trenches were dug among the tombstones in the churchyard. Soldiers used the flat stones as chopping blocks and evidence of this is still visible today.

After lunch we arrived at Jordan, and visited the Museum. It was primarily an agricultural museum comprising the Fyfe House, the old school and another home. Jordan is situated at 20 Mile Creek (20 miles from Fort George) overlooking a ravine.

Homeward bound, our next stop was Grimsby, Ontario located at 40 Mile Creek (40 miles from Fort George) along the Niagara Escarpment. Mr. Smith, our Guide, related the history of St. Andrew's Church, a parish founded by Loyalists in 1787 under the leadership of Andrew Pettit, who invited friends to worship in his home until a log church was built in 1794. Later, a frame building was erected and the present stone structure was erected in 1819. St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby, is the fourth oldest Church in Ontario. Loyalist graves are in the churchyard of St. Andrew's.

The Grout Homestead,, situated across from St. Andrew's Church was build about 1832 when the Rev. George Grout was rector of St. Andrew's. The weather was still inclement, but the present owners of this old home graciously received us and we listened to an interesting dialogue on its history.

We did have a very informative weekend and many thanks are extended to Mr. Wimp Borland and Mrs. Mary Scott for arranging this trip for us.

LINDSAY'S 125th ANNIVERSARY HOMECOMING PARADE

The Kawartha Branch of the United Empire Loyalists was all was proud to participate in the 125th Anniversary Homecoming Parade in Lindsay on July 31. Our float was in the "Our People" section of the parade which was two hours long over a 3 km route. Later the floats remained on display in the exhibition grounds.

Our float mounted on a farm wagon drawn by a team of Belgian horses depicted a scene whereby a United Empire Loyalist family was starting to make a life in the Ontario bush. A woman, her two children and two soldiers representing the King's Royal Regiment and Butler's Rangers and a drummer boy were outside the log cabin. The float carried a Canadian Flag and the U.E.L. Flag as well as a banner announcing the Bicentennial of the United Empire Loyalists in Ontario in 1984. Two blue and gold banners indicating "UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS" together with an attached Provincial Crest were suspended from the sides of the wagon.

Betty Richardson, Mary Scott and Isabel Wessell formed the committee to prepare the float. Once they had the plan it had be executed. How to build the log cabin was a big problem! After discarding many possible solutions, Bob Wessell sent word "leave the building of the cabin to me." They did! It began with the cutting down of two 50' basswood trees. It involved working each night and Saturdays for two weeks to complete the project. The night they arranged to have the backdrop painted, it rained, but all was moved to a neighbour's barn. Three young lads from Lindsay came and peeled the bark off the logs to make the roof and door of the cabin.

Then the soldiers had to be clothed in appropriate attire. Reference books were borrowed from the library and U.E.L. Dominion Headquarters and a local school library and an effort was made to have the uniforms as authentic as possible. Only pictures guided them. Material and buttons (60 in all) for the uniforms and the tricorne hats were purchased in Toronto. Our seamstress did a wonderful job creating the patterns and then the uniforms for the soldiers.

Identification banners were needed and arrangements were made with Mr. Chard of the U.E.L. Headquarters to have two banners made. The branch appreciated very much the U.E.L. Headquarters' generosity. The banners were made by Flags Unlimited in Thornton, Ontario and had to be picked up. They were on display for the first time on our float in the Lindsay parade but these banners will be used by other branches over the next two years.

A banner was prepared for the back of the float proclaiming the Bicentennial in 1984, our Branch name and showing an early Loyalist symbol. It was painted on special banner cloth with special paints.

Still another problem – a neighbour who had promised that he would bring his team of horses to pull our float on the day of the parade sold his horses the previous week. However, we did obtain a beautiful team of Belgian horses from another source to pull the float.

The most exciting part of the whole operation was the assembly of the float in Memorial Park, Lindsay. Picture if you will - the arrival of the wagon with the cabin behind a van; the arrival of the team of Belgians in a horse van; the soldiers arriving in uniform with period rifles from the 1700s and the mother with her two children arriving in costume. Then, the final flurry of activity assembling the flags, the trees and stumps, the banners, the outdoor cooking standard with a kettle all of which had to be anchored to the wagon.

We were ready for the parade! What a thrill to see the United Empire Loyalist float appear before our eyes in the Homecoming Parade of Lindsay's 125th Anniversary celebrations.

1985 June

Obituary: **FRANCES EDITH WATT** of 24 Manion Street, Thunder Bay passed away on February 14, 1985 at the age of eighty-nine. A member of Governor Simcoe Branch for many years, she was a direct descendant of Colonel John Butler, U.E. and a staunch defender of her Loyalist background.

She married Herbert James Watt, D.V.S. in 1915. After the war of 1914-17 they settled in Manitoba. After several moves, the family of five children moved from Dryden, Ontario to Port Arthur in 1938. She was very active in community affairs: Member of St. John's Anglican Church, Life Member of Womens' Institute of Canada, Port Arthur Branch, Charter member of the Dawson Court Auxiliary, and a member of West Algoma Council of Women. She was always interested in women's rights.

Predeceased by her husband, she has three surviving daughters, Mrs. Mary Scott, Lindsay, Mrs. Dorothy Cook and Mrs. Phyllis Stinson, Thunder Bay, and a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Lea Watt of Burnaby, B.C. About 1965, Mrs. Watt began to establish her family tree. She had traced her family back to the Duke of Ormonde, Kilkenny, Ireland and a Baronetcy of the Schermerhorn family in Holland and later descendants from John Butler.

She praised the co-operation of the New York Archives but regretted that many artifacts and records were flowing to the United States, e.g. the Regimental Staff of Colonel John Butler that was given to an American Church at Johnstown, N.Y.

After establishing membership in the United Empire Loyalists, she wrote, by hand, five books of her Loyalist family, one for each of her children.

The daughters and friends of Frances E. Watt will long remember her personal strength and pride in being of Loyalist stock.

1985 December

A picnic was held at Lang Century Village on June 23, hosted by Kawartha Branch with the Governor Simcoe Branch (Toronto) as our guests. The event was informal and friendly. Following the luncheon, a slide presentation was given by the curator of the Lang Century Village portraying the history of the pioneer buildings and land sites. A leisurely tour followed, giving the guests opportunities to chat with the villagers, the guides in their pioneer costumes, and stop for tea or cider.

The president of Governor Simcoe Branch, Mr. Douglas Grant, presented a copy of the branch bicentennial book *Loyalist Vignettes and Sketches* to the Kawartha Branch. Mr. and Mrs. R. John Mitchele also represented the Governor Simcoe Branch. Mr. C. C. Strahm of Toronto, who has given extensive genealogical assistance to numerous applicants, also attended.

Mr. R. Good, a new member, from Port Hope, presented three books to the branch library.

The annual banquet was held at the Empress Hotel, Peterborough, on November 9 with Mr. Russell Waller, president of the Kingston and District Branch as the guest speaker, speaking on the topic of Halley's Comet.

The Christmas meeting will be on December 8 at St. John's Anglican Church, Brock Street, Peterborough.

For membership in the eastern part of Central Ontario write to Mrs. S.N. Hagerman, Genealogist, Kawartha U.E.L. Branch, 143 Wolsley St. Peterborough, Ont. K9H HZ2.

1998 Fall

Georgie Hicks UE, was the proud recipient of the United Empire Loyalist trophy for her project on her family tree which started with Edward Hicks Senior. For me, the history fair was a dream come true. Over 125 students from grade one to eight participated. We had rust, second, third and honorable mention awards for the primary, junior and intermediate divisions. In addition to these, we had five special categories for projects done on Native Studies, Local History, Women in History, Family History and United Empire Loyalists.

After trying unsuccessfully to get a plaque donated by the United Empire Loyalist Association for the latter award, I had a trophy made locally and donated it myself. I am a UEL member and I believe strongly that if we do not encourage young people to delve into this area, we will have no members in the future.

Georgie enjoyed doing her project so much that she started on it again right after the History Fair. She plans to make it even better for next year. As well, her entire family got involved.

A number of the projects, including Georgie's, will be displayed at the Warkworth.

Mrs. Kate Gibson, a member of the Quinte U.E.L.A.C. Branch spent the afternoon and evening of the History Fair with us. She had an excellent display of UEL. and genealogical materials and answered queries from the many visitors.

Gayle Nelson, president of the Kawartha O.G.S. also had an excellent display there. She judged the Family History category and presented three lovely family history books donated by the Kawartha O.G.S.

I just wanted you to know that History is alive and well in Northumberland County.

Yours truly,

Doris L. (Goheen) Nelson, U.E. R.R. #2
Baltimore, Ontario
KOK ICO

1997 Spring

This obituary was adapted from the obituary notice in the Peterborough Examiner, 29 Jan. 1997, and from notes provided by Joan Lucas, Genealogist of the Kawartha Branch.

M McBride, Mrs. Helen Robina (King), UE, at Civic Hospital on Monday, 27 Jan. 1997, in her 87th year. She was the wife of Collins 'Mac' Hillier McBride, former manager of Graftons clothing store of Peterborough, and mother of Robert Collins McBride and his wife, Grietje Renskea (Purdy) McBride of Maple Grove Farms, RR#I, Indian River.

Mrs. McBride was a proven descendant of fourteen United Empire Loyalists. Among them were McGregory Van Every, Adam (Jung) Young and Capt. John B. DeCou.

McGregory Van Every and Adam Young were two of the first sixteen families to farm the Niagara Peninsula. Adam Young and his family became the first white settlers of Haldimand County.

John B. DeCou was a founder of the Welland Canal and established mills at DeCew Falls in Lincoln County and later at Decewsville, Haldimand County. It was to his home at DeCew Falls that Laura Secord walked to warn Lt. Fitzgibbon of the advancing American forces during the War of 1812.

Mrs. McBride had a life-long interest and love for United Empire Loyalists and our Association. This she passed on to her son and his family who are in the process of proving their descent from all fourteen U.E.L. ancestors. What a legacy she has left for her family!

Editor's Note: For more information on DeCew Falls and DeCewsville please read the story "The 'Young' Ones" by Mrs. McBride's- son, Robert, which begins on page 34.

1999 Spring

A Loyalist Grace", composed by Mr Frank Rogers, UE, Kawartha Branch, was given by the author at the Kawartha Branch Annual Dinner on 21 November, 1998. Frank is a longtime loyal member of Kawartha Branch and is presently the treasurer.

Dear Lord, we thank You for all the blessings that we have received from Your bountiful hand.

As we pause here to reflect on Your goodness, we think back to our forefathers and mothers who were loyal to their sovereign and to the principles of law, order and good government that he represented.

Because of their loyalty to these ideals they were forced to leave their homes, lands and possessions and come to this land, suffering a great many hardships and privations.

In this new land, with a great deal of hard labour and determination, they built for themselves new homes and carved out farms from the primeval forest. They continued to adhere to their principles of loyalty and good government and passed these loyal attitudes down to their children.

Because of their devotion, hard work and suffering, we, their descendants, enjoy the blessings of this new land including comfortable houses that we did not build and fertile farms that we did not clear.

We lift our hearts in praise to you, O Lord, for these blessings that we enjoy today. We thank You for this food that You have caused to grow from the fertile soil and that is placed before us this night. We pray that You will bless it to our use and may we be ever thankful for Your goodness to us.

We ask these mercies in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

Thirty-one members attended the banquet including five of our eight new members. Mr. Robert McBride portrayed *The Life and Times of Capt. John B. DeCou, UE*, his great great great grandfather. Bob came in costume and set out a display of DeCou-McBride treasures including a sword, cane, sketches of DeCou Falls and Capt. John's stone home, a key stone from the DeCou mills and a copy of the military cap Capt. John would have worn. Bob's excerpts from Capt. John's diaries about the many rattlesnakes infesting his first home which caused the Capt. to "sling his hammock from the rafters", made some of us shudder at the thought! For those not at the banquet one can read of the struggles of Capt. John and his family in "Families", O.G.S. Vol 37-no.4 November 1998, pages 195-207.

Shopping at the Kawartha Branch projects table was brisk and well received. Items for sale included: Roger's Ranger pins, Union flag decals, U.E.L. crest hasty-notes, U.E.L. ties, complete set of Connie Brummel Crook's books including her latest, Maple Moon, union desk flags, U.E.L. membership pins and one copy only Loyalist Mosaic by Joan Magee. Anyone interested in purchasing these items may contact Kawartha Branch President, Joan Lucas, or Kawartha Branch Projects convenor, Elizabeth Richardson.

Those taking part in the program were Mr. Stan McBride, Mr Frank Rogers, Mr. Frank Lucas, Mr Robert McBride, Mrs. Isabel Wessell, Mrs. Jean Lake, Mr. Paul Clark, Miss Marjorie Owen, Mrs. Elaine Gillespie and Mrs. Joan Lucas. A delicious roast beef dinner was catered by St Paul's members, and a time of entertainment and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone.

Plans are already under way for our second United Empire Loyalist Day, 19 June 1999 and our Branch Education Committee is seeking ways and means of promoting our Loyalist heritage in our schools and communities.

By Joan Lucas, President, Kawartha Branch

2000 Spring

On November 27th, members gathered to celebrate Kawartha Branch's 20th Anniversary. Our charter president, Guy Thompson UE, and the current president Paul Clark UE cut the Anniversary cake, and the evening's speaker was Kawartha's founding historian, Kenneth Armstrong. Ken spoke on the importance of teaching Canadian History in our schools. He pointed out that Canadian History, if it is

taught, begins at 1900, ignoring all our earlier recorded past. Yet our early history, from the time of European discovery, was the building block upon which the *best county in the world* was founded. Our children have a right to know the roots of their country, so that they may develop a national pride in, and understanding of the heritage of this great nation.

On display at the banquet as the model of a Loyalist farm over a 25 year period from the first shanty onwards constructed by Brian Dickey, Kawartha's youngest member. He built the model as a class project in grade 7 last year and received full marks for it. Well done! Kawartha is proud of you. Brian also displayed his certificate as a descendant of Adam Vent UE. As well, his aunt, Pam Dickey, (Kawartha Branch's membership convenor) was invited to speak about the Loyalists to Brian's class.

Kawartha's new storyboard display was unveiled at Settlers Day, Settlers' Village, Bobcaygeon, and again at Lang Century Village in August. Plans are being made to take it to heritage fairs and other events this year.

Kawartha Branch's new cookbook, *Hearth and Home* will be on sale at the UELAC Conference and at Adolphustown's 'Landing of the Loyalists'. Copies may be purchased directly from the Branch by contacting Pamela Dickey, R.R. #1, Buckhorn, ON KOL 110 or by email: <pamdickeyue@ptbo.igs.net>. Connie Brummel Crook wrote the introduction to the cookbook and various members have added historical notes to their recipes.

By Joan Lucas UE, I.P.P.

2001 Spring

It has been long acknowledged that the UELAC in the Kawartha's is one of the best-kept secrets of the area. It was for this reason, a display booth for use at Heritage Days, Settlers villages, etc was thought to be a good idea. We borrowed an old artist display from a neighbour (my brother-in-law), put together a few storyboards. Gathered up what was left of previous display's that was in storage in Betty Richardson basement and off we went last year to Settlers Village in Bobcaygeon. Frank and Joan Lucas joined Pam and me for most of the weekend. Bruce Embury UE was there with his local history along with the Irish Club. We were situated in the old Boyd stable that went back to the mid 1800's. The floors were well worn from years of horses using the barn and you could see that hydro had been added long after the barn was built.

Shortly thereafter, the display was taken to Lang Pioneer village, in the Duro Town Hall for a weekend greeting people who were very interested in the UEL and the display.

We soon realized we required a display which could be easily mounted and transported. Frank Lucas planted the seed and then I saw a display at the Lift Lock Centre constructed of PVC pipes by the Heritage Canoe Museum, I thought, if they could do it so can we. The main advantage was that it was light, easy to transport, easy to assemble and quick to come down. An added bonus, it was flexible enough that it could be used in several different formats. It could also hold two more storyboards and if we wanted, they could be used on both sides.

We took the new display the week prior to the flag raising at City Hall, Peterborough, on June 16th 2000. Next, we celebrated the Loyalist Landing at Adolphustown, Bay of Quinte. We had been invited by the Bay of Quinte Br to set up our booth beside the Research centre and sell our wares. The day was filled with hours of joy as we sold our cookbooks and coins, talked genealogy with new found friends, and shared precious moments with long lost cousins.

For those that have not seen the re-enactment of the landing, it has a tendency to take you back to those early days when our ancestors must have been filled with much doubt as to their future and fearful for their family and friends while at the same time thrilled with excitement and trepidation when learning of their new beginnings.

Then, Lang Pioneer Village invited us to be present, in full costume, at the twoday re-enactment of the War of 1812. We took the display booth the weekend of Sept 23rd & 24th at the Port Hope Pioneer festival.

In September, Joan Lucas took the display as part of her presentation when she was guest speaker at the Greater Harvey Historical Society. Pam and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members who have helped us man our display booth over the past summer: Frank & Joan Lucas, Jarvis & Jean Lake, Chuck & Pat Ross, Wimpy Borland and Elaine Gillespie.

Future plans include re-visits to Adolphustown, Bobcaygeon, Lang Pioneer Village, Port Hope and the Simcoe County Museum in Barrie.

By David Kemlo and Pam Dickey UE

2002 Spring

Our sales have been fantastic and our membership increased. Our genealogist, Joan Lucas DE, is busy assisting members and potential new members in establishing their UE status, one as far away as Holland.

Our display booth has also done quite a bit of travelling over the past year. Although not present at all of the following events, our Branch sales items were on sale at each of the following venues along with our Brochures. In addition, competent volunteers were available to answer questions.

2001:

February we were at Portage Place Mall in Peterborough participating in Heritage Week along with a number of other local groups.

March we had a wonderful write up in the Peterborough Examiner about our cookbook resulting in a number of sales and increasing the awareness of our organization.

May saw the booth in the lobby of the Centennial Museum in Peterborough. It was on display for the complete month and the museum staff provided decorations of balloons and Canadian flags for the May 24 holiday.

June we were at Adolphustown with the display housed in its very own tent. Later it was an important part of the Loyalist flag raising ceremony at City Hall in Peterborough.

July 1st, we participated in the Canada Day celebration in Buckhorn.

July 14th the display was at the Boyd Museum in Bobcaygeon. This particular event was well advertised and we were pleased to welcome several people to the booth who came prepared with copies of their family trees seeking assistance.

July 21st and 22nd we participated in the War of 1812 re-enactment at Lang Century Village in Keene. The display was housed in the old Douro Town Hall. Once again we took over the main flagstaff and flew the Loyalist Flag for the two-day event.

August we were in Kinmount along with the Greater Harvey Historical Society's display at the Kinmount Fair.

September, we were back in Bobcaygeon attending the annual quilt fair at the Pioneer Settlers Village and then later in the same month, represented at the Bobcaygeon Fall Fair.

In November we were at the "Nick of Time" show in Buckhorn where several books of Connie Brummel Crook were sold and our brochures made available to the general public. The event attracts people from all parts of the County and is very well attended.

At the AGM in Cornwall, the St. Lawrence Branch announced they wanted to find a new home for the wonderful storyboards that were produced by the Federal Government during the 1967 Canadian Centennial Celebration. The display boards were part of a larger display that toured Canada on board a special Centennial Train.

I'm pleased to announce that Kawartha Branch has now provided a new home for the display. We are quite willing to lend the display to any branch for their local events. (Cost of shipping and insurance is your only expense).

At the Kinmount Fall Fair, on Labour Day weekend 2002, plans are underway to hold a large period re-enactment and Kawartha Branch will play a role.

By Pam Dickey UE

2002 Fall

After our February 17th Annual General Meeting elections we welcomed Grietje McBride UE First Vice President, Pam Dickey UE Second Vice President, David Kemlo Treasurer, and Shannon Ross UE (daughter of Secretary, Chuck Ross UE) as a Director.

At our General Membership Meeting of 21 April 2002, the Branch Constitution & By-laws was ratified by the membership.

Our second annual Kawartha Branch picnic was held at Lang Century Village in Otonabee Township, Sunday, June 2nd.

The Branch was well represented at the UELAC Conference and AGM 2002 in Waterloo, June 6th - 9th, with Pam Dickey UE, Jean Lake UE, Joan Lucas UE, Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride UE as Delegates and Mary Scott UE as an Alternate. We were most pleased when our Immediate Past President, Paul Clark UE, joined us for an afternoon and evening.

On June 19th, Ontario's Loyalist Day, the Kawartha Branch, accompanied by Mayor Sylvia Sutherland, held a flag raising ceremony at the City Hall of the City of Peterborough. Over ninety elementary public school children participated. The City of Peterborough has passed a resolution to ensure that this annual flag raising ceremony, begun in 1997, is to be continued as an annual event, the flag being flown on the City Hall flagpole for a week.

The Branch display booth was active at the June 22nd - 2301 Bobcaygeon Settler's Day at the Kawartha Settlers Village, at the Kinmount Fair August 30th - September 1", and at the September 27th - 28th Bobcaygeon Fall Fair.

Branch member and well known author, Connie Brummel Crook UE, received a Silver Birch Award this past spring, school children across Canada choosing her novel, The Hungry Year, as worthy of this coveted award.

Doug Vasey, the retired County of Peterborough Court Reporter, spoke at our September 15th meeting about "*Murder and Mayhem in Peterborough during the 1800s*". Gayle McIntyre, Coordinator of Collections Conservation & Management and Museum Management & Curatorship Programs at Sir Sandford Fleming College, will be our guest speaker at our annual Branch banquet, November 2nd, talking about how to best preserve one's fragile family archival materials.

Members of Kawartha Branch, in Loyalist apparel, participated in the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations on October 5th at the Peterborough Armouries. A number of Branch members also attended a memorial service for the Queen Mother held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Peterborough in June.

Plans are well underway for Kawartha Branch to host the UELAC Conference and AGM 2004 in Peterborough, the theme being "*Water Links To Our Loyalist Heritage*".

By Bob McBride, BSc, MEd, UE, Kawartha Branch President

2003 Fall

At our General Meeting in February, we were informed and entertained by David Rumball UE, speaking about Heraldry. In April, John and Kay Chesser UE role-played their way through an unforgettable Loyalist biography.

In between General Meetings, our Branch has taken its storyboard display, designed by Pam Dickey UE and David Kemlo, to venues such as Adolphustown, Bobcaygeon, Port Hope, Lang Pioneer Village and Minden. These venues have given us opportunities to educate visitors about our Branch and its activities as well as Loyalist history.

June was a very busy month this year for our Branch. Our annual flag raising ceremonies took place on June 19m at Peterborough City Hall, Peterborough County Court House, Township of Cavan Millbrook-North Monaghan municipal offices and in Port Hope. These flag raising ceremonies certainly kept us busy but everyone who attended enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Over sixty local elementary public school children formed the choir at the flag raising ceremonies at Peterborough City Hall and municipal officials also took part in their respective sites and found the ceremonies to be educational.

Five members of Kawartha Branch attended the UELAC Conference and AGM 2003 in Winnipeg: Joan Lucas UE, Jean Lake UE, Grietje McBride UE, Elizabeth Richardson UE and Mary Scott UE. Manning our branch display booth was a great opportunity to meet people and inform them about our plans for the UELAC Conference and AGM 2004 that we're hosting here in Peterborough, June 3 - 6. Our conference committee, Grietje and Bob McBride, Pam Dickey, David Kemlo, Joan Lucas and Jean Lake, have been hard at work since last summer, finalizing details for this conference, that will also be a celebration of our Branch's twenty-fifth anniversary. The members of the committee deserve a lot of praise for their commitment to this task and even now are putting the final touches on these plans. Please contact Pam Dickey UE, Registration Chairperson, R.R. # 1, Buckhorn, Ontario. KOL 110 Phone: 1705-657-1926, E-mail: pamdickeyue@ptbo.igs.net or Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride UE, CoConvenors, Maple Grove Farms, R.R. # 1, Indian River, Ontario KOL 2BO Phone: 1-705-295-4556, E-mail: bob-mcbride@heydon.com for further details or visit our Branch web-site at URL: <<http://www.ptbo.igs.net/~davidkemlo/kawarthabruel>>.

We are excited about our unique region here in the Kawartha Lakes and the variety of attractions it offers. We have planned what we hope will provide information, great guest speakers, informative and relaxing bus tours and quality entertainment for all delegates and spouses. Our theme for the conference is "*Water Links To Our Loyalist Heritage*".

We were thrilled to learn about the plans to bestow Elizabeth Richardson UE, a Branch member, with an award at the Winnipeg conference in recognition of her many years of contribution to the UELAC. Elizabeth was honoured at the gala banquet held at Fort Garry with the presentation of a beautifully made plaque.

Another of our Branch members, Connie Brummel Crook UE, has just released her newest book, *The Perilous Year*, set in the Adolphustown area, a sequel to *The Hungry Year*, Regional Winner of the Silver Birch Award in 2002.

Regular Branch meetings for 2003 2004 will be held September 21, November 16 and February 15, with our annual Branch Banquet on October 25 at the Kawartha Golf and Country Club in Peterborough. As well the fourth annual Branch Barbeque and social event will be organized for the summer of 2004. Regular meetings start at 2:00 p.m. and are held at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church parlour, Water Street, Peterborough. Hope to see you there !

By Grietje R. McBride, B.Sc. UE, Branch President

2004 Spring

Much of our energies in Kawartha Branch are being channelled into making arrangements for the UELAC Conference and AGM 2004, being held in Peterborough, Ontario, June 3 - 6. We have been working on this since 2001. Our theme will be *Waterlinks to our Loyalist Heritage*. We have some exciting updates in arrangements for the Waterlinks Tour, held on Friday, June 4th. After morning workshops, there will be an outdoor picnic at picturesque Lang Pioneer Village, just a ten minute drive from Peterborough, followed immediately by an historic re enactment of a Loyalist Landing, complete with costumed volunteers. The Waterlinks Tour will be rounded out by a trip to the famous Lift Lock that is celebrating its Centennial this summer. Because the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough is temporarily closed, our arrangements with them, as published in the Fall 2003 issue of the *Gazette*, have necessarily been cancelled. If it is open during the time of the Conference, we recommend this one-of-a-kind world class museum for your pleasure. For further information about the conference, please see information provided in this issue of *The Loyalist Gazette* outlining registration information. You can also register by downloading an application from our Branch web site, DRL: <http://www.ptbo.igs.net/~davidkemlo/kawarthabrue/>. Our Branch First Vice President, Pam Dickey DE, and her husband, David Kemlo, Branch Treasurer and our Web Master, have been busy all fall preparing the Branch web site and registration information. If you've not visited our web site for awhile, please drop in and leave a message in our guest book. Our Branch Genealogist, Joan Lucas UE, along with Jean Lake UE, are looking after the facilities for the conference, working diligently to ensure that your stay in Peterborough is very enjoyable. If your Branch is planning a display for the conference, please contact Joan at e-mail: jflucas@sympatico.ca. phone: 1705-876-9800. Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride DE, Co-chairs of our Conference 2004 Committee, have been working on a revised educational booklet, "*Celebrating Our Loyalist Past: An Activity Book For All Ages*". It will be available at our Branch display booth as well as at Lang Pioneer Village. Our Branch Secretary and Second Vice President, Chuck Ross UE, has ably supported our Branch as publicist, reaching all area newspapers and other media.

Our ever-popular Kawartha Branch Display Booth was very active throughout the summer of 2003. A particularly successful display was held at the Kinmount Fair on the Labour Day weekend with Joan

Lucas UE, Branch Genealogist, and Pam Dickey UE, Branch Membership Chair. Pam, an avid quilter, won first prize at the Bobcaygeon Fall Fair three weeks later. Look for her Loyalist Rose Quilt that will be on display at the Registration Desk during the UELAC Conference & AGM 2004 in Peterborough. We have met as a Branch once a month this fall and enjoyed hearing Stan McBride UE speak about his entertaining trip in search of his roots in Ireland at our September 21st meeting. Our annual Branch Banquet was held at the Kawartha Golf and Country Club on October 25th, our guest speaker Ray Nobles UE, entertaining us with an account of his experiences researching his Loyalist ancestor, Frances Noble UE, followed by a rousing sing-a-long accompanied by pianist, Elva Chamberlain, and the distribution of draw prizes. At our regular General Membership meeting on November 16th, we were truly honoured with a visit by Roy Lewis UE, Vice President, Central East Region, who described the exploits and exemplary life of his ancestor, Thaddeus Lewis. This was appreciated all the more as Roy is truly an inspiration with his dedicated service to Loyalist projects.

Kawartha Branch is very pleased to welcome Craig White UE who recently received his UELAC certificate for his Loyalist ancestor, John Crysedale UE. A special meeting with Craig was arranged through fellow-branch member, David Rumball UE.

Upcoming events in our Branch include a Valentines "party" where members will share anecdotes about their Loyalist ancestors at our February 15th meeting. On April 18th our guest speaker will be Toronto Branch President, John Warburton UE, as Dr. Zebadiah Zonk, presenting an entertaining re-enactment of nineteenth century preoccupation with the brain, magic, and science.

Our Branch outreach now includes a vignette portraying the lives of Adam Young UE and his wife, Catherine Elizabeth Schremling, and their harrowing experiences during the Revolution, with Bob McBride UE and Grietje McBride UE role-playing the parts of Adam and Catherine. It was presented to the Kiwanis Club in Peterborough on January 8th and they will present this vignette at the Hamilton Branch meeting on March 25th.

We are looking forward to a very busy and exciting spring and welcome your interest and participation in the UELAC conference and AGM from June 3 to 6, 2004.

By Grietje R. McBride, B.Sc. UE, Branch President

2004 Fall

Kawartha Branch proudly celebrated our 25th anniversary as a Branch by hosting the Annual Conference at the Holiday Inn in Peterborough, June 3 – 6, 2004. Over 140 attendees from across Canada and the United States registered for the four-day conference and general meeting. Pam Dickey UE and her husband, David Kemlo, capably handled registrations as the conference opened. Guests were greeted at the Canadian Canoe Museum by Branch President Grietje McBride UE and Immediate Past President Bob McBride UE who, along with Professor Kirk Wipper and Dominion President, Myrna Fox UE, presided over the opening ceremonies and the Past Presidents' Reception.

On Friday morning, Professor Kirk Wipper gave the keynote address to delegates not taking part in excursions to the Stoney Lake, the Petroglyphs and Viamede resort. Workshops followed presented by Shirley Dargatz UE, speaking on Membership, Fred Hayward UE, leading a session on Education, and Joan Lucas UE with Elizabeth Hancocks UE speaking on issues concerning Genealogy. A lot of effort was expended in successfully planning these workshops and the delegates enjoyed the results enthusiastically. After an outdoor picnic at Lang Pioneer Village, near Peterborough, delegates were treated to a re-enactment, organized by Brandt Zatterberg UE and Jon Wannamaker UE on the Indian River, of the

Loyalist Landing at Cataraqui in June 1783. As well there were indoor Loyalist displays and book signing by award-winning historical fiction writer, Connie Brummel Crook UE, a member of Kawartha Branch.

Other delegates enjoyed a country ramble, conducted by David Kemlo and Guy Scott, to the Petroglyphs Provincial park, a hearty meal at Viamede Resort on Stoney Lake and a demonstration of the famous Lift Lock first hand on the Lift Lock Cruise.

On Friday evening delegates were regaled at the Rock Haven Convention Centre where celebration focussed on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Kawartha Branch as well as the actual birthday of King George III who appeared with his wife, Charlotte during the festivities, thanks to John Warburton UE and Grietje McBride UE.

Dominion president, Myrna Fox UE led delegates in the annual meeting and turned over the leadership to incoming dominion president, Doug Grant UE. After the Annual meeting a sumptuous banquet was served in the Regency Ballroom at Holiday Inn, attended by special guests, Peter Milliken MP, our honorary president as well as special guests, Peter Adams MP, Peterborough Mayor Sylvia Sutherland, guest speaker Mark Doherty and Order of Canada recipient, Professor Kirk Wipper. Music on a Loyalist theme was provided by the musical group Tamarack.

June really was Loyalist month for our branch as shortly after the conference ended, our branch took part in two flag raising ceremonies, one at Lang Pioneer Village on June 13 followed by a puppet show on the village green conducted by Grietje and Bob McBride UE, and the other at Peterborough City Hall on June 18th accompanied by the youth choir at Confederation Public School led by Janis Creary. The following day, members attended Settlers Day at Bobcageon. Our Branch took a well-deserved break during July and August. Our display booths will be at the fair in Kirkfield on the Labour Day weekend.

At our first meeting on September 19, we had a computer-generated slide show of the Conference highlights.

By Grietje McBride UE, Kawartha Branch President.

2005 Spring

Our Branch met on November 13 at the Lindsay Golf and Country Club for an afternoon luncheon. Our Guest speaker was playwright Ed Shroeter entertaining our members with a talk about dramatizing our Loyalist ancestors. Our Honorary President, John Chard was in attendance and brought greetings. Our guest speaker at the November AGM was Grietje McBride UE speaking on the topic of Christmas traditions through diaries and letters.

Margaret Hall UE, Central East Region Vice President will be our guest speaker on February 15, 2005. Her topic will be "Exploring Alternative Ways to Find Loyalist Roots". On April 18, Order of Canada recipient, Professor Kirk Wipper, will speak about the impact of canoes on transportation and settlement. If you missed this outstanding speaker at the UELAC Annual Conference and AGM 2004, Now is your opportunity to hear him. At this April meeting we will be selecting our new slate of Officers for Kawartha Branch for 2005 – 2006.

The Education Committee made a presentation to students at Chemong Public School in December. We are looking forward to welcoming four new members this spring thanks to the Diligent work of Joan Lucas UE, our Branch Genealogist. We are all doing our part to keep Loyalist history alive in the Kawarthas.

By Grietje R. McBride, UE, B.SC., Kawartha Branch President

2007 Spring

2006 was a very busy one for Kawartha Branch: meetings, conference, flag raising, Kinmount Fair, fall banquet and, of course, the International Plowing Match. Wow what a year!

Once again this year, Kawartha Branch members took over the front rotunda of city hall in Peterborough, along with the 1812 re-enactors from the Norwood High School. Past President Doug Grant UE was also in attendance. We were very lucky this year that COGECO Cable taped the entire ceremony and televised it on their community station during the month of June. They also made several copies of the ceremony for our use and we have donated a copy to Dominion Headquarters for other branches to borrow.

In September we put in a display at the International Plowing Match held at Mather's Corners, Peterborough County. The committee spent over a year in planning and preparing for the five-day event, deciding what to display and how to present it. The theme of the Antiques and Historical tent, where our display was set up, was "*Wheels in Motion*" (in Peterborough County) and our challenge was to adapt our Loyalist material to fit within this framework. We chose as our theme, "*Mills of Peterborough County to 1850*," telling the Loyalist story and the coming of the Loyalist families north of Rice Lake into Peterborough County starting in 1817. The growth of grist and sawmills along the rivers and creeks, while certainly beneficial to the pioneer settlers of the county, also encouraged the growth of hamlets, villages, and the city of Peterborough (Scott's Mills) as settlers gathered about the mills that provided employment for those not farming.

We had about four thousand visitors to the display including Dominion President, Peter Johnson UE, with over 100 persons from this locale with Loyalist roots. The amount of exposure we had at the match was fantastic and our Branch Genealogist, Joan Lucas UE, is going to have a very busy year.

By Pam Dickey UE, Branch President.

2007 Fall

Our Branch had a fair turnout and a great time at the Windsor AGM where several items were brought forward and discussed. Thank you to Peter Johnson UE for accepting another term as our Dominion President and to Joan Lucas UE for a job well done conducting the Genealogy Seminar. I am very sorry that I was unable to attend because of sickness in the family.

On Friday, 4 May, Grietje McBride UE and Bob McBride UE, Kawartha Branch's Education Committee members, represented our Branch at the annual Historica Fair at Orono, judging entries by Junior and Intermediate students from across the Kawartha Pine Ridge Board of Education.

Kawartha Branch's project, Garrison Pioneer Cemetery, Tyendinaga Township, Hastings County has received several donations, some from as far as British Columbia, Alberta and Michigan, U.S.A. as well as from Ontario. The Chairman of the project is obtaining quotes for the construction and installation of steel signage, gate and gateposts. Funding is still needed to complete this project. For donation information see the Spring 2007 issue of *The Loyalist Gazette* or contact Chuck Ross UE at 705-742-6316 or email: cgross_uel@atcogeco.ca

On Tuesday, 19 June the rains held off for the Kawartha Branch Flag Raising Ceremony. Our distinguished guests were: Peterborough City Mayor Paul Ayotte, who, after a lengthy medical leave, performed his first official duty; Jeff Leal, M.P.P.; Alan Wilson alternate for Dean Delmastro, M.P.; Peter Johnson, UELAC Dominion President and approximately one hundred and sixty students from Armour Heights Public School. We were led by Mark Hiscox in the singing of *God Save The Queen* and *O' Canada*. Mark is an accomplished musician, baritone singer, musical director and actor. Wellington Borland UE kept things

moving smoothly as Master of Ceremonies. The flag was raised by Peter Johnson UE, Dominion President and Charles Geo. Ross UE, Kawartha Branch President. The complete ceremony was taped by Cogeco Cable TV who will produce professional DVDs for the branch to be used as educational aids for local schools. In appreciation, Joan Lucas UE presented Armour Heights School with three of Connie Brummel Crook's signed edition books for their library, Flight, Meyers' Creek and Meyers' Rebellion.

Kawartha Branch is proud to announce its newest and possibly the Association's youngest member at five days old. Ethan Wesley James Ross-Ford was born 11 April 2007 at 9 pounds 14 ounces. He is the son of Kerri-Ann Ross UE and James Ford, grandson of Charles (Chuck) Geo. Ross UE, President of Kawartha Branch.

By Charles (Chuck) G. Ross UE, Branch President

2008 Spring

Many thanks to Doug Grant UE who assisted us with our updated web site, which is now up and running at www.uelac.org/Kawartha. Our Treasurer, David Kemlo, is home recovering from his heart bypass operation and a large thank you to Frank Rogers UE who has agreed to be our temporary interim Treasurer.

The Garrison Pioneer Cemetery Project is slowly progressing. Tyendinaga Township has agreed to raise the entrance driveway approximately five feet to bring it level with the concession road. The decorative steel signage and gates are being constructed over the winter and will hopefully be installed on their cement pillars this spring. Donations are slowly coming in, but we still need a substantial amount to complete the project.

Our Fall Banquet, held at the historic Burnham Mansion, Peterborough, was an outstanding success. Several local businesses donated many great door prizes that added to the evening. Kawartha Branch members and guests included the Mayor of Peterborough and his wife, Paul and Marty Ayotte, as well as Dominion Public Relations Chairperson Karen Windover UE, who is also a branch member and helped to make this a successful evening. Our guest speaker was David Kanowakeron Hill Morrison UE, in full Mohawk regalia from New York State, who spoke on his heritage and connecting with his biological parents and ancestors. David presented Kawartha Branch with the book, *People of the Dancing Sky, The Iroquois Way* by Lorre Jensen and Myron Zabol, as well as a native flag. In return Charles Ross UE presented David with a collectors mint proof coin of the new Joseph Brant silver dollar in a custom case. Our Fall Banquet will be at the Burnham Mansion Restaurant on Saturday, 4 October 2008. See our web site for details.

By Charles (Chuck) G. Ross UE, Branch President

2009 Spring

Kawartha Branch is working on a schedule to visit several public schools in our area, in Loyalist attire, during their History classes to promote Loyalist history.

The Garrison Pioneer Cemetery is progressing very well. We still need donations to repair the gravestones and purchase an inscribed dedication stone. On 24 November 2008, I, as President of Kawartha Branch, received a letter from the Township of Tyendinaga, Art Coordinator, Cynthia Guthrie and the Recreation Coordinator, Liette Forestell, that stated, "*In the spirit of community, a group of dedicated volunteers have come together in hopes of creating a Heritage Tour as an addition to the already successful Lilac Tea Art Show that has been held for the past two years in the Township. The Lilac Tea Art Show is a fundraiser for the Township Library to aid in literacy programs for our youth. This year's Lilac Tea Art Show is scheduled*

for Sunday, 24 May 2009 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Township of Tyendinaga is rich in history and culture and we want to provide our community the opportunity to further understand and better appreciate our heritage. The Garrison Pioneer Cemetery has been identified as a possible site for the Heritage Tour. To assist in our endeavour, we are appealing to you as a representative of the Cemetery to see if you would be interested in being a part of our heritage tour this year. If you are willing to be part of this new and exciting event in the Township we are requesting that you be available to discuss the heritage of this property during the same hours as the Lilac Tea Art Show on May 24th between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or perhaps you would be willing to offer any history or information regarding this property to the Heritage Committee so that we can incorporate that information into our tour. We would appreciate your assistance in supporting the Heritage Tour. We are excited to add this tour to our already successful Lilac Tea Art Show.”

Kawartha Branch hopes to have this project completed this year.

By Charles (Chuck) Ross UE, Branch President

2011 Fall

Kawartha Branch has been busy promoting our Loyalist Heritage this year and so far has presented twenty-three certificates, with three pending and fifteen in the works.

On 18 February the Branch took their story boards to Trent University for the “Heritage Expo” event sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture. We were set up and ready to talk by 9:00 a.m., with an array of books, hand-outs, pictures and sale items. Frank Lucas and Margaret Borland handled the sales and had several interesting conversations especially with a group of students from Saudi Arabia. Wimpy Borland UE, Pam Dickey UE and Joan Lucas UE talked to the people who stopped; those who knew who their Loyalists were and those who didn’t but still wondered who we were!

Then on 19 February we attended Buckhorn’s “Heritage Day” where again we were set up from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Margaret and Frank again had their sales table while Pam, Wimpy and Joan talked to the many folks who stopped to talk about their Loyalist ancestors. It was a great weekend and we met ten people who knew who their ancestors were and could find their names in our book and in Joan’s “little black book”! Some of them attended our Branch meeting on Sunday, 20 February and are busy working on their genealogy.

Joan and Frank Lucas and Wimpy Borland had the opportunity to speak to Keith Wightman Public School Grade 3 and 6 classes about the United Empire Loyalists. The trio then headed to the St. James United Church Women’s club and showed the video “Unity of Empire -The Loyalist Settlement of Canada.”

In April, this video was part of the Kiwanis Club Scott’s Plain programme. We have had many favourable comments about the video.

In June, our new President, Doreen Thompson UE, led our delegation of ten members to Brockville for the annual conference where we celebrated the election of our branch member, Robert McBride UE, as the new Dominion President. We had a great time renewing old friendships and making new ones. A lot of networking was also done, which has given the Branch new ideas in promoting the UELAC and ideas for future speakers for our meetings.

On 17 June about twenty Branch members attired in period costumes gathered to raise our Loyalist Flag at Peterborough City Hall. A drummer and a piper led us to the flag pole, along with MPP Jeff Leal and representatives from the Mayor's Office, County of Peterborough and MP Dean Delmastro offices. The students from the Keith Wightman Public School led us in the singing of the Royal Anthem, while some of the children signed for those who might not be able to hear their lovely little voices. Branch member Rev. J.D. Howson UE delivered a prayer and Joan Lucas UE talked about the significance of this event. Dominion President Robert McBride UE greeted the people and assisted Branch President Doreen Thompson UE in raising the Loyalist Flag. The children then sang O Canada.

The next day, Frank Rogers UE, Kawartha Branch Director, surrounded by family and friends, celebrated his 90th birthday at the Calvary Pentecostal Church in Lindsay. Robert McBride, UELAC President and his wife, Grietje, enjoyed visiting with Frank and presented him with a congratulatory certificate from the UELAC. Frank was more than pleased and surprised that someone representing the UELAC would take the time to personally present his certificate to him at his celebration in spite of the on-going Canada-wide mail strike. Teamwork encourages active members by identifying the honour being conferred on its member, arranging for the certificate to be prepared and delivered, and participating enthusiastically in its presentation. Other members of Kawartha Branch who attended included Wimpy Borland UE, Joan Lucas UE with her husband Frank Lucas and Isabel Wessell UE.

UELAC President, Robert McBride UE, and his wife, Grietje McBride UE, accompanied by Doreen Thompson UE, Shirley Lowes UE, Joan Lucas UE, Frank Lucas, and Elizabeth Richardson UE, presided over a Branch Display Booth at the Victoria County Historical Society's "Honouring the Past" summer fair in Lindsay, on 23 July.

This brings us to August when a number of our branch members, Pam Dickey, Branch Secretary, Doreen Thompson, Branch President, Shirley Lowes, Branch Treasurer, Grietje McBride, Robert McBride, Dominion President, Elaine Gillespie, Branch Social Convenor, Joan Lucas, Branch Genealogist, Frank Lucas, Branch Sales, and Emily Lucas, granddaughter of Joan and Frank, travelled to Adolphustown to attend the Bay of Quinte's annual potluck luncheon.

By Pam Dickey UE, Branch Secretary

2012 Fall

Kawartha Branch had a strong showing of membership. The 30 November 2011 chart shows 129% on the Dominion membership list. This gives new strength for our executive. Joan Lucas UE, our Genealogist, capably assisted the new members in filing for their certificates.

During the last few months we have hosted some very interesting guest speakers. On 18 September 2011, Allan McGillivray shared his research experiences. Dominion President Bob McBride UE conducted the meeting as President Doreen Thompson UE was in Albany State Library and Archives doing research.

At our Annual Banquet on 01 October 2011, award-winning author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, spoke to us about her trilogy focusing on the story in the Broken Trail.

On 11 November 2011 several members in Loyalist outfits paraded in the Remembrance Day Parade to the Confederation Park to the memorial produced by Wm. Alyward who also designed the Vimy Ridge memorial.

On 20 November 2011, Brian Tackaberry UE told us about the history of the United Empire Loyalists' Heritage Centre and Park, the original site of the cemetery and the data at the archives in the museum at Adolphustown, Ontario in Lennox and Addington County.

On 18 February 2012, Joan and Frank Lucas, Shirley Lowes, Pam Dickey, Harold and Eleanor Knapp, Bob and Grietje McBride attended the Heritage Day in Buckhorn, Ontario. The Storyboards were set up in the booth and many inquiries were made about UEL membership.

19 February 2012 was a General meeting and Allan McGillivary, curator of the Uxbridge Museum, shared stories of the area where Lucy Maude Montgomery lived in Ontario while she wrote most of the stories of the "*Anne Of Green Gables*" collection. UELAC certificates were presented to the grandchildren of author Connie Crook UE.

Joan Lucas and Wimpy Borland were kept busy speaking to school children, a group in Learning and Leisure, and Kiwanis Club meetings about the Legacy of the United Empire Loyalists.

On 10 June 2012 at "*Settler's Day*" in Bobcaygeon, the Storyboards were set up by Pam Dickey UE. President Doreen Thompson UE attended the booth and was joined by Harold and Eleanor Knapp to answer inquiries about UEL membership.

From 07 to 10 June 2012, Joan Lucas UE and her husband, Frank Lucas, drove to Winnipeg, Manitoba to the "*Conference at the Confluence,*" where they were joined by Grietje McBride UE and Dominion President Robert C. McBride UE.

On 19 June, for the annual UEL flag-raising ceremony, Kawartha Branch invited the Norwood District High School "*Red Coat*" re-enactors as an Honour Guard led by piper Colin Campbell. Members in Loyalist outfits paraded to the Flag Pole at Peterborough City Hall. Keith Wightman Public School children sang "*The Royal Anthem*" followed by a prayer by Major the Rev J.D.L. Howson UE.

Joan Lucas UE spoke of the significance of the event and the importance of the Royal Union Flag and the legacy of the United Empire Loyalists. Wimpy Borland UE presented two books by award-winning author Connie Crook UE: Acts of Courage and No Small Victory to the children of Keith Wightman School for their library. Dominion President, Robert McBride UE, and President of Kawartha Branch, Doreen Thompson UE, raised the Royal Union Flag.

In his closing remarks Robert McBride spoke to the motion which had been passed by Peterborough City Council on 11 February 2002 to approve of, and participate in, the annual presentation and the raising of the Royal Union Flag, at Peterborough City Hall, on Loyalists' Day, 19 June each year and to have it fly at City Hall for the ensuing week. Doreen thanked everyone for attending. The school children sang "*O Canada.*" The piper led us back to the City Hall where refreshments were set up for everyone. Dominion President, Robert McBride UE, Grietje McBride UE, and Kawartha Branch President, Doreen Thompson UE, were the invited guests of the Governor General and Mrs. Johnson at the reception at Rideau Hall in Ottawa to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee Portrait unveiling on 28 June 2012. It was a terrific ceremony and reception. Meeting the Governor General Johnson and Mrs. Johnson was wonderful.

On 21 July 2012, members of Kawartha Branch attended the Victoria County Historical Society Heritage Day in Lindsay, Ontario. Frank and Joan Lucas set up the Storyboards and materials pertaining to the legacy of the United Empire Loyalists. Shirley Lowes UE and President Doreen assisted.

Kawartha Branch member, Connie Crook UE, was awarded a 20-year service pin in recognition of her volunteer work at Lang Pioneer Village Museum.

Kawartha Branch has lost two of our long-time valued members: Eleanor Moulton UE in December 2011 and, in March 2012, Elizabeth Richardson UE. These ladies worked in our branch as well as out of town branches. They are certainly missed.

On 24 May 2012 the service of Thanksgiving for the life of a former member, Canon H. Stanley Hanes UE, was attended by Dominion President, Robert C. McBride UE, Grietje McBride UE and Doreen M. Thompson UE at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Lindsay, Ontario.

— • —

Joan Lucas UE Awarded

On 27 June 2012, Autumn Joan Lucas UE was awarded the “*Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal*” in recognition of her Volunteer Services in Heritage. Joan is an expert Genealogist for Kawartha Branch and serves in her role as the Dominion Advisory Genealogist Support. Joan has conducted workshops at UELAC conference for many years. A retired Registered Nurse, Joan was a long-time hospital employee in Obstetrics, Education and Administration. During her career she was dedicated to the UELAC and devoted to her family, young and elderly. She volunteered extensively in her community and was a leading force in her church's summer Bible school program. Today she continues volunteering in all of those areas.

Joan is a long-time member of the local chapter of Eastern Star. She joined on 26 September 1966 and worked through the Star point system: Associate Conductress, Conductress, Associate Matron, and then in September 1972 through to August 1973 she was Worthy Matron. In that position she travelled throughout the district to other chapters and selected her choice of project in which to further focus her interests. Her mother, Mrs. Vera Creighton, was Worthy Matron in 1966 to 1967.

— • —

Dr. Jonathan David Arthur Good UE receives the Diamond Jubilee Medal

By Robert Collins McBride UE

When I began teaching in Bowmanville, Ontario, in September 1969, the Public Health Nurse, Sandra Good, spent many days with me as I described the Grade 7 students in my classroom to her. Many years later, when I was in charge of the Gifted Programme for the Northumberland/Newcastle Board of Education, a young man assigned to me in the early 1980s was Sandra's son, Jonathan Good, a Grade 7 student at Dr. Hawkins Senior Public School in Port Hope, Ontario. Jonathan and I spent many enjoyable hours together as he pursued his activities in the Gifted programme in his two years at Dr. Hawkins. His father, Ron Good UE, became a member of Kawartha Branch on 20 February 1985 and the Legal Advisor for the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) in 2005, while Jonathan became a member of Kawartha Branch on 19 July 1993.

Dr. Jonathan Good UE received a Diamond Jubilee Medal this year for his work in Heraldry.

He became interested in Heraldry through his hobby of stamp collecting. Both subjects involve discrete and beautiful designs that signify historical events.

When he was a high school student at Trinity College School in Port Hope, Ontario, Jonathan completed a self-study of heraldry and examined the school's coat of arms. He enjoyed the symbols and aesthetics of a well-designed coat of arms and the fact that this part of the Canadian honours system is a grant of honour from the Queen.

As a monarchist, Jonathan appreciates the fact that we have a head of state to carry out the ceremonial functions of government.

He is descended from three Loyalist ancestors, including Eberhardt Wager UE who served in the King's Royal Regiment of New York. Jonathan joined the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada in 1990 and has contributed heraldic articles to *Heraldry in Canada*, was the Assistant Editor of *Hogtown Heraldry*, the

newsletter of the Toronto Branch of the RHSC, and was the Editor of *Gonfanon*, the newsletter of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada.

In 2006 he received a grant of arms from the Canadian Heraldic Authority and was named a Fellow of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada in 2007.

Now an Associate Professor and Co-ordinator of the History Program at Reinhardt University in Waleska, Georgia, Jonathan received a PhD in Medieval History in 2004 from the University of Minnesota. A book based on his thesis was published by Boydell and Brewer in 2009. He teaches Reinhardt's Western Civilization survey courses, History 111 and 112, and upper-level courses on Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Reformation, and East Asian history. He also serves as faculty advisor to Phi Alpha Theta, the history honour society, and is a co-founder of the Georgia Medievalists' Group. In 2009 he won Reinhardt's faculty research award.

As you can see, this Diamond Jubilee Medal, awarded to Dr. Jonathan David Arthur Good UE, is richly deserved.

By Doreen M. Thompson UE, Branch President

Obituary: RICHARDSON, Elizabeth Anne UE

2 March 1931 — 30 March 2012

A true and loyal friend

by Robert (Bob) Collins McBride UE, Dominion President of the UELAC.

Elizabeth Anne Richardson UE became the Dominion Archivist and Historian of the UELAC in 1986. She drove her father, John Gordon Richardson UE, to the Dominion Council Meetings in Toronto when the family lived in Sarnia, Ontario. In 1967, John arranged for plaques to be placed in both the Ontario and Manitoba Legislative Buildings to commemorate UE Loyalists. Betty undoubtedly attended more Dominion Council meetings than anyone else and was instrumental in the formation of the Kawartha Branch UELAC in 1979, serving as Branch President in 1984-1988 and 1992-1994.

At the Association level, Elizabeth established a Book of Remembrance and the Memorial Fund and chaired the UELAC Conference Committee for over ten years. She purchased, with her own funds, Loyalist research documents and books that she felt would benefit the UELAC collection.

Elizabeth was an unforgettable and valued friend. As Branch President she always brought national issues to Kawartha Branch meetings. She was a strong advocate of unity among members from sea to sea. Several visits to her home revealed her intense interest in protecting our Loyalist legacy and promoting UE history.



At the UELAC 2003 Conference in Waterloo, the theme was Oktoberfest. There was a lot of celebrating and revelry directed toward the UELAC Honoured Benefactor, Squadron Leader Phillip E. M. Leith UE. In the centre of it was Elizabeth Richardson taking it in and stoking the flames of laughter. Betty said Oktoberfest reminded her of teaching in Germany where she made so many good friends.

Elizabeth cherished her many friendships throughout the world and we count ourselves among her many supporters. Elizabeth Anne Richardson UE will sincerely be missed by us all.

*June 2010 receiving the
UELAC Dorchester Award
in Vernon, BC from then
President Frederick Hayward.*

2013 Spring

Our General Meeting on 16 September 2012 brought us back together following the summer recess. The speaker, Gary Foster of Campbell Monuments of Belleville, told us about the significance of “Memorial Markers” and showed slides of the elaborate markers of the early years and some of the humorous epitaphs.

Our member and veteran television broadcaster, Graham Hart UE, was honoured by local “Homegrown Homes” and presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the organization’s Academy Awards Dinner. Graham has been emcee for many of our events and other local organizations. Quote of Graham: “This town has been good to me and I felt it was important to help out and give back. It has given me a lot of pleasure to do this.”

On 20 October 2012, the Kawartha Branch Annual Banquet was held at St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church. The ladies of the congregation served a wonderful roast beef dinner. In honour of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, we decorated with lots of *bling* and Union Flags and table favours of the Jubilee Lapel Pins. The guest speaker was Lt. Col. Stephen Borland UE, son of Keith Borland UE and his wife, Deneysel. His presentation was in reference to his tour of duty in Afghanistan. Slides and commentary gave an overview of the terrain and conditions with which the army coped.

On 11 November 2012, a number of our members in Loyalist attire paraded in the Remembrance Day Parade with banner and sashes identifying our UEL significance in the early years of the War of 1812 and the American Revolution.

On 14 October 1979, an organizational meeting to establish the Kawartha Branch was held and the first guest speaker for that event was Ken Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong has led many committees at municipal, provincial, and federal level. His awards include the Ontario Medal for Good citizenship, the Queen’s Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals, and the Order of Merit of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem. He was named Peterborough’s Volunteer of the Year in 1997, Peterborough’s Citizen of the Year in 1998, and was inducted into Peterborough’s Pathway of Fame in the journalism category in 1999. Mr. Armstrong is Chairman of the Peterborough-Lakefield Police Services Board, a member of the Trent University Board of Governors and a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.

Mr. Ken Armstrong has recently been appointed the New Honorary Colonel of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment. It is one of Canada’s oldest regiments, a reserve army unit that is part of the 33 Canadian Brigade Group. Based in Belleville Armouries, the so-called Hasty P’s have garrisons there as well as in Peterborough and Cobourg, Ontario.

On 18 November 2012, Dr. Michael Eamon, Trent University History Professor, gave us an enjoyable history lesson. He told of the display in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa and the efforts in acquiring

the memorabilia to be used, an appropriate production to remind us of the War of 1812. Undoubtedly a great deal of planning and work went into it.

By Doreen M. Thompson UE, Branch President

2014 Fall

My first year as Kawartha Branch President was a steep learning curve but, thanks to our dedicated Executive, most of our events came off smoothly.

I still have a lot to learn, but look forward to the upcoming challenges. With the newsletter editor's position being vacant, it has been difficult to get information out to all members, but now that Robert McBride UE has agreed to fill the position, our communications will be greatly improved. After six years of very dedicated and efficient service, Shirley Lowes UE has decided to step down from her position as our treasurer. We regret to see Shirley step down but thank her for her dedicated service and we are sure that she will remain an active member of the branch. Frank Lucas has agreed to fill the position of treasurer.

We were honoured to have our Regional Vice-President, Roy Lewis UE, and Regional Councillor, Myrtle Johnston UE, as our guests at the Branch AGM on April 27th. Roy gave an interesting talk about the changes to the UELAC by-laws and installed our new Executive.

On 05 to 08 June, Frank and Joan Lucas UE, Bob McBride UE and Grietje McBride UE, Doreen Thompson UE, Daphne Molson UE and I attended the UELAC national conference in Toronto. It was great to meet other Loyalists from all across Canada as well as some from Oklahoma, New Jersey, Tennessee and England.

On the morning of 19 June, Loyalist Day, we held our annual flag-raising ceremony at Peterborough City Hall. We were joined by twenty-seven pupils of King George Public School in period dress who helped us celebrate the event. Mayor Daryl Bennett and MPP Jeff Leal brought greetings. Jeff presented us with a certificate congratulating us on the 100th anniversary of the UELAC and the 35th anniversary of Kawartha Branch. In the afternoon several of us went to Lindsay and repeated the flag-raising where we were joined by several area residents and students from Alexandra Public School. MPP Laura Scott brought greetings from the Province.

Author, Jennifer DeBruin UE, was the guest speaker at our general meeting in September. I had the pleasure of meeting her at the convention in Toronto and have read her latest book. I also met author, Jean Rae Baxter, who will be coming to speak at our meeting next April. Ken Armstrong who was the guest speaker at our very first meeting thirty-five years ago in 1979 has agreed to return as guest speaker at our annual banquet in October.

We attended several venues during the year and have appreciated the volunteers who came out to assist in manning our information booth. We will also be taking part in the Remembrance Day celebrations in November.

By William Atkinson UE, Branch President

2015 Spring

Members of the Kawartha Branch have been very busy over the summer and fall and I would like to thank all those who helped organize, set up, man and take part in our different events. In July we set up and manned our UEL information booth at the Lindsay Heritage day event.

Several of our members went to the 4th Line Outdoor Theatre as a group where we enjoyed the evening performance of “Dr. Bernardo’s Children.” Also in July Bob and Grietje McBride and Joan and Frank Lucas helped sort through John Chard’s records and ensure that his Loyalist papers will be preserved. In August Bob and Grietje McBride travelled to Mont Saint-Gregoire, Quebec where Bob, as Immediate Past Dominion President, took part in the re-consecration of the remains of Sir John Johnson and members of his family. On 29 – 31 August we manned the UEL information booth at the Kinmount Fair and were able to speak to a lot of people about the Loyalists.

At our regular meeting in September we were treated to a very interesting presentation by Jennifer DeBruin about her new book, *Shadows in the Tree*.

We had a good turnout for our 35th annual banquet on 18 October and all enjoyed a delicious roast beef supper. Our guest speaker was Ken Armstrong who gave a very interesting presentation about the relevance of Royalty today. The McBrides, Frank and Joan Lucas, my wife and I attended the auction at John Chard’s estate and were able to acquire a few things to remind us of him.

It was an unusually nice day on 11 November and we had a very great turnout for the Remembrance Day celebration in Peterborough. The whole parade route was lined with lots of people applauding and, at the cenotaph, the park was packed with people. There was a fly-over by a RCAF Hercules plane during the service and Arnold Weirmeir laid the UEL wreath.

At our general meeting in November, Grietje McBride gave a very interesting and informative presentation about Sir John Johnson.

By William Atkinson UE, Branch President, and Robert McBride UE, Branch Newsletter Editor

2015 Fall

On Sunday, 19 April 2015, renowned author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, was the guest speaker at Kawartha Branch, talking about her third novel, Freedom Bound (2012), dealing with the Black Loyalists. Jean, from Hamilton Branch, is the author of a number of historical fiction books including: The Way Lies North (2007); Broken Trail (2011); Freedom Bound (2012); The White Oneida (2014); and Hope’s Journey that was released in September 2015, in what has become known as the “Forging a Nation” series.

As well, the Annual General Meeting, held the same afternoon, resulted in the election of the Officers of Kawartha Branch for 2015 – 2016.

On 29 May 2015, Kawartha Branch members, Keith Borland UE, Wimpy Borland UE, Joan Lucas UE and Roxey Tuckett UE, received the Ontario Volunteer Awards in Peterborough while Isabel Wessell UE received her Ontario Volunteer Award in Lindsay.

Several members of our Branch were able to attend the Annual Conference and AGM in June in Victoria, British Columbia. Attending a National Conference makes one appreciate the diversity across our country and to marvel at the distant places many of our ancestors called home. Having hosted the National Conference twice in Peterborough, the last in 2004, I know how much energy goes into organizing the

many details that make a conference a success. Congratulations on an outstanding conference, BC Branches! Many in our Branch are now looking forward to next summer's conference in Prince Edward Island.

Kawartha Branch has been very fortunate to benefit from the experience and dedication of many Past Presidents who have contributed to the growth of the Branch over the years. Immediately upon becoming Kawartha Branch President, I organized two flag-raising: one in Peterborough and the other in Lindsay, on 19 June 2015. This year we were able to involve classes from nearby schools at both locations. The music provided by the enthusiastic students greatly enhanced these events as did the picture-perfect clear blue skies and active participants.

Our first general meeting was held on 20 September and celebrated the recipients of six certificates. At our October banquet, we had the opportunity to hear Dominion President, Barb Andrew UE, our special guest on this occasion.

Together we are stronger!

By Grietje R. McBride UE, B.Sc.,
Kawartha Branch President, 2015 – 2017

2016 Spring

With daily news about finding homes and settling 10,000 refugees in Canada before us, I stand in awe about how Governor Carleton orchestrated several Fleets for transport ships between the May Spring fleet and the last Fall Fleet in November 1783 to bring desperate people to Canadian ports. In just five months triple that number of refugees flooded Nova Scotia, resulting in the creation of the province of New Brunswick. The parallels between handling refugees then and now are strikingly similar.

Our Branch was invited to lay a wreath commemorating our fallen soldiers on 11 November under gray and rainy skies. We were honoured to have our Branch Member, The Reverend Major Donald Howson, aged 101, in attendance as well as our parade marchers: Carol Atkinson, Bill Atkinson UE, Keith Borland UE, Wellington "Wimpy" Borland UE, Frank Lucas, Grietje McBride UE, Bob McBride UE, and Daphne Rogers Molson UE.

Our Branch met on 22 November 2015 with guest speaker, Joan Lucas UE, presenting an interesting talk about John Chard UE, our Branch's Past Honorary Patron. This was particularly interesting to our newer members. Her talk was augmented by our recently-completed shadow box presenting a pictorial display of John's life. As well, Doreen Thompson UE celebrated her eightieth birthday with Bill Atkinson UE, Grietje McBride UE, and Doreen's cousin, Judy Fisher UE.

We welcomed eleven new members to our Branch who are now researching their Loyalist ancestors in preparation for completing applications for their Loyalist Certificates.

Bill Atkinson UE, Bob McBride UE, Grietje McBride UE, Joan Lucas UE and Frank Lucas attended the Heritage Day Celebration in Buckhorn on 13 February 2016 where our Branch put our display boards to good use at our display table and talked to prospective members about their ancestors. This was a very welcoming venue and a busy time for us all!

Our meeting on 21 February celebrated a different kind of sharing. Enlarged maps showing Loyalist sites in the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys complemented a booklet of maps of Loyalist settlements in

Canada and the Maritimes. Our presentation focused on the routes our ancestors took to various parts of Eastern Canada. With a maximum of five minutes, members presented Loyalist connections to places and events on the various maps. A PowerPoint display presented the enlarged maps for all to see. A fun experience in time and space!

We are looking forward to our Annual General Meeting on 17 April with guest speaker, Dan Buchanan, talking about the shipwreck of the *Speedy* in 1804 off the coast of Brighton, Ontario.

By Grietje R. McBride UE, Branch President

2016 Fall

Kawartha Branch held our Annual General Meeting on 17 April 2016. Our guest speaker was Dan Buchanan, speaking about the shipwreck of the *HMS Speedy* off Presqu'ile Point during a blinding snowstorm on 08 April 1804. An animated and knowledgeable speaker, Dan entertained our members with extremely interesting details about the controversy surrounding this historic event.

During this meeting, a Loyalist certificate was presented to Shelley Buxton UE for her Loyalist ancestor, Sarah Kast McGuinness UE. We also presented our 2016 – 2017 slate of Officers with the addition of Bob McBride UE as First Vice- President, Donald Smith UE as Second Vice-President, and Pam Dickey UE as one of the Directors. Many thanks are due to Keith Borland UE who is stepping back from his duties as Photographer and Director, and to Doreen Thompson UE, who has moved to Belleville.

Preparations for our nineteenth Flag Raising ceremony, held on 17 June, claimed our attention for the rest of the spring term. It has become a tradition to offer a service in both Peterborough and Lindsay. Students from Mrs. Jennings' class in Peterborough and Ms Byer's class in Lindsay sang, *Land of the Silver Birch* and *O Canada* for the assembled crowd in each location. Later we were able to meet the Grade Three students from King George Public School in their classroom to teach them more about the Loyalists and how they came to different parts of Canada.

Our next event was to join as many members of our Branch as possible at the Annual Conference and AGM held in Summerside, Prince Edward Island, from Wednesday, 06 July 2016, to Sunday, 10 July 2016. At this conference, one of the highlights was the presentation of the UELAC Dorchester Award to our own Joan Lucas UE for her tireless work in her role as the UELAC Genealogist Support for many years. PEI hospitality is legendary and the members of all three Maritime Branches, who worked together to put on this conference, deserve our gratitude and thanks for the down-home experience of music, entertainment, speakers, and tours that rounded out our Island experience. On top of this, the re-enactors from the 84th Regiment, who camped on the hotel grounds for the duration of the conference, demonstrated camp life and answered many questions from conference guests.

Now that we have had a break for the summer, we are once again throwing our energy into planning speakers and ways to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary as a country.

Our guest speaker for 18 September was Jennifer DeBruin UE, author of *Daughter of Conflict*, a novel written for adolescent and mature readers. Our speaker for the fall banquet was well-known historian, John Boyko, speaking about *How Canada almost didn't become a country.* The formal banquet was held at George Street United Church, 534 George Street, Peterborough, on 22 October 2016 at 6:00 p.m. On 11

November, members of the Kawartha Branch will march in the Peterborough Remembrance Day parade and a wreath will be laid.

By Grietje McBride UE, Branch President



Swearing in of new Kawartha Branch Executive Members, from left: Grietje R. McBride UE, Branch President; Pam Dickey UE, Branch Director; Robert C. McBride UE, Kawartha Branch First Vice-President; Don Smith UE, Kawartha Branch Second Vice-President.

2017 Spring

Kawartha Branch wishes everyone a happy Sesquicentennial Year. Two events kept us busy in November: Remembrance Day and our general meeting on 20 November.

It was a cold but sunny day when Bob McBride UE and Grietje McBride UE marched and stood at the cenotaph with Bill Atkinson UE and his wife, Carol, Frank Lucas and Daphne Rogers Molson UE with her son, George Molson UE. For the first time, the large crowd was honoured with a fly-past over the Cenotaph by Captain Troy White of 436 Squadron flying his CC-130J Hercules. It was truly impressive.

Our guest speakers for our General Meeting on 20 November, Peter Johnson UE and Angela Johnson UE, gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the changes in the application form for proving a Loyalist ancestor. This informative talk was well-received and raised many questions that Peter or Angela patiently answered.

Between meetings, a number of our members are working on other special projects, all leading up to our celebrations for Canada 150. Bill Atkinson UE has let our members know that the colourful Kawartha Branch UEL mugs are now in and available to order through him. They can be ordered by emailing Bill at: xpitcop "at" nexicom.net. Margaret Pulver UE, Joan Lucas UE, Pam Dickey UE and I met in January to begin compiling our second edition Loyalist Heritage cookbook. As well, steps have been taken to connect with the History Department at Trent University to support research by students working on Loyalist themes. As a new venture, in the spirit of looking forward, Kawartha Branch is supporting the Ontario Youth Parliament when it meets in Peterborough in February, 2017.

Our guest speaker on 19 February 2017 was retired Professor, John Jennings, speaking about the Loyalists and the formation of the RCMP in Canada's west as compared to the establishment of law and order in America's wild west. On 23 April, Elwood Jones talked about early transportation infrastructure in our fledgling country. Another Canada 150 venture for our branch is the upcoming bus trip to Black Creek Pioneer Village on 17 June 2017 that many of us are looking forward to. This experience is being organized by Branch Member, Wimpy Borland UE. This year will be a busy one as members celebrate Canada 150 through Loyalist and community events.

On 20 November 2016, Dominion Genealogists, Angela Johnson UE and Peter Johnson UE (centre), went over the new Application Form for proving one's Loyalist ancestor, patiently answering questions posed by some of our members.

At the same meeting, during the break Daphne Rogers Molson UE serenaded the members with her rendition of a poem that she had composed for the 150-year celebration of Canada, based on the anthem, "Oh Canada." Daphne's son, George Molson UE, joined her at the piano.

On Sunday, 19 February 2017, Kawartha Branch held its Winter General Meeting where Patricia Staples UE received her UE certificate for her Loyalist ancestor, Captain Isaac Gerow UE, accompanied by her husband, Dr. Richard Staples, and her brother, Ken Spry UE.

Six-month-old, Autumn Elizabeth Richardson UE received her UE certificates for her eight Loyalist ancestors, accompanied by her brother, Benjamin Jeremy Collins Richardson UE.

By Grietje McBride UE, B.Sc., Branch President.

2017 Fall

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for honouring me again at our Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 23 April 2017 with the role of Kawartha Branch President, for the second time, having been your Branch President for 2001 to 2003.

It was a real pleasure to plan our Peterborough flag-raising event, held on 19 June at Peterborough City Hall, with Peterborough Mayor, Daryl Bennett, and our local Member of Provincial Parliament, Jeff Leal. Grade 3/4 students from King George Public School, led by their teacher, Nicola Jennings, were on hand to sing and participate in the Loyalist flag-raising ceremony.

Then, from Thursday, 22 June, to Sunday, 25 June 2017, my wife, Grietje McBride UE, and I attended this year's UELAC Conference and AGM, held in London, Ontario, that celebrated Canada 150 with a military flavour in the old Armouries that has been converted into a very comfortable and welcoming hotel. It was indeed an honour on Saturday evening to be recognized, with seven other Branches across Canada, with a special Certificate of Appreciation from the UELAC Scholarship Endowment Fund. We look forward to attending the next national Conference, "LOYALIST TIES UNDER LIVING SKIES," held in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, from 07 to 10 June 2018.

On Monday, 24 July, several of our members met for an early supper at Swiss Chalet in Peterborough and then attended the Fourth Line Theatre's production entitled, "Bomber: Reaping the Whirlwind." With professional actors, this production was outstanding in every way as we followed the story of Peter, a man in his nineties, who was visited by a mysterious young woman whose curiosity about his wartime experience forced him to relive his memories of love, loss, and friendship set against the electrified and heightened backdrop of World War II. As other opportunities for light-hearted social gatherings present themselves, we will let you know so that any of you can join us for these activities as you are able.

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

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

Kawartha Branch held a display booth at the Kinmount Fair in Kinmount, Ontario, on the Labour Day Weekend. The Kinmount Fair is the largest regional fair in the Kawarthas, and chose heritage and history as this year's Canada 150 theme.

Our first fall general meeting was held on Sunday, 17 September, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, with well-respected author, Jean Rae Baxter UE, who entertained us with her research about "The Governor and his Lady," describing Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe and his wife, Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe. UELAC certificates were presented to David Bogdan Husar UE, Karen Mary MacLean UE, Margaret Vandra Husar UE, Mary Vandra MacLean UE, and Genevieve Lynn MacLean UE, for their Loyalist ancestor, John McMartin UE, as well as Lois O'Neill-Jackson UE, for her Loyalist ancestor, Alexander Nicholson UE.

By Robert C. McBride UE, Branch President