



Crest Badge of a
Member of Clan Hunter

Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

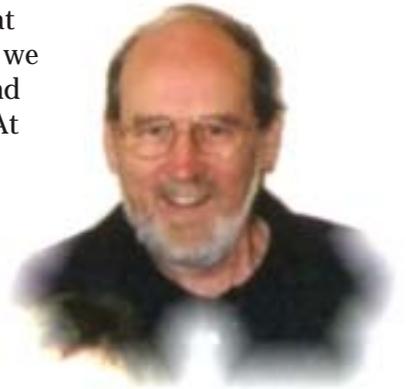
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Dear Friends, Spring has sprung the grass has rizz.... well you know how the rest of that goes. But it's that time of the year when we begin to think of leaving the snow behind and welcoming a little warm weather. (At least until yesterday when it snowed again.) However we must try and stay optimistic and plan for the summer. I have family visiting from Scotland at the moment and their concern at the moment is whether the cloud of volcanish ash is going to hinder their return to the homeland. This is shaping up to be the strangest Spring I can ever remember. At least they have a place to stay and family to share their time with so, that can't be all that bad can it? Somewhere within this newsletter is an article on our trip to the Victoria BC Highland Games. I have included an itinerary so that everyone can see where we will be at any given time. So, don't be shy if you happen to be close, give us a call or drop in. Don't forget our annual meeting at Fergus in August. There is some info in this newsletter but there will be more in the next. Thank you to all who contributed to this issue.

Tom



Re-organizing New Zealand

Happy group at a picnic in Christchurch at the home of Hugh and Gil Hunter-Weston on Sunday March 28th where 14 Clan members attended. It was a great gathering, with everyone getting to know each other and some worthwhile discussion on the future of the Clan in New Zealand.



In the photo. Back Row L-R Sarra Hunter-Weston, Gill Hunter-Weston, Jon & Sarah Hunter, Barbara Hunter, Lisa Hunter and Brian Hunter. Front row L-R Hugh Hunter-Weston, Jeff Hunter, Annette Stocker, Bette Hunter, there were three others not in the photo.

Did We Tell You That We're going to Victoria?

We announced in the January newsletter that we would be coming to Victoria BC to attend the Highland Games there. The Games are held in Victoria on Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd May 2010. Christine and I with our daughter Lizz Thibodeau and her two daughters, Torry and Isla are looking forward to enjoying the Games and exploring this part of the country. We would love to meet with as many of our members who live within reach of this event as we can. We have already heard from a few members who will definitely be there and who intend to join us for dinner. As I said before, in addition to attending the Games

we will be doing a little touring, so if we should be in your area at sometime other than the Games we would love to say hello. With this in mind I am including a list of where we will be at various stages of our "tour" Check it out and see if we come close...

I can be contacted by cell phone at
519 852-4101

British Columbia Itinerary

Tuesday, May 18th

- Fly London to **Vancouver**
- Arrive 5:30pm
- Stay at **Executive Inn Express**

Wednesday, May 19th

- Remain in **Vancouver**
- Stay at **Executive Inn Express**

Thursday, May 20th – Sunday, May 23rd

- Travel to island
- Stay in **Victoria** at **Red Lion Inn**

Monday, May 24th

- Drive to **Port Alberni**
- Stay at **Riverside Motel cottage**

Tuesday, May 25th – Wednesday, May 26th

- **The Cabins at Terrance Bay in Ucluelet**

Thursday, May 27th

- **Days Inn in Nanaimo**

Friday, May 28th – Sunday, May 30th

- Drive to **Whistler-Whistler Village**

Monday, May 31st – Tuesday, June 1st

- Return to **Vancouver**
- Stay at **Executive Inn Express**

Wednesday, June 2nd

- Fly home to London

Congratulations

Another Hunter came along recently. She is the grand-daughter of Lianne and John Hunter of Victoria. Her name is Hazel Aurelia and of course is absolutely perfect/beautiful. (see for yourself). She was born with a Midwife in attendance and all went well.

Hazel's parents are Craig and Denise Hunter of Victoria. She was born February 3rd weight 7 lbs. 10 oz. So she's 2 months old now, and one thing we know about her - she hates being wet.



Send your submissions for the newsletter to Tom Hunter
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Connections Corner



Lizz Thibodeau

lizzt@rogers.com

I've made an incredible genealogical discovery. I'm sure none of you have heard of this source before but it may help hundreds of you out. It's not on-line, nor in a book; it's better than that. You don't even need to leave home. I've discovered: A Genealogy Fairy. It's kind of like a fairy godmother, but for genealogists.

I realise some of you are rolling your eyes right now and wondering what I've been into, but I don't drink!

You see, I've been working, off and on, on my husband's genealogy for over a decade now and his father's side has been quite a success. We've gotten all the way back to France in the 1580s. His mother's side has been a different story. I've managed to do a fair bit through his mom's father's line but when it comes to his mom's mother, no one seems to know anything. I'd think they were hiding some skeletons in there, but it's not that they just don't know, they don't even seem to care. So for years, all we've really known is that my husband's maternal

 **We are Family, I've got all my cousins with me!**

grandmother is from somewhere in England. Dead-end.

Well, about two weeks ago, I went out to check the mail and there were two pieces of paper in my mailbox, no stamp or envelope, just loose papers. My name (spelt incorrectly) and address were on the back of one. I point out that my name was spelt incorrectly to highlight that whoever dropped the papers off was not a close relative and the address leads me to believe that it was not someone who pops by often. The two papers consisted of the newspaper obituary of my husband's mother's mother's father and a copy of the British census showing his family.

That's it: no note, no card, no signature. Just the two pieces of paper. My husband was as confused as I was. I called my in-laws and they had no idea who it could have been. I've asked everyone I could think of and the only solution I can come up with is... the Genealogy Fairy.



Fergus Games 2010

Are you planning to attend the Fergus Highland Games 13 - 15 August? Do you usually stay over? Then you should know that the **Holiday Inn, 601 Scottsdale Drive, Guelph, Ontario N1G 3E7 (519) 836-0231**

is offering a special rate for Clan Hunter members. To ensure you receive the preferred group rate, please quote block code: **DJQ** As we have done for the last number of years, the annual meeting and dinner will take place at this location.

Note: Please be aware that at least one of our members tried booking a room using the National web site and was told that all the rooms under the DJQ booking were booked. This was in fact a software error and has been corrected... However the local Holiday Inn in Guelph has recommended calling direct using the number given above.

Mission Work in Nicaragua

by Sharron Jackson

What a privilege it is to have Tom ask me to write an article for the Clan Hunter Newsletter.

Where do I begin to tell you what it is like to go to a third world country to help people there?

First of all, I will give you a little history of Nicaragua. It is the second poorest country in Central America next to Haiti. Natural disasters, decades of political upheaval, plus one of the most unequal distributions of wealth on the planet have created almost unimaginable hardships for the Nicaraguan people. Yet their faith, love of family and willingness to work hard show us a joy that is amazing to experience first-hand.

In 2006, the children in our Sunday school were asking questions of their Sunday school teacher (as children are known to do). Questions, like, why do people go to far-off countries to help people? Do the people in our Church do that.....why not? How do we find out more about helping these people? Who can tell us more? Well, the Sunday school teacher did know someone who had started taking others to Nicaragua to do missions work there, Annette Vickers from the Kortright Presbyterian Church in Guelph. She had established PAN—Presbyterians Aiding Nicaraguans in 1997. She travelled to Nicaragua to work with the Child Evangelism Fellowship there and they have worked closely ever since, connecting churches/people with needs to those who have a heart to help. Our Sunday school teacher then contacted her and she came to do a presentation. 60 people came to hear her. At that time over 20 people expressed an interest in going to Nicaragua! With that response

came the formation of a support team to help plan and a small team who would travel there. As this news spread throughout the Community, two other Churches asked to join in this effort. As a result 18 people went to Nicaragua in 2007 from three churches.

It is difficult to express the impact this experience has had on all our lives, but the one lasting effect was that each person wanted to return. Annette often says “once you have seen and worked alongside the people of Nicaragua, they so touch your heart, you dream of returning”. As a result, another Mission project was mounted by the three churches and 12 team members returned to Nicaragua in July of 2009.

I have been blessed to be a member of both teams and a leader on the 2009 mission. What a heart-warming experience it has been, working with people who have so little materially but have so much joy in their hearts! They are delighted when they see that others care for them enough to leave their homes, travel to a far-off country to live and work with them.

Where do I begin to describe my emotions when I hold the hand of a child in a cancer clinic who has had his leg amputated, but proudly paints a picture of his house with you on his bedside? As we joined in the church services, listening to mostly women and children sing joyfully, we knew that we would



children in church

always remember these times. At the Church in a little mountain village called El Jicaro, the small boys in front of me would quickly look up in their Bibles the scripture the minister was quoting, then look shyly over their shoulders at me with handsome broad smiles, sharing the moment. Little girls in their pretty “Sunday best” dresses and beautiful, shining hair would look up at me, then reach out to hold my hand.

Our first project in 2007 was in a remote village in the mountains of northern Nicaragua on the border with Honduras. We went to build a Sunday school there for a Baptist church where the children numbered about 90. After driving for 5 ½ hours across plains of rice paddies, lush green valleys of corn,



mixing cement in the courtyard...no cement mixer

beans, and cattle ranches, along ever-rougher roads we arrived in El Jicaro. Our accommodation there was a family-run cement block motel with basic rooms with a courtyard. This became our home base for a week while we went to the Church every day. Our routine was set that some of the team would work on the site, mixing cement on the ground with shovels (no cement mixer here!), then carry it in pails to the walls where we would lay the courses of bricks. While we did this, some of our teenagers went to the soccer field and basketball area to interact with

the children and teenagers there. Afterwards, they joined us in the building project. At the same time several team members made crafts and did songs & stories with the children. On the first day we had 25 children; it quickly grew to almost 70 as word spread throughout the surrounding countryside. As you can imagine, our Spanish was very limited, but we had 3 translators with us who patiently, lovingly translated all requests and questions. The children were having a great time (and so was everyone working with them). Their smiles were so endearing....they held our hearts in their hands!

By the time the school was finished we had developed friendships with the women (who carried water and climbed scaffolding with us), laughing, loving children, often covered in stickers and sparkle, and the Pastor and his family.

Leaving was very emotional and there are so many more stories to tell you....of a man's dreams (the Pastor's), of courage and faith in facing difficult circumstances, of simple, caring people who shared themselves with us. We left knowing that we had received far more than we gave. We left knowing we wanted to return.

Since that experience, we knew that Nicaragua would stay in our hearts. It is not surprising then that we planned a second mission trip which took place last year in July, 2009.



Pastora's house

This time we accepted a project in a small village of Somoto, again in the northern region of the country. This was another Sunday school project with a woman Pastora in a Pentecostal church on the side of a hill. She had about 80 children and held Sunday school on the hillside under a shade tree beside the road since there was no room in the Church.

Our delight at being back in Nicaragua showed as we had prepared and planned for this for over a year. For me it was "coming home". There are often PAN teams that go to Nicaragua to work in the hospitals, clinics, setting up sewing and hairdressing businesses. We did some of that too, but really enjoyed the building projects.

The sights and sounds of Managua, the capital of Nicaragua brought back so many memories. As we left the airport driving through the city, the traffic, OH the traffic, filling the air with diesel fumes, often loaded with animals, we saw colourful houses protected by wrought iron grills, vendors selling food from carts, the Masaya Volcano in the distance, many buildings of Spanish architecture...a city alive!

I will write an excerpt from my journal here.

"After arriving at Angel's Inn, our lodging while in Managua, we reunited with Jenny, the owner, rested for a while, went on a tour of the city, then returned to the Inn for a delicious dinner of fresh mango juice, chicken, rice and a squash-like vegetable.

The next morning, I awoke around 4:00am to the sounds of the tropical birds in the orchard around the house. I love tropical mornings...the sun filters through the banana palms making the dew drops glisten on the hibiscus flowers and the grass. Parrots swooped through the trees squawking to each other. As the

others rose, grabbed their coffee from the table on the patio, we sat together, discussing plans for the day ahead. Afterwards, we did devotions then had breakfast consisting of scrambled eggs, toast, lots of fruit and fresh mango juice. Our day begins!"

We headed to Somoto where we drove past the Church, only to see



Our vans

the steps filled with men, women and children who were waiting there to catch a glimpse of us. We turned around climbing from the 2 vans and met the Pastora. She told us that some people had walked for 2 hours to get there, just to see us. Now we were treated to an impromptu church service filled with music and welcome speeches and prayers of thankfulness. We went on to the hotel and settled in. This was my roommate's first mission trip and as the days went by, each morning we would say "I wonder what wonderful experience we will have today?" Then each night we would recall the day and say "today was the most amazing day ever". BUT, each day was more amazing than the one before!!

We were joined here by the pastor from El Jicaro, Pastor Cecilio who worked very hard alongside us on the building. In the evening he told us of what has transpired in the intervening 2 years since our visit. His church has grown and 20 of the young people who came out to the sports games have joined his

church! Also, the sewing machines we gave his wife are now being used by the women she taught to make school uniforms for the children as well as to make clothes to sell for an income. What was



Our team on church steps...I am on far right

most amazing to me was the fact the school rooms are now being used by University of Managua students on Saturdays as “distance classes” to help them receive their education degrees as teachers. This means that 70-80 teachers will go out all over Nicaragua to teach in the schools because those classrooms were built in a remote village in the north! He also joined in on our devotions in the mornings. One morning he used Rick Warren’s (Spanish version) “Purpose Driven Life” chapter on being a ‘world class’ missionary even in your own community.



mountains in the north of Nicaragua

The next Sunday we gave out bags of rice and beans plus a Spanish Bible to each family in the congregation. We finished our project then held a bar-b-que for everyone on our last day there. We cooked hot dogs and had the local bakery make us 4 sheet cakes.....we fed over 190 people who had never seen a bar-b-que before....I am sure they will remember this for the rest of their lives!

We left Somoto with so many wonderful memories and once again hearts committed to returning.

Managua was hot and humid after the warm days and cool evenings of the mountains. Now it was time to visit La Mascota the children’s cancer clinic, the hospital and the orphanages (where the children are well cared for). We always look forward to this...where we take in medical supplies and school supplies and play with the children.

As we reach the end of our time here, we realize again how life-changing this experience has been We have touched lives and built friendships and made memories for all of us that will remain for the rest of our lives.

As a P.S. to this article. I would like to add that since returning home we have been collecting sewing machines and fabric for the women, and recent teams have been teaching them to organize small co-operatives to support their families. If anyone has a portable electric sewing machine and some fabric you would like to donate, it would be most appreciated. Also, I am leading women’s teams to Nicaragua this year to continue this work with the women and welcome any women who have a heart for other women to join me. Please contact me with your questions. You can also visit the PAN Mission

website for more information on their work in Nicaragua.

Sharon Jackson

Telephone...519-633-9397.

Tartan doublet at German castle traced to George IV

**by Louise Jury Arts
Correspondent**



When, in 1822, the writer Sir Walter Scott persuaded George IV that he should be the first king of England to visit Scotland for two centuries, an appropriate outfit for the occasion was obviously in order.

George Hunter of Edinburgh and London was commissioned to make full Highland regalia for the not inconsiderable sum of £1,384.18. The effect was so striking that the King was painted wearing it by Sir David Wilkie a few years later. Now the tartan doublet has been rediscovered in a trunk in a castle in Germany and its history traced.

It is expected to fetch up to €15,000 (£10,000) in what will be one of the largest auctions ever held when the Royal House of Hanover, a German royal family, puts 20,000 pieces on the market next week.

The House of Hanover is headed by Prince Ernst, husband of Princess Caroline of Monaco, but much of the property descends from five British kings - Georges I to IV and William IV, who were also electors of Hanover - making it the biggest sale of items of British royal provenance. The auction is being held at the family's summer palace, Schloss Marienburg, over 10 days.

Kerry Taylor, a Sotheby's expert, pinned down the significance of the waistcoat only yesterday when she found the Wilkie painting in the records of the British Royal Family's art collection.

She said: "I had a feeling it could have belonged to King George IV but had no proof. ... The final piece of the jigsaw was while thumbing through a catalogue of works in the Royal Collection, I saw the picture by Wilkie in which the king is depicted resplendent in the doublet. There was no doubting it was the self-same piece that was in the Hanover sale."

The spectacular arrival of the King at Holyrood Palace on 17 August 1822 in his tartan regalia is said to have caused a sensation. Sir Walter Scott, who had done much to revive interest in Scotland and its Romantic past, convinced the king that he was not only a Stuart prince but also a Jacobite Highlander and could justifiably wear such an outfit. David Stewart of Garth, one of the founders of the Celtic Society, helped to devise the king's dress which was Scottish with a twist.

The rich, soft velvet and gold embroidery would not have been normal but would have made the hard woollen tartan more comfortable.

Sir David Wilkie painted the king wearing his fabulous ensemble in 1829. The painting remains in the Royal Collection along with accessories including the sword, waist-belt and powder horn which the king is also seen wearing.

We Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome 5 new members since our last newsletter.

David John Hunter comes to us from Ottawa. David heard about our Clan Association from a fellow curler named Hunter – I hope he is a member of the Association too!

Daniel and Nicole Hunter both joined us – and live in Hartford, Connecticut. Daniel sent us a very impressive Paternal Pedigree Chart dating right back to 1280.

Julie Lynn Hunter lives in Oxford, Michigan and is the daughter of Douglas and Linda Hunter who joined our Association in June of 2008.

Sheila May Shone (M.S. Hunter) lives in Victoria B.C – and was a life time member back in the mists of time – but decided that she would like to re-instate her membership recently.

Welcome friends – we hope that we will all share a long and interesting association in 'The Association'. Remember that you will get a lot more out of your membership if you participate. We will do our part and let you know which Games we will be attending each summer – and you can do your part by making an effort to get to one of those Games – or let us know which Games are closest to your area – and who knows we may be able to attend! We do try to travel when we can – BC Victoria this year – Scotland last year – NB Fredericton 2005 and 2006.

*Christine Hunter -
Membership Secretary*



In Memorium

This wonderful photograph of one of our French Canadian families was taken last Christmas and sent to us by Denis Hunter of Quebec. This is the family of Raoul & Thérèse Hunter, mother and father of Denis. Denis tell us it was a rare opportunity to capture the whole family while they were all assembled in one place. It saddens me to report that on Monday, February 15, 2010 at the age of 80yrs Thérèse suffered two strokes and passed away. Our deepest sympathies lie with this lovely family as they grieve the terrible loss of their mother.

The Falkirk Wheel

The Worlds First Rotating Boatlift

Two of Scotland's largest canals, the Forth and Clyde and the Union canals, meet just outside Falkirk. With a height difference of 150ft (46 m, they used to be connected by a series of 11 locks, which took a full day to negotiate. They are now connected by the worlds first and only rotating boat lift, the Falkirk Wheel, opened in 2002, which takes about an hour. Boats enter a gondola filled with water, set within a rotating arm, which then lifts or lowers the gondola from one level to the other. It is an extraordinary experience entering the gondola at the upper level. The approach from the higher Union Canal is through a tunnel and then along a high 340ft (104m)-long aqueduct, towards what appears to be a sheer drop. The boat enters the gondola, separated from the void by what looks like just a few inches of iron gate, and is then lowered 115ft (35m) to the Forth and Clyde Canal. The first 35 ft (10.6m) down from the Union Canal is via a short series of traditional locks because, while the original design envisaged the wheel lifting boats the full 150 ft (46m), this would have involved damaging part of the Antonine Wall which passes between the canals.

Riding the Falkirk Wheel is one of Scotland`s most exciting and unusual new adventures.

Right: Tom and Torry enjoy the ride.



Above: the Wheel in upright position

Below: The Wheel mid-way through its rotation



Left: View from the lower canal



Right: The last series of locks



Left and below: Approaching the lift from the upper canal.



Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Notice of Dues for July 1st 2010 to June 30th 2011

This is a gentle reminder that a new season is upon us and now is the time to renew your membership in the association. If you have already renewed your membership, we thank you sincerely and please kindly ignore this reminder. If not perhaps you would like to fill in this note, add a cheque for \$30 and pop it in the envelope provided.

Name: _____ Membership No. CHAC _____ \$ _____

Address: _____

Cheques should be made payable to Clan Hunter and mailed to the Clan Hunter Association treasurer at:

Donald R Hunter

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Toronto, ON M4A 1T9