

The Niagara Loyalist

United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada

Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch

President's Pen - October 2015

It is that time of year for the seasons to change, when our days become shorter and our mornings begin to show signs of winter's approach. As the seasons change, our Branch also begins to transform itself in the form of volunteers. Unfortunately, I have become part of that transformation and will be moving into another role within the Branch. The past year has been very difficult and I just want to thank all of you for your understanding and support. I have enjoyed my time with the Branch and I just hope that I can continue to make some form of positive contribution in the future.

As for contributions, I would like to spend the remainder of my editorial on an important date: November 11th ~ Remembrance Day!



The Royal Canadian Legion, along with other organizations, continue to advocate for those who fought and continue to fight for our rights and freedoms. This support brings us together and

helps to unify us as a country. Our ancestors were among the first to adhere to the principle of "Unity", with the formation of Butler's Rangers in 1777 and other loyal companies.

The Corps of Rangers was disbanded in 1784, however, their "Loyalist Traditions" and presence continued to be felt during the War of 1812. This "Loyalty" carried through to the First World War and to each war after. I am sure our ancestors would be proud of the contributions that they made over the years knowing what has come from their loyalty and determination.



Remembering and honouring the past is important to help us record and preserve the memories for the future. As we research our ancestry and make connections to our "Loyalist" roots, we are reminded that remembering should not just take place on the "eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month."

Loyally,

Paul Preece U.E.



www.coljohnbutleruel.com

1812 Plaque Ceremony

On June 28, 2015 Shirley Lockhart, U.E. and her third cousin Janet Hodgkins, U.E. honoured their great-great-grandfather, Isaac Hodgkins, 1796-1867, for his role in the militia during the War of 1812 with a ceremony to unveil a plaque at his grave.

Isaac Hodgkins was about 18 years old when he joined the 2nd Lincoln Militia in 1814. He survived the war, returned home, married, fathered 18 children, and lived until 1867 to see the Confederation of Canada. Isaac and his family lived on a farm in Gainsborough Township, part of present day West Lincoln. He is buried not far from that farm in Lane's Cemetery.

Isaac was not the only Hodgkins man to serve in the War of 1812. His two older brothers, William and Oliver, were also in the 2nd Lincoln Militia. Younger brother James later served. The father of them all, Isaac Hodgkins, Senior, c1760-1812, served in the militia, became ill, and died on December 3, 1812.

In the ceremony, Shirley and Janet made honourable mention of Isaac Senior, their great-great-great-grandfather and his military service in 1812. No plaque can be laid at his grave because of the mystery that surrounds it. Isaac Sr. died at home on Lot 10, Concession 6 in Pelham and was buried there. Since 1847 that land has been owned by the Beamer family. They have always been aware of one grave on the property. The present day owners graciously showed us the burial site. All indications are that it is the grave of Isaac Hodgkins, Senior. Sadly there is no proof of



this because the tombstone that marked the grave was stolen in 2013.

Submitted by Janet Hodgkins, U.E.



Honouring A Founder Of Our Nation

On Saturday August 22, 2015 Private Isaac Corman was honoured with a War of 1812 Graveside Plaque. In attendance for the Unveiling Ceremony were descendants of Isaac Corman; along with MPP Paul Miller; Councillor Doug Conley; Sgt. At Arms Ted Jablonski CD and members of the Royal Canadian Legion Battlefield Branch 622; Gigi McAndrews and fellow re-enactors of the 2nd Lincoln Militia; Rev'd Bahman Kalantari, Rector of Church of Our Saviour The Redeemer; Cpl. Barry the Bugler from Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Band; Pat Blackburn UE President, and Marilyn Hardsand UE Secretary of the Hamilton Branch UELAC; Rod and Bev Craig of the Niagara Col. Butler Branch UELAC; and Susan Ramsay, Curator of Battlefield House Museum.

Isaac Corman, along with his brothers-in-law and nephews fought for the British in the War of 1812. Isaac Corman was a Private, fighting in the 2nd Flank 5th Regiment Lincoln Militia. Private Isaac Corman is also known for giving his brother-in-law, William Green (Billy the Scout) the password to get through the Americans lines, who in turn took the message to General Harvey during the Battle of Stoney Creek.

The War of 1812 Graveside Plaque is designed so that once recognized it will denote the resting place of a War of 1812 veteran. The plaque shows both sides of the original medal veterans were to receive. However, few ever did. It will endure, like we hope the memory of the veterans will endure. Through it, we finally have an opportunity to honour our War of 1812 Veterans.



For more information - www.1812veterans.ca

Submitted by

Brenda Denyes UE (3rd Great granddaughter of Private Isaac Corman)



Re-enacting by Members of the Col. John Butler Branch U.E.L.A.C.

A few members of our branch have been fully involved in the many re-enactments ongoing during the last four plus years to celebrate the Battles of the War of 1812-15. It has been an amazing journey to commemorate many of the events that happened so long ago. We and so many other re-enactors have done our best to walk in the footsteps of the soldiers and their families that led the way for us.

I was recruited by Sandra DeYoung U.E. who convinced me I should "join up". I realized that this was the perfect opportunity to realize my dream, and it has been a wonderful and eye-opening experience. A Branch Family, Sandra's daughter Sue Gamble and husband Ken have participated for years with their children. Their daughter Laura is not only a soldier on the field but also Fife Major with the Crown Forces Fife and Drum Corps. She travelled with the Corps this past summer to the re-enactment of the Battle of Waterloo. Their son Samuel began his re-enactment as a baby, sleeping in a playpen at camp and has now attained the rank of Ensign. Nieces and nephews have also been recruited.

My granddaughter Madelene Battis U.E. stepped into camp life three years ago. For many years, Madelene has participated in the wreath laying ceremony at the Commemoration Services at the Chippawa Battlefield on behalf of the Empire Loyalists. She is now a seasoned camper and enjoys participating in Living History.

Our family members are all descended from Loyalists. Sandra's family and myself are descended from Robert Cook U.E. as well as others Loyalists individually. Ken descends from Loyalists James Stewart and John Cain.

We are convinced that being of "good Loyalist stock" has enabled us to enjoy camp life throughout all weather conditions and the unexpected. The history we have learned through our research for ancestors has given us a good understanding of the times that we try to represent.

Sleeping in wedge tents and cooking our meals over a fire pit is something we actually enjoy. We always hope that we will have dry canvas when we are breaking camp but this past season has been unkind to us.

The attached photos show just a few of the activities that we have been involved with: The Siege of Fort Erie 2014; the Battle of Fort George 2014 and 2015; Backus Mills in 2014 and 2015; the Battle of Cooks Mills in 2014. Cooking in the kitchen fireplace at Fort Erie during spring and winter Tactical Maneuvers 2014 and 2015. Hope that you enjoy our photos and we would welcome anyone to visit us ... or "join up"

Gail Woodruff U.E.



Descendants of Loyalists: Back Row: Ken Gamble, Jordan Doan Zugelder, Laura Gamble
 Front Row: Gail Woodruff U.E., Sandra DeYoung U.E. Samuel Gamble, Sue Gamble



Sandra DeYoung U.E. & Gail Woodruff U.E. at Fort George



Supper Ready at Backus Mills: Sue Gamble, Laura Gamble, Gail Woodruff U.E., Sandra DeYoung U.E.



Battle of Queenston Heights



MEETING & SPEAKERS

A big thanks goes to Dale Smout for organizing our speakers!

In September Dale stepped in and told us more about how the town of Simcoe adopted Royal Canadian Squadron 431 during WW2. They were also known as the "Iroquois Squadron". This Squadron still exists today – you



you may know them better as the Canadian Snowbirds! Dale next shared some interesting stories about Samuel Zimmerman (1815 - 1857), the richest man in Upper Canada, known as a founder of the village of Clifton, for bringing the Great Western Railroad to Niagara and of course the Zimmerman Bank. Sadly he died at a young age in the Desjardins Canal Accident March 12, 1857.

Our October speaker, Rebecca Beusaert, spoke about Bicycling Culture in Small Town Ontario. Well organized Bicycle clubs were very popular in the late 1880's and 1890's. Interesting to know that bicycle riders in Tillsonburg were riding on sidewalks and butting heads with pedestrians in the 1890's. (sound familiar today?)



November 7th - Our speaker is author Jean Rae Baxter. "The Education of a Leader: Joseph Brant & The School That Became Dartmouth College" promises to be a very interesting presentation". **Don't forget to let lunch coordinator Dale Flagler know that you plan to be there!**



December 5th is a Social – a time to mix & mingle, meet someone new! Your executive promises some surprises. And are you ready for another round of Deb's Christmas Trivia? Too soon to say Merry Christmas?

A reminder that there is no meeting in January.

The first meeting of the new year is February 6th 2016.

Bill JINKS UE

- It is with sadness along with great joy the family of William (Bill) Jinks announces his passing to his heavenly home, in his 87th year.



Loving husband of Leah, father of Brad (Dianne), Brenda (Grant) and Bernie (Christine). Much loved grandfather to Jennifer, Jeremy, Cherish, Nathan, Brandon, Elijah, Erin, Corey, Taylor, Isaac and Xavier. Adored by 13 great grandchildren. Lovingly remembered by his sisters, Betty (late Al), Viola (Frank), Lillian (George) and their families, brother-in-law Lloyd (June) and sister-in-law Helen. Predeceased by his parents Ivan and Mary Jinks, brothers, Gordon, Donald and Earl. Bill was very active in his church and community. The Welland Agricultural Society and Wainfleet Fair, a revered member of St. John Ambulance bestowed the honour of being a Serving Brother, awarded by the Governor General of Canada. A long time employee of Robin Hood Multifoods and President of Ontario Miniature Harness Racing. He was also an avid fisherman and carving enthusiast. As a long time member of the Winger Church of Christ (Disciples) he served as Youth leader, choir member, Sunday School teacher, deacon and Elder, as well as serving on various committees locally and provincially.

Patricia HUGHES UE

In Loving Memory of Patricia Corinne Craig HUGHES, UE On August 9th, 2015, beloved wife of the late Donald J. Hughes (2015), dear mother of the late James Craig Hughes, UE (2013). Predeceased by her parents L. Leigh Craig, UE (1972) and Cora Marshall Craig (1977). "Mama P." will be sadly missed by her adopted family Judy Heath, Tom Adamtau, Tim, Heather, Alicia, and Dawson Wilson. She was the Last Regent of Lord Halifax Chapter of the I.O.D.E., life member of Loretto Alumnae and the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, member of St. Andrews United Church, Niagara Falls and was the welcome wagon hostess for 8 years. A private burial has taken place in Lundy's Lane Cemetery, Niagara Falls. Patricia was a long time member of Col. John Butler(Niagara) Branch, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada. While serving as Vice President, she played a major role in the successful revival of Col. John Butler Branch by initiating the very popular luncheon meetings. Pat was very proud of her Loyalist ancestors Christopher and James Craig. She will be missed.



Betty Marie HARLEY UE



Passed away peacefully at the Welland Hospital on Monday, October 5, 2015 in her 87th year. Cherished mother of John Lester Harley (Brenda) and Susan Marie Harley-Kidd (Bryan). Proud and loving grandmother of Treena Harley, Shouna Harley (Marci) and great-grandmother of Cody, Ryan and Nicole Samuelson and Connor Harley. Dear sister-in-law of Dorothy Terreberry. Sadly missed by numerous nieces and nephews. Predeceased by her parents Aylmer and Lily May Terreberry, brothers Gordon (Vera), Chester and Ronald (Mildred). Betty was employed as a secretary at Atlas Steels Ltd., Canada Forge, Traders Finance, Welland Hydro and for the last 27 years with the Ministry of Correctional Services, Probation and Parole in Welland. Following her retirement in 1989 she volunteered as a secretary with the Senior Centre in Welland and then took an active role as a volunteer in politics. She was a secretary and an active member of the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada, Colonel John Butler Niagara Branch and a member of the Ontario Genealogical Society and the Quarter Century Club, Ontario Public Service. She was a lifetime member of Cook's Mills United Church and initiated the archives collection for this church. Betty was most proud of her family. Her exceptional gift and true passion was her unrelenting pursuit for researching family history and genealogy, having entered over 10,000 names and publishing two books. Our family is so proud of her.

Alan CLIFFORD UE



Life Story for Thomas Alan Clifford
Passed away peacefully in his 86th year on August 29, 2015 surrounded by his loving family. Survived by his beloved wife, Louise, of 61 years, his daughters Carol Cox (Errol Wilson), Joanne Cappelletti (Rick), Judy Bowman (Phil), Lise Walton (late John) and his son Steven. Loving grandfather of Meagan, Jeremy, Michael, Emily, Laura, Melissa, Jason and Gregg and great grandfather of Allie and Erika. He will be fondly remembered by his sister Helen Beswick and brother Fred (Joanne) and many nieces and nephews. Alan was a proud member of the United Empire Loyalist Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch, UELAC and taught with the Lincoln County Board of Education for 30 years.



Barbaranne WRIGHT UE

It is with deep sadness that we announce Barbaranne's passing on Sunday July 26th, 2015. Barb served as Branch Genealogist for Col. John Butler (Niagara) Branch UELAC for several years and at that time she worked closely with Angela and Peter Johnson on a UELAC Genealogical Committee. Loyalist descendants are very grateful to Barb for compiling and publishing "Loyalist Children of Upper Canada"; "UE Loyalists & Military Claimants of Upper Canada" and "Loyalist* Military * Settlers of Upper Canada", very useful sources for members searching for their second and third generation Loyalist descendant. Barb was very proud of her loyalist ancestors: John Honsinger/Huntsinger; William Foster; Peter Alcombrack; Benoni Crumb; Isaac Vollick and Francis Weaver.

Her passion for Genealogy covered many decades and helped her discover her roots as a descendant of the United Empire Loyalist Association, as well as her lineage to the Metis Nation of Ontario. Through the process she proudly published a number of books on the subject and operated her own business as a Genealogist for many years.



Goodwill

If you know of someone suffering the loss of a loved one, illness, or celebrating a significant birthday or anniversary, please contact Jean Johnston at:

905-892-3340

Or at

10 Milliner Place,

Fonthill, ON

L0E 1E4



Loyalist Trails

Weekly UELAC Newsletter

Are you on the subscription list to receive this interesting weekly newsletter from the Association? If not, it's easy to sign up!

Go to www.uelac.org. On the left menu of the home page, click on PUBLICATIONS.

Then select LOYALIST TRAILS. In the window that appears, click on SUBSCRIBE NOW.

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Colonel John Butler Branch

United Empire Loyalists

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annhuffman@bell.net

Past President – Eugene Oatley

ero.uel@cogeco.ca

Genealogist— Rodney Craig

rcraig@becon.org

Call for Nominations

It's that time of year again! The nominating committee is calling for nominations for all executive positions. ALL positions are open for nominations. Please consider volunteering some time to our Colonel John Butler Branch.

Please contact Eugene Oatley by phone or email.

905-933-5379

ero.uel@cogeco.ca



Do you have any great fundraising ideas?

We are on the lookout for fundraising ideas AND volunteers. Please share any ideas you have with any member of your executive.

October is Thanksgiving,

December is Christmas

and November is the start of

Membership Season for the Butler Branch.

You will be receiving an email or letter with the 2016 renewal membership form attached.

Please complete it (noting any change of contact information) and send by mail or take to the next general meeting you attend to confirm your membership for 2016.

Welcome New U.E. Members

In September we welcomed five new members.

John Hicks—ancestor Benjamin Hicks

Harry Richard J. Newman— ancestor Benjamin Hicks

Priscilla Newman—ancestor Benjamin Hicks

Sarah Newman—ancestor Benjamin Hicks

Dean Troup—ancestor Christian Price

Congratulations ...

to members who received additional UE certificates.

Carol Pearse—ancestor Isaac Vollick

Donald Sherwin—ancestor Adam Vrooman

Randy Ewen—ancestor Allan Nixon

Wayne Garr—ancestor Jacob Beam

Paul Preece—ancestor Isaac Lounsbury



Newman & Hicks family

Newsletter Editors

Your newsletter editors Wayne & Cheryl Scott welcome submissions.

Please contact us at

mail4wayne@cogeco.ca

Your next newsletter comes out mid January.

Words of Wisdom

The biggest lie I tell myself is ..."I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet!

I don't have gray hair. I have "wisdom highlights". I'm just very wise.

