**Loyalist Kiosk Wand**

And a good day to you!

Although the rebels called us “Tories”, we prefer to be called “loyalists.” After all, we were loyal to our king and country.

There were many reasons why we chose to support the British campaign - some admirable, others not. Before the British arrival we had been treated with contempt and often brutality. Some chose to fight for revenge of those injustices. Others, I’m sad to relate, merely sought profit. However, many of us believed that to rebel against our king was an unspeakable act of treason. We were an English colony and considered ourselves English citizens.

We served as best we could: some in provincial units as full time soldiers; others in the loyalist militia, Tory militia the rebels called us. Some served the British troops as scouts or spies.

As long as the British troops occupied the territory, we were able to contribute to their success. When the rebels forced the army to evacuate, we had to leave our homes and accompany them. It would have been perilous for us to stay and face the retribution of our rebel neighbors. Some loyalists who had resources such as money and power managed to stay. Others fled west, beyond the reach of their former neighbors. Many returned to England or moved to Canada or the West Indies. It was not a happy time as most lost all their material possessions and had to start over.

Those loyalists who fought for revenge often met brutal ends. Those who fought for profit found themselves destitute. But those of us who fought for the king out of love and devotion know that ***we*** did the honorable thing.

Good day to you, and *GOD SAVE THE KING*!