

The Niagara Loyalist

Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



President's Pen

I would like to begin my first newsletter address by thanking Shirley Lockhart, Past President, for her dedication and passion during her tenure as President of the Branch. Through her leadership, the Branch has grown to well over 300 members and has become involved with various activities within our community to help promote our heritage. I can only hope that with her support we can continue to move forward in the direction that she has laid out for us. "The pathway to success lies in the building blocks of the past."

Her term was crowned by the May 24th GALA that helped celebrate the 100th Anniversary of UELAC. The GALA was well attended by our members who took part in a spectacular dinner at the Queenston Heights Restaurant. The event was capped off with a speech from Bonnie Schepers, UELAC President. She spoke of our heritage and how proud we should be about how our Branch has celebrated the 100 years of UELAC. Photos from the event can be viewed on our website.

Along with the GALA, other events were being celebrated over the summer months beginning with the Flag Raising Ceremony in Niagara-on-the-Lake on June 14. About 25 of our members, many in period attire,

came out to help commemorate the raising of the Union Flag. As well, Lord Mayor David Ekes was in attendance to proclaim this as Loyalist week and assist in the raising of the flag. Two members of the Fort George Fife and Drum Corps provided music. Following this ceremony, we assembled to take pictures in front of the NOTL Golf Course where the town had planted new gardens and put in place a large sign to celebrate 100 years of UELAC. We then went for lunch at the Charles Inn and afterward some members toured the old Niagara Apothecary (A Pharmacy Museum).

On July 5th, we partnered up with the Niagara Parks Commission to help celebrate the Battle of Chippawa. Gail Woodruff's granddaughter, Madeline Battis UE, and I laid the UELAC wreath during the closing ceremonies. There were over 800 re-enactors who took part in the event. As well, Rod and Bev Craig UE were at the Dunnville Airport Heritage Fair to promote the Branch. On July 25th, Shirley Lockhart UE, along with other members of the Branch, attended the Battle of Lundy's Lane ceremony where Shirley laid the wreath on behalf of the Branch.

There were also other events, not mentioned in detail here, such as the Battle of Fort Erie and the Burning of St. Davids. I would like to thank all who went out to these events to help in the promotion of

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our heritage in our Community. We need to continue to talk about who we are and where we have come from, so that our children can honour our ancestry.

I would also like to thank Ted Huffman UE, Ann Huffman, Deb Sherk UE and Rod Craig for continuing on in their roles within the executive.

I hope to see all of you on September 6th for the first meeting of the fall.

Loyally,

Paul Preece UE

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Up-Coming Meetings, Speakers & Events

September 6: **Dale Smout, UE** will be speaking about the “Puritans” and in particular why they left England for the New World and then specifically about the **Wardells or Wardwells** .

Those in our Branch who are descended from the Wardells would be interested in the story of their relatives, the “Naked Prophetess” and the “Hanged Witch”.

October 4: **Lynn Polermo** “Writing Family History Stories – 10 Tools to Get You Started” Lynn has the Website “The Armchair Genealogist” and is creator of the “Family History Writing Challenge”. She will share 10 tools to help transform your genealogy research into a shareable family history story.

November 1: **Ed Carter-Edwards** – who has spoken at our group before—more information to follow.

December 6: **Christmas Social.**



Doors open at 11 a.m.

Lunch at 11:45 a.m.

Respond at least two days prior to each meeting to:

Shirley Lockhart

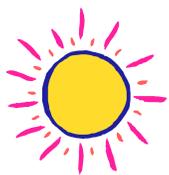
co4392@sympatico.ca

905-937-8252

or

Gail Woodruff

grammag@cogeco.ca



Welcome New Members!

Lisa Baker

James Carriere

Mikael Swayze & family Beverlee, Gavi & Dassa

Ian Phibbs

William Mullins

Donald Praast

and returning members,

Pheobe Ede

Kelly Hildreth

and

Neil Clark

IN MEMORIAM

Our condolences go out to members Carl Carriere UE, his daughter Lisa MacGregor and their family on the untimely death of their wife and mother, Margery Carriere.

Condolences also to Marguerite Hanratty on the passing of her sister Mary Lemyre UE.

Former member Gloria Ghetti UE died in April, and Eugene Oatley's father passed away in July.

Our sympathies are extended to all of these families who have lost a loved one.

- Butler Branch Executive & Members



Highlights of May Meeting

submitted by Deb Sherk UE

Speaker: Bob Rennie, historical reenactor from Kitchener. Bob belongs to the Grand River Branch and has portrayed many historical figures, including Isaac Brock in “The Desert Between Us and Them”. He was introduced and thanked by Program Chair, Dale Smout.

Topic: Being Brock

Bob began his presentation by striding proudly into the restaurant dressed as Sir Isaac Brock, accompanied by stirring military music. “Major General Brock” read his Proclamation of July 22, 1812, urging citizens of Upper Canada to join with him in the fight against the upcoming American invasion. Even though the Americans had a greater number of regular soldiers, militia, supplies and weapons, he felt that loyal British subjects could defeat the Americans. Brock, who arrived in Canada in 1804, was well respected by his men and native leaders. When defending Fort Malden, he had 300 regular soldiers, 400 militia and 500 native warriors, while the American leaders had about 10 times that many fighting men. The personal papers of General Hall, commander of Fort Detroit, were taken when a ship was captured. This enabled Brock to get a good idea about Hall’s knowledge of the British strength and his ideas of war. Hall eventually surrendered Fort Detroit to Brock. The next action was in the Niagara Frontier at Queenston on October 13, 1812. The Americans had taken the heights and Brock decided to charge up the hill, without waiting for reinforcements. Sir Isaac Brock was killed during that charge by an American sniper. The British went on to win the Battle of Queenston Heights. He was later hailed as a hero and buried at Brock’s monument. Bob concluded by telling us the he felt Brock was a visionary and a determined and well-rounded commander.

UELAC Poster Contest

submitted by Shirley Lockhart UE



Study of the United Empire Loyalists and the American Revolution is part of the history curriculum for seventh grade. In order to enhance the 100 year anniversary celebration of the UELAC, Grade 7 students within the District School Board of Niagara were given the opportunity to create a poster to honour the United Empire Loyalists. Mrs. Blair Janzen, a DSBN curriculum consultant, was pleased to facilitate this project on behalf of Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch.

Twenty entries were received from the students of Mr. Rob Michel at Lakeview Public School in Grimsby. His students were eager to participate, having just completed a study unit surrounding the United Empire Loyalists. The posters were judged by Sylvia Bagley UE & Mary Roberts UE, both members in good standing at our Branch. It was my pleasure to award the prizes at the school on May 13th. The winners are as follows:

First prize \$100. -	Kate West
Second prize \$50. -	Hope Monaco
Third prize \$25. -	Jared MacCormack

The winning posters were displayed in the foyer on the evening of the CJB/UELAC Gala at Queenston Heights Restaurant.



Certificate Presentations — May 2014

Congratulations to the following members who received UE certificates for their ancestors

Linda Armbrust for Joseph Wardell
Ronald Harpwood for Joseph Wardell
Accepted by his mother Twila Harpwood
Thomas Harpwood for Joseph Wardell
Accepted by his mother Twila Harpwood
Wayne Winterburn for McGregory VanEvery



Special Summer Certificate Presentation



Paul Huffman, son of Ted and Ann Huffman, and his daughter Olivia were presented with their UE certificates by Ted at a family event in Alliston in July.

Paul and his family reside in Victoria, BC, where Paul is a Petty Officer First Class in the Royal Canadian Navy.



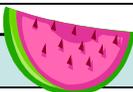
VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Person to provide inexpensive items for draw prizes at monthly meetings. Appropriate used books, plants, produce or other useful items would be appreciated. Please let a member of the executive know if you are interested in filling this important role.



Important Notice

Periodically, Betty's increases the cost of our lunches to the Branch and unfortunately we have no choice but to raise the price from \$18 to \$20 beginning in September. Remember, this covers a main course, dessert, coffee and tea and includes a gratuity. 🌿



UELAC Gala Celebration at Queenston Heights, May 24, 2014

Thanks to everyone who came out to celebrate 100 years of UELAC at Queenston Heights on May 24th. It was gratifying to see the support for an event that had been in the planning for some time. Everyone appeared to be enjoying the occasion and we heard so many kind comments throughout the evening. A letter of appreciation was sent to the staff following the dinner, and I received this letter in return from Jackie Lynch, the Manager of Queenston Heights. - Ann

Hello Ann!!

Thank you, most sincerely, for your kind letter. The Chef, Sous Chef, Line Cooks, Servers and I truly enjoyed the event.

You, Shirley, Eugene and all of the guests were absolutely delightful. We could not have asked for nicer people to visit us and share a meal and fellowship.

We are all pleased that the evening was so well-received by everyone from the U.E.L, Niagara Branch.

I especially appreciated your organizational skills and attention to detail. You are a pleasure to work with and to know.

I have shared this email with our Chef, Bill, our Management Team and Sales Team. It is also posted on our Staff Bulletin Board so that the entire Queenston Team is recognized.

Thanks again, Ann!

Jackie

All pictures are posted on the website; here are a few of my favorites.



Annual Flag Raising Niagara on the Lake June 14, 2014



Another beautiful day to raise the flag in Niagara-on-the-Lake, followed by lunch at the Charles Inn, and a tour of the Apothecary.



200th Anniversary of the Battle of Chippawa

A large crowd attended this two day event with about 700 re-enactors taking part. President Paul Preece UE had secured a grant from Dominion which was augmented by a donation from the Branch to assist in sponsoring the re-enactment and to promote the Col. Butler Branch during this event. Paul and Gail Woodruff's granddaughter, Maddie, laid the wreath.



A 30 second video produced by Paul Preece ran throughout the day, promoting the Branch and Loyalist history.



Battle of Lundy's Lane Bicentennial Commemoration — July 25, 2014

Anyone driving down Lundy's Lane in July would have noticed the huge steel sign spanning four lanes of traffic near the Drummond Road intersection, with cutouts of soldiers depicting the battle that took place there 200 years ago. On the evening of July 25th, as part of the celebrations, wreaths were laid by many groups, including the Butler Branch of UELAC.



Report of the UELAC Conference Toronto June 5 - 8, 2014

“A Centennial Celebration 1914 – UELAC - 2014 UELAC Conference June 5 - 8 2014” hosted by Toronto Branch UELAC at the newly renovated Eaton Chelsea Hotel was a memorable celebration. Colonel John Butler (Niagara Branch was well represented by Association Flag Bearer David Ellsworth, Betty Ellsworth, Barbara Burwell, Gayle Livecchia, Rodney and Beverly Craig. Rod, David and I attended the Membership and Genealogist Committee meetings on Thursday.

Comments:

The Loyalist Directory on the UELAC website is an ongoing project that encourages new members.

The suggestion that younger members might become interested in Loyalist History if someone could create a computer game based on the Loyalists was enthusiastically approved. The challenge is to find someone with the skills to create the game.

Kathy Orr gave an excellent presentation on the evolution of the Home District and the importance of using maps in research.

The Welcome Reception in the Mountbatten Ballroom featured renowned journalist and author Peter C. Newman presenting “Hostages to fortune: the vanguard of a great nation”.

The highlight of the evening was the launch of “Loyally Yours: 100 years of the UELAC by UELAC Past President Fred Hayward, who compiled the informative, attractive history of the Association.

Friday’s tour to “Discover Mississauga’s Loyalist Past” was excellent. Participants visited Bradley Museum (home of Lewis Bradley UE); Benares; old Meadowvale Village, Ontario's first Heritage Conservation District; St. Peters Cemetery and Dixie Union Cemetery and the Cawthra-Elliott Estate.

Attendees who remained at the hotel enjoyed the lecture series presented by:

Todd Braistead, The New Jersey Volunteers, 1776-1783; a genealogist’s guide to the Military Records of the largest Provincial Regiment of the American Revolution.

Marian Press, Local History Online: Adding social context to your Family History.

Jane MacNamara, Prerogative, Probate, and Surrogate courts, as well as wills in land records.

Archivist, Archives of Ontario: Accessing & Preserving Family Heirlooms.

Lesley Anderson, Explore Loyalist, British Military in Canada, the Revolutionary War and early immigration records on Ancestry.ca.

Attendees particularly enjoyed shopping at the Global Genealogy sales tables. Authors Gavin Watt and Jane MacNamara signed copies of their latest publications. Rod and I were surprised and pleased to discover CJB member and cousin Barb Burwell of Toronto browsing through the publications.

The Friday evening banquet was held at the U of T’s Victoria College, Burwash Hall - 2014 is also the centennial anniversary of Burwash Hall. The hall features extravagant neo-gothic turrets, gargoyles and battlements; it was like dining in a “Harry Potter” movie. After dinner everyone enjoyed the performance of nineteenth-century grassroots music by Muddy York.

David Ellsworth and Beverly Craig represented Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch at the Annual meeting. 25 Branches were represented by 129 members. We enjoyed touching base with James/Shamus Dilts, current President of Nova Scotia Branch and Past President of Col. John Butler Branch.



The elegant Gala Banquet was held in the Mountbatten Ballroom at the Eaton Chelsea.

Fred Hayward, UE was presented with the Dorchester Award by Prairie Region VP on behalf of the UELAC. This award honours a member who exemplifies "Volunteer Excellence and Participation" and recognizes the recipient's lengthy contribution to the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. The Award salutes the "best in volunteerism" and we are delighted to congratulate Fred for his outstanding service to the Association. Past Presidents of the Association were celebrated and honoured. Those in attendance were:

Charles J. Humber 1982 – 1984

Arnold W. Nethercott 1990 – 1992

J. Okill Stuart 1994 – 1996

Bernice Wood Flett 1996 – 1998

C. William Terry 2000 – 2002

Myrna Fox 2002 – 2004

Douglas W. Grant 2004 – 2006

Peter W. Johnson 2006 – 2008

Frederick H. Hayward 2008 – 2011

Robert C. McBride 2011 – 2013

The evening's entertainment was an excellent concert performance from "Molly of the Mohawks", a 2009 nominee for a Native American Music Award! It is based on the life and work of the Mohawk Loyalist Molly Brant.

On Sunday the Annual Church Service was held in the historic Chapel of St. Alban-the-Martyr, on the Royal St. George's College grounds. Special permission was granted to open the Chapel as our place of worship and the service was enriched by the heavenly voices of the choir school. The Royal St. George's College is an Anglican choir school for boys from Grades 3 to 12. Founded in 1961 in the tradition of the great collegiate and cathedral choir schools in England, it is the only pre-university school in Canada authorized to use the "Royal" designation.

In the early days of our Association many events were held in the chapel. The service was followed by a delicious lunch served in the college hall.

Join us next year and follow Loyalist Alexander Mackenzie's Pathway to the Pacific for the amazing UELAC Conference 2015 in Victoria B.C. hosted by the Branches of the Pacific Region May 28th – 31st.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Craig UE

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