

BRANCHES

Grand River UELAC Newsletter

Important Dates

Saturday March 16

Hybrid Annual Meeting
Best Western Inn and Convention
Centre, Brantford

The Annual Reports will be out to
you for the end of February

Guest speaker: Tim Compeau



Tim's current focus, the
culture of loyalist and
honour culture in the
Age of Revolutions is
discussed in his latest
book, "Dishonored
Americans: The Political
Death of Loyalists in
Revolutionary America"

Sunday April 21 Linda Corupe:
Becoming Canadian

Sunday May 26 Margaret Sault
Mississauga of the New Credit

Saturday June 22 Loyalist Day in
Vittoria



Message from the Editor

Happy New Year and welcome back to another busy year with the Grand River Branch UELAC. This edition will be short and hopefully will catch you up on a few essentials that you will want to know for the upcoming year.

Annual Meeting

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 (Hybrid Meeting)

Location: Gretzky Room, Best Western, Brantford

Time: 12:00 lunch will be available at Myra's Restaurant for those wishing to enjoy some food and camaraderie.

1:30 Zoom opens for our on-line members. **Participants will be able to access closed captioning.**

2:00 please welcome our guest Tim Compeau.

Followed by the Annual Meeting

Nominating Committee

Can you help!

How we miss Ellen Tree. She was our amazing recording secretary for many years. Last year the Branch struggled to find a candidate after she passed away but we were not successful. We hobbled along as best we could asking people last minute to fill in. Needless to say this was a problem and cannot continue. A secretary is essential to the running of the Branch.

We have been experimenting with Zoom. At the last executive meeting Wanda Nelson enabled us to access the closed captioning option as well as the AI function that summarized the meeting. Not perfect but a big aid to a recording secretary.

In addition the committee has been approaching members to fill the following positions:

Vice President

Treasurer

Zoom Host (in a years time)

We have so many talented members out there. Please consider any of these positions.

Please contact Debbie Blair UE. dblajs83@gmail.com



Order Your Magnetic Name Tag

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

COST: \$10.25

Send cheque to Bill Terry, UE
(Payable to: Grand River Branch UELAC)
304-4 Oak St., Simcoe, ON N3Y 3J3
<charles@kwic.com>

Editor's note. Thank you to Liz Currie for sharing the excitement on receiving her brother Ken's UE certificate proven to James Durham UEL.

It is so interesting to see how the family flourished five generations after James settled in the Queenston area.

Congratulations Ken and family.

The Durham Family Story

No one ever tells a story alone. The Durham story is no exception. We are proven back to James(JR) who settled in Queenston around 1788 having come to Canada to establish a new life for his family outside of America.

In putting this application together for my brother Ken, I have had the benefit of the helpful people who showed me the ropes of applying for UEL membership. For this I am grateful. No one, however, has left a more lasting mark than our cousin Mazelle Nohr. She traces back to our own James and without her knowledge and unending patience I would never have been able to put this together. She was truly more than a guiding star for me.

My brother Ken and I were born in north Grimsby and grew up on land that has been in the Durham family for 5 generations of farmers. James and his siblings spread out across the countryside and eventually his grandson Elijah settled in Smithville where he and his son Elmer made their livelihood from mixed farming which included a dairying operation. Elmer showed cattle at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. They traveled on the new railway line running through Smithville. My father Roy told of taking hay up to them in the Baby Grand Chevrolet car that was the forerunner of our truck.

Fast forward, three generations of "milkmaids" Ruth, Eva and Susan took the milk production into the modern age. Of course, the crops played a big role in the operations and Ken after graduating from Ontario Agriculture College went on to study at Harper Adams Agricultural College in England. Leap ahead again, the cows are gone and his son Richard, is now very forward in his thinking in equipment and methods. His siblings, off the farm now, reside in England (Louise) and Virginia (Emma). (imagine Ken wore his UEL cap when visiting there!!). My two children, Sarah and David and their partners live in Port Stanley and are involved in a variety of agricultural and land preservation pursuits and the fishing industry.

I trust that you enjoyed this little story. I would add that, I believe, I could support it all with documentation if needed.



Thanks you James Durham. We did good.
by Liz Currie UE

Andrew Durham, grandson (and 8th generation proven to James),
Ken Durham, Susan Durham (Ken's wife)



Last Post

Cruikshank, Jackie -We announce the peaceful passing of Jacqueline “Jackie” Ann Cruikshank on Wednesday January 31, 2024, at her home, with her family by her side, at the age of 81 years. Beloved wife of Rev. John Cruikshank for over 60 years. Loving mother of Beth & Rick Machan, Heather Cruikshank & Deano Muzzin, Jim & Liza Cruikshank, John Cruikshank & Michelle Paquette and mother-in-law of Julie Cruikshank. Cherished Nana to Bryan Sterling (Alanah Lamb), Olivia Machan (Ian Bendall), Amanda Sterling (Jordan Mitchell), Alexander (Kayla) Machan, Sarah Cruikshank (Drake Esdon), Joshua Sterling, Duncan Cruikshank, Matt Cruikshank, Jill Cruikshank and Meredith Cruikshank and great-grandmother to Theodore Bendall. Jackie is survived by; her brother, David Butler and by John's brothers and their wives; Jim & Jackie, Stuart & Lori, Richard & Vicki, Doug & Patricia, and Don & Karen. Several nieces & nephews also survive. She was predeceased by her parents, Jack & Margaret Butler, her sister Mary Waugh, and her mother & father in law Jim & Elsie Cruikshank. Jackie was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. **She found great joy in dedicating her life to supporting John in his calling.** John always said there should be a stained glass window in every church dedicated to the wives of ministers, who had to hardest calling of all. She was a member of IODE, a long time volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society and a lifetime member of the WMS. Friends and family will be received at Knight Funeral Home, 588 St. Clair Parkway, Corunna, on Saturday February 3, 2024 from 1-3 pm. The funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm on Sunday February 4, 2024 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 261 Christina St. North, Sarnia. In lieu of flowers expressions of sympathy may be expressed through memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or WMS Mooretown Auxiliary. Messages and condolences may be left online at www.knightfuneralhome.ca Knight 519-862-2845

Jackie was the wife of John Cruikshank UE, one of our past presidents.

**Grand River Branch, United Empire Loyalist’s Association of Canada
MEMBERSHIP FORM for 2024 (Nov. 1, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2024)**

You may submit this form or you may simply join on-line at UELAC.ca

Name - Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Rev _____

Do you currently have the U.E. designation? Yes (___) No (___)

Address _____ Apt/Unit _____

Town/City _____ Prov/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Proven Loyalist Ancestors

Do you consent to having this information shared with other Members for genealogy for research purposes?
Yes (___) No (___)

Unproven Loyalist Ancestors _____

Communication Preferences (✓)

a. Branch Newsletters by email (___) or by regular mail (___)

b. Dominion semi-annual issues of the Loyalist Gazette by email (___) or by regular mail (___)

Membership Type (✓)

a. Individual Membership - \$55.00 (___) After July 1st - \$35.00(___)

b. Family Membership - \$85.00 (___) After July 1st - \$57.50 (___)

Family Membership is for two (2) or more family members living at the same address. If requesting a Family Membership, please include the full names of your spouse and all children included.

Spouse _____ Child 1 _____

Child 2 _____ Child 3 _____

c. Student Membership - \$30.00 (___) After July 1st - \$20.00 (___) d. Branch Only Membership - \$15.00 (___)

Branch Only Membership is for anyone who is a Member of another Branch but wishes to receive information from the Grand River Branch as well. No one can be a Branch Only Member without paying Dominion membership fees to another Branch. Branch where full member _____

For American Members –If paying online through UELAC.ca the currency conversion is automatic, and you will pay in Canadian funds. Paying by cheque...we ask that you pay your membership fee in American funds.

Payment Methods (✓). Payment by credit card or by PayPal is only available on-line at UELAC.ca

a. Cash (___)

b. By cheque (___) Make cheque payable to Grand River Branch UELAC

c. By Interac E-transfer (___) Contact treasurer Jane Adams at wadams@golden.net to advise you wish to pay by etransfer (GrandRiverUELAC@gmail.com) and to determine security password.

Send application and payment to -

Janet Parsons UE, Membership Chair, 38 Second Street, Sturgeon Falls, Ontario P2B 3A8 Phone (705) 499-5544; email: janfarms@fibreop.ca

Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for joining the Grand River Branch UELAC. We hope you enjoy our many activities.

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