

# The Niagara Loyalist

## Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



### Editorial

For the first time that I can remember, there will be no message from the Branch President as Paul Preece, our current President is recovering from recent surgery. I'm sure you will all join with me in wishing him a speedy recovery. We hope to see him at the helm for our December meeting and social.

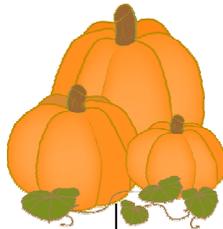
That meeting will be our Annual General Meeting where officers of the Branch Executive are installed for another year. Will your name be among them?

At the October meeting, Ted (Treasurer) and I were absent, as were our Past President Shirley Lockhart and her husband Jim due to important family events. Paul was also absent and on his way to surgery. In the eight years that I have volunteered for the Branch, I cannot recall so many people from the executive being unavailable.

Fortunately, our Secretary, Deb Sherk very capably stepped in and chaired the meeting; she also did her regular job of keeping the minutes and transcribing them later. Joanne and Fred Clifford took care of the door, and the restaurant bill for which we are grateful. Luckily for me, my membership duties were completed for the year. All of these absences took some planning and organization so that the meeting could go ahead.

For about three years now, a plea has gone out for someone to stand for the position of Vice-President with no response. Those of us who have volunteered for Executive positions will not stay forever.

About one-third of our 332 members live outside of the area, and another third do not attend meetings. These are not the people we expect to volunteer. Out of the approximately 110 members who regularly come out to our meetings, have a nice lunch, socialize with friends and enjoy an interesting



speaker, we know there must be someone who would be capable of stepping forward, who could commit a few hours each month, and who would welcome the challenge of continuing the good work of the Branch on behalf of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.

On a positive note, we are thrilled to have Catharine Wylie take over the sale of pins and books at our meetings, and new member Kelly Vink has volunteered to be responsible for draw prizes. Thank you both for your commitment. Also, at the last meeting, Deb asked, on my behalf, for assistance at the Renewal Table to expedite the process, and three people came forward: Joan Martin, Lisa Baker and Janet Hodgkins. My sincere thanks to you all. And let's not forget Betty and David Ellsworth, who continue to help out at each and every meeting and Dale Smout who's doing a great job with Program.

We are the largest UELAC branch in Canada. We must set an example. Volunteerism is the glue that holds us together. Don't let us fall apart.

*Ann Huffman*, Editor

BUTLER BRANCH EXECUTIVE	
Paul Preece UE <a href="mailto:ppreece@cogeco.ca">ppreece@cogeco.ca</a>	President
Ted Huffman UE <a href="mailto:stonehouse@bell.net">stonehouse@bell.net</a>	Treasurer
Deb Sherk UE <a href="mailto:debsherk@hotmail.com">debsherk@hotmail.com</a>	Secretary
Rodney Craig <a href="mailto:rcraig@becon.org">rcraig@becon.org</a>	Genealogist
Ann Huffman <a href="mailto:annhuffman@bell.net">annhuffman@bell.net</a>	Membership & Newsletter

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

## Up-Coming Meetings, Speakers & Events

November 1: *Ed Carter-Edwards* – Ed spent most of his life in the Hamilton and Ancaster areas and now resides in Smithville. He felt the urge to support England from the threat of an invasion by Hitler and at the age of 19, joined the RCAF. He became a member of the 427 Lion Squadron in 1944 and participated in Europe.

On his 22nd mission, on June 8th, 1944 the bomber he was flying in was shot down in flames by a German night fighter. This was the beginning of Ed's journey to hell and back and he will reveal his unbelievable story at the hands of the brutal Gestapo and the sadistic SS forces.

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

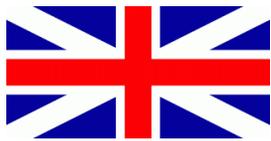
[co4392@sympatico.ca](mailto:co4392@sympatico.ca)

905-937-8252

or

Gail Woodruff

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



## The Loyalist Gazette

The Loyalist Gazette, the Association's twice-yearly publication of Loyalist history, book reviews and branch information, is now available in electronic format.

All current members and their families are entitled to a copy of each issue as part of their branch membership. The **e-Loyalist Gazette** offers some advantages:

- Get it earlier when the paper version goes to the mailing house
- Get it in colour - not just the front and back covers, but all through
- Save past editions on your computer or device
- Help keep the costs down by saving on paper, printing and mailing.

If you prefer to receive the PDF version, simply send a message to: [uelac@uelac.com](mailto:uelac@uelac.com)

Ask to receive the **e-Loyalist Gazette** and provide an email address. That's all there is to it.

## In Memoriam

Sadly, in July we lost two Butler Branch members:

*Linda Miller UE, long-time companion of member Wilf Cosby UE will be missed in the Port Loring and Arnstein areas as a Paramedic and Coordinator of the Argyle Ambulance Service and community volunteer.*

*Gwen Vanderburg UE, mother of Diane Manto UE, mother-in-law of Doug and long time member of the Branch*

Sincere condolences from the

Butler Branch Executive and Members

## Highlights of September Meeting

submitted by Deb Sherk UE



**Our September speaker was Dale Smout, Program Director for the Butler Branch** who spoke about the Puritans and in particular, why they left England for the New World, with specific reference to the Wardell or Wardwell family.

Dale began his presentation by giving a brief introduction to the evolution of Western religions. Puritans were those who rebelled against the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church and the Church of England. William and Thomas Wardwell were followers of Rev. John Cotton, who came to the United States, about the same time as the Pilgrims. The teachings of the Puritans meant that they did not celebrate worldly holidays except the “Lord’s Day”; there was no choirs, hymns or organs in the church; men and women sat on opposite sides during worship; prayers and sermons were quite long; failure to attend church could result in being put in the stocks and they were dissatisfied with the limited extent of the English reformation. The Wardell family were landowners in Alford, England and then moved to Massachusetts onto Rhode Island onto New Jersey and finally to Rainham Center in Ontario. One of Dale’s ancestors, Solomon Wardell, was the last male to be hanged as a witch in Salem in September 1692. Another ancestor was the first Quaker minister in New Jersey. Puritans often followed their minister to the New World.

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## Highlights of October Meeting

submitted by Deb Sherk UE

**Speaker:** Lynn Polermo, from the Norfolk Historical Society and the publisher of the online blog, “Armchair Genealogist”, was introduced and thanked by Dale Smout. Her topic was Writing Family History Stories—10 Tools to Get You Started

Lynn began her presentation by telling everyone that she writes family history stories, which she considers to be creative non-fiction, rather than genealogy. She stressed that it is important to write stories that others will want to read. Lynn described 10 Tools to use when writing family history stories.

Tool 1 – keep your story short and simple – chose one ancestor and one time period in his/her life

Tool 2 – focus on one ancestor who resonates with you – create an emotional connection to that character and bring him/her to life in your writing

Tool 3 – look for conflict in your ancestor’s life and how he/she overcame the conflict – it could be external conflict (war, poverty, slavery) or internal conflict (morality, sickness)

Tool 4 – construct a time line of the events in your ancestor’s life – include world and local events as well

Tool 5 – create a storyboard using cue cards or post-it-notes – these can be moved around to help create a plot using the pivotal events in your ancestor’s life

Tool 6 – find a theme – for example, love, opportunity, community, justice, peace

Tool 7 – keep a writer’s journal – write in it for 15 minutes every day

Tool 8 – create an online family history blog – this will help to practice your skills and build an audience for future writing

Tool 9 – conduct family interviews – get other people’s perspective on your ancestor and his/her life and times

Tool 10 – join a writing community – this will provide feedback from other writers

Lynn finished her presentation by describing the Canada 150 project. It is Canada’s largest history gathering project, in which everyone is encouraged to write a story about their history as a gift to Canada. Information can be found at [www.canada150.com](http://www.canada150.com)

## September Certificate Presentations

Mazelle Nohr recently received her UE certificate by mail for her ancestor James Durham. Mazelle lives in Utah, USA.



Certificates were mailed to other new UEs: James Carriere for his ancestor Daniel Young; William Freel for his ancestor John Freel; Ian Phibbs for his ancestor Michael Grass; and Randolph Lussier for his ancestors George Adam Bowman, Robert Cook, George Cosby, Aaron Doan and Joseph Doan.

President Paul Preece UE received an additional certificate for his ancestor Joseph Wardell. And finally, certificates for additional ancestors were mailed to William Mullins UE for Hanna Sypes and to Colleen Schinkel UE for George Upper.



Paul Preece UE and Rodney Craig presented certificates to Lori Bruni for her ancestor Peter Fairchild. Lori also accepted certificates for her children Alyssa, Nicholas, Tara and Vincent. Jeff Cairns received certificates for his ancestors Christian Riselay, Hannah Sipes, Henry Windecker, Adam Young and Daniel Young. Jeff accepted certificates on behalf of his sons James and Matthew, as well as for his mother Lois. Dale Flagler was presented a UE certificate for his ancestor Philip Roblin.

## October Certificate Presentations



Deb Sherk presided at the October meeting and assisted with certificate presentations:

Lisa Baker received a certificate for her ancestor Adam Young; Charles Hainer received an additional certificate for his ancestors Henry Hainer and Isaac Vollick; William Gee received his certificate for Christian Price.

Left to right: Rodney Craig, Genealogist, new UE Lisa Baker, Charles Hainer UE, and William Gee, new UE

## Miscellaneous Stuff



Several members of the Butler Branch attended a special dinner hosted by the Sons of the American Revolution at Old Fort Niagara on September 6th.

Pictured are Past President Shirley Lockhart UE, Jim Lockhart, and Eugene Oatley UE.

Thanks to Dale Flagler UE for the photos.



### Two Little U.E.s Drop Puck at Oilers Game

Cohen Walker U.E and Grayson Walker U.E., grandsons of Gail Woodruff U.E., were chosen to drop the puck at the opening game of the Oilers Hockey Team in Edmonton on October 9, 2014. The Oilers are huge supporters of the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton. Both Cohen and Grayson attend doctors there and were chosen to represent this wonderful institution. Leading them onto the ice and giving them the pucks were Wayne Gretzky, Mark Messier and Lee Fogolin.

# Miscellaneous Summer Pictures



Queenston Gala



Loyalist Flag Raising in Hamilton June 19, 2014



## Research Workshops

Butler Branch Member Gayle Ann Livecchia, a past speaker at our Branch, wishes to make our members aware of the following history conferences which take place annually in June and November. She would be pleased to answer any questions you might have regarding either of these two events. You can email her at [gayle.ann.livecchia@gmail.com](mailto:gayle.ann.livecchia@gmail.com)

There are two main history conferences in NY. The New York State Historical Association (NYSHA) conference in June, and the SUNY Albany one in November (coming up 20-21). The NYSHA conference for 2015 was to be in Cooperstown, but Gayle was on the site to look at the call for papers, and found it will be at Niagara University. Traditionally, this conference has been very good, encouraging new research and with really wonderful presentations. It is known as a teacher's conference, but it is for anyone interested in research.

[http://www.nysha.org/nysha/for\\_teachers/cnysh](http://www.nysha.org/nysha/for_teachers/cnysh)

The SUNY Albany one tends to be one of the really affordable conferences. The cost is \$55, and includes dinner, breakfast and lunch, for the \$55 registration. There are several hotels across from the university, and Gayle usually stays on Friday because the State Archives are open on Saturday for research. The State Library/Archives people attend the Albany one, and it is an EXCELLENT opportunity to speak with them. They have actually read their own collections. The graduate students are responsible for the conference; hence, there tends to be a great deal of new research, and their reference lists are very exciting. Every once in a while, a student does a project on a local topic, and the reference section includes some new source. They don't have a schedule yet—it is a student-run conference.

<http://nystatehistory.org/researchny/registration.html>



### 🌿 Ambiguous Newspaper Headlines 🌿

Kids make nutritious snacks

Milk drinkers are turning to powder

Eye drops off shelf

Police help dog bite victim

Queen Mary having bottom scraped

Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers

Iraqi head seeks arms

Grandmother of eight makes hole in one

Drunk gets nine months in violin case

Prostitutes appeal to pope

Lung cancer in women mushrooms

Miners refuse to work after death

Experts say school bus passengers should be belted

Red tape holds up new bridge

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

By now, most of you have received an email with the PDF copy of the 2015 Membership Renewal forms. For those who receive their newsletters by post, a copy of the form is included with this mailing.

Please complete the form paying particular attention to any change of information from last year. It would be appreciated if you could print your email address for clarity. Believe it or not, some people's handwriting is a bit difficult to read.

More and more of our members are using email and that has certainly simplified getting information out to you, as well as cutting our mailing costs considerably. However, if you happen to have dial-up Internet services, as a couple of our members do, your newsletter can be mailed to you. Just put a note on your renewal form.

If you have a change of email address during the year, don't forget to add me to the list of people you inform. You can reach me at

[missannlaura@gmail.com](mailto:missannlaura@gmail.com)

or

[annhuffman@bell.net](mailto:annhuffman@bell.net)

Thanks to all of you in advance for continuing to support the Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch and the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada.

Best regards,

*Ann Huffman*

Membership Chair & Newsletter Editor

