



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."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE PAT BLACKBURN UE

WOW, have we been active in this Branch since February, date of our previous newsletter. As always my message will be a recap for regular attending members and bring inclusion to those who are unable to attend meetings for various reasons.



2015 President Pat - Loyalist Day

The following weekend was the Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association Recognition Awards at Hamilton City Hall. Our members who received awards were Martha Hemphill and Frank Rupert. The Branch exhibit board was also on display in the hallway outside the Council Chambers.

It should be mentioned that in February one of our Education Committee members, Jean Rae Baxter, was in Vancouver for a book tour. She also found time to complete presentations at three secondary schools in the area, a public library, Arts and Letters and attended the Vancouver Branch UELAC to talk on "The Black Loyalists". Outreach does not mean just in our home territory as Jean showed us in February.

Not everything goes smoothly all the time. Our March Meeting speaker was ill and could not get the message to the Executive. Fortunately, the topic was on Sarah Ryan and Robin McKee had come to introduce the speaker and was also the author of the book on Ryan's Ride so he was able to step up and complete the topic. Thanks to Robin for his impromptu talk.

I was a little surprised with the attendance from the Hamilton Branch at the Regional

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The February Annual Meeting was well attended. Most of the Executive were reinstated except for our Program Planner, David Woodward, who resigned his position. However, David continues to help out when called upon. February is also recognition of Black History. We were privileged to have Nerene Virgin and her husband, Alan Smith, give their talk on a local Dundas black doctor, Dr. Roman, who gained prominence internationally as a physician, philosopher, civil rights advocate and educator.

Once again we supported the Heritage Fair at the Burlington Central Library with setting up our exhibit table outside the speakers' room. We were very appreciative of our seven members who gave of their time telling the Loyalists' story and providing information on our Branch.



February presenter - Nerene Virgin
with her husband Al Smith

Meeting in London in April. Hopefully we can do better next year. This is a once a year opportunity to network with people from all our local Loyalist Branches in Southern Ontario. This year our incoming Dominion President, Barb Andrew came from Brandon Manitoba to meet us and to encourage us to bring in new members. Regional Councillor David Hill Morrison gave a wonderful PowerPoint presentation on social media and Facebook in particular. There is something new to learn at each meeting.

John Nixon, author of *Redcoat 1812*, was our speaker for April. I felt the talk got into the meat of the content when people in the audience began to ask questions and discussion developed.

During the spring all committees were busy behind the scenes. Some of the Cemetery Plaquing team met at the Milton Historical Society archives to go over possible loyalist families who could have a UEL buried in one of the local cemeteries. There were a couple of names that came forward. One of which is Abraham DeForest. The cemetery is at the corner of Walkers Line and Derry Road and will be plaqued in August.



Jean Rae Baxter thanks author John Nixon

The Executive agreed to hire someone to assist us in preparing educational panels for our new exhibit board. Linda Stanley of Canadian Art Cards was chosen and people were involved in providing ideas as to how we should proceed as well as picture choices, family stories, etc. Linda and I made several trips from home to Linda's office in Campden, where drafts were prepared to show the executive. It took two months of planning and discussion to complete the new display board.

The first place of use, for our new presentation board, was at Battlefield Park in June for the school children who attended the Battle of Stoney Creek re-enactment. Secondly, we had the board on display for Loyalists' Day at the Hamilton Art Gallery. Comments were very favourable and most had not seen such an informative display board. We may have provided the raw pictures but credit is due to Linda Stanley for her hours of work in placement, colour balance and her many excellent creative ideas.

The Education Committee completed fifteen in-school presentations this past spring. We gave talks at a Mountain public

library and to approximately 30 adults at the Joseph Brant Museum.

We can be especially proud of our Membership Co-Chairs, Gloria Oakes and Bev Corsini for the work they completed this spring in getting the membership fees paid up promptly. The Hamilton Branch surpassed the paid-up memberships of last year by the end of March. Last count we have 208 paid-up members. Of course thanks must also be given to the promptness of our members who made this possible.

April 29th was the Provincial Volunteer Awards held at Liuna Station in Hamilton. Members of our branch who received awards this year were Martha Hemphill (20 years) Michele Lewis (10 years) and Ruth Nicholson (15 years). Congratulations to each of you.

Loyalists' Day, June 19th, was held in the Tanenbaum Room at the Hamilton Art Gallery. It was a super success. The room gave some formality with the raised platform, grand piano, windows looking out on the sculpture garden and no thought of "is it going to rain", crossed our minds. Our speaker this year was Robin McKee who provided a PowerPoint presentation of early loyalists, settlers and pioneers to the Hamilton area. Those who were highlighted were buried in the Hamilton Cemetery on York Boulevard. All were significant to the early development of what is now the downtown core of Hamilton.

The Branch will have a picnic potluck supper at Crawford Lake Conservation Area in July and there will be another chance to participate in outreach at Joseph Brant Day, in August, at LaSalle Park in Burlington.

Please come out for education and enjoy the fellowship.



Sasa Kahrmanovic introduces our February speaker



2015-16 Hamilton Executive - Ruth Nicholson, Sharon Coppins, Colin Morley, Marilyn Hardsand, Gloria Howard, Pat Blackburn (president), Bev Corsini, Doug Coppins



2015-16 Committee Chairs - Rowena Jeffreys, Michele & John Lewis, Hugh Logan-Smith, Sharon Coppins, Mary Clairmont, Frank Rupert & Earl Cranfield

WAMPUM BELT CEREMONY SATURDAY APRIL 25, 2015

Pat Blackburn UE

Dundurn National Historic Site, Hamilton, Ontario is the historic location where the Native people and the Crown held their official ceremony 200 years ago for the Declaration of Peace following the War of 1812.

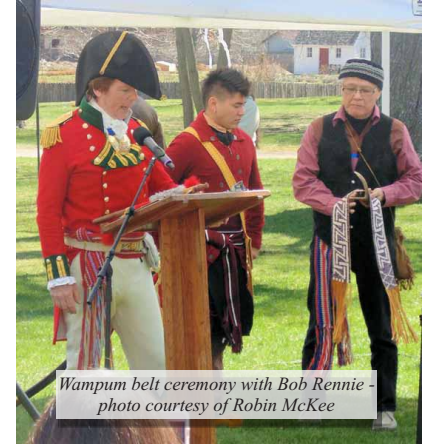
On Saturday, April 25 a Wampum Belt Ceremony - Remembering the Pledge of the Crown, was re-enacted for the 200th anniversary. Many of the Iroquois Confederacy chiefs from as far away as Thunder Bay, Grand Island, New York and eastern Ontario were present. Bob Rennie, re-enactor, took the part as Willam Claus, the Indian Agent at the time.

A camp fire burned in the centre of the people, who encircled it during the ceremony. A tree was planted on the site to mark the 200th Anniversary.



Wampum belt exchange – photo courtesy of Robin McKee

We were reminded of several sections on the original declaration of the peace pledge, made by the Crown. All who listened realized the incompleteness of this pledge. It also became apparent to all present, that the wampum belt, from the Native people that was passed to the Crown was considered a firm treaty. Today the parties would be sitting down in a Law



Wampum belt ceremony with Bob Rennie - photo courtesy of Robin McKee

Office with documents and an official stamp to declare an agreement or treaty. Communications and legalities have greatly changed over time.

Special exhibits and displays were open and free to the public, in Dundurn Castle in the afternoon.

Marilyn Hardsand and Pat Blackburn of the Hamilton Branch were in attendance.

Burlington Heights, 1813-1814

In September of 1813, the Americans captured the British fleet on Lake Erie. Fort Malden was abandoned. The Americans pursued the fleeing British soldiers, western Native allies and settler families. The Battle of the Thames fractured the allied forces. Hundreds of refugees flowed to the safety of Burlington Heights, putting enormous stress on the military supplies. Over the winter months, death by starvation was common especially among the Native people. Mill centers in Ancaster, Dundas Mills and the surrounding area were critical food sources to protect.

Oshawahnah (John Naudee), who was second to Tecumseh, arrived at the Heights along with the Muncie, Wendat, Odawa, Ojibwa and Sauk warriors. These western Native warriors aligned themselves with the warriors and British already in this area.

Known as part of the Bloody Assizes, on July 20, 1814, Burlington Heights was the site of the hanging and apparent decapitation of eight of the 19 traitors put on trial in Ancaster. No one knows the exact spot of burial; however, our map shows the original cemetery at the east end of the Heights.



William Claus presented the "Pledge of the Crown Belt" to the Six Nations on April 24th, 1815, at Burlington Heights. He reaffirmed specific commitments by the Crown. The original belt was repatriated in 2012 to the Six Nations of the Grand River.



Loyalist Evert DeWitt UEL 1733-1801 by Descendant Alan Norton UE

Evert DeWitt's great grandfather Tjierck Classen DeWitt (1620-1700) came from Holland and settled permanently in New Amsterdam, now New York City, about 1650. There is a record of Tjierck's marriage to Barbara Andrieszen, on 24 April 1656, in the local Dutch Reformed Church. They soon moved to Kingston, Ulster County, New York and that area on the Hudson River is where many of the DeWitts lived for more than a century. This is where they farmed and also operated trading boats on the river.

Evert was the second child and first son of Lucas DeWitt and Catherine Roosa. He was baptized 25 Nov 1733 in Saugerties, Ulster County, New York, a small town about 20 km. north of Kingston, on the Hudson River. About 1751, Evert married Gertrude Persen. Their sons Lucas and Abraham operated family farms in Greene County, New York while John and Jacob (the author's 4 times great grandfather) worked on their father's boat on the Hudson River.



Alan Norton

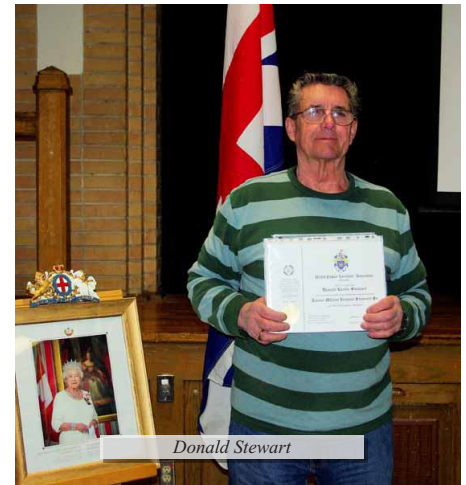
When the American War of Independence broke out and after the British attacked Kingston, New York, Evert gave up his seat in the United States of America and was soon employed in the British Service. In the year 1777, he joined the Loyalist cause on Staten Island as an Armed Boatman. On 12 May 1780, Evert was discharged from the New York volunteers and was one of the DeWitt Loyalists who made his way to New Brunswick, where land was acquired and farming resumed.

As a Loyalist, Evert was entitled to free land in the British colony and he petitioned for such in Sunbury County, New Brunswick, in 1785. He was granted 235 acres in Burton Parish, Sunbury, in 1788. Sadly, he drowned in the Oromocto River near Blissville, New Brunswick, in November of 1801, at the age of 68.

Evert's son Jacob DeWitt (1766-1826) who as a 12 year old boy had served as a flag bearer for the British, in the Revolution, also petitioned for land in Sunbury in 1799 and was granted 430 acres in 1810. However, 40 years after first settling in New Brunswick, traders from Upper Canada told them that they were in the wrong place. They had come from a grain growing area in New York State, but had settled in a lumbering area.

Influenced by the traders, ten families banded together and sent several young men to Upper Canada to investigate the land. The reports the young men brought back were so favourable that the decision was made to move. Jacob, now the head of the DeWitt clan carried letters from J.W. Bliss, an administrator with the New Brunswick government (dated June 22, 1824) and there is evidence that the family arrived in Canada West in September of 1824. They settled in Tapleystown, Saltfleet Township, part of the Hamilton Region today.

Loyalist James Stewart UEL by Descendant Donald Stewart UE



Donald Stewart

James Milton Vernon Stewart was born in Alva Clackmannanshire, Scotland in 1726. He came to New Jersey as a young boy before the Battle of Culloden in 1746. His wife was born and raised along the Susquehanna River area of New York. The couple settled on a small farm in Westfield, New Jersey about seven miles west of Elizabethtown in Essex County, New York.

In 1772, due to the early hostilities with the British, the family moved to a small farm in Minisink, Orange County, New York. James and his son Joseph signed the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Rebels in Goshen. Joseph had three tours of duty in the Rebel army in southern New York. James remained at the farm in Minisink until Governor James Graves Simcoe offered Crown Land Grants to the Simcoe Loyalists.

In 1774 James brought his family to Upper Canada and resided at St. Davids, close to Niagara Falls. His son Joseph remained on the farm in Minisink. His family



Clifford Stickland with Donald Stewart

remained on this family farm until the 1960's when his grandson Edward Adelbert Stewart died in 1961. This branch of the Stewart family remains in this town and the surrounding area. The rest of the family is in Ontario.

Simcoe granted the family 1,900 acres between 1797 and 1809. In 1793 James had petitioned for land as a Loyalist. He received 400 acres and 200 for each child and 200 acres for a William Stewart who may have been James' grandson. Later, William Stewart forfeited his land for fighting on the American side during the War of 1812.

When the War of 1812 broke out James son, Enoch served with the Royal Artillery on the British side. He died in 1813 of disease. At the end of the war, James' son Benjamin took up residence on his land grant. The 1828, the census of Rainham, Haldimand County, showed Enoch's son, Benjamin Jr. living on this land.

Peter Fitzpatrick UEL

by Descendant Marty Fitzpatrick UE

Marty Fitzpatrick has been interested in genealogy and history for most of his adult life, collecting data and stories wherever he could find them. His father used to joke with him that their family had descended from a long line of horse thieves and highwaymen. After years of research Marty has discovered there is some truth to his "family folk lore".

There were two United Empire Fitzpatrick patriarchs, Patrick and his son, Peter. They both fought alongside the British in the War of Independence.

Patrick Fitzpatrick, the father, was born in Ireland in 1727 and emigrated to America in 1766 at age 39. He served as a soldier in Seabright's Royal Irish Regiment. He deserted the British army in 1772 before the revolution started, then rejoined in 1777 only to desert again in 1781. He escaped being hung by the British or being shot by the Americans and sought refuge in Canada, near Cornwall, to search for his only child in the aftermath of the war. Patrick would spend his remaining



years avoiding the authorities.

His son Peter Fitzpatrick, born in Ireland in 1752, came to America with his parents and became indentured as a farmer to the family of Guy Johnson, who had settled in the Mohawk Valley, in what is now New York State. Peter was called to alarm in 1775 by his master and served as a scout for the Kings Royal Regiment of New York. He was captured by the Americans in 1781, imprisoned as a spy, in Albany, NY, and was sentenced to be hung. Somehow he was saved by the Peace, released and left New York State with the Johnson family to settle in British controlled Upper Canada.

In all probability, sometime during the escapades of these two Fitzpatricks, a horse or two was borrowed and surely a few public inns and taverns were surreptitiously visited.

For his service to the British and for compensation for property lost after the revolution, Peter was awarded, by the British, with a small tract of land near Williamsburg, Canada. Here, he raised a large family. One of Peter's sons, William, spawned the lineage that Marty descended

from and another son of William, sired a family that would eventually raise a young girl named Francis Gumm, also known as Judy Garland and her equally famous daughter, Liza Minnelli.

As the story goes, loyalist, Peter Fitzpatrick, died in 1812 at age 60, retrieving the body of his 23 year old son, Hugh, who had just died in the city of York, known today as Toronto.

Loyalist Martin Alguire UEL

1745 – 1807

by Descendant Rob Stokes UE

Martin Alguire was born circa 1745 in the Palatine region. The Palatinate is in the south west corner of Germany bordering France. At the time of his birth the region was controlled by France. Most of the people living in the region were Protestant and German speaking and were persecuted by the French. Britain offered them protection and many Palatine Germans emigrated to the British Colonies in North America.

Martin's father Johannes settled his family in the Mohawk Valley in New York as tenant farmers on the estates of Sir William Johnson. Many of the Palatines remained loyal to the Crown and joined the Provincial Loyalist Forces, fighting the rebels in the American Revolution.

Martin married Catherine Eamer in 1769 in the village of Stone Arabia, Montgomery County. He joined the Kings Royal Regiment of New York in 1779 and served in the 1st Battalion until the end of the war. As a member of one of the most active Loyalist regiments in the Canadian department, he saw service fighting the rebels in northern New York. Along with Native warrior allies and fellow provincial regiments such as Butler's Rangers, the regiment fought a series of raiding campaigns through the Mohawk Valley. This region was a major agricultural area of New York, and these raids were intended to interfere with the supply of foodstuffs to General George Washington's rebel army.



After the end of the war and the surrender of the colony to the rebels, the Loyalists in the Mohawk Valley were forced from their land. Alan Alguire escaped with his family and the other refugees to Upper Canada in 1783. He was awarded 200 acres in Concession 1, Lot 10, Osnaburgh Township, Stormont County, District of Lunenburg. He cleared the land, built a house and barn, farmed and raised his family there. He passed away in 1807 and is buried in Cornwall.

Loyalist James Hunter UEL Descendant Jim Hunter UE

As Jim resides in the USA, he was unable to attend one of our meetings. Our genealogist, Michele Lewis UE mailed certificates to Jim for his son Duncan and his granddaughter Claire as well as for himself. We thank Jim for sending us his Loyalist's story. It was composed by Winnifred Madeline Bath Wills.

In his petition for land, in 1808, James Hunter stated that he was a native of Scotland and that he had arrived in North Carolina in 1775 together with his wife and mother. He joined the Royal Standard in 1781 and served in the army until Lord Cornwallis and his troops were taken at Yorktown.

Though James Hunter was a Loyalist, he remained in North Carolina until 1794. He and his family suffered greatly for their attachment to their land. James came into the Upper Canada with his wife, mother-in-law and seven children. His name was inserted into the United Empire Loyalist list and he received 200 acres in King Township. CpL1.

In 1808 he James is listed as James Hunter of Barton; his land in Lots 7 and 8, Concession 7, Barton Township was purchased from Abraham Horning with the instrument of sale being dated and registered in 1818.

Sarah Kast McGinness Ronald Stanley Barrons UE

Sarah Kast McGinness was born in the Hudson Valley, New York in 1713 to German parents, Palatines who had been sent to America by Queen Anne of England. The Kast family along with others from this close knit community soon after moved to the Mohawk Valley, to the edge of the frontier where the community of German Flatts was founded on land purchased from the Mohawks of the Six Nations.

The Palatines were skilled farmers; however Sarah's father also established a successful trading post. As result of the close relationship between the Kast family and the natives, the Mohawks grew fond of Sarah and "prevailed upon her parents to let her live among them and adopted her as one of themselves." Sarah, as a Mohawk, became knowledgeable in their ways and fluent in their language.

In 1734 an Irish man in the employ of Sir William Johnson met Sarah and soon after married her. He also joined the family trading business. Over the next two decades, the business grew, their landholdings grew and the family grew with eight children. Their youngest child George was born in 1754 at a time when hostilities developed between the French of Canada and the English. This led to the significant Battle of Lake George in 1755, where Captain Timothy McGinness, late in the day of September 8th, died a hero at the Battle of Bloody Pond.

A widow, Sarah maintained her business with the help of her son-in-laws. All went well until the approaching revolutionary war and Sarah's decision to stay loyal to the British. Sarah's son-in-laws were imprisoned and she herself was taken into captivity at Fort Dayton where she was interrogated due to her close relationship with the Six Nations. Sarah remained steadfast to her loyalty, refusing all bribes to join the rebel cause.

After the Battle of Oriskany, when it was thought the British would invade the Mohawk Valley, the rebels let Sarah go and she with her daughters escaped to the British lines near to Fort Stanwix. A granddaughter died during captivity and a son was killed when the rebels burned the family home with him inside.

Sarah and her daughters made it to Canada, but this was not the end of her story. Soon after, Colonel Daniel Claus, the Superintendent of Indians and a family friend got Sarah to return to New York to live with the Iroquois. Sarah would travel on two occasions with her son Lieutenant George McGinness of Butler's Rangers from Fort Niagara, first in 1777 and again in 1779 to meet with members of the Iroquois Nation with the explicit intent of keeping them onside with the British.

Sarah was respected by everyone that knew her including the Iroquois Nation; she did her part for the British. In return she received no reward, no land, nothing. It was not until 1991 that Sarah received the acknowledgement she rightfully deserved with the unveiling of a plaque in the cemetery of St. John's Anglican Church in Bath Ontario. In 1998, a certificate was finally issued, making Sarah Kast McGinnis an official United Empire Loyalist. As for Sarah's son Lieutenant George McGinness, he also survived the revolution, however was crippled from a wound received in 1780 at the Battle of Stone Arabia.



Katharine, Jennifer & Ron Barrons – Ancestor Sarah Kast-McGinnis & her son George Kast-McGinnis

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

VOLUNTEER AWARDS

This year our Branch nominated Martha Hemphill and Frank Rupert for the prestigious Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Award. This ceremony took place in February at the council chambers in City Hall – Hamilton.

Our Ontario Volunteer awards for years of service went to Martha Hemphill for 20 years of service, Michele Lewis for 10 years of service and Ruth Nicholson for 15 years of service. This ceremony took place in April at Liuna Station.

Volunteerism is what keeps us moving forward. Congratulations to all!



Martha Hemphill & Frank Rupert at Hamilton Wentworth Heritage Awards



Volunteer Award – Ruth Nicholson

DOMINION CONFERENCE - LOYALISTS COME WEST

May 28-June 31, 2015 – Victoria B.C.



John & Michele Lewis, Gloria Howard & Ruth Nicholson

The planning committee directed by Carl Stymiest, Aurelie Stirling & Marlene Dance was a wonderful, heritage happening. The Coast Hotel accommodated all our needs whether for dinner, a meeting or a wonderful rooftop welcome room.

Thursday evening we were welcomed by Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon to Government House. Her Honour is very interested in agriculture and lives on an extensive ranch when not at Government House. She has been visiting schools and telling them about soils and farming. I connected to her right away, having been raised on an Ontario farm. The ballroom was vast with doors opening towards a vista of gardens with mountains as a backdrop. We were treated with special canapés and beverages and could sit on any of the plush chairs and sofas while viewing pictures of past Royal family members who have visited.

Friday we were treated to two presentations in the morning. The first was by a real outdoorsman, Gord MacIntosh, who spoke about “A Day in the Life of a Fur Trader”. He had all kinds of clothing and trapping items for us to experience. The



Frans & Betty Compeer – past Hamilton Br members who were on the conference committee

second talk was by M. Diane Rogers, who spoke about “Adding DNA to Your Genealogy & Family History Tools”. She gave us sites to explore and told us the special connections that can be made through DNA research.

During the afternoon we had a choice of two tours. I went on the Historic Bay Cemetery Tour, led by John Adams. We heard the stories of the beginning of B.C. and the Victoria area – gold mining, rail transport, governing people and famous Canadian artist Emily Carr. All the while, deer were running and pasturing all around us.

Friday evening we were treated to an engaging talk by our cemetery tour leader, John Adams. He and his son give heritage



Dominion Presidents – Robert McBride, Barb Andrew, Lt Gov. Judith Guichon, Bonnie Schepers & Doug Grant

tours of downtown Victoria every evening, called Ghost Tours. Each night a different area is explored. My cousin Louise Ferriss and I went on one of these tours and learned some scary stuff about some of the old and new hotels. Thankfully our hotel didn't have a story. Later on we went on a daytime tour of Chinatown and got to visit shops with baking items, others with herbs and medicines and we were even taught an old gambling game down one of the narrow alleys. We would have enjoyed going on all of these tours if time allowed.

Saturday morning was the Annual Meeting. President Bonnie Schepers handed over her presidency to incoming Dominion President, Barb Andrew from Manitoba. We are enriched by leaders on the Dominion Council from across the



Buggy ride – David Ellsworth, Gloria Howard, Bev & Rod Craig & Betty Ellsworth on their way to church



Ruth with Cousin Louise at Victoria Harbour

country. All of these volunteers work hard to make our association welcoming and viable. All members are encouraged to reach out and make our association grow by encouraging others to join and to find their Loyalist roots or to simply enjoy our early Canadian history.

Saturday evening a wonderful gala was held. Most of us enjoyed a dinner of B.C. salmon – so delicious! The majority of attendees dress in period clothing. It is a sight to behold – uniforms and long dresses, hats and veils too. Afterward, many met in the rooftop welcome room to further converse and start to relax as the conference nears its conclusion.

Sunday morning most of us walked to James Bay United Church, once again in our period clothing. Walking past the quaint flower beds and cottage homes – it felt like we were back in time! Some people traveled to the church by horse and carriage – a high style way to travel! Shirley Dargatz, Chilliwack President, conducted the service. Special songs were chosen and messages given. Bonnie and Albert Schepers' son-in-law played the piano for us – a proud moment for the family. After the service we were treated to muffins and coffee by the UCW church ladies. Groups of people enjoyed taking this time to capture a final pictures before heading back to the hotel.

Many conference attendees took the opportunity to extend their time in Victoria to explore further on their own. Cousin Louise and I spent 3 more days visiting historic tea shops and book stores, walking through the Empress Hotel, visiting Butchart Gardens & going on a successful whale watching tour.

DANIEL AND ELIZABETH YOUNG HOMESTEAD RECOGNITION & WAR OF 1812 PLAQUING EVENT

by Ruth Nicholson UE

On June 13th the City of Hamilton recognized the historic site of Loyalists Daniel and Elizabeth (Windecker) Young. Large signage now tells the story of these early Barton Township residents. Elizabeth's family first owned this land grant as Loyalists. The homestead is in the area of Ryckman's Neighbourhood Park.

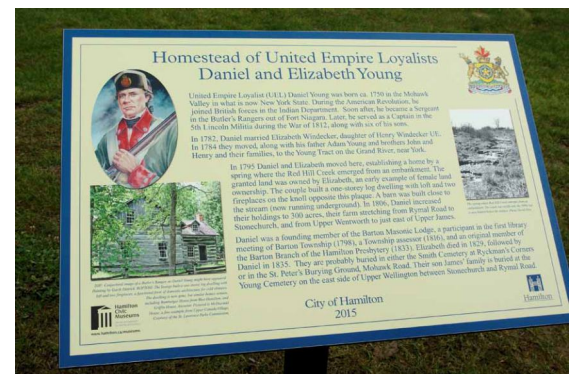


Daniel Young Plaquing event with Dr. David Fauz, Bill Young & Beau Young, 7th Gr Grandson of Daniel & Elizabeth Young

Bill Young led the ceremony. His on-going work and communication with the City of Hamilton has paid off and his ancestors are now recognized for their contributions to the development of the area.

Dr. David Fauz, who has been working at preserving heritage properties for over thirty years, took us on a short walk to the site of the original home. New houses are encroaching on the area as digging has taken place for various infrastructure needs.

Approximately 30 people attended this ceremony. Pat Blackburn, Marilyn Hardsand and I dressed in period clothing as we recognized the Young family, as a Loyalist family who contributed to the early development of the area.



Dr. David Fauz, Marilyn Hardsand, Bill Young, Tom Nelson, Pat Blackburn & Ruth Nicholson at Young Plaquing Unveiling

LOYALIST DAY 2015

by Pat Blackburn UE



Maquette for our Loyalist monument



His Honour Robert Morrow UE on the baby grand piano



Councilor Lloyd Ferguson brings remarks

The Remembrance Service for Loyalists' Day was held on June 19th, at the Hamilton Art Gallery.

Due to ongoing construction on the building directly behind our Loyalists' monument we were told that the monument may be shrouded during Loyalist Day. The decision was made to hold the ceremony indoors at the art gallery where the bronze maquette for our monument is permanently stored. This replica was on display for our service.

The ceremony began with a piper Katherine Hunt, who led the parade from the outside terrace into the gallery. Flag bearers, member re-enactors, and those who came in period clothing followed behind the piper.

The Royal and National anthems were played by His Honour Past Mayor of Hamilton Robert Morrow. Fred

Eisenberger, the current Mayor of Hamilton summarized who the Loyalists were and how important they were to the early founding of Hamilton. Councilor Lloyd Ferguson of Ward 12 – Ancaster told how proud he was of his Loyalist ancestry and how important early members of the community have been in establishing businesses and community spirit. Several executive members and representative of local historical societies laid wreaths to honour The Loyalists. David Woodward's grandson, Jackson Woodward laid a wreath, representing Young Loyalists. Colin Brown laid the wreath for our Hamilton Branch and Rod Craig laid a wreath for the Colonel John Butler Branch of Niagara. In total, twelve wreaths were placed at the foot of the maquette to honour our Loyalist ancestors.

We were privileged to have member, Colin Brown, explain his recent award from France for participation in World War II.

Colin was enlisted with the British forces. He received the Knight of the French Foreign Legion award for his military actions in France. Visit the UELAC Facebook page to see a video taken by David Woodward of Colin's speech.

Our keynote speaker for the day was Robin McKee a well-known local historian as well as president of the Sir John A Macdonald Society and an executive of several Hamilton historical organizations. Robin shared an excellent visual presentation on some of the Loyalists who are buried in the Hamilton Cemetery. Robin leads cemetery tours at that location every Saturday morning at 11 a.m. See his web site for more information: Historical Perceptions - www.hamiltonhistory.ca/

A time of fellowship with tea, coffee and cookies concluded our wonderful Loyalists' Day in Hamilton.



Colin Brown



Steve & Reg Bainbridge with Steve's granddaughter



Lloyd Oakes, Pat Blackburn, Ruth Nicholson, John Hammill & Reg Bainbridge



Bev Corsini & Gloria Howard

MORE FROM LOYALISTS' DAY



Lloyd & Gloria Oakes



Margaret & Fred Hayward with their granddaughter Mairead



Colin Brown's medals with the Cross for Knight of the French Foreign Legion medal on the far right



David Woodward with his grandson Jackson Woodward



WAR OF 1812 VETERANS' PLAQUING CEREMONY

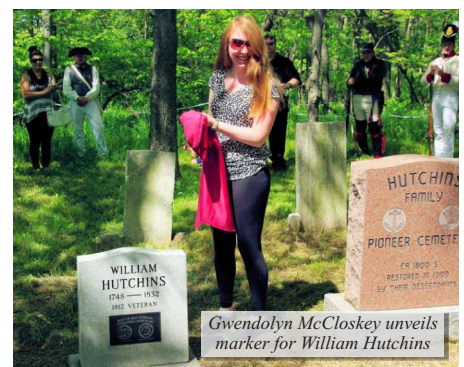
by Ruth Nicholson UE



A musket salute took place at each cemetery

Those who were on our trip to Essex and Kent Counties last July received an education in the history of the area and especially in relation to the War of 1812. The local militia who were in the Essex 1st were at the major Battle of Fort Detroit on August 16th, 1812, as well as Caldwell Rangers and the British regulars.

On May 23rd, sisters, Ruth Nicholson and Susan Hutchins honoured an ancestor from both sides of their family who were on the same Fort Malden pay list and who would have taken part in the Battle of Fort Detroit. Isaac Ferriss on our maternal side was just 17 years old at the time. It was written in the local paper, that Isaac Ferriss was known as a big and strong man. He volunteered to swim across the Detroit River to spy on the Americans who were on Bois Blanc Island, leading up to the Battle of Fort Detroit. William Hutchins on our paternal side was 65 years old and had worked at the King's Navy yard, next to the fort as ship builder and a seaman. He would have been knowledgeable about the river, the islands and navigation in the area.



Gwendolyn McCloskey unveils marker for William Hutchins

Paul Nicholson introduced the idea behind the new Veterans of 1812 plaques. He explained that the project is supported by the Federal Government's fund for War of 1812 initiatives. It is hoped that a large data base can be built that shows the resting place of these veterans. They have never been officially recognized by the Canadian government and they are not represented on cenotaphs at Remembrance Day since they fought for this country 55 years before it was formed.

Chris Carter, vice president of the local heritage society, HEIRS explained who the militia were at the time and explained that the Caldwell Rangers were the rough and tough men who often did the "dirty work" that the British would not want to do or even recognize as being party to such actions. Chris had our three re-enactors explain their kits: Jeremy Parsons as a member of Brock's 41st regiment, John

McLeod as a member of the Caldwell Rangers and Mike Danaher as a member of the British Indian Department. They fired a three musket salute to recognizing these veterans at each cemetery site.

Jonathan Nicholson spoke at the Hutchins' Pioneer cemetery site about the land. This was the original lot 97 granted to our Loyalist ancestor, John Cornwall, after the American Revolution. The War of 1812 veteran we're recognizing was granted 83 acres of this lot after it had been sold by Cornwall. The cemetery site is in a small grove of trees between Cornwall Beach Rd. and Lake Crest Beach Rd. so the Cornwall name is still recognized today.

Ken Turner, president of Pioneer Cemetery Preservation in Ontario spoke about clearing this property nearly 20 years ago, when it had been forgotten and abandoned. In 1999 the Hutchins family erected a large, red granite maker to help preserve the site. There are only a few of the old marble markers still standing. The marker for William Hutchins was broken into several pieces, all laying on the ground. This day a new gray granite marker was unveiled for him that included his name, dates, the inserted plaque and the words "1812 Veteran".



Bryce McCloskey has unveiled Isaac Ferriss' plaque

Ruth and Susan shared the reading of the stories behind both ancestors. Susan's children, Bryce and Gwendolyn did the unveiling actions. Sarah Nicholson invited all present to a social time at one of the local wineries where appetizers and beverages awaited them.

It was a remarkable day – favourable weather and about 65 people present.

To learn more about the War of 1812 veteran plaques visit <http://1812veterans.ca/en/index.php>

We encourage everyone to recognize these early ancestors who preserved the land that became Canada.



Extended Hutchins Family at Pioneer Cemetery

PICNIC AT CRAWFORD LAKE



Everyone is invited to a wonderful historic and geographic site: Crawford Lake, located at 3115 Conservation Rd. Milton. This is just a 4 minute drive, north of the Derry Road/Guelph Line intersection, on Guelph Line.

This is where longhouses have been built on their original sites. They are large and

cool in the summer. Come and see the way the families lived together in these reconstructed homes.

Crawford Lake is a meromictic lake, which means that it was a lake within a cave of limestone before glaciation. The top of the cave was ground off, leaving this beautiful lake with limestone walls behind. There are wooden walking pathways around the lake. It is a beautiful sight during any season.



Date: Sunday, July 26 2015

Time: 2:30 p.m. (Gates open at 10 a.m. so come earlier if you like to explore on your own)

Tour: 3:00 p.m. starting time; meet at the Interpretive Centre

Food: Bring something to share for our pot luck picnic. Store items in a cooler. Bring your own plates, cutlery and a beverage.

Eating location: The Gathering Room, in the Interpretive Centre. It has a microwave and a small kitchen. This is a comfortable room for our food and eating time together. We have rented this facility from 3:00 - 6 p.m.

Our thanks to David Woodward for investigating this very interesting, local jewel for our enjoyment.

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.

- July 26** Pot luck picnic at Crawford Lake, arrive by 2:30 p.m. for 3 p.m. tour. See article on Crawford Lake inside this issue for directions & more information.
- Oct. 22** Guest speaker – Tim Compeau, winner of our Dominion Scholarship
- Nov. 26** Guest speaker – Robert Adlam, Industrialization of Brantford
- Dec. 5** Christmas luncheon at St. James United Church, 306 Parkside Dr., Waterdown

OTHER EVENTS:

Historical Perceptions: Stories in Stones by Robin Mckee

The cemetery tours commence from the entrance to the Hamilton Cemetery at 11 am and take place rain or shine. There is no charge for the tours. For a complete listing of Robin's 2015 Tour schedule simply click on [Cemetery Tours - 2015](#).

July 4	Civil War	August 22	Power of the City
July 11	Art Crawl Tour (new)	August 29	War of 1812
July 18	Masonic Tour	Sept. 5	Past Mayors
July 25	War of 1812	Sept. 12	Art Crawl
August 1	Civil War	Sept. 19, 20	Hamilton First
August 8	Art Crawl	Sept. 26	War of 1812
August 15	Firefighters		

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The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada



**Hamilton Branch
Membership Dues for 2015**

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