

# UELAC

## CALGARY BRANCH SUMMER NEWSLETTER: 2021



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Past President: David Hongisto

Recording Secretary: Barbara Hongisto

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Genealogists: Suzanne Davidson, Ivy Trumpour

Membership: William Simpson

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Scholarship: Ian McIlreath

Members-at-large: Pat Sadler Brown, Ivy Trumpour

UELAC CALGARY SUMMER MEETING **MINUTES** by Barbara Hongisto

JUNE 27, 2021

**PRESENT ON ZOOM**

Liz Adair, Barbara Andrew, Layla Briggs, George Colpitts, Suzanne Davidson, Louise Ferriss, Terry Holland, Barbara Hongisto, David Hongisto, Linda McClelland, Ian McIlreath, Hazel Perrier, Bill Simpson, Karen Stevenson, Wendy Stremlaw (rep, Pat Brown), Ivy Trumpour

Suzanne welcomed everyone and introduced **Terry Holland** and **Hazel Perrier** who are building up their connections to Loyalists to become certified.

Happy Birthday, Pat....on your 80<sup>th</sup>!!

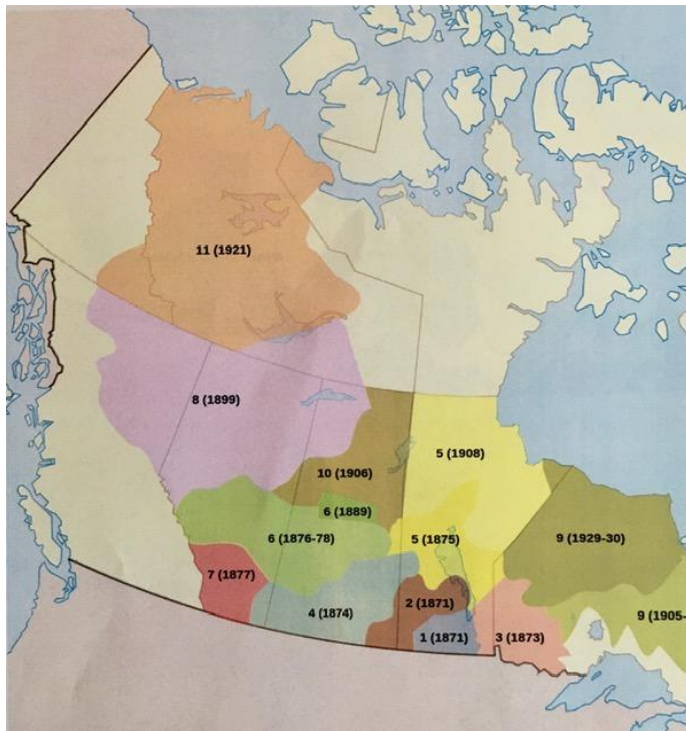
**Royal Anthem** began the meeting.

**Our guest speaker, George Colpitts**, gave a most interesting talk on the numbered treaties with the Indigenous people and their connection to the resource interests in the north and land interests in the south. Many difficulties were faced but many necessities were overlooked.

We gained more detail on our perspective toward that early time.

Canada location map.svg:derivative work: Yug (talk) Canada (geolocalisation): Themightyquill (talk)

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Treaties one through seven occurred between 1871 and 1877. The bison had disappeared in Manitoba by 1871. They were rapidly disappearing in other locations by 1876.

## **Memberships**

Bill stated that there are 33 individual members, 15 families and 3 other branch members at present.

### **New Members or people researching Loyalist Ancestor and Loyalist Ancestor ( \*to be approved)**

Elaine Rancier Fuller / \* William Rancier

Terry Holland / Terry has a number but has more information on Sergeant George Barnhart currently

Barbara Hughson Clarke / George Hughson (Same as Pat Brown)

Sean McIlreath / Benjamin Babcock

Edwina Mosier / \*Lewis Mosier

Hazel Perrier/ \* John Ernest Dafoe (1725-84) and \*Michael Dafoe, Sr. (1759-1859)

Patricia Stanice / \* Marten Myttenar Staley/ Stahle/Stealy

Winifred (Billy) Thurston / Robert Thurston

Stan Clayton (welcome back)

### **Additional new members since the meeting**

Charles Pester / \*Cephraneus Casselman

Christopher Pitman / \*John Williston

## **Treasurer's Statement**

David Hongisto gave our balance as \$4708.02 now with no change in the term deposit.

## **Other Business**

Irene Parlbys possible Loyalist connection is still in limbo.

Ivy Trumpour is investigating the names of small towns, and if any are named for a Loyalist. Ivy's research can be read below. Suzanne also did some research to add to Ivy's information.

We will have a meeting, of some description, in the fall. The topic may be Butler's Rangers or the Fur Trade background.

We ended the meeting with a silent **O Canada**.

## **Places in Alberta with Human Names**

By Ivy Trumpour, U.E and Suzanne Davidson UE

The goal was to discover a town or settlement in southern Alberta that was named for a person of Loyalist descent, who lived and contributed to that place and was buried there. Most of the portraits included below are from Wikipedia articles.

From the Edmonton City Archives website: "Naming is tied to conquest, settlement, colonialism. In order for the Dominion Government to administer the west, and allow it to be settled by newcomers, names needed to be standardized. In response, the Geographic Board of Canada was established in 1897. Although Provinces were allowed input, the ultimate decision was made in Ottawa."

Around the beginning of the twentieth century as European settlers were flooding into the territory there was a flurry of place naming. People already living here had given names to some locations, but railway construction and offers of land brought more people and new settlements.

From a map of Alberta, Wikipedia or locality websites, Ivy found 125 Alberta communities south of Edmonton that were named for people. Using ancestry.ca, familysearch.org, findagrave.com, and general internet searches Ivy and Suzanne learned fascinating things about people of the past who inspired Alberta's geographical names. Ivy was able to confirm that 50 people actually lived in the place named for them and 55 probably never even visited it. Ten may have passed through or stayed awhile, and ten Ivy couldn't identify. (Settlement names are printed in bold.)

Twenty-one places were named for women, notoriously difficult to find without a married name. For example: **Dorothy** Wilson, first baby of Jack Wilson who had land in the area; **Elnora**, wives of the postmasters, Hogg and Edward, Elinor Hogg and Nora Edwards or mother of A. Hogg; **Hilda**, the postmaster, S. Koch's infant daughter. **Hemaruka** was named for the four daughters (Helen, Margaret, Ruth, Kathleen) of A. E. Warren, CNR general manager. These nuggets as well as common surnames were relegated to the "can't find" list.

Only eight were postmasters or their wives or children, but thirty had railway connections, such as workers, contractors, engineers, superintendents or owners. As might be expected, 42 places were named for settlers. Famous or important people comprised 29 names. These were doctors, lawyers, royalty/gentry, landowners, naturalists, writers, an army commander, missionary, Supreme Court judges and North West Mounted Police officers. Eleven were politicians, not necessarily Canadian; Louis **Botha** (1862 – 1919), Prime Minister of South Africa, for example. Disappointingly, Ivy found few people with Indigenous background. Joseph **Kipp** (1847 – 1913), a mixed blood Peigan, whisky trader and fur trader's son, and possibly August **Millet**, a canoeist for Father Lacombe, probably had some connection to Indigenous people. Unfortunately there are too many Millets in the world to be able to pin August down.

Only eight people were buried in their town. These included Martin **Heisler** who was from the US, with parents born in Germany and France. **Raymond** Knight (1872 – 1947), William Jenkins **Leavitt**, and Samuel Newton (1868 – 1952), Benjamin Thomas (1861 – 1946) and Jim **Rimbey** had rebel ancestors. Malcolm Tanner Millar (1860 – 1937) who **Millarville** was named for was from Scotland, Andrew **Oyen** (1870 – 1937) from Norway, Carl **Stettler** (1861 – 1919) from Switzerland, and Dr. J. H. **Tofield** (died 1918) from a long line of English background. The Mormons in southern Alberta tend to have extensive family trees online. They could have Loyalist background but it is less likely to be acknowledged by Americans.

## Probable Loyalist descendants:

Six Alberta places were named for people who were probably of Loyalist descent. The information is taken from secondary sources, so cannot be considered confirmation.

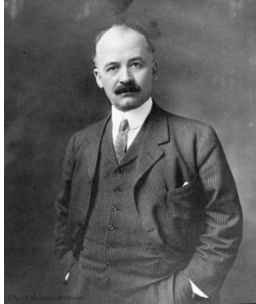
### Cayley



Hugh St. Quentin  
Cayley

The hamlet of Cayley is in the southwestern foothills. It is named for Hon. Hugh St. Quentin Cayley (1857 - 1934), a barrister and the publisher of the Calgary Herald in 1884. He was a member of the Northwest Territories legislature, where he was briefly Chairman in 1897. His father, William Cayley's (1807 – 1890) family was from England and Russia. His mother, Emma Robinson Boulton was born in Toronto in 1819 (1819 – 1890). Her grandfather was Christopher Robinson (1763/4 – 1798), who was a Loyalist with the 1<sup>st</sup> American Regiment. His daughter, Sarah Anne (1787 – 1863) married D'Arcy Boulton Jr. (1785 - 1846) in Toronto in 1808. Hugh's wife was Lenora (Nora) Adeline Cochrane (1873 - 1934). She and her parents were born in Ontario. Both Hugh and Lenora died in Vancouver in 1934.

### Coleman



A C Flumerfelt

Wikipedia says that this name was derived from "the mother's maiden name of the president and mine owner A. C. Flumerfelt's wife, Ada, and the middle name of his youngest daughter, Norma Coleman Flumerfelt." Indeed, Alfred Cornelius Flumerfelt (1856 – 1930) was married to Ada Kilvington (1857 – 1924). His parents were born in Ontario: George Flumerfelt in Pickering in 1819, and Cynthia Barnes in 1826. Neither of Ada's parents' names, Coleman or Kilvington appears in the Loyalist Directory. A page from [The Newspaper Reference Book of Canada](#) is shown on the Find-a-grave entry for Alfred C. Flumerfelt that says both his parents were descendants of United Empire Loyalists, and his father's family was from Pennsylvania. Barnes is in the Loyalist Directory with no details, and Flumerfelt or Van Flumerfelt is not. Alfred and Ada are buried in Victoria.

### Nanton



Sir Augustus Meredith  
Nanton

Nanton is named for Sir Augustus Meredith Nanton (1860 – 1925), who was buried in Winnipeg. It is doubtful that he spent any time in Nanton. The [Dictionary of Canadian Biography](#) describes him as "broker, financier, capitalist, and philanthropist; born 7 May 1860 in Toronto, son of Daniel

Augustus Nanton (1825 – 1867), a barrister, and Mary Louisa Jarvis (1831 – 1906), daughter of William Botsford Jarvis."

The Dictionary says William Jarvis was "sheriff, politician, land speculator, and entrepreneur in the Toronto area; born 4 May 1799 at Fredericton, New Brunswick, third and youngest son of Stephen Jarvis and Amelia Glover and died 26 July 1864 at Toronto, Canada West."

Both Stephen and William Botsford Jarvis are commemorated on tiles in St. Alban the Martyr Church at Adolphustown. Stephen Jarvis is listed in the UELAC Loyalist Directory.

## Milo

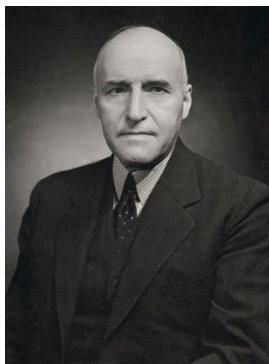
The village of Milo was named for Milo Munroe, its first postmaster. He filed for a homestead in 1906, having a wife and one child. He can be found in the 1916 census at Milo with his wife Mary E. and 17 year old daughter Mary, who was born in B.C. Milo Joseph Munroe is buried in St. Mary's Catholic Pioneer Cemetery in Calgary. A Mary Helen Scully (1865 – 1940), rests in the Bassano cemetery, which is in the same general area as Milo. I surmised the following ancestral line for Milo (bearing in mind that Munroe is a relatively common surname):

Milo Munroe born Wellington, Canada West, in 1865, married Mary Ellen Moore. He died in 1928. His parents were David Marshall Munro, (1833 - 1880), Ontario, and Elizabeth Elgie / Elgy / Elgin. David's parents were William Munro (1809 - 1843), and Maria Decker (1800 - 1893). William's father was Solomon Munro (1772 - 1845) born in Albany NY.

Solomon's father, Donald Daniel Munro (1739 - 1806), received a land grant on the Hudson River for his service with the Highland Scottish Regiment in the Seven Years War. His Loyalist claim indicates he arrived in Canada in 1783 as part of the Port Roseway Association that was evacuated from New York in 1783. The Loyalist grant was for a town lot in Shelburne in 1784.

A video showing Milo Munroe's homestead can be viewed at [A Secondary Highway: Milo Munroe Homestead - YouTube](#)

## Ralston



James Layton Ralston

James Layton Ralston (1881 – 1948), for whom the village of Ralston was named, was a lawyer, WW1 Battalion commander and Minister of National Defense and briefly Minister of Finance in the government of William Lyon Mackenzie King. He was born in Amherst, Nova Scotia in 1881, and buried in Montreal in 1948. His father was Burnett William Ralston (1856 - 1933), Nova Scotia, son of Thomas Atkinson Ralston (1829 – 1865), Nova Scotia. Thomas was the son of



William Ralston and Lavinia Elizabeth Purdy (1810 – 1892), Nova Scotia. Her father, Gabriel Purdy, born 1755, Westchester NY, is listed in the Loyalist Directory. James Layton Ralston's mother was Elizabeth Chipman, and her ancestry might also be Loyalist.

## Tilley



Sir Samuel Leonard  
Tilley

Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley was one of the Fathers of Confederation. His entry in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography states that he was a descendant of Loyalists on both sides of his family. He was a druggist, politician, and Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick; born 8 May 1818 at Gagetown, New Brunswick, eldest son of Thomas Morgan Tilley (1795 – 1871), a storekeeper, and Susan Ann Peters (1798 – 1876). He died at Saint John, NB 25 June 1896 before the hamlet of Tilley came into

existence. The family home is a museum in Gagetown, NB.



Tilley House, Gagetown, NB

## Possible Loyalist descendants

Eight names can be traced to the early 19th century in British North America, but as we know, the leap to the earlier generations is problematical.

People who lived in Upper Canada are possibly Loyalist, but immigrants were also coming directly from Europe at this time. Quebec (divided into Upper and Lower Canada in 1791) and Nova Scotia (divided into Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in 1784) already had Indigenous and European inhabitants when the Loyalists arrived.



## Bragg Creek

Albert Warren Bragg (1867 - 1848), and his brother John Thomas Bragg (1881 – 1943), were born in Nova Scotia, and homesteaded in the Bragg Creek area in 1894. Both now rest in the Burnsland Cemetery in Calgary. Most of their Bragg ancestors originated in Britain. Ivy was unable

John Thomas Bragg and  
wife Julia

to discover the background of their mother, Matilda Swallow, born 1836 in Nova Scotia.

## Brooks

Noel Edgell Brooks (1865 – 1926) was a Canadian Pacific Railway divisional engineer from Calgary who was born and died in Sherbrooke, Quebec. He was a son of Edward Towle Brooks, lawyer, judge and Member of Parliament, and Sarah Louise Clarke. Edward's ancestor Samuel Brooks was born in New Hampshire but unlikely to be Loyalist as he did not arrive in Quebec until 1820. Sarah Clarke's parents, Eleazar Clark and Maranda Haskill (1813 – 1910), were both born in Lower Canada about 1810. Clark and Haskill can be found in the UELAC Loyalist Directory, and in the Lower Canada Land Petitions, but any connection to Sarah is unknown.

## Burmis



J W H S Kemmis

Burmis, located near Pincher Creek, combines of the names of two pioneer citizens, Jack (John William Henry Shore) Kemmis (1867 – 1942) and Robert H. Burns. Robert Henry Burns (1845 – 1919) filed for a homestead and was buried at Cowley, but this name is difficult to distinguish from the multitude. Alberta Pioneers website lists Robert Burns as being born in Scotland and married to Isabella Thompson of Montreal. John Kemmis was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta from 1911 to 1921. He died in 1942 and is buried in the Union Cemetery in Calgary. The background of Jack (John) Kemmis is mostly British, but his grandmother, Mary Louisa who married John Olphert Kemmis, was born in New Brunswick in 1842. Mary's surname was Needham. Neither Kemmis nor Needham is in the Loyalist Directory.

## Daysland



Edgerton W Day

Daysland was named for Edgerton W. Day (1863 – 1919), its founder and first mayor, who purchased the land for the town from the CPR. He was born in Toronto. His parents were Lewis E. Day and Harriet Ansley. Lewis was born in the Kingston, Ontario, area in 1822 and may be a descendant of Loyalists Barnabas Day and John Burnett. Edgerton Day was buried in Edmonton in 1919.



## Irvine



Col Acheson Gosford  
Irvine

Colonel Acheson Gosford Irvine (1837 - 1916) was a North West Mounted Police commissioner, a member of the Northwest Territories council, and warden of a Manitoba penitentiary. He was born in and died in Quebec. His father, John George Irvine (1802 – 1871), had English and Orkney background. His mother, Ann Bell, born 1803, was the daughter of Mathew Bell (1769 – 1849), a member of the Lower Canada Legislature who was born in England. Ann Bell's mother was Ann MacKenzie, daughter of James MacKenzie, a Trois Rivieres businessman who died before 1799. There is no James MacKenzie in the Loyalist Directory.

## Killam



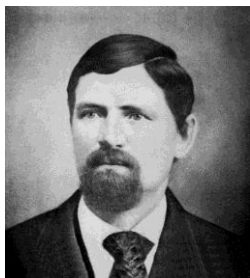
Albert Clements  
Killam

Killam is a town on Highway 13 east of Camrose and Red Deer. Albert Clements Killam (1849 – 1908), was the first chairman of the Railway Commission of Canada and a Supreme Court judge. He was born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, as was his father Thomas Killam in 1802. Albert died in Winnipeg in 1908. Thomas' father John Killam was born in 1765 and his mother Sarah Allan in 1774, both in Wenham, Massachusetts. The New England Planters came to Nova Scotia in the 1760s, so it is conceivable that John or Sarah may have come with the Loyalists. There are many Allan/Allen names in the UELAC Loyalist Directory and no Killam.

Albert Killam's mother was Caroline Clements, born in Yarmouth in 1825. Ivy was unable to find her parents, but Clement and Clements are both found in the Loyalist Directory.

Albert's wife, Minnie Knight, was born in 1859 in Upper Canada.

## Leavitt



Thomas Rowell Leavitt

The Leavitt family was part of the group of Mormons who came to southern Alberta from Utah. Thomas Rowell Leavitt founded the community after fleeing probable persecution for polygamy in the United States in 1887. Thomas Rowell Leavitt was born in Lower Canada. He was the son of Jeremiah Leavitt, born 1796 in New Hampshire, who was a son of Jeremiah Leavitt born in 1760 in New Hampshire. Thomas' family converted to Mormonism and moved to the United States, eventually



William and Elizabeth  
Leavitt

Utah. At least one of his sons, William Jenkins Leavitt (1868 – 1945), one of twenty-six children

of Thomas and his three wives, and William's wife, Elizabeth Brice (Hill) Leavitt (1867 – 1948) are buried in Leavitt, Alberta. Most of the family is buried in Leavitt. William was a postmaster for the area and naturalized in Canada in 1903. Most of the current residents of Leavitt are descendants of Thomas. Thomas is buried in Cardston along with a number of other Leavitt's. An article about the Leavitt connection to Loyalists can be found here: <https://leavittletter.wordpress.com/2014/01/23/leavitts-in-canada/>

## Ryley

This village east of Edmonton was named for George Urquhart Ryley, born in 1853 in Hamilton and died 1927 in Ottawa. He was a land Commissioner for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. He named towns on the Regina – Boundary line. His mother, Eliza Jane Urquhart was born about 1834 in Upper Canada, but Ivy was unable to find her origin. There are Loyalist Urquhart's in Ontario as well as immigrants directly from Scotland.



Angela Burdett-Coutts

As a reward for anyone still reading, let me introduce my favourite namesake, Angela Georgina Burdett-Coutts (1814 – 1906), the only person whose name became two places, Burdett and Coutts. An article by Ron Kelland, Historic Places Research Officer, online at [albertahistoricplaces.com/2020/05/27/burdett-coutts-aristocracy-activism-railway-investing-and-alberta-place-names/](http://albertahistoricplaces.com/2020/05/27/burdett-coutts-aristocracy-activism-railway-investing-and-alberta-place-names/) is well worth reading. She was a philanthropist, railway investor, and second only to Queen Victoria as the most wealthy woman in the United Kingdom. At the age of 67 she married (horrors!) a 29 year old American commoner. He changed his surname to Burdett-Coutts and outlived her by 15 years.

My goal of finding a Loyalist descendant who lived and died in the place named for him or her was almost achieved in Milo, Alberta. Milo Munroe homesteaded with his daughter Nellie at Township 19 Range 21 W4, located between Milo and Bassano. Although Milo is buried in Calgary, Nellie is in the Bassano Cemetery.

This project was a marvelous journey of exploring the lives of many historic figures. Any additions or comments are welcome.