



THE

HAMILTON LOYALIST

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The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



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"They forsook every possession excepting their honour, and set their faces towards the wilderness... to begin, amid untold hardships, life anew under the flag they revered."

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Message from the President Spring 2012

This has been the fastest first quarter in my memory. Perhaps the lack of snow made it seem as though Spring had arrived months ago.

February was packed with all the usual heritage events. It is difficult to attend them all. David and I had returned from our month away in January to "get into full action" visiting Burlington Heritage Days on February 4th and then the Choral Evensong at Christ's Church Cathedral to mark the 60th Anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Accession to the throne the next day. The following Friday we attended the Head of the Lake's Heritage dinner where we enjoyed the vintage music of the Cottonwood Brass and I had the opportunity to speak to Hamilton's mayor, Bob Bratina and his wife Carol. They agreed to attend this year's Loyalist Day ceremony at Prince's Square and Mayor Bratina will share the message he gave at Christ's Church Cathedral on remembering the day of Queen Elizabeth's accession, as a child himself. The Hamilton Wentworth Heritage awards were presented on Saturday February 11th where our Branch Secretary Marilyn Hardsand was honoured. In between those major events, I gave three Pioneer presentations to local schools, hosted an executive and a conference 2013 meeting and spoke at the Hamilton OGS meeting.

March was not as hectic as February. I attended the Dominion Council meeting, in Toronto, on

the 10th. These meetings are held twice annually. It is good to connect with other branch presidents and see how we are moving forward with our proud Loyalist heritage message across the country. I gave three more Pioneer presentations that month.

April sped past with a number of interesting events. On the 13th I attended a "War of 1812 Symposium" in Woodstock where I was introduced to a number of special products and events that are aligned to the commemoration of this time period. The Pathways to Peace postcards and books celebrate local artists who paint and illustrate significant events that took place during the War of 1812-14. Hewitt's Dairy in Hagersville has developed two special ice creams to commemorate actions and foods from this time period. The Palatine Winery in St. Catharines has introduced a red and a white wine labeled "1812". There are barn quilts being painted on barns and sheds, heritage tours around and through most counties from Essex to Niagara, the Laura Secord Walk, Brock's Walk and so much more. It is a truly enriching time for early Canadian history.

Mid month our annual Regional Meeting was held once again in London. Our Hamilton Branch is always well represented: we enjoy our Loyalist history and learning from one another. The following Tuesday, the 24th the Ontario Volunteer Awards were held at Liuna Station. This year we honoured Jennifer Smith (10 year pin) our newsletter publisher and web master, Lloyd Oakes (10 year pin) our past president and ever faithful music accompanist at Loyalist Day and John Hammill (25 year pin) our past president, councilor and Dominion trustee.



Lloyd Oakes & Jennifer Smith receive Ontario Volunteer award pins

April rounded out with a luncheon at McMaster with Dr. Mary Andersen, our November speaker, where we heard Red Wilson speak about the revitalization of Hamilton. I completed another three Pioneer presentations at local schools and I hosted an executive meeting.



Red Wilson

May 1st was a special day for our education committee as we were invited to give two Loyalist presentations at the Hamilton History Fair. Pat Blackburn arranged for Gloria Howard and Frank Rupert to attend, in period clothing, to enhance and enrich our presentations. Pat brought our four tables of artifacts up to the second floor to show the students actual pieces of local history and to weave the Loyalist story into the visuals. Frank brought some period music that played prior to our talks. Gloria was our technical assistant with the computer and projector. It was indeed an interesting day. I held a conference 2013 meeting on the 10th and now I am piecing together all the news for our Spring newsletter.

Enjoy your history, enjoy our heritage. It is coming more and more to the forefront as



Ruth Nicholson & Dr. Mary Andersen

we head into the many varied events for the War of 1812-14. The sons and daughters of the Loyalists – the second generation of the United Empire Loyalists – were actively involved in this war, in defending their new country's border. Now we reach out and celebrate 200 years of peace with our neighbours to the south.

Loyally,
Ruth Nicholson UE

An Active Education Committee This Spring

by Pat Blackburn UE

Once again, with the coming of Spring many schools requested our presentations for Grades 3 and 7. I would like to show the branch just how active this Education Committee has been, although the information will be a repeat of the monthly reports provided at our general meetings.

In total, we have given thirty presentations during the months of February to the end of May. These have been split with 19 to the Hamilton-Wentworth District Schools and 11 to Halton District School Board schools. Of this total, 22 of the presentations were for Grade 3 pioneer life.



Pat Blackburn, Gloria Howard, Frank Rupert & Ruth Nicholson at the Hamilton Public Board's History Fair

As part of our attending the schools, we have been providing each school library with a copy of the book *Billy Green and the Battle of Stoney Creek, June 6, 1813* by James Elliott. Doug Green gave us free copies to donate to each school for their library. We always tell the Billy Green story and the students and teachers are very interested in this local hero's story.

The Education Committee received good assistance from Mr. John Leyzer of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. He contacted some of the inner City Schools, for us that he felt would greatly benefit from our presentations. He also put forth the suggestion that our Committee could be helpful at the Heritage Fair in May, which is organized by all three Hamilton School Boards.

The Heritage Fair was held at the recreation building and field for Arcelor Mittal employees in Upper Stoney Creek. Grades 4 to 8 were represented from schools within the different Boards. Each student participated by completing a heritage exhibit for display purposes. These



Children at Beverley Central try on Tricorns & Mob Caps

were judged and the one considered the best was awarded a prize.

Our participation was two one-hour presentations about the United Empire Loyalists and local heritage history. We had 22 students attend. It was a new venue and we will see if there is a way to reach out to more of these interested history students if we are asked to participate next year.

Thank you to Gloria Howard, Ruth Nicholson and Frank Rupert for giving up their personal time to come in period costume and to help me with this Fair.

Invitation to Camp Skinner Cemetery

Plaquing the Burial Location of Hartman Freeland UEL

As members of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada we are seeking to establish a new, visual link to those who opened the land in new settlement areas 225 years ago. The Loyalists were Canada's first refugees. They lost everything during the American Revolution and started all over again in what became Canada. The Loyalists along with their sons and daughters fought during the War of 1812-14 to keep this area safe for future generations. They cleared the land and started first businesses right here in Hamilton, Burlington, Dundas and Ancaster. To honour their enormous labours and contributions, we are erecting specially designed signs that mark specific cemeteries as the final resting places of these Loyalists.

On Saturday June 16th, we will be hosting a special unveiling of a Loyalist Burial Site plaque at Camp Skinner Cemetery, located at Lot 25, Concession 2W, Beverly Township, Wentworth County, in the village of Orkney. According to the City of Hamilton it is the resting place of loyalists Jephtha Skinner, Robert Camp/Kemp and Hartman Freeland. We honour all Loyalists. Today we especially honour

Hartman Freeland. A certificate was presented on January 10, 2011 to Bruce McCann of Port Dover at Grand River Branch as a descendant of Hartman Freeland.

As an aside, I am very excited about Hartman Freeland as he was a friend of my own Loyalist Joel Daniel UE back in New Brunswick. In September 1783, they both arrived in Saint John aboard the Duke of Richmond and they lived near each other for a time at Maugerville, NB and petitioned for better Land Grants together.

You are indeed invited to this historic event. The unveiling will take place at 2:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please mark this date on your calendar and join us to uncover one of the remarkable early residents and history of Hamilton and area.

Yours truly,

Doug Coppins UE

*Chairperson of the Hamilton Branch
Loyalist Burial Plaquing Committee of the
UELAC*

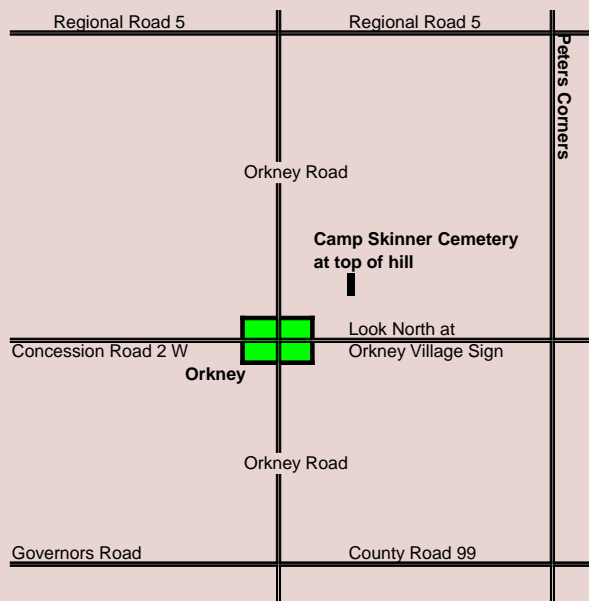
Directions to Camp Skinner Cemetery

Camp Skinner Cemetery is found just east of the main Village of Orkney on Concession 2W.

At the Village of Orkney sign, look north (about quarter mile) to find the Cemetery at the top of a slight hill via a dirt pathway or road.

Please park along the road as there is no space to park at the cemetery.

There will be a UELAC Banner along the roadside.



A Special Loyalists' Dinner with General Brock



Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, as portrayed by Bob Rennie UE, will be our special guest as part of the War of 1812 Brock's Walk

**Tuesday August 7th 2012
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

In the Round Room of the magnificent Scottish Rite4 Queen St. S. Hamilton - Free on-site parking

Roast beef dinner & cash bar
Cost is \$30.00 per person including taxes

Reserve now, as seating is limited, by sending a cheque only to:

**Hamilton/Halton/Brant Regional
Tourism Association**

Memo on cheque: Brock's Walk dinner
Lister Block – Unit 155
28 James St. N.
Hamilton, ON L8R 2K1

After dinner enjoy an evening stroll with General Brock through the Durand Neighbourhood and to the top of John St. where Brock actually walked 200 years ago!

Brock's Walk - Eight Days of Celebrations

From Toronto to Port Dover Sunday Aug. 5 – Sunday Aug. 12 2012

The Brock's Walk celebrates a historically significant and pivotal event during the debut of the 1812 war highlighting one of the most important elements of Sir Isaac Brock's legacy. Join Brock himself and follow the footsteps he had taken 200 years ago over a period of 8 days, starting off at the Toronto Harbour Front on August 5th and retracing his footsteps all the way through Burlington, Hamilton, Brantford, Simcoe and ending on August 12th at the Port Dover Harbour Front.

Shortly after the message reached Sir Isaac Brock (in command of the entire British army in Canada) that an American Army had advanced straight into Canadian territory at Sandwich (Windsor Ontario), Brock prorogued parliament and immediately set sail towards Burlington Bay and mounted the highly successful invasion and capture of Fort Detroit and Michigan Territory which further delayed the US from any other invasions for almost a year.

The 8 Day Brock's Walk will include:

Sunday August 5

Sail with Brock on the Kajama schooner at the Toronto Harbour front

Monday August 6

Witness Brock meeting John Brant at LaSalle Park in Burlington, in partnership with the John Brant Festival

Tuesday August 7

Join Brock on a special 1812 tour of Burlington Heights – Dundurn Castle area; in the evening enjoy dinner at the Scottish Rite with Brock and the Loyalists and Masons.

Wednesday August 8

Join Brock for a special afternoon at the Mohawk Chapel – The oldest church in Ontario, built in 1785, in Brantford.

Thursday August 9

Break bread with Brock for an evening picnic including 1812 ice cream and children's activities at the Mount Pleasant Nature Park in Mount Pleasant.

Friday August 10

Witness Brock rally the Norfolk Militia at a picnic lunch in Lynwood Park in Historic Downtown Simcoe and ending the day with dinner at the Blue Elephant across from the Eva Brook Donly Museum.

Saturday August 11 and 12

Take part in the festivities at the Lion on the Lake event at Port Dover Harbour Front – Visitors will be able to sail with Brock on the St. Lawrence II Tall Ship.

Bob Rennie's uniform, as Major General Isaac Brock, has been supplied through funding from Manulife.



Tecumseh with Major General Isaac Brock (Bob Rennie) at Documentary Shoot for "A Desert Between Us & Them".

Major General Isaac Brock - Bob Rennie UE

Excerpted from Loyalist Trails
May 27 2012 – Doris Lemon UE article
Ruth Nicholson UE

Bob Rennie UE of the Grand River Branch will be walking the steps of Sir Isaac Brock this August. On his day in Hamilton on August 7th he will be at Dundurn Castle, the location of the British troops during the War of 1812. This area and that across the street, the Hamilton Cemetery, was known as Burlington Heights.

During the evening, Brock will be attending a Loyalist dinner. We are all invited. It will take place at the Scottish Rite, that grand piece of architecture at 4 Queen St. S. (corner of King & Queen Streets) at 6 p.m.

Bob Rennie's loyalist ancestor is Reverend Gideon Bostwick, who was put out of a church during the American Revolution for praying for King George III. The family fled to New York and then to the western side of Nova Scotia, the part that eventually became the loyalist province of New Brunswick.

Rev. Bostwick's son Henry settled in Norfolk County Upper Canada. When Brock sailed from Dover in August 1812 on his way to Amherstburg, Henry Bostwick was one of two officers who marched with 100 men from Port Dover to Detroit. There they fought in and helped win the Battle of Detroit.

Later in May 1814 Henry Bostwick's home and barn were burned and his carriage and anything moveable stolen by the Americans. This was part of Campbell's raid on Dover Mills.

In November 1814, Bostwick's militia force of 400 was defeated by McArthur's army of from 800-1500 experienced Kentucky riflemen, at the Battle of Malcolm's Mills.

Bob Rennie walks with a lot of family history. It is exciting to have General Isaac Brock's walk re-enacted by a fellow loyalist whose ancestor was definitely entangled in the War of 1812-14.



OUR ANCESTORS

Judith Nuttall UE relays the story of Loyalist John Moore UEL

John Moore was my 4th Great Grandfather. He was born in 1739 and married Dinah Pettit of Hackettstown around 1763. He was a hat maker and apparently ran a prosperous business as he sold his wares by traveling up and down the river and through the various tributaries.

John Moore owned 2 lots of land in New Jersey. One lot was quartered and shared by three friends: Amos Pettit, Adam Green and Archibald Stewart. This lot was unfenced and on Jenny Jump Mountain which is now a National Park.

John Moore and his family, like many Loyalist families, headed out on the long, dangerous journey to British North American (Canada) and lost half of their furniture and property along the way.

Initially the family settled at Newark but moved onto The Forty and settled by the Lakeshore. A love relationship developed between Elizabeth Moore and Robert Nelles. In 1788, after about a year they married. The story is kept in the Nelles family papers as described by Charles Nelles in his book, Niagara – Volume 2. A receipt for the wedding ring and some wedding lace can be found in the Canadian Archives. John Moore's name can be found on the 1788 Petition for Food and on the 1790 Subscription List for the Building of the First St. Andrew's Church.

John Moore and his friends founded the first municipal council in Upper Canada, in 1780. It was held at John Green's home, John Moore was secretary and the other council members were John Pettit, John Beamer and Levi Lewis.

John Moore died in 1803 and his wife Dinah died the following year. Both were buried by the lakeshore but the graves were later moved to the churchyard at St. Andrew's. John Moore's sons: Jonathan, Peirce, William and Charles all fought in the War of 1812 as well as his sons-in-law Alan Nixon, Robert Nelles and Henry Hixon.



Judith Nuttall Receives certificates through ancestor John Moore



Bev Corsini with Ruth Nicholson on the evening of Bev's certificate presentation

My Loyalist Ancestor - Jacob Smith (Jakob Schmidt)

by Bev Corsini UE

Because Jacob Smith was German-speaking it is improbable that there were ever any traditional records other than those appearing in family Bibles, and those commenced with Jacob himself. He, along with many other German settlers in North-western New Jersey, was a supporter of the British out of gratitude for having been granted refuge from religious persecution in earlier times. The United Empire Loyalist List describes Jacob Smith Senior as "a soldier in the New Jersey Volunteers," a unit commissioned on July 1st, 1776.

It is likely that following the Revolution, Jacob and his family were subjected to the usual persecution meted out to Loyalists. On June 20, 1788 the full authority of the newly created state of New Jersey reached Jacob's son-in-law, Christian Huffman. He had served in the New Jersey Volunteers from 1777 – 1783 and was summoned to appear before an inquisition as a result of his military service; other "legal" proceedings were to follow into 1789 to "liberate" his assets. By the middle of August 1788 the combined Smith-Huffman families arrived here endowed with indomitable

Read more Loyalist Profiles on our new website at www.uel-hamilton.com!

courage and prepared to face the unknown of a remote frontier.

By the time war was declared in June 1812, the Smith family had begun to prosper, only to be called into active service and plunged into a new conflict. Jacob's eldest son Lewis, a Gunner, was dead by December 3, 1812. Lewis' son Matthias, a private in a Flank Company was dead by December 17, 1812. Tragically, by Christmas Phoebe Huffman-Smith had lost her husband and one of her sons during the start of the conflict that forged the destiny of a continent.

Jean Baker Relates the Story of Loyalist Isaac Gilbert 1742 – 1822

Isaac Gilbert was born in Connecticut in 1742.

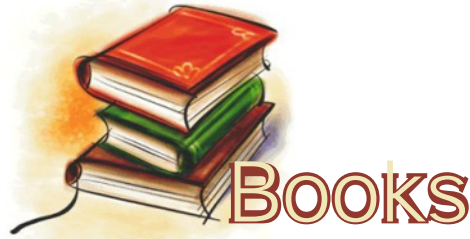
Isaac was only 16 when he participated, as an ensign, in the Siege of Louisbourg. When the Revolutionary War broke out, he joined the Queen's Rangers as a Sergeant. The Rangers did not surrender their colours, when Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown. The colours were smuggled out and sent to England. Later they were returned to Canada and are now displayed under protective glass in the College Street Library in Toronto.

Isaac Gilbert and his family trekked to New Brunswick after the American Revolutionary war. They settled in Upper Canada in Lieutenant Colonel Simcoe's "Long Point Settlement".

During the 1814 American Raids when so many homes and mills were destroyed, the Americans sought to capture Isaac, who was by that time 70 years old, but considered a former enemy. He remained hidden in a cave until the danger was past.

At the end of that senseless war better days returned for the Loyalists.

Gilbert lived to be 80 years old. His remains are buried at the Woodhouse United Church Cemetery on Highway #24, 4 miles south of Simcoe.



Freedom Bound by Jean Rae Baxter Ronsdale Press Ruth Nicholson UE

Follow our heroine, Charlotte Schyler as she journeys from Canada to join her husband, Nick in Charleston, South Carolina. She is greeted by a friend of Nick's, Captain Braemar, who tells her that Nick has been sent off again (as a courier) and she is to stay at a lovely home where Nick has a room in the officers' quarters. As she is left at the door, she learns that Nick's room has been given over to another young officer before Charlotte arrived. This news begins Charlotte's journey into a working class area of Charleston where she helps a young, widowed Quaker woman deliver washing around town and collect a meager sum from the tight-fisted upper class.

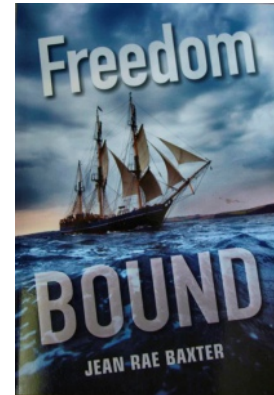
There are strange noises in the night and an eventual hunt. When Nick helps to give a slave freedom, he is recognized as a spy

and he disappears. Charlotte camouflages herself as a man, crosses alligator infested swamp land and treks into the mountains looking for Nick.

This book is fast to read since it keeps the reader captivated from beginning to end.

Jean has a wonderful way of educating her readers on the risks taken and the perseverance required to live life during the American Revolution in South Carolina, where more battles ensued than anywhere else in the thirteen colonies.

This book has already received 5 stars out of 5 from the National Post's "Book Review for Kids" and I believe this will be only the beginning of many awards to come.



Jean Rae Baxter at the Launch of Freedom Bound



Frank Rupert Receiving copy of Freedom Bound

The Monarchists' Diamond Jubilee Celebration

For Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II – Queen of Canada
at Liuna Station – May 23rd 2012



Nathan Tidridge receives Diamond Jubilee Pin from Prince Charles



Ruth Nicholson & Nathan Tidridge at the Monarchists' Event

by Ruth Nicholson UE

The Honourable David C. Onley Lieutenant Governor of Ontario presented six Diamond Jubilee medals that evening. Jeff Thiessen, Branch Chairman of the Monarchists for Hamilton received the first one. Nathan Tidridge who had received his medal the day prior from Prince Charles led the Loyal Toast.

Fred Hayward had helped arrange the date for the Monarchists when the Lieutenant Governor was available. This all took place the day Nathan Tidridge launched his book, Canada's Constitutional Monarchy, in Toronto, in the Lieutenant Governor's suite.

Jeff Thiessen mentioned how nice it was to see a full table of Loyalists at this event. Fred and Margaret Hayward, Gloria Oakes, Gloria Howard, Bev Corsini and David and Ruth Nicholson represented the Hamilton Branch UELAC that evening.



Lieutenant Governor David C Onley



Nathan's Golden & Diamond Jubilee pins

Membership News & Other Interesting Events

Gloria M. Oakes UE Membership Chair

Keeping in touch with members is on my radar at all times, and it is always good to see such a good showing of members at our regular meetings. Our newly designed website and newsletter have attracted a number of queries from far and wide and it is to be hoped that the job of membership chair can soon be passed on to younger hands and minds as this great means of communication needs to be shared.

Your Executive continues to work hard to continue the various programs we feel are so important. Yet here again, help is needed from others to step forward to assist. Vacancies within our slate appear and President Ruth Nicholson finds herself carrying too heavy a load which includes newsletter and Conference planning. YOUR HELP is needed!

We greatly appreciate the fact that so many of our older members continue to show their support by continuing their membership with Hamilton Branch, even though they are unable to attend meetings. Support to our McMaster History Scholarship has been increased lately and this is also much appreciated.

Work at the Executive level is ongoing, with the Dominion Conference soon to be held in Winnipeg. Our planning committee for the 2013 Conference here in Hamilton has prepared a number of handouts to be shared with delegates this year hoping to entice a good showing next year when we tie in with the Battle of Stoney Creek re-enactment events.

We enjoyed a wonderful picnic at the Shaver Homestead on May 27. We look forward to meeting and greeting on Loyalist Day on June 19 where there is a special focus on our War of 1812 ancestors. On June 16, our Plaquing Committee led by Sharon and Doug Coppins, has completed arrangements to unveil another Loyalist burial plaque to recognize the site of Loyalist Hartman Freeland near Orkney. In connection with the War of 1812 events, we are also excited about gathering together on August 7th as we dine with General Isaac Brock during his walk through our area.

Lots of events and ideas to follow up on, BUT remember we need your help to make it happen.

Hamilton Branch Loyalist Picnic

At Shirley and Jack Cranston's Historic Shaver Home
Ruth Nicholson UE

On Sunday afternoon, May 27th we enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon together, under the shade trees at the back of the Shaver home. Shirley and Jack are always happy to have us at their place and they offer the luxury of a covered building for the food and picnic tables to sit at for eating. Conversation is so much more intimate across the table from one another.

Michele and John Lewis prepared three lovely baskets for a draw to help finance our Dominion Conference next May/June. Pat Blackburn displayed the baskets and ran the draw outside so that no one had to get in and out of lawn chairs to see and participate. It all went well.

The food was a great balance of salads, main course and desserts. It was enjoyed by all.

We had surprise guests from Buffalo arrive who found us on the website – good to know!

Doug and Cindy Jackson sent me an email today, saying how much they enjoyed themselves and that they look forward to attending some of our upcoming events.



Bev Corsini, Doug Green, Cindy & Gordon Jackson



*Gerrit & Marilyn Vanderdussen, Rowena Jeffreys,
Shirley Fellows, Shirley Cranston*

Conference 2013: May 30th - June 2nd



Ruth Nicholson
UE Conference 2013 Chair

We are moving along with our conference plans at a good rate.

Thursday May 30th will be registration day. This will begin around noon. We will set up our welcome room in the Burlington Holiday Inn during the morning and have all the draw baskets ready as well as a book display by A Different Drummer Book Store and an Ontario Fur Display by Doug Adams of Northland Paradise Lodge of Temagami. This will be the on-going location for later registrants, a place to talk and browse and have a cold beverage. We have a room for the genealogy meeting that will take place mid-afternoon. That evening we will formally welcome all to a meet and greet session offering appetizers and a cash bar. David Hill Morrison will bring an Iroquoian message and Zig Mitziak, our honorary Dominion Vice President will give the main message. We are recognizing the fact that we have the conference located within Brant's block, Joseph Brant's original 1000 acre grant of land from King George III.

Friday will be our tour day. Those on the Niagara tour will head out right away. They will visit the Laura Secord House, Fort George and a winery associated with the War of 1812 or Loyalist architecture. This tour is still being planned. Those on the Hamilton tour will hear a short message from author James Elliott before heading out to Dundurn Castle and then to the Hamilton Cemetery for a tour by Robin McKee. Lunch will be held at the Scottish Rite and the afternoon will be spent at Battlefield Park, site of the Battle of Stoney Creek. For those seeking a half day

tour to Battlefield Park we are offering two morning speakers: Jim Taggart who will talk about medical remedies and instruments and Doug Adams who will talk about Ontario furs then and now. After lunch there will be a bus that will take people to the Battlefield Park once again. The day will culminate with an off-site dinner at the Burlington Golf and Country Club with entertainment by the Guelph folk group Tamarack. They will be focusing on songs for the War of 1812 including the Billy Green Ballad.

Saturday is reserved for the Dominion's Annual General Meeting. Those who are not attending the meeting are free to enjoy the pool, local shopping, visit the RBG or many other suggested sites. That evening we hold our gala banquet where many attendees come dressed in period clothing. Our key note speaker will be Nathan Tidridge, who has been awarded with both the Queen's Golden Jubilee medal and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal. He is the young Waterdown High School history teacher who recently authored the book entitled Canada's Constitutional Monarchy. Dunnville's Cottonwood Brass will entertain with their vintage collection of musical instruments that evening.

Sunday will include a special service at Christ's Church Anglican Cathedral in Hamilton. On the way we will allow for a photo stop at our Stanley Mills' Loyalist monument.

Our newsletter publisher, Jennifer Smith designed our conference logo in January. Our treasurer, Gloria Howard designed our conference brochure in March. Member David Woodward had 700 copies printed for us through the Tim Horton's Company. We are ready to take some of these copies to the Winnipeg conference in early June to entice those attendees to come to our conference the following year. Gloria Howard has also prepared a PowerPoint presentation that will be shown in Winnipeg.

Pat Blackburn has done extensive research on our conference bag. One has been decided on that will allow for our full colour logo on it. The bag is from a Windsor company and it is environmentally friendly.

Michele Lewis will be gathering items to create beautiful baskets for our draw table. Michele's husband John is the key designer in this process.

Sharon Coppins is looking for items to put into our bags such as pads of paper, pens and other interesting local offerings.

Colin Morley is planning the Niagara trip with assistance from Colonel John Butler Branch's Past President Eugene Oatley.

Pat Blackburn has planned the Hamilton trip.

Jean Rae Baxter is our key contact person for Christ's Church Cathedral.

Fred Hayward and Ray Cummins are in charge of protocol: the order of actions taken, invitations to politicians & heritage people, thanking and introducing speakers and so on.

Gloria Howard is keeping tabs on costs and will lead us in determining pricing for each aspect of the conference.

- We need people to search for good items for our draw table and good items for our conference bags.
- We will need people to fill the bags and organize the registration process.
- We will need people to host our welcome room each day and who will sell the draw tickets.
- We will need people who will take in late registrations each day.
- We will need people to take charge of various aspects of each day: taking tickets, checking off registrants at each venue and so on.

Yes, we are well on the way with the planning but we will need many people to implement the plan and to see it actualized.

Ontario Loyalist License Plates



Sample Plate

Message from Ben Thornton to Loyalist Trails

Dominion Council at the March 10, 2012 meeting approved a Dominion Project, to help promote our Loyalist Heritage and UELAC itself, through Ontario graphic licence plates.

The design approved by Council would consist of the UELAC badge as the graphic. If the project is successful, there would be three types of plates:

1. Standard plates will have the UELAC badge and an alphanumeric sequence with the initials UE, e.g., 01UE23 as illustrated in the mock-up design to the right. The cost will be approximately \$100 per set.

To proceed, a minimum of 200 standard set plates must be purchased; we will not proceed until we are confident that we can sell that many. Note that personalized plates (below) would not count toward the 200 minimum purchase, and would not be available until the first 200 are sold. However, it would be helpful for planning purposes to know if anyone is interested in purchasing personalized plates.

2. Personalized graphic plates allow for the badge and six characters, and would cost \$336.90.
3. Decorative plates meant for people out-of-province or those without a vehicle will be available at a lower cost, but cannot obviously be used as a vehicle licence plate

We hope to have the plates manufactured, sold, and distributed ahead of the Association's centennial in 2014. Our objective is to have enough commitments to go to the next step by the end of September 2012. So, don't delay, take that step, send in your request today.

These plates can easily be given as gifts as well - they will come with an easy-to-use transfer letter that can be taken to any Service Ontario outlet for a licensing sticker.

Order Your Plates

If you are interested in purchasing plates, or giving them as gifts, please send an email to plates@uelac.org with:

1. "ON plates" in the subject line
2. your name
3. number of sets of plates (ON requires a plate front and rear; a set has 2 plates)
4. if you are a member, which branch
5. postal address

No money is required at this point

Passages

Gloria Oakes UE

Cards have gone out to those grieving loss of loved ones:

Rowena Jeffreys' husband Bud passed away in February and our sympathy is extended to her and her daughter, our Branch Genealogist, Michele Lewis.

In March we lost long time member and meeting greeter, Reid Dunham, who had so often represented the Loyalists at remembrance events in his army uniform. He also spoke to the entire population of Kilbride Public School twice as a WWII veteran at their Remembrance Day services.

We remembered Marilyn McDonald in April upon the loss of her beloved daughter Karen who fought the good fight. Marilyn was particularly grateful to members of Hamilton Branch who sent many messages of sympathy.

We also remember John Frid who passed away in April. John was director of the Loyalist play, Lot 17, portrayed at St. Luke's Burlington in 1999, for the Hamilton Branch's Christmas luncheon. He was recently involved in the re-make of Dark Shadows, starring Johnny Depp and directed by Tim Burton. Frid had been the main, handsome vampire, Barnabus Collins, in the television soap opera by the same name that played in the late '60's and early '70's.

Judith Hay's husband died in April, and Shirley McHarg's husband, Dr. Bob passed away May 7 and the usual Hamilton Branch donation to the Dominion Book of Remembrance has been sent.

Sympathy is extended to our treasurer, Gloria Howard upon the death of her sister, Betty Horton, May 20 in Trenton, Ontario.



Sir Beverley Robinson UE



Youngest lawyer for the Prosecution at the Bloody Assize

Ruth Nicholson UE

John Beverley Robinson was born in 1791, son of Christopher Robinson UEL of Virginia. He served with Isaac Brock during the War of 1812 and fought at the Battle of Queenston Heights. On the death of John MacDonnell he became the Acting Attorney General for the province at the age of 21. In 1814 he was given the post of Attorney General.

In 1820 he was elected to the 8th Parliament of Upper Canada, representing the town of York. In 1829, Robinson became Chief Justice of the Court of the King's Bench and held this important post for 34 years. In 1830 he was appointed to the Legislative Council for the province. He pressed for executions in the aftermath of the 1837 Rebellion.



Fieldcote – The Ancaster Bloody Assize

The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



HAMILTON BRANCH
MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2012
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Send to: Membership Chair, Gloria Oakes #62-175 Fiddler's Green Road
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2012:

- Dues for a single member: \$55.00
- Dues for a family: \$75.00
(spouses and dependent children living in the same household)
- Dues for "other Branch" member: \$ 15.00
- Donation to Branch (payable to UELAC) receipt available enclosed \$.....

TOTAL \$ _____

Subscribe to the bi-weekly UELAC e-news through Doug Grant UE

If you are looking for past issues of Loyalist Trails, issues since October 2004 have been posted on the web at
<http://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Trails/Loyalist-Trails-index.php>

If you would like to subscribe to "Loyalist Trails", please send an email to:
loyalist.trails@uelac.org



The Hamilton Branch UELAC preserves and promotes Loyalist heritage with the assistance of a Grant from the province of Ontario.

Grimsby Loyalist House Tour

The Grimsby Historical Society offered a fabulous Loyalist house tour on May 26th. Many of the Hamilton Branch's Loyalist links go back to this area, formally known as "The Forty". This number represented the number of miles to Niagara. This is where their homes and mills were located, along the Forty Mile Creek. This village held Upper Canada's first municipal meeting on April 5, 1790.

All the homes for this tour had Loyalist connections. They were either built by Loyalists or built on land owned by Loyalists. I have enjoyed many of their stories associated with the War of 1812 through collecting our "Veterans of the War of 1812 – 14 Stories" for Loyalist Day on June 19th. Come out and hear their heroic Stories. *- Ruth Nicholson*

Nelles Manor c 1788

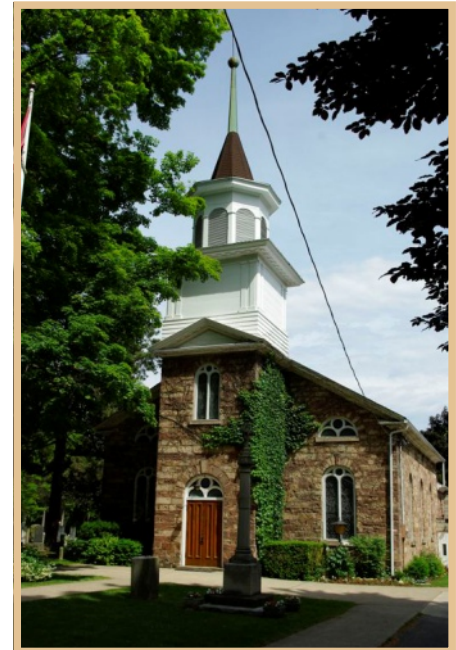
Robert Nelles was a Loyalist from the Mohawk Valley, N.Y. He was among the first to settle on The Forty following the American Revolutionary War. He built a Georgian style stone manor. The Nelles home was the centre of military business and commerce in the early years. Robert Nelles was the Justice of the Peace so many people visited his front room and signed papers on the original desk. His red coat uniform hung in the corner, expecting his return at any moment.



Nelles Manor 1788



Robert Nelles' desk & room used as Justice of the Peace



St. Andrew's Grimsby

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

A log church was built in 1794 on this land, donated by Loyalist Robert Nelles. The log church was replaced by a frame structure in 1804 and then by the present stone church during the years 1819-25. In this churchyard are buried many members of the Loyalist families who founded The Forty. Hamilton Branch UELAC members Paul Bingle and Catharine Bingle Gonnson led tours through this beautiful cemetery, pointing out Loyalist markers and telling "the stories".

Cline House c 1803

Adam Cline came as a Loyalist from Virginia in 1799. He began to build this single storey Georgian stone home in 1803 from stone quarried from the escarpment. Adam's son, John enlarged the home in 1830 by adding a second storey plus a neoclassical entrance and portico.



Adam Cline House 1803

The Stone Shop

Alan Nixon, as an early Loyalist, from New Jersey, used this building as a farm workshop. It is one of only three stone buildings that still survive from the early settlement period. During the War of 1812 this building became a blacksmith's shop. Occupying American soldiers wanted their horses shod on the way to Queenston. Alan's son, William obliged, but drove the nails so deep that the horses became lame before they arrived at their destination that day. This is a tribute to the bravery and cunning of William.



Stone Shop, Alan Nixon 1790's

Upcoming Events

Hamilton Branch of the UELAC

*Meetings – 4th Thursday of Feb., March, April, Oct. and Nov.
at Olivet United Church, 40 Empress St., lower level. Program at 7:30 p.m.*

- June 16** **Loyalist Cemetery Plaquing** at Camp Skinner, just E of the Village of Orkney on Concession 2 W. Beverly, at 2 p.m.
- June 19** **Loyalist Day Ceremony** at Prince's Square, 50 Main St. E., Hamilton at 11 a.m.
- Aug. 7** **Loyalist Dinner with Sir Isaac Brock** at The Scottish Rite – *see notice page 3*
- Oct. 25** **Meeting:** Guest speaker and author Gavin Watt
- Nov. 22** **Meeting:** Guest speaker Dr. Mary Andersen – The McQuestens of Whitehern
- Dec. 1** **Christmas luncheon** at Troy United Church

OTHER EVENTS:

Historical Perceptions

"Stories in Stones" Hamilton Cemetery tours by Robin McKee, 777 York Blvd. Hamilton at 11 a.m.

June 30	Disasters tour
July 7	Past Mayors tour
July 14	Masonic tour
July 28	Civil War tour
Aug 11	Firefighters tour
Aug 25	War of 1812 tour

John Brant Day

Monday August 6 at LaSalle Park, Burlington

Fieldcote Museum

Until Sept. 1 2014 BiCentennial 1812 Exhibit: Noose, Knife & Fire: The Bloody Assize

Dundas Cactus Festival

Aug. 17-19 37th annual event – downtown on King Street

Whispergreen Farm

August 25 & 26 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 1396 Progreston Rd. Carlisle

Century old farm welcomes all to enjoy artists and vendors who work to preserve the history of our ancestors and countryside; also lots of re-used, recycled materials. There will be Native jingle dancers, bobbing for apples, hands-on activities for children, carriage & riding displays and more.

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Hamilton Branch UELAC

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