

# The Niagara Loyalist

COL. JOHN BUTLER (NIAGARA) BRANCH

UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



## President's Pen

Happy New Year. I wish you all good health and happiness. Jim and I attended the 5<sup>th</sup> annual New Year's Day Levee at the Lake Street Armoury in St. Catharines; it is a great way to kick off the New Year. I extended greetings from our Branch to Mayor Brian McMullan, Lincoln & Welland Regiment Commanding Officer Allan Stoyka, Niagara Region Chair Gary Burroughs and several other local dignitaries.

The town of Niagara on the Lake recently unveiled its new armorial bearings and flag. Both are a beautiful, thoughtful tribute to the historical aspect of the town, by including a wooden mace to remember Newark, the first capital of Upper Canada. The two lions with neck ribbons of green refer to Butler's Rangers, with one lion wearing a gorget to honour the



regiment's leader, John Butler. The other lion wears a medal in recognition of the support of the First Nations as allies of the British during the War of 1812. There is also reference to Brock's Monument. The blue flag displays the Loyalist Union Flag of George III prominently in the upper left corner and is representative of the United Empire Loyalists who settled in and around the town. The flag flies proudly throughout the town. A more complete description of the armorial bearings and the flag can be found at [www.notl.org](http://www.notl.org)

Your 2014 Executive was installed at the AGM in December. The invaluable contributions of outgoing members Eugene Oatley UE and Elaine Gill UE will be missed. Eugene had served as President and Past President. Please welcome your new Treasurer, Ted Huffman UE. I look forward to his input at our board meetings. Dale Smout UE has taken on the position of Program Chair. Interesting speakers are a drawing card, along with the delicious meals at Betty's, for our

monthly meetings. My appreciation is extended to these latest volunteers. Perhaps one of you resolved to include a gift of service to your Branch in 2014?

The UELAC 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> promises to be an enjoyable affair. It is now time to send your payment in order that seats can be reserved. Executive members have worked very hard to make this event a resounding success, notably Ann Huffman and Eugene Oatley UE for their extra efforts.

We will be collecting non-perishable food items at our February 1<sup>st</sup> luncheon meeting to benefit the Salvation Army in Niagara Falls. Thanks to Eugene Oatley UE who has volunteered to undertake delivery of our collection immediately following the meeting.

Please note that I am now the alternate lunch contact along with Gail Woodruff. Ann Huffman has been doing this job along with gala, membership and newsletter responsibilities and deserves a break. I look forward to seeing all of you at meetings and events throughout this year.

Loyally,

*Shirley Lockhart UE*

### Inside this issue:

Speakers & Events	<b>2</b>
Annual Meeting	<b>3</b>
DNA, Parts 2 & 3	<b>6</b>
Gala Reminder	<b>8</b>
2013 Certificates	<b>9</b>
Financial Report	<b>11</b>
Membership Reminder	<b>12</b>

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

# Up-Coming Meetings, Speakers & Events

**Saturday, February 1** - Archaeologist Bev Garner, BA will speak about the Snake Hill site that was excavated. Snake Hill is a military cemetery from the War of 1812.

**Saturday, March 1** - Helen Bartens, Curator of the Eva Brook Donley Museum speaking on "Changing Ladies Fashions over the Centuries"

**Saturday, April 5** - Brad Melle speaking on the Life and Times of the Six Nations, the Johnson Family & E. Pauline Johnson.

**Saturday, May 3 - to be announced**

**Saturday, May 24** - UELAC Gala at Queenston Heights Restaurant, Niagara Parkway.

**Saturday, June 14** - Loyalist Flag Raising, Niagara-on-the-Lake



Doors open at 11 a.m.  
Lunch at 11:45 a.m.

*New*  
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)

## A Warm Welcome to our Newest Members !

Jeffrey, Kathleen, Matthew & James Cairns

Lisa MacGregor

Dawn Unruh

Kelly Ann Vink

Jacqueline Williamson Yorke

Ron Harpwood

Tom Harpwood

Linda Armbrust

Shirley Wilson

Paul, Andrea, Connor, Erica & Austin Wilson

Earline Bradt

## Membership 2014

It is encouraging to see that as of the end of December, we have 205 members signed up for the new calendar year.

Thanks to all of you who continue to support the Branch, and best wishes to our newest members who will be working on proving their Loyalist ancestry during the year.

## Final Membership Report

for the year ending December 2013

Total membership at year end	302
Individuals	150
Principal Family	55
Other Family	81
Life	3
Additional Branch	13
Local	221
Out of area	81

For those who have not yet renewed, a copy of the membership renewal form is available on our website.

*Ann Hoffman* Membership Secretary

# Annual General Meeting—December 7, 2013



Retiring Executive members Elaine Gill UE and Eugene Oatley UE with President Shirley Lockhart UE.



Eugene is presented with his Past President's miniature medal.



The cheerful waitresses at Betty's stop for a smile.

Appreciation for jobs well done was extended to David Ellsworth, Flag Bearer, Betty Ellsworth, ticket sales, Ron Chapman, name tags and Jim Lockhart, lunch table.



Shirley Lockhart President <a href="mailto:co4392@sympatico.ca">co4392@sympatico.ca</a>
Paul Preece Vice-President <a href="mailto:ppreece@cogeco.ca">ppreece@cogeco.ca</a>
Ted Huffman Treasurer <a href="mailto:stonehouse@bell.net">stonehouse@bell.net</a>
Deb Sherk Secretary <a href="mailto:debsherk@hotmail.com">debsherk@hotmail.com</a>
Ann Huffman Membership & Newsletter <a href="mailto:annhuffman@bell.net">annhuffman@bell.net</a>
Rodney Craig Genealogist <a href="mailto:rcaig@becon.org">rcaig@becon.org</a>



2014 Executive left to right: President Shirley Lockhart UE, Treasurer Ted Huffman UE, Secretary Deb Sherk UE, Membership Chair & Newsletter Editor Ann Huffman, and Branch Genealogist Rodney Craig. Missing from the photo are Paul Preece UE, Vice-President, and Karen Richardson UE, Assistant Genealogist.

New Program Chair Dale Smout was also welcomed to our group of volunteers, taking over from Karen Richardson.

## October, November & December Certificates

Carl Carriere for Christian Riselay, Hendrick Windecker, Adam Young and Daniel Young

Alan Woolley for Daniel Woolley

Hugh Woolley for Daniel Woolley

Leah Woolley for Daniel Woolley

Gerald Dell for Basnet Dell

Karen Danks for Lutheran Morris

Janet Hilts for Lutheran Morris

Susan Morris for Lutheran Morris

Ron Hudd for Christian Plato

Scott VanEvery for McGregory Van Every

Mary Bell Young for Christian Riselay, Hanna Sipes, Henry Windecker, Adam and Daniel Young

Carl Carriere for Hannah Sipes

Catharine Wylie for Dr. James Stuart

Robert Wylie for Dr. James Stuart



Carl Carriere, Gerald Dell, Sue Hines, Regional Vice-President, Karen Danks and Janet Hilts.



Alan Woolley receives his certificate for Daniel Woolley from Sue Hines.



Carl Carriere receives a number of certificates for himself and for his late mother, Mary Bell Young.



Ron Hudd receives his certificate from Genealogist Rodney Craig.

At our November meeting, Catharine Lockhart UE, an Air Cadet Flight Corporal with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Squadron, and granddaughter of President Shirley Lockhart and her husband Jim, addressed the members regarding her summer experiences at cadet camp at CFB Borden. She spoke about the importance of The Last Post which was played each evening to show respect to those who gave their lives in war and reminded us of why we wear a poppy. Her interesting presentation concluded with a reading of "In Flanders Fields".



After much work by the By-Laws, Policies & Procedures Committee, and having been posted at three meetings, the revised Branch By-Laws, Policies and Procedures were passed at the Annual General Meeting.

Any member who wishes to peruse a copy of this 15 page document may do so by accessing the password protected area of the website where the newsletters are also posted.

### *Invitation from Sue Hines to all Branch Members*

This year we will be doing something a little unusual at the regional meeting. As we enter into our 100th year, the UELAC is considering a number of items, not the least of which is "where do we go from here" and as a very important part of that question - "how do we get there"?

It seems that each branch throughout Canada is asking the same questions: "how do we attract members, how do we keep them interested and how do we get our message out in this ever changing world"?

Most large organizations go through a strategic planning process at several points in their life, often at 5 year intervals.

The UELAC has not recently completed such a plan on a national level, although it is possible that this may have been accomplished more recently at a branch or regional level.

In somewhat of an experiment, the Central West Region has been tasked with completing a Strategic Plan for our region in an effort to determine if this is something that could or should be transferred to the national level.

To that end we would like to invite branch members from the Central West to attend a Strategic Planning Day

Doors open 9:00 am

**April 5, 2014**

Meeting will be from  
9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

**Westmount Public Library**  
3200 Wonderland Rd. S. London,  
Ontario N6L 1A6  
**Cost: \$ 5.00 per person**

Refreshments will be provided

Lunch is "on your own" with several local options

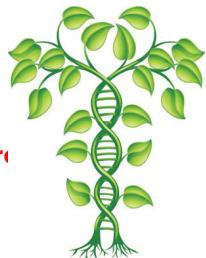
**Election of the Regional VP and Regional Counsellor will also be held this date.**

**If you are interested in taking on one of these positions or would like to nominate someone to the position please submit a nomination to Sue Hines, Regional VP by March 28, 2014.**

**Sue Hines 12-590 Millbank Drive London, Ontario N6E 2H2 or shinese751@rogers.com**

## 23andMe DNA Test for Genealogical and Health Reasons: My Experience

By Bill Young UE, October 2013



In Part 1 of this submission, Bill described his interest in 23andme DNA Testing and described the process through to register, track and complete his account profile, and outlined privacy issues.

### Part 2 Discovering The Family Connection With Other DNA Relatives

Using my list of closest DNA relatives, I search out members who had surnames or family location connections in common. I clicked the “Send an Introduction” button and waited for these members to send me an email. Unless you wish to communicate with a relative directly, all communication is done through the website to protect your identity. Some members know a lot about their family history and share it on the site. When you connect with one of these members, your family connection is more easily solved. Other members want to know more about their family’s past but due to a variety of reasons, including adoption, they have very little information to share to discover the family connections.

It was very rewarding when I could help someone discover her biological father. The DNA relative with my family tree information, using known locations of certain surnames was able to confirm a family story she was told years ago. Her gratitude has made the whole experience very rewarding for me. Through other family contacts and additional information I could give her, she was able to meet members of her “new found” family and they were very helpful with providing even further information.

I contacted another DNA relative with a common surname shared by my maternal great grandmother. Through emails on the 23andMe site, this member informed me where I fit on her family tree. She also told me of the Ancestry link to view the Ronson family surname’s tree back to the 1600s in England. What a find!

I also contacted a member who was adopted and was hoping to find his family connections. Unfortunately, we did not share enough DNA segments to help him but I was able to send him some information about how to go about possibly solving his family history through DNA markers if he could connect with DNA relatives in his top ten matches.

Another member that I contacted found our family connection with both early 1700s surnames and location matches in common. The exact family connection has not been found, however in this case the genealogical find is the references to these family names in a book called *Elias Trask - His Children and Their Race: The Trasks of Nova Scotia*. A copy of this book is available at the Toronto reference Library. Information like this from other members is also a very important benefit of this testing.

Unfortunately, not all people check the site regularly nor do they accept your request to share information. My fifth DNA relative match, who is rated as a third to fourth cousin, has not replied to my information sharing request. I may never discover how we are related.

Fortunately, your list of DNA relatives is constantly being updated as new members results are entered into the database. I discovered a new DNA relative while writing this article. You never know what information the next DNA relative match will share with you to add to your family research.

## **Part 3 Health Overview**

The health overview of the site is divided under five headings - health risks, drug response, inherited conditions, traits and health tools. All of this information has been collected from the voluntary completion of health surveys that are available on the site. The site matches medical research and common DNA markers to arrive at certain health predictions from these self-reported survey answers by members. Currently the site has over 400,000 members. It has been said that when the site has over a million members who have filled out these online surveys then they will have the necessary numbers to predict health considerations with very significant statistical confidence levels. The site is very open as to the confidence levels they can predict for different health considerations.

There are numerous health surveys on the site at all times and they are constantly adding new surveys. These online surveys are usually completed in about ten minutes by checking off your answers from the dropdown menu choices. The results of these surveys are only as good as the truthful answers that members anonymously contribute.

The first section called health risks lists numerous conditions such as celiac disease and your predicted likelihood of having this compared to the average person as well as giving the site's confidence level with this prediction. The conditions for the member are divided into three levels: elevated risk, decreased risk and typical risk. For each condition there is information which explains the condition, what the symptoms are, and how to prevent or slow down its development. This is all part of learning your medical history to help your health care providers.

Your drug response is the second section. This section rates your reaction to various drugs as increased, reduced or typical. Knowing your predicted reactions to various drugs could be very helpful for your medical situation.

Inherited conditions such as cystic fibrosis are listed in the third section. In this section the site informs the member if the variant is present or absent in their DNA. Knowing this information can help you better understand possible health problems you may have now or may develop in the future.

Traits are discussed in the fourth section such as eye colour and yes, even male pattern baldness. The site gives the member a prediction on the different traits.

The last section is just being developed. There are only three studies in this section which ask members to contribute their opinions in order to improve the studies.

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Since I wrote the article, 23andME has received a stern letter from the FDA saying they can not promote their DNA test as a way to find out health information. 23andMe has sent a letter to customers saying it is working closely with the FDA to provide them with data to explain how they believe their health results sent to customers are valid. The debate continues.

A Google search on the topic produces many articles. The following link to one such article explains the situation well. I would still recommend the product for the genealogy value alone. I believe that until 23andMe settles the dispute with the FDA, new customers can only receive the genealogy portion of their results.

<https://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/fda-vs-23andme-lesson-health-care-entrepreneurs/>

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Editor's note: If you are interested in discussing this article in more depth with Bill, please contact him at the following email address: [billyoungue@gmail.com](mailto:billyoungue@gmail.com)

- Ann Huffman

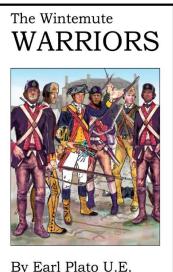
This article reflects on the religious settings of the War of 1812. There is little research available so I will share some of what I know and have found. There were two main groups of Christians back then. Lower Canada (Quebec) was predominately Roman Catholic, and Upper Canada (Ontario) was Anglican, Church of England. In Niagara if you weren't Roman Catholic you were Anglican. My Plato ancestors were of Palatine German descent and of Lutheran background. There were no Lutheran preachers in Niagara in 1812. My forebears Peter James and Catharine (Bowen) Plato in the early 1800's had their children baptized at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Fort Erie. It's in the records. An itinerant Anglican minister would arrive at a church in Niagara with the message to bring the children for baptism. Three Plato children were baptized at one time. Who knew when the Anglican minister would return.

Anglican Padre Mike Peterson's research said, "Only a handful of Anglican parishes dotted Upper Canada when hostilities between Great Britain and the United States commenced in 1812." Peterson said that the Anglican Church survived as best it could in Upper Canada as there was always a shortage of trained clergy. I thought about the soldiers sta-

tioned at Fort Erie. Most of them were of British descent and thus probably of the Anglican faith. Was there an Anglican chaplain at the fort? Yes, in a sense. Here in Upper Canada only a handful of army chaplains, all Anglicans, were available to support the military. They included Rev. G. Stuart, Rev. John Strachan and in Niagara the Rev. Robert Addison. Addison was present in Fort Erie, Bertie, and Willoughby townships and Fort George. He met with the local families including Loyalists such as Bowen, Miller, Plato and Wintermutes, all of Bertie Township.

Peterson says, "Later (these chaplains) they would be joined by military chaplains from Great Britain." He added, "each chaplain was responsible for several hundred soldiers and their families." Bibles were available to the common soldier who could read at his barracks. Yes, God was present during the War but He needed more helpers.

*Earl Plato UE is a long time Fort Erie writer and member of the Col. Butler (Niagara) Branch, UELAC*



Coming soon, **Wintemute Warriors**, a new novel by local historian, Earl Plato U.E. about Philip Wintemute and his five sons who served in Butlers Rangers. They fought for the Crown in the American Revolution. It traces the young life of Philip from his homeland in Palatine Germany to the Colony of New Jersey then on to Pennsylvania with wife, Mary, and eventually Fort Niagara, It is a compelling story of struggles in the New World.

## REMINDER ...

Don't forget to send your cheques in to reserve your space for the UELAC 100th Anniversary Gala at Queenston Heights.

Price is \$50 for regular members, \$75 for all others. If a spouse is part of a family membership, he or she will pay \$50; otherwise the cost is \$75. Preference will be given to our regular members and spouses, then to our members whose primary membership is at another branch, and finally to guests.

Cheques are to be made out to **Butler Branch Gala**, and mailed to 6 Ridgewood Drive, Welland L3C 2G8.

Attendance is limited to the first 100 persons to respond after January 2nd. For more details, refer to your October newsletter.

# *Certificates Received 2013*

Submitted by Rod Craig, Gene-

<b>Loyalist</b>		<b>Member</b>	
Ball	Jacob	Beniac	Steve
Bender	Philip	Denyes	Brenda
Bender	Philip	Denyes	David
Bender	Philip	Denyes	Geoffrey
Bowman	Henry	Bowman	Brian
Bowman	Henry	Bowman	Douglas
Burley	John	Denyes	David
Burley	John	Denyes	Geoffrey
Coon	John	Grunau	Carolyn
Dell	Basnet	Dell	Gerald
Dell	Basnet	Jewson	Beverley
Disher Sr.	William	Hilts	John
Griffin	Richard	Warren	Culver
Huffman	Christopher	Huffman	Olivia
Huffman	Christopher	Huffman	Paul
Lane	Jonathan	Fleming	William
Larroway	Jonas	Smith	Richard
Lutz	John	Denyes	Brenda
Lutz	John	Denyes	David
Lutz	John	Denyes	Geoffrey
Mabee	Frederick	Lockhart	Catharine
Mabee	Frederick	Lockhart	Christopher
Mabee	Frederick	Lockhart	Iain
Mabee	Simon	Lockhart	Catharine
Mabee	Simon	Lockhart	Christopher
Mabee	Simon	Lockhart	Iain
Morris	Lutheran	Danks	Karen
Morris	Lutheran	Hilts	Janet
Morris	Lutheran	Morris	Susan
Plato	Christian	Hudd	Ronald
Riselay	Christian	Carriere	Carl
Riselay	Christian	Carriere	Mary Bell
Seburn	Stephen	Seburn	Tim
Simmons	Henry	Williams	Ruth

<b>Loyalist</b>		<b>Member</b>	
Sipes	Hannah	Carriere	Carl
Sipes	Hannah	Carriere	Mary Bell
Stuart	James	Wylie	Catharine
Stuart	James	Wylie	Robert
VanEvery	McGregory	Grunau	Carolyn
VanEvery	McGregory	VanEvery	Scott
VanEvery	Samuel	Grunau	Carolyn
Vollick	Cornelius	Smith	Richard
Wardell	Joseph	Klinowski	Cynthia
Wardell	Joseph	Klinowski	Natalie
Wardell	Joseph	Klinowski	Sarah
Wardell	Joseph	Moore	Christopher
Wardell	Joseph	Moore	Elwin
Wardell	Joseph	Moore	Paul
Wardell	Joseph	Opdam	Peter
Windecker	Hendrick	Carriere	Carl
Windecker	Hendrick	Carriere	Mary Bell
Wintermute	Abraham	Lawrence	Susan
Wintermute	Abraham	Wintermute	Walter
Wintermute	Peter	Plato	Elaine
Woolley	Daniel	Woolley	Alan
Woolley	Daniel	Woolley	Hugh
Woolley	Daniel	Woolley	Leah
Young	Adam	Carriere	Carl
Young	Adam	Carriere	Mary Bell
Young	Daniel	Carriere	Carl
Young	Daniel	Carriere	Mary Bell



# Year End Financial Report



<b>Revenue</b>			
50/50 Draw	631.00		
Cemetery CD	60.00		
Donations Received	123.50		
Pins	220.00		
Memberships	12,547.70		
Parkway Book Sales	1940.03		\$15, 522.23
<b>Expenses</b>			
Bank Charges	19.10		
Donations	400.00		
UELAC Scholarship	200.00		
Gala 2014	1,200.00		
Honorariums	440.00		
Insurance	55.00		
Meals	238.05		
UELAC Memberships	9,025.00		
Miscellaneous	811.44		
Office Expenses	614.42		
Parkway Costs	1,186.14		\$14,189.15
<b>Net Revenue</b>			\$1,333.08
Bank Balance	October 31, 2012		19,346.83
Receipts	Nov. 01/12 – Oct. 31/13	15,522.23	
Expenses	Nov. 01/12 – Oct. 31/13	14,189.15	1,333.08
Bank Balance	October 31, 2013		20,679.91
Bank Balance Oct. 31/13 Statement			20,914.48
Less outstanding cheques	95.00		
	6.34		
	133.23		234.57
Final Bank Balance Oct. 31, 2013			\$20,679.91
Term Deposits plus Interest			\$12,185.16

The above statement was prepared by Elaine Gill, audited and certified correct

by Maurice Gomme UE, December 5, 2013.

# Have you renewed your membership yet?

*If not, go online, download the form, complete it and mail it to*

*Col. John Butler Membership  
6 Ridgewood Drive  
Welland, ON L3C 2G8*



*Support your Branch and UELAC!*

The 2014 UELAC Centennial Celebration and Conference will be held in Toronto from June 5 to June 8 at the Eaton Chelsea Hotel. A block of rooms has been set aside for attendees. Reservations must be made by May 6<sup>th</sup>.

To get more information and a copy of the conference agenda and registration form, check out this link on the Toronto Branch website:

<http://www.ueltoronto.ca/2014%20UELAC%20Annual%20Conference.htm>