

UELAC

CALGARY BRANCH SPRING NEWSLETTER: 2023

Linda McClelland and Suzanne Davidson



MINUTES

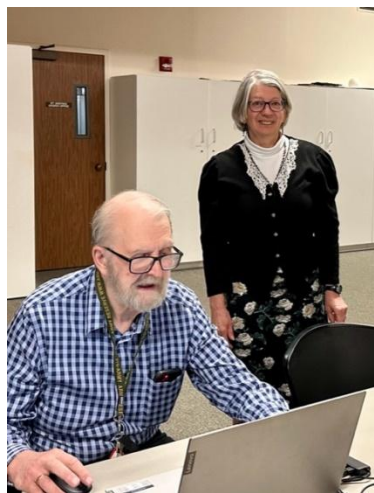
UELAC CALGARY BRANCH AGM
APRIL 29, 2023

PRESENT:

Layla Briggs, Suzanne Davidson, George Himann, Susan Himann, Barbara Hongisto, David Hongisto, Wayne Hovdestad, Charlie Lund, Leigh Cory, Rory Cory, Karen Lundin, Linda McClelland, Gord Miller, Bill Simpson, Karen Stevenson, John Terray, Sharon Terray

ON ZOOM:

Pat Adair, Beatrice Aucoin, Ian McIlreath, Ivy Trumpour



David Hongisto and Suzanne Davidson

WELCOME

Suzanne welcomed us all; we stood for the royal anthem.
After a few introductory remarks, Suzanne introduced Charlie Lund.

PRESENTATION



Charlie Lund

Charlie gave a most informative talk on flood mitigation measures for the Sunnyside Hillhurst area as well as other actions and plans for the future. Everyone learned a lot.

MINUTES

Minutes of the branch meeting of November 6, 2022, and that of the AGM, MAY 2, 2022 were perused. Gord moved and Linda seconded that the minutes be accepted. The motion was accepted.

FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE UPDATE

Suzanne had Beatrice give an update. Beatrice is still investigating different media platforms. She will notify us re any Instagram news, or any other platform. If anyone has anything to share on a platform, please contact Beatrice.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the report were handed out, the auditors had signed off on the report. Bill moved to accept the report; Gord seconded it; it was passed.



Barbara Hongisto and Bill Simpson

MEMBERSHIP

Primary memberships sit at 51 with over 70 people, being the total number.

HISTORY AWARDS

Ian updated us on the history prize at U of C. The prize will be \$700, an increase of \$100. With reduced spending allocation from the Board of Governors, the award will be reduced for the coming year. Our account grows \$2500 a year. (\$5000 if the university continues to match our donation.)

Potential UELAC history prize at University of Lethbridge

All the contact people were most enthusiastic about our history prize. The recipient would have the highest mark in Canadian history undergrad course. (Pre-Confederation history) They are working out the funding details, similar to U of C. \$25000 should produce \$1000 prize.

We will vote on the final decision to proceed or not, when the details are presented to us.

If approved, the first prize would be awarded in the 2024-2025 year.

There is a good chance that U of L administration would match our \$25000, to make the prize \$2000.

CONFIRMATION OF BRANCH OFFICERS

With no volunteers coming forth, the executive will remain the same.

PRESIDENT: Suzanne Davidson

TREASURER: David Hongisto

RECORDING SECRETARY: Barbara Hongisto

MEMBERSHIP: Bill Simpson

SCHOLARSHIPS: Ian McIlreath

NEWSLETTER: Linda McClelland

MEDIA PLATFORMS: Beatrice Aucoin

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE: Karen Stevenson, Ivy Trumpour, Pat Brown

Rory moved and Charlie seconded the acceptance of this executive. It was passed.



Rory Cory and Leigh Cory



John and Sharon Terray

DOMINION CONFERENCE

The conference takes place in Vancouver in June. Send your proxy to Suzanne soon if you are not attending.

The meeting was adjourned following the singing of O Canada.



Gordon Miller and Karen Lundin

Gordon Miller has proven his Loyalist relative, **Melanchthon Thorne**. This is what Gordon has written.

Melancthon Thorne, my 5x great grandfather, was born at Glen Cove, Long Island, New York Colony in 1758. He, his wife Hannah Butler, two young sons and Hannah's father Michael sailed from New York on the "Mercury" as part of the "fall fleet" arriving at what was to become Saint John on October 17, 1783. Before leaving New York though, he and more than 600 other Loyalists signed the "New York Loyalists Memorial", a petition decrying the proposed granting of 275,000 acres of the most desirable lands in the colony of Nova Scotia to a mere 55 persons "most of them in easy Circumstances and with some exceptions more distinguished by the repeated favors of Government than by either the greatness of their sufferings or the importance of their services". On August 14, 1784 he drew (or more likely was assigned) lot #1186 in Parr Town (now what is referred to as the "south end" of Saint John). Not seeing great potential for a farmer in an urban setting, on January 24, 1785 he and his father in law along

with 16 others petitioned for land near the township of Conway. While this land near the Nerepis River must have been more to his liking, he and his family were on the move again in 1796, when his family and sixteen others founded the community of New Canaan in south central New Brunswick. It was at New Canaan that his daughter Phebe (my 4x great grandmother) was born in 1797. Another of his 11 children, the Reverend Charles Nelson Horatio Thorne was also a 4x great grandparent as one of his sons (Samuel J. 3x great grandfather) married Phebe's daughter (Hannah Patterson 3x great grandmother). As there was a hold on land petitions from 1790 to 1807 in New Brunswick because of requests for land outstripping available surveyed lots, they didn't get around to formally petitioning for the New Canaan until September 22, 1809. As the lots he was granted were largely unsuitable for cultivation, he sold these in 1810 and moved to the southeast shore of the Washademoak Lake in central New Brunswick, where he lived and farmed until his death in January 1842.

Karen Lundin is in the process of proving her Loyalist relative, **Zachariah Hainer**. Her application has now been approved.

Circa 1710, Zachariah's grandparents moved from Germany to Livingstone Manor in New York Province. His parents were married on Livingstone Manor and then moved to Schoharie (*a Mohawk word meaning floating driftwood*) which is also in New York Province. Zachariah was a private in Butler's Rangers. He was born in Rhinebeck, Dutchess, New York in 1791 and settled in the Niagara area after the Revolution. A number of Butler's Rangers joined Lieut. Col. John Butler when he settled in Newark or Niagara-on-the-Lake. The Rangers had used Fort Niagara and the Canadian frontier as their base for a number of attacks.

Zachariah's initial grant of land was in Wainfleet Township near Lake Erie. He sold that and settled in Thorold/ St Catharines area. His next move was to Esquesing Township in Halton County with a grant of land in 1797. This is where his wife Sophia Brown (Braun) died and is buried.

During the War of 1812 Zachariah tried to enlist in the 1st Lincoln Regiment of the Militia but was declared unfit and died of disease in 1813.

Most of his children moved back to the Thorold and St Catharines area and set roots for the following generations there.

Ian McIlreath has submitted applications for his son and grandchildren based on **David William Babcock** based on his certificate of 2020.

David William Babcock was born in 1752 in Haverstraw, Orange County, New York Province and served during the American Revolution as a Captain in the Embodied Loyalists. He initially was a refugee in Annapolis Royal from 1783 to 1788. He then relocated to the Kingston area where he married Peggy Howe in 1789. David died there in 1828. His descendants continued farming in the Kingston area.