

# The Niagara Loyalist

Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



## President's Pen



2015

With 2014 over and a new year just beginning, I would like to thank all of you for contributing to a memorable year. The past year was highlighted by our celebration of the UELAC 100th Anniversary with our Gala at Queenston Heights..

Many of you attended this event and were treated with class from the reception to the final dessert. It was nice to see the various styles of period attire as well.

Along with the Gala, many of you were involved with the War of 1812 commemoration events including the Battle of Chippawa, Battle of Lundy's Lane, Fort Erie and the Battle of Cook's Mills. These events not only celebrated our "Canadian Identity" but they also encompassed part of our Loyalist heritage.



In addition to all these events, we also met together eight times at our general meetings. During this time, we were able to enjoy each other's company and share resources about our past. Many of you discovered other members who were searching for the same ancestor and were being awarded a certificate for someone who you were pursuing. I always find it fascinating to find someone at one of the meetings who receives a certificate for one of your ancestors and you may never have spoken to them before that moment.



Our first luncheon meeting back this February will include our annual collection of non-perishable food items to benefit the Salvation Army in Niagara Falls. Eugene Oatley UE has volunteered once again to deliver the goods collected immediately following the meeting.

Dale Smout UE, our Program Chair, will be arranging for our luncheon speakers again this year. He did a fantastic job this past year gathering some excellent speakers and I am looking forward to this year's lineup. One of my goals for the new year is to try to get to know as many of you as I can over the coming months at our meetings. I would like to get your ideas and opinions on what our Branch can do to build on the successes of the past. As a side note, I would like to thank Deb Sherk, Ted and Ann Huffman, and Rod and Bev Craig for stepping forward in my absence over the past few months to keep the Branch running as smoothly as possible.

If you would like to become more involved within the Branch, please send me an email or talk to me at one of our meetings.

At this time I would like to wish you and your family a healthy, happy, and peaceful 2015.

Loyally,

*Paul Preece* UE

[www.coljohnbutleruel.com](http://www.coljohnbutleruel.com)

## Up-Coming Meetings, Speakers & Events

February 7: Scott Gillies, curator at Ingersoll's Cheese & Farm Museum will speak on royal visits through Norfolk and Oxford Counties.

March 7: Dr. Michelle Vosburgh from the L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives at Port Colborne Historical & Marine Museum. Topic to be confirmed.

April 4: Special planning session hosted by the Executive

May 2: Jodi Allair of Bird Studies Canada (tentative) to speak about the appreciation and conservation of wild birds, including birds at our backyard feeders.



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](mailto:co4392@sympatico.ca)

905-937-8252

or

Gail Woodruff

[grammag@cogeco.ca](mailto:grammag@cogeco.ca)

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Fort Erie museum gift shop carries all of Earl Plato's historical fiction based on his loyalist roots. His latest book is ***The Bowen Legacy***. Other titles by Earl include ***Wintemute Warriors*** and ***About Two Rangers***. Earl will have copies of ***The Bowen Legacy*** for sale at the next meeting of the Butler Branch in February.

*Also at the Museum* On Saturday December 6 the Museum welcomed Elaine Couglar for a book signing. She has just released her second book in her Loyalist Trilogy, ***The Loyalist's Luck***. In her first book, ***The Loyalist's Wife*** we follow the footsteps of Lucy and John Garner, who joins Butler's Rangers. Each book captures the challenges, the hardship and the separation of living through the Revolution and finding their way safely to Niagara. They are based on the real life exploits of John Garner who was granted land in 1796 in Fort Erie. Her first book ***The Loyalist's Wife*** is short listed for a book award from Inspire! Toronto International Book Fair's Self-Publishing Awards.

## Welcome New Members

Peggy Baker

Jane Zinken

Kenneth, Susan, Samuel & Laura  
Gamble

Karen Barker

Gary Flack

Ina Peters

Lee Johnson

Anne Warner Reilly, Doug Reilly &

Alexandra McChesney

& returning member

Mary Lou Garr



The holidays are over...

Have YOU renewed your membership yet? Thanks to everyone who has done so. For everyone else, membership forms are on the website.

# Highlights of November Meeting

submitted by Deb Sherk UE

Ed Carter Edwards, a World War II Veteran and prisoner of war was our speaker. He was introduced and thanked by Dale Smout.

Ed spoke about his time in the Canadian Air Force from June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1944 when his plane was shot down over France until he was released from a German prisoner of war camp in January 1945. In those 8 months he was helped by the French Resistance and given false papers and renamed Eduoard Cartier. After being denounced by a Belgian collaborator, Ed was kept in the Fresenes prison, run by the Gestapo, for 5 weeks. He was then loaded into cattle cars on a train, along with about 2000 other people and transported to the Buchenwald slave labour camp. When he got off the train, he was met with whips and snarling dogs and he could see the large chimney belching black smoke. In the camp, he contracted pneumonia and nearly died from the illness, as well as the deplorable living conditions and lack of food. Eventually, some German air force members escorted the 166 English speaking airmen out of Buchenwald, and they were taken to a "regular" POW camp. Here, Ed received medical attention, decent food and better living conditions and was somewhat protected by the Geneva Convention. He was released in early 1945. In 1993, a movie about the 166 airmen was made, entitled "The Lucky Ones". Ed made a return trip to Buchenwald earlier this year, to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their internment in the death camp. He ended his remarkable presentation by asking, "Why can't we all get along?" A long and demonstrative standing ovation followed.



## November Certificates

Brenda Denyes UE receives certificates on behalf of her sons Geoffrey and Neil for their ancestors Benjamin and Joshua Booth, Philip Dorland and Daniel Fraser.

Rod also presents certificates to his wife Beverly Craig UE for her ancestors Joseph Lemon, Margaret Kaims Lymburner and Matthew Lymburner.

A certificate was mailed to new UE, Lisa MacGregor for her ancestor Jeremiah Moore.

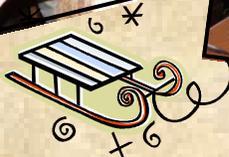


## Annual General Meeting

In the absence of President Paul Preece, Past President Shirley Lockhart UE installs the Executive for 2015: Left to right— Ted Huffman, Treasurer, Deb Sherk, Secretary, Ann Huffman, Membership & Newsletter, Rodney Craig, Genealogist.



## Other Photos from December Social





Photos courtesy of  
Ruth Nicholson UE



## Certificates Presented in 2014

Ancestor Surname & Given Name		Member Surname & Given Name	
Booth	Benjamin	Denyes	Geoffrey
Booth	Benjamin	Denyes	Neil
Booth	Joshua	Denyes	Geoffrey
Booth	Joshua	Denyes	Neil
Bowman	George Adam	Lussier	Randolph
Cook	Robert	Lussier	Randolph
Cosby	George	Lussier	Randolph
Doan	Aaron	Lussier	Randolph
Doan	Joseph	Lussier	Randolph
Dorland	Philip	Denyes	Geoffrey
Dorland	Philip	Denyes	Neil
Durham	James	Nohr	Mazelle
Ford	John	Wilson	Paul
Fairchild	Peter	Bruni	Alyssa
Fairchild	Peter	Bruni	Lori
Fairchild	Peter	Bruni	Nicholas
Fairchild	Peter	Bruni	Tara
Fairchild	Peter	Bruni	Vincent
Fralick	Martin	Denyes	Geoffrey
Fralick	Martin	Denyes	Neil
Freel	John	Freel	William
Fraser	Daniel	Denyes	Geoffrey
Fraser	Daniel	Denyes	Neil
Gordonier	Henry	Denyes	Geoffrey
Gordonier	Henry	Denyes	Neil
Grass	Michael	Phibbs	Ian
Griffin	Richard	Warren	Nathan
Griffin	Richard	Warren	Owen
Griffin	Richard	Warren	Richard
Griffin	Richard	Warren	Thomas
Hainer	Henry	Hainer	Charles
Lemon	Joseph	Craig	Beverly
Lymburner	Margaret Kaims	Craig	Beverly
Lymburner	Matthew	Craig	Beverly
May	William	Broda	Wendy
McCready	William	Wilson	Paul
McCready	William	Wilson	Shirley

Ancestor Surname & Given Name		Member Surname & Given Name	
Moore	Jeremiah	MacGregor	Lisa
Price	Christian	Gee	William
Riselay	Christian	Cairns	James
Riselay	Christian	Cairns	Jeffrey
Riselay	Christian	Cairns	Lois
Riselay	Christian	Cairns	Matthew
Riselay	Christian	Vink	Kelly
Roblin	Philip	Flagler	Dale
Simmons	Henry	Johnson	Margaret
Sipes	Hannah	Cairns	James
Sipes	Hannah	Cairns	Jeffrey
Sipes	Hannah	Cairns	Lois
Sipes	Hannah	Cairns	Matthew
Sipes	Hannah	Vink	Kelly
Sypes	Hannah	Mullins	William
Smith	Nicholas	Broda	Wendy
Upper	George	Schinkel	Colleen
Vanderburgh	John	Bier	Connie
Vanderburgh	John	McRae	Bernice
VanEvery	McGregory	Tulloch	Alexander
VanEvery	McGregory	Tulloch	Christie
VanEvery	McGregory	Tulloch	Nancy
VanEvery	McGregory	Winterburn	Wayne
Vollick	Isaac	Hainer	Charles
Wardell	Joseph	Armbrust	Linda
Wardell	Joseph	Harpwood	Ronald
Wardell	Joseph	Harpwood	Thomas
Wardell	Joseph	Preece	Paul
Williams	John Jr.	Johnson	Margaret
Windecker	Henry	Cairns	James
Windecker	Henry	Cairns	Jeffrey
Windecker	Henry	Cairns	Lois
Windecker	Henry	Cairns	Matthew
Windecker	Hendrick	Vink	Kelly
Young	Adam	Baker	Lisa
Young	Adam	Cairns	James
Young	Adam	Cairns	Jeffrey

Ancestor Surname & Given Name		Member Surname & Given Name	
Young	Adam	Cairns	Lois
Young	Adam	Cairns	Matthew
Young	Adam	Vink	Kelly
Young	Adam	Yorke	Jacqueline
Young	Daniel	Cairns	James
Young	Daniel	Cairns	Jeffrey
Young	Daniel	Cairns	Lois
Young	Daniel	Cairns	Matthew
Young	Daniel	Carriere	James
Young	Daniel	Vink	Kelly

## Punography

I tried to catch some Fog. I mist.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

A soldier who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop anytime.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Than it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type A blood, but it was a Type O.

A dyslexic man walks into a bra.

PMS jokes aren't funny. Period.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

Class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no pop quiz.

Energizer Bunny arrested: Charged with battery.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

How do you make holy water? Boil the hell out of it!

What do you call a dinosaur with a extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

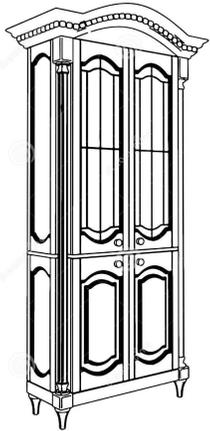
When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.

What does a clock do when it's hungry? It goes back four seconds.

I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me!

Broken pencils are pointless.

## Treasure in the Cupboard



**I**t was late in the afternoon when there was a knock on my door. On the porch there was a man who said “Excuse me, I think my great grandmother was born in this house.” I invited him into my dining room where spread out on the table were many pieces of a stained glass window that my husband Norm had removed from the living room thirty years ago. After taking it all apart and cleaning the various pieces, I was attempting to put it back together again. As we talked about this house, its physical structure and the people who had occupied it, including the Sutherlands, I tried to understand where he, Neil Munro, who was from the U.S.A. fit into the Sutherland family. He was a descendant of William Sutherland, not Ben Sutherland, and I had only heard about Ben.

We had bought the farm from John and Dorothy Collver in the late sixties and I knew that Dorothy was the adopted daughter of Ben and Alma Sutherland, and that they had no other children. Suddenly I remembered being given a large envelope of papers, probably by John and something about not knowing what to do with them. Maybe I could keep them with the others that had just come from the lawyers. Both families had used the same lawyer in an attempt to save money. I say “attempt” because in the end each family considered the bill too large. Neil and I talked a little longer about who was still living in the area. He had spoken to Dorothy before she died. One of her children, Mary Stearn, lives in Wellandport. The last thing he said was that he would pay the postage if I found that bundle of papers and he handed me his business card.

Later that evening I got down on my knees and started emptying the corner cupboard in the office. Amongst the last few items I pulled out was a large legal-sized manila envelope. I gasped at the treasure I held in my hands. It was not really my treasure—someone else’s family history had laid hidden in my cupboard these past thirty-four years. There it was! The history of the property, Lot 33 & 34, Concession 7 in Wainfleet from the patent dated April 5, 1797 to Philip Henry, through the years with mention of Charles and Gertrude Henry, John Clarence Cook and wife Edith Irene, Harold S. Henderson, Harold Levy Henderson and wife Helen J., William T. Sutherland and wife Nellie B., Benjamin Atkinson, Benjamin Franklin Sutherland and wife Alma, Walter Lewitsky and wife Lena, John McCollum Collver and wife Dorothy Anna to the 29th of September 1967 when we, Norman Robert and Elaine Charlotte Gill took title to the property. Attached to the back were two wills, that of Alma Sutherland and her father Benjamin Atkinson. Also there was a testimonial as to when these people had died and their relationship to each other and to the executrix.

I thought of how long I sometimes look for a will or travel a great distance to research the land owned by my ancestors. Anything to pick up some tidbit on the Bockus, Brassard, Pitts, Shaver, Warner, Stata, Jacques and Kinsey lines. Sometimes I wonder whether any information survived and if it did, where might I find it? As I started to make copies for both Neil Munro and Mary Stearns, I just had to ask—“Is my treasure hidden in someone’s cupboard?”

*Submitted by Elaine Bockus Gill UE*

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Newsletter of the OGS, Niagara Peninsula Branch, February, 2002

## The Butler Parkette

By Elizabeth Oliver Malone

On the UELAC website, I noted the grand pictures of the cairn and bust of our town's founder: Col. John Butler in the parkette (lot 65) in the St. Andrew's subdivision. This promoted Jon Jouppien's good stonemasonry. Retired Parks Canada Superintendant Ron Dale and I are the residual trustees of the Col. J. Butler Heritage Fund. I would like to outline the history and our unfinished business.

Gratitude is due to Laura Dodson and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy who originated the project and give us our tax credits for donations. About 1996-8 developer Don Cameron and partners bought the pasture land edging Butler Street, Two Mile Creek and Hwy. 55. This is a private subdivision. Under the Ontario Heritage Act, an archaeological dig was mandatory, paid for by the developer. This proved to be expensive, being rich with artefacts from the 1812 war as well as aboriginal finds. The first firm, Meyer of London, Ontario, failed to find the foundations. Guided by Town Historian, Joy Ormsby, Dr. Ron Williamson's firm ASI (Archaeological Services Inc.) uncovered the foundations of Col. Butler's homestead (built 1782-4) two to three meters underground. It had been burned by the retreating American army. The developer tried to buy off the Town with sixty-five thousand dollars. The Conservancy took the Town to court and won. The Town owns lot 65 so all town citizens may walk on the 'private' road to visit the park. Only a third of the lots were sold. Mr. Cameron hated all of us and disappeared about 2004. Fund raising was inadequate to buy more lots.



After Laura died, Ron Dale and I carried on. Ron petitioned and we received a Trillium grant. Ron designed the park and plaques, Jon Jouppien won the cairn contract, sculptor Ruth Abernethy won the bronze head and bust contract. Sand was filled in and the underground foundations were outlined with a 15 cm. path of grey, sticky stones. We had to have copper plating to secure the eroded cement base. In 2008, Bev Craig reported our opening ceremony in the UE news and Loylist Gazette magazine. On site and at Navy Hall, UEs in costume, politicians and supporters all enjoyed the Lincoln and Welland Regimental Band and refreshments. On July 1st, 2009, we all marched in period attire in the Friends of Fort George parade to Simcoe Park, with Zig Misiak and Scott Paterson carrying Butler's Rangers flags. Jon Butler came (his father Lorne was an ardent UE), Ron Dale spoke, and Fred Hayward presented. Gail Wodruuff reported in the Gazette.



Subdivision owners demanded contract fulfillment. The Town finished curbs and engineering and sent the bill to Mr. Cameron. In 2010-11, Ron Dale and I, with the Town Planner's help, offered the residual owner (Sharon Sallows) fifty thousand dollars and thirty-five thousand dollars in tax credits to make up the official evaluation of lot 64. We wished to outline the 6 meter by 11 meter triangle of underground foundations at mid lot, contiguous with lot 65. No building may occur on top of such heritage. Ms. Sallows was agreeable with two conditions but 6 months later refused. Lot 64 was not put up for sale when she sold all to developer Ivanchuk except 4 lots he would not buy. I'd appreciate suggestions as to the resolution of the impasse. We may be able to invest for better interest than now allowed if the Province will allow—there has been some rumor to that effect. We will keep working on this project.

Elizabeth Oliver-Malone.

## Major Samuel Sayre

By Gayle Ann Livecchia

In the spring 2013, I started walking in a nearby cemetery, Stanhope Union Cemetery. I saw some downed stones, which pained me, and had my husband clean them off. It was a husband and wife. Based on the husband's 1761 birthdate, I did some research... MAJ Samuel Sayre, first Major of the West Morris Militia. No one knew his grave still existed.

I contacted our Congressman for assistance, and with his involvement, I was able to achieve a veteran's marker. The stone mason also put my transcription of the wife's stone on the back of the marker, as is done in military cemeteries. Hence, both graves will be preserved. The Congressman is planning a big dedication ceremony for this Thursday. (October 23, 2014)

MAJ Sayre was born in Goshen, NY, Orange County, and moved to the Chatham, NJ, outside Morristown, in Morris County, area as a child. His first wife was Mary Cooper, of Black River, now Chester NJ. Her father Nathan, operated a Grist Mill. Morris County restored the mill and operates it as a living history museum within their county park system. His second wife, Margaret Stone, was from Woodbridge NJ, Middlesex County. He operated a tavern and inn in Woodbridge, but also resided in Newark and Perth Amboy, NJ. Per a deed in the Morris County Courthouse, in 1802, he was back in Orange County, New York. The cemetery is in Mount Olive, Morris County, NJ, in the northwestern portion of the county, bordering Sussex County.

Margaret's stone indicates that she died as a consort of Samuel Sayre in 1813. His stone indicates an 1816 death date. The term consort was used if a wife predeceased her husband. If she died after her husband, her stone indicated she was a relic. A daughter with wife Mary Cooper, Susan, married Thomas Wills, and the Wills family donated the land to the town of Stanhope, NJ, Sussex County, for use as a town cemetery. Last year, I met an older gentleman, who told me that the oldest part of the cemetery was originally a Baptist Church, which burned. I did find a 1964 book about the history of the Baptist Church in New Jersey. It mentions a church in the mid to late 1700's in the area, but then makes a one sentence note that the people in the area started to identify as Methodists and Presbyterians. The dates of stones in that section of the cemetery do pre-date the transfer to the town for a municipal cemetery, but no one seems to know much about the area. It is a void, with no historical societies, and just far enough west to mention passing references in books about Morristown, but no works with it as the main focus, or at least nothing that I've found.

DAR lists the man's death date as 1802, in Cumberland County, NJ, in the southern portion of the state. The only applicants who have applied for membership under him are a mother and her two daughters, all in Ohio. The mother told me she left the death date blank, and the information was added by someone at DAR National Headquarters when her application was submitted. A book about the family, written in 1901, gives his death as 18 December 1802, with no location, or reference. I contacted the Cumberland County Historical Society, who has no idea why Cumberland County was listed. Although, DAR has no idea why they put it. Cumberland County has a Samuel Sayre on their tax rosters, starting in 1807, and ending in 1815, when a son of that Samuel Sayre appears. Additionally, a set of diaries about the area, the Seeley diaries, confirms the 1816 date. The Seeley diaries are a 30 volume set kept by Sylvanius Seeley, a tavern keeper in Chatham, New Jersey, and a maternal cousin of MAJ Sayre, whose mother was Susannah Seeley (his father was Thomas Sayre). Spanning 1768-1821, Sylvanius Seeley kept records of his live interests, his wife, his business affairs, travels, and area gossip and business. A 1600 page transcription, which lists prisoners and other war activities in the Morristown area, resides at Washington's Headquarters, a United States National Park in Morristown, NJ.

Continued next page...

DAR refuses to change the information unless a new member joins, although no one new would have a reason to research, as the applications on file are considered properly researched, referenced, reviewed, and confirmed. A new applicant would only have to copy the information on the application on file. Hence, do not believe everything you read, and if it isn't referenced, it didn't happen. However, the 1816 death date on the stone is supported by the Seeley Diaries and the language on his second wife's stone. Although it would not have provided any clues to MAJ Sayre's death.

MAJ Sayre had a son, also named Samuel. Samuel Sayre, JR was a judge in Morris County. He, his wife, and a slave, were murdered by a disgruntled employee in what remains Morristown's only triple murder. They are buried in the cemetery of the First Presbyterian Church in Morristown. The murderer, Antoine Le Blanc, was hung on Morristown's Green, in a spectacle hanging. His body was given to a Princeton professor for research, and wallets of skin were made from his body. Yes, very gruesome. But, there is a historical marker in Morristown, NJ, at the site of the home, now a TD bank building, providing information about the event.

I don't know why people selected a specific side. I don't know what social, political, and economic pressures existed that influenced their decision. I think many people didn't have a decision, and other people were influenced by landlords. Clergy, and the decisions of town leaders. For some people, I think there wasn't a choice, based on the social climate. But, I do know that preserving the early graves is important. Regardless of the side they selected, they were part of history, and their graves should be preserved. Every grave is a bookmark in history. Each stone tells a story. Some stories are good, others are bad, others tragic. But, each one has a story worth telling, worth preserving. Their lives helped shape or present world, for better or worse.

*Gayle Ann Livecchia*

### *Loyalists Come West 2015*



*Victoria BC*

### **UELAC Conference 2015 - Victoria British Columbia - May 28 to 31**

Venue is the Coast Victoria Harbourside Hotel & Marina close to the Legislature Buildings and many tourist activities.

Victoria Branch has planned lots of activities for the Conference and you can keep up to date through Loyalist Trails or on the UELAC website at [www.uelac.org](http://www.uelac.org) and follow the links to the Victoria website.

*Paul Preece, President:*

*ppreece@cogeco.ca*

*Ted Huffman, Treasurer:*

*stonehouse@bell.net*

*Deb Sherk, Secretary:*

*debsherk@hotmail.com*

*Ann Huffman, Membership:*

*annhuffman@bell.net*

*Rodney Craig, Genealogist:*

*rcraig@becon*

***Branch Executive 2015***