



THE NIAGARA LOYALIST

A Publication of The Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch
of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada
April 2010



CJB'S FOOD DRIVE, FEB. 06, 2010

Project Share thanked CJB's members for 305 POUNDS of food that Eugene delivered on your behalf.

1812 BULLETIN CANNED FOOD'S ROOTS DATE BACK TO WAR

Preserving food was not easy 200 years ago. Smoked, salted, pickled and dried food was not easy to prepare and didn't always taste like the original food. It also was difficult to transport. The answer was placing the food in bottles or cans. The process was originated by the French during the Napoleonic Wars. Nicolas Appert is credited with cooking food in sealed bottles to keep food from spoiling. Canisters or tinned iron 'cans' quickly replaced the breakable glass. The cans were actually too strong. Can openers would not be invented for another 40 years and the originals were often opened with a hammer and chisel. Experiments in Napoleon's army included using a bayonet to get at dinner. By 1812, canned goods were being produced in France and Britain. Canned good would revolutionize the shipping of food over long distances, allowing explorers and soldiers to travel for extended periods of time. The steam engine and canned food came out of the War of 1812 and after the wars in Europe and North America, these inventions spread around the globe at a much faster rate.

SOURCE: Niagara This Week. *Research by Jim Hill of the Niagara Parks Commission.*



PRESIDENT'S PEN

Who's Your family

This all started when I wanted to find out who my family were and where they came from. Of course my parents had all passed on so I could get no information there, and any semi close relations didn't want to be bothered, so I was on my own. Then I had a lady contact me about my Roszell family for which I had very little information and she called herself a genealogist. What the heck is a "genealogist" I said to myself, so off to the library. Low and behold they have a special collection area on Family Histories. So I started to read The people at the library

were very helpful showing me examples of different family trees. But nothing with my name on it. So I started asking questions such as what were Vital Records, Pedigree Charts and OGS (Ontario Genealogy Society) and where to find them. Then the information started to pour in and where to find it. Then a bunch of ladies at the OGS asked me where did I come from? Gainsborough, Caistor Twp Lincoln County I told them. They had heard of my family and guided me in the right directions to find more, but never showing me directly, They were always handy if I ran into trouble. which was good. I learned much from them.

It came to pass that I had family still alive 2 brothers and 2 sisters but with more research found the brothers and one sister had passed on But I had one sister still alive location still unknown. SO where could she be, I started to ask neighbors, friends of the family. And then I got a last name, then my memory kicked in. I remember Sunday diners around a large table and vague images of peoples faces. Diving into vital records till I found my mother's maiden name and that of her children names from another marriage This meant I was a half brother to the rest but this was still family to me. I also found out that my mother had married an American which now meant I had to search in another country. And by searching the census records I found them, but by the time I found where they lived they had moved.

I had lost them not knowing were to look, then the famous " brick wall" comes up. Then talking to a lady about three years later in the apartment building were I lived she asked me what I did to pass the time - I said genealogy, and I told her my story. Then she replied that was my maiden name. I said who were your parents - "bingo" one of my half brothers name appears and this lady is my half niece. In fact she had 3 other sisters in the same building and they're all nieces of mine. I had to ask is there any of the family in my generation still alive. And yes there was and she was living in LasVegas Nevada but they had not talked to her in years. So off to the World Wide Web to look at the city directories and yes there are two families with the same name. So I called them and hit it right off - the first call was the right person, my half sister

She told me she thought I was dead or didn't want to know about that side of the family. I informed her differently. It took me about a month before I flew to LasVegas and met her face to face and after 57 years needless to say it was quite a reunion. I had family.

A month later her husband passed away and a year after that she passed also.

So the moral to this is never give up looking, for someone knows something about your family - it's out there you just have to find it.

Since then I have found many more family, about 1400 of them altogether, and many more stories.

DOAN REUNION AND AARON DOAN UE HERITAGE DESIGNATION

The Port Colborne Heritage Committee will be honoring the name of Aaron Doan UE with a Heritage Designation and name change from Steele Cemetery to Doan Cemetery on Saturday July 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. The Cemetery is located at 2146 Second Concession Road, in the City of Port Colborne. This cemetery, which contains the family burial site, is on the original Crown Grant to Aaron Doan UE. Doan descendants will be celebrating a family reunion on Sunday July 11, 2010 at Bethel Community Centre, 2703 Chippawa Road, Port Colborne, Ontario.

Family history information starting at 10 a.m. with a pot luck lunch at 12.00 noon.

If you need further information on the Doan Reunion or Cemetery Designation contact Jerry Fisher UE at 905-892-5477

email: jfisher@cogeco.ca

JOHNSON 100TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

The descendants of Loyalist Henry Johnson will be celebrating their 100th family reunion on Saturday July 17th, 2010. The very first reunion was held on August 29th, 1911 at the home of Hector Johnson of Cayuga, Ontario with 100 in attendance. Throughout the years we have gathered at various locations in Niagara and celebrated our heritage

We welcome all who feel they maybe related to this branch of Johnson's and invite you to celebrate with us on Saturday July 17th, 2010 at 3 p.m. at the home of Richard Anderson, 63565 Concession 6, Wellandport in the Township of Wainfleet, Ontario. If you need further information on the Johnson history contact Roy Johnson at 905-892-2390. For the 100th Reunion details contact Lynn Tremblay by email, imtimsmom@hotmail.com or on our Facebook Group Niagara Johnson's 100th Family Reunion.

2010 ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE MEMORIAL DEDICATION & HERITAGE DISPLAY

Location : Dunnville Airport, Hangar # 1
No.6 RCAF Dunnville Museum open to the public
Saturday will include: Memorial Brick Dedication at 10:45 AM
Vintage Cars, Vintage Planes on display
CJB will attend along with local Heritage/Historical groups.
Saturday July 03/10 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Sunday July 04/10 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

SO THAT'S WHERE THAT EXPRESSION CAME FROM !

At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart- sized containers . A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts" hence the term "minding your P's and Q's".

Submitted by Gail Woodruff

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH CELEBRATES 170TH ANNIVERSARY, STEVENSVILLE

St. John's was the second Church built in Bertie Township after the Loyalists arrived.. The first Church was St. Paul's Anglican Church in what is now Fort Erie. Both Churches were served by Reverend John Anderson. The first Church service was held in St. John's in 1840. The Anniversary service, which will be led by Bishop Michael Bird , will be held indoors. An outdoor blessing of the cemetery will take place after the Church service.

DATE: Sunday May 16th 10:00 a.m.

Location: 2251 Ridgmont Road, east off Bowen Road.

A light luncheon will be served after the blessing of the cemetery.

If you plan to attend please contact Marguerite Hanratty at: mhanratty@sympatico.ca

LOYALIST CEMETERY PLAQUE GIVEN GREEN LIGHT BY CITY OF THOROLD

The city has given a thumbs-up to plans by the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada to erect a plaque at the Allanburg Village Cemetery, commemorating it as a United Empire Loyalists Burial site.

Gord Dandy with the Col. John Butler Branch of the Loyalists Association said his organization is identifying and marking cemeteries in the region that have Loyalists or their descendants buried there.

The branch also plans to make a list available to the public with the names of Loyalists buried in cemeteries , along with directions to each cemetery. Loyalists were people who lived in the previous British Colonies in the United States, who remained loyal to the Crown and who moved to Canada after the American Revolution.

"There are many people who can trace their ancestry back to a Loyalist , but they are uncertain or have no knowledge of where that person is buried,"Dandy said in a letter to the city.

Thaddeus Davis, a loyalist, is buried at the Allanburg cemetery, said Dandy.

The Plaque, measuring, 12 inches square, will be made of carved slate with gold lettering.

A report by city operations supervisor Dave Akrigg to city council said the plaque will be "tasteful", and won't cost the city any money for installation or maintenance. Source: Niagara This Week March 4, 2010

HERITAGE DAYS AT NIAGARA SQUARE

Our First Heritage Display was in 2001and we have attended every year since then. Each year has had a theme. Some of the "themes" have been "Industry", "The Heritage of Our Town", "Heritage of Sacred Places" and "The Love of History".Other Historical/Heritage groups were also in attendance. This year the War of 1812 group had a map of the Battlefields as a part of their display. Those who stopped by the map had the option of helping to cover the battlefield with a quarter placed on the map. Their goal is to cover the entire Battlefield with quarters !

Thanks to the following people who came out to help with CJB's display in February : President James Roszell, Past President Eugene Oatley, Jerry Fisher, Rod and Beverly Craig, Gail Woodruff, Ted Huffman, Noreen Stapley, Gord Dandy, Roy Johnson, Tim Lowrey, Carol Ann Moore, Eleanor Fisher, Jim Edsall. Lillian Santesso (visitor) and Wilda and Ron Chapman,

MARION TAIT UE DAR On March 26, 2010 Marion wrote:

"I was invited today to the 100th anniversary of the Royal Bank in Dunnville, as an ex-employee from 1943 to 1950, fresh out of High School, and they asked me to cut the cake." Congratulations Marion!

OLYMPIC TORCH RUN: Member Marguerite Hanratty sent in a notice that she in her red UEL Jacket and Bucket hat, along with her daughter and neighbours, cheered loudly as the Olympic Torch Relay passed down their street in Fort Erie. Those involved in the run acknowledged their support by waving back. and the blowing of horns.

EXTRACTS:- CAPTAIN WALTER BUTLER TO CAPTAIN ROBERT MATHEWS

Niagara

30 May 1781

Lieutenant Colonel Butler desires me to present his respectful compliments to you and would be glad if a dozen breeding sows were sent up for the use of the farmers.

There is an old man in the Rangers, named Michael Showers; though he is fit for service, Lieutenant Colonel Butler has permitted him to build a house, and he is clearing, planting and commencing farming. He wants permission to bring up his family from Machiche. This Colonel Butler would indulge him, if agreeable to His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief. They can be assisted by four of the Rangers who were left sick in Canada, viz:- Philip Burt, James Crowder, Jacob Van Alstyne and Jacob Augustine. The latter would likewise be of use in the farming way if his family were allowed to come up, as the family he has is not lazy.

A smith will be requisite for mending and making, at first, the plough shares, hoes and axes, &c, for the farmers. If one of the Rangers were allowed or, in fact, any other soldiers, they can be ordered to work at any fixed rate. But this, Colonel Butler just now tells me, he has wrote you.

We have had no account yet of the success of our recruiting parties, though in daily expectation of hearing from them. Lieutenant Bradt is gone to the New Jerseys. If no misfortune befalls him, he must get a number of men.

British Library. Sloane and Additional Manuscripts, Add MSS 21765, Correspondence with Officers at Niagara, 1777-1784; National Archives of Canada, Haldimand Collection, microfilm reel number A-682.

Note: "In Canada" means old Quebec.

Information supplied by Bill Smy

A HARSH EXAMPLE TO THE INEBRIATED by Tim Lowrey UE

While browsing a microfilm copy of "*The Niagara Mail*", an early Niagara newspaper printed in St. Catharines, I discovered the account of a distant relative's sad demise caused by drunkenness. The editors of the paper expressed strong disapproval of the local Coroner's actions following the death.

Duty of Coroners

Shocking Death-On the night of the 3rd inst. a poor man named John **COUGHEL**, living at Five Mile Creek, Niagara township, had been drinking in a neighboring tavern, and going home with a jug of whiskey, across a large ploughed field, either lost his way, or as was thought lost his jug, and wandered about the whole night in quest of it. The poor fellow had apparently ran round and round the field beside himself, and frequently falling down until at last he tumbled into a deep furrow and there froze to death! He has left a wife and four children.

In relation to this matter, we wish to ask the Coroner, why he refused to go and make legal inquiry into this man's death? The body lay a whole day in the field, but the Coroner, although notified of the fact, refused to make any inquest, alleging that the late Act, amending the office of Coroners did not require him to hold inquisition over cases of this nature. We think quite to the contrary. The Act for the suppression of intemperance, passed 1850, takes especial notice of cases of death from exposure in a state of intoxication, and lays heavy penalties on Innkeepers through whose neglect the same may arise. This evidently supposes an inquest as the first step of judicial enquiry into such cases, and the Coroner's amendment Act, in our opinion, expressly provides for such cases. At all events it was the duty of the Coroner to go out and satisfy himself as to the necessity of summoning a Jury. The law for the suppression of intemperance is a just and humane law, and the public are bound for the sake of the helpless families of the poor victims of intemperance to see it diligently carried out. We do not say any one was to blame for this man's death, but due inquiry ought to have been made.

Source: "The Niagara Mail" (St. Catharines, Canada West), Wed. 24 Dec. 1851, n.p. [3rd page], column 1.

BOOK REVIEW OF THREE NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE AT OUR MEETINGS.

All money raised through our book sales goes to help fund CJB's projects

THE BURNING OF THE VALLEYS

By Gavin K. Watt

In the fifth year of the War of Independence, while the Americans focused on the British thrust against the Carolinas, the Canadian Department waged a decisive campaign against the northern frontier of New York. Their primary target was the Mohawk River region, known to be the "grainbowl" that fed Washington's armies. The Burning of the Valleys details the action of both sides in this exciting and incredibly effective campaign.

Governor general Fredrick Haldiman of Canada possessed a potent force, formed by the deadly alliance of toughened, embittered Tories, who had abandoned their families and farms in New York and Pennsylvania to join the King's Provincial regiments in Canada, and the enraged Six Nations Iroquois, whose towns and farmlands had been utterly devastated by Continentals in 1779. The Governor augmented this highly motivated force with British and German regulars and Canadian Iroquois.

In October, without benefit of modern transportation, communications or navigational aids, four coordinated raids, each thoroughly examined in this book, penetrated deep into American territory. The raiders fought skirmishes and battles, took hundreds of prisoners, burned forts, farms and mills and destroyed one of the finest grain harvests in living memory.

\$30.00 tax included

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: "NEXT STOP TORONTO"

By: Adrienne Shadd, AfuaCooper, Karolyn Smardz Frost

A richly illustrated book, examines the urban connection of the clandestine system of secret routes, safe houses and "conductors". Not only does it trace the story of the Underground Railway itself and how people courageously made the trip north to Canada and freedom, but it explores what happened to them after

they arrived. And it does so using never-before-published information on the African-Canadian community of Toronto. Based entirely on new research, this volume offers new insights into the rich heritage of the Black people who made Toronto their home before the Civil War.

It portrays life in the city during nineteenth century from the time of slavery, when some of Toronto's white citizens owned slaves, and looks at the world of mid-century Black Torontonians in considerable detail.

\$17.00 tax included

GHOSTS OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

By: Maria Da Silva and Andrew Hind

Long –dead British soldiers, grieving lovers, the historic Laura Secord – Niagara-on-the-Lake's long and colourful history is kept alive by the ghosts of its past. Widely considered to be Canada's most haunted community, the town has preserved many of its historical buildings, thus providing perfect "haunts" for age-old spirits.

Through historical investigation and engrossing storytelling, the authors have detailed nearly two dozen ghostly occurrences. An ageless tavern is home to the spirit of a British officer slain in its basement- a gentlemanly ghost except when encountering Americans, a woman come face-to-face with a hero from the past while working at one of the nation's most cherished historic landmarks; visitors to Queenston heights are stalked by phantom soldiers. Some of the area's most charming hotels even have resident spirits who roam the halls and occupy the stately rooms.

Historical research is embedded in every tale in ghosts of Niagara-on-the-Lake in an attempt to establish the line between the fact and fantasy. But numerous eyewitness accounts will draw the reader into these unusual and often unnerving stories. Catch a glimpse of a not-so-distant past through the spirits who refuse to leave it behind as we explore one of Canada's most fascinating towns.

\$25.00 tax included

SO THAT'S WHERE THAT EXPRESSION CAME FROM !

Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in "straight laced". . . wore a tightly tied lace.

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the Ark and professionals built the Titanic. At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart- sized containers . A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in "pints" and who was drinking in "quarts" hence the term "minding your P's and Q's".
Submitted by Gail Woodruff

Loyalist Poet Pauline Johnson wrote: "My aim, my joy, my pride is to sing the glories of my own people.

THE BATA SHOE FACTORY: 1940 BATAWA ONTARIO

The Bata family arrived in Canada from Czechoslovakia just before the German army marched into their homeland. Thomas J. Bata followed in the footsteps of his father, Tomas and opened a shoe manufacturing plant in an old paper mill on the banks of the Trent River near Frankford. Shortly thereafter, the Batas built a new factory and housing for workers in what was to become the town of Batawa . The community grew to include two schools, two churches, a post office, sports facilities and a bank. Originally, most of the inhabitants were from Czechoslovakian families who had followed Thomas J. Bata to Canada.

Thomas J is survived by his wife Sonja Bata. She is 82 years old. She has purchased 1500 acres of land that comprise the old shoe factory, the town of Batawa and the surrounding countryside and hopes to develop tourism and create new jobs in the area.

Editors note: One of my father's sisters married a young Czechoslovakian who worked in the Bata Shoe plant that was located in Stirling, Ontario. Not all of his family came to Canada. I recall my Aunt saying that she sent clothes to his family in Czechoslovakia.

SOURCE: WATERSHED: LIFE IN NORTHUMBERLAND, PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY AND QUINTE - WINTER 2009/2010 Volume 9, Issue 35, Pgs 20 and 74.

EVENTS:

Saturday June 19th: Flag Raising and laying of our wreath in NOTL at the Cenotaph (clock tower) Lunch at Olde Angel Inn with visit after lunch at the Addison Library at St. Mark's Church. (Details to follow later)

Sunday July 18th: Battle of Lundy's Lane Commemorative Service. Drummond Hill Cemetery.

Time: 12:30. CJB will lay our wreath in memory of those who lost their lives. Over 1,600 soldiers were killed , injured or went missing during the battle which pitted Britain's thin red line against an increasingly professional American Army.

FROM THE ARCHIVES UPPER, LOWER CANADA

The British Parliament passed the Constitutional Act on August 24, 1791. The Act divided Canada into two provinces , Upper and Lower, each with its own lieutenant -governor and legislature. The Act was made necessary with the great influx of United Empire Loyalists after the American Revolution. The English-speaking settlers did not want to live under French law or the Roman Catholic Church.

UEL MARKS FIRST PLANTING

Aug. 4, 1990

A milestone in the history of the Niagara region was marked in St. David's last night as members of the United Empire loyalists Association , local residents and town officials observed the 200th anniversary of the commencement of farming by white man. The ceremony, held at the home of James Murdock on Lot 90 at the corner of Warner Road, was on the actual site where history records Peter Secord planted the first crops Aug. 4, 1790. Fireworks lit the evening sky over the Four Mile Creek as the residents celebrated the occasion. Youngsters enjoyed hotdogs and lemonade as the older folks sampled Niagara-made wine.