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Member of Clan Hunter

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Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

July 1998

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Well at last our new chief Pauline Mullen Hunter of Hunterston, 30th Laird will be visiting us in Canada. On her last North American visit two years ago she felt she was unable to fit in a visit to Canada as well as do justice to the other engagements and activities planned for her by our US cousins and so promised she would devote more time to us in 1998. True to her word she is not only attending the Fergus games and doing some sight seeing in Ontario, she has delighted the Clan Officer and his wife by accepting an invitation to their daughter's wedding on the 25th July. And still she has found the time to fit in a visit to the 1998 annual meeting of the Clan Hunter Association USA to be held in conjunction with the St Andrew's Society of Detroit Highland Games on July 31-August 1, 1998, which takes place in Livonia, a western suburb of Detroit. A complete list of The chief's activities are included in this newsletter for your information and enjoyment. Because our chief is attending the Fergus games, we, The Clan Hunter, will be a featured clan and as such will experience certain privileges, but we need to do our part and support our Clan Chief by attending the Clan tent and participating in the Parade. I am looking for a special effort from all Clan members who can possibly make it. We can't tell when the Chief will be back in "Our neck of the woods" so come on folks, let's show them what we are made of.

Many thanks to the folks who have paid their membership early. It is very encouraging. For everyone else you will find a little reminder and addressed envelope with this newsletter. In addition we have included a short questionnaire regarding attendance at Fergus. I'm sure you must understand that we would like to know in advance if possible who is going to be involved.

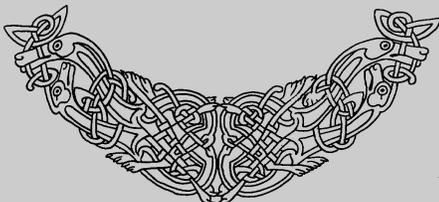
Tom

The Declaration of Scottish Independence

On April 6, 1320 at Arbroath Abbey, the nobles and freeholders gathered with "the whole community of the realm of Scotland" subscribed by a letter to Pope John XXII, asking him to recognize Scotland's independence under the Kingship of Robert the Bruce. The document not only enunciated the principle of constitutional kingship, but it also

included these inspirational lines:

"For so long as a hundred of us shall remain alive, we will never, on any condition, be subjected to the lordship of the English. For we fight not for glory, nor riches, nor honours, but for freedom alone, which no good man gives up, except with his life".



Hunters of the West

Editor's note: This very enjoyable article was written especially for us by Elizabeth(Beth) M. Wall.



Elizabeth is a clan member from Brandon Manitoba, but more than that she is the Branch Coordinator, South West Branch, Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. and is co-editor of "Leaf of the Branch". It is printed in it's entirety

My association with the local Genealogical group has drawn me into a project that has proved not only interesting but educational as well. Having been born a Hunter, I am always interested in looking in local phone books and directories, when travelling, to see just how many listings there are for the Hunter name. Needless to say there are usually a goodly number.

When we began the project to index the 1901 Census 54 municipalities in the south west area of Manitoba I decided I would make a particular point to look carefully at the Hunter name. Being the only child of an only child, relations are

few and far between, especially when both parents were born in Scotland. Genealogy is difficult in these circumstances. But reading the census for any particular period can be most intriguing and most interesting.

Having lived here in Brandon now for over 40 years, I continue to learn almost every day something new about the area where I reside. I have heard about the "Hunter Hills" ever since I came to Brandon. It is a set of very low hills on the north bank of the Assiniboine River just west of Brandon. Early in my married life my husband, Jim, introduced me to this area in the fall of the year. It remains one of the nicest places I know to have a quiet time in the fall when the leaves are at their best. It is not too far from the city and can be encompassed in a short drive on a Sunday afternoon. But what of the family whose name is associated with the location.

Having heard of the glorious opportunities for farming in the new land in the west, John Hunter of Hagersville, Ontario travelled west in 1881 to claim land for his sons, William and John. He returned home the same year and in March of 1882, William made the journey to the west to settle the land his father had chosen., John Hunter followed later although he and his wife were not quite so enthusiastic. The story of their early years on the land tell of hardships and often death.

In 1883 William returned to the east and married Miss Edith Kett and returned to the farm. They had three children, Alexander, Robert and Mary. While the children were still small, Typhoid fever raged

through the Hunter household. Alexander was the only one to escape the dread disease. John Hunter passed away during the scourge and then in 1894, William's wife, Etta passed away, leaving William with three young children to raise.

By this time the farm had grown to five quarter sections and it remains so today, still farmed by descendants of the William Hunter family.

In 1895, William took a second wife, Lillian Kirkpatrick. Six children were born of this marriage—Arthur, Ethel, Florence, David, Ernest and John Cecil. With several children of his own to raise and many others in the area, the Hunter School District was established and is another legacy to the family name.

The original log house remains on the farm site although it is now used as an outbuilding. The Hunter house is still standing although several changes have taken place over the years.

One of the problems that the farm has suffered throughout the years has been the water supply. With a river that floods frequently in the spring right at the front door, it would appear that water should not be a problem, but many wells have been dug over the years to provide fresh water for the house - not always a success.

On July 17, 1982 a happy celebration was held to mark 100 years for the Hunter farm with Hunters always living on the land. This continues today with many descendants of William and Lillian's family still remaining in the area.

The Hunter hills, Hunter School District and the Hunter farm

are firm reminders of the contribution of one Hunter family to the community located just outside the City of Brandon, Manitoba.

In the 1901 Census, only two Hunter families are shown living in the City of Brandon. (Yes, Brandon was a City almost from the time of its inception. In 1881, the original boundaries of Manitoba were enlarged to include west to its present location and north to 53' latitude. And in May of that year, Colonel Rosser, American Civil War veteran and engineer for the Canadian Pacific Railway, selected a site on the south side of the Assiniboine River, two miles west of the Grand Valley as the divisional point on the railway. Here a wave of settlers quickly created a community which, without being village or town, became a City by law in May of 1882.

By 1901 the City had grown to well over 5000 souls and the surrounding fertile farm area was being well settled. There are two families shown living in the City in 1901 along with a single lady who was serving as a nurse to a family in the City. She was Eudora Hunter who had been born in Nova Scotia on June 9, 1874. As you read her name and think about it, the thought has to go through your mind how she was able to cope with the flat prairie which extends in all directions from the City and with the cold of the winters. Did she marry? Did she raise a family? Did she even stay here? Why did she come here in the first place? There is a story to each name in the Census.

There were also 2 distinct families:

William Hunter, a carpenter born in Ontario September 12, 1854 and his wife, Eliza, also born in Ontario October 19, 1858, had been in the Province for some time as their 3 children had all been born in Manitoba:

A.L. Penrose (son) born November 5, 1882

J. Muriel (dau) born May 14, 1885

M Gardiner (son) born November 24, 1886

Since William was a carpenter, did he help in the building of some of the early Brandon building? Recently a row of terraced houses was torn down on 11th St. to make way for an addition to the Court house. The houses had been built early in Brandon's history as was the Court House. Perhaps William was a carpenter who helped on the construction of these buildings. The City Hall was also constructed early as was the Prince Edward Hotel.

Many of these buildings had stone fronts built from stone laid by many Scottish stone masons who came to this country in the late 1800s.

The other Hunter family residing in Brandon in 1901 was that of Richard Hunter, a drayman, born in Ontario December 25, 1864 and his wife, Barbara M. born in Ontario on June 14, 1873. It is obvious they had not come directly to Manitoba from Ontario as their first son was born in the North West Territories.

Harvey M. (son) was born in the NWT April 14, 1893

Oliver S. (son) was born in Manitoba June 18, 1895

Clara M. (dau) was born November 25, 1897 in Manitoba

Perley (dau) was born March 29, 1899 also in Manitoba.

I cannot help but wonder what happened to all these Hunters. Where did their ancestors originate? Was it in Scotland? or were they from Ireland? If Scotland - was it the East Coast? or the West Coast? Where did they go from here? Do their heirs ever wonder about their beginnings.

Birth dates have also become an interest to me in working with this Census. It is not unusual to find several Christmas babies in each section. I haven't kept track of the years, but it is interesting to note just how many there are. I also watch to see how many were born on my birthday, February 20. Sad to say after about 150,00 entries, I have only found 2 or 3 others who share that particular date.

All too often, we think of a Census as being dry reading, but just looking at the places which people give as their place of birth makes you stop and wonder how some of these people survived in this very changeable land.

Researching the Census for your own genealogy can give you an insight into the ethnic diversity of the country in which we live. It can also make you stop and think of the marvels of the country today and the hardships that our ancestors faced when they came to this country before the turn of the century.

HUNTER.WPS

Send your submissions
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Fergus Games & Annual Meeting 7th-9th August 1998

In order that we might make proper arrangements for the Fergus Games, we would appreciate your cooperation in filling out this questionnaire.

	Yes	No
I will be attending the Fergus Games	_____	_____
I will be taking part in the Parade on Saturday (11.00 a.m.)	_____	_____
I will be joining you for dinner on Saturday evening (5.30p.m.)	_____	_____
I will be attending the Kirkin O' the Tartan in St Andrews, Fergus on Sunday morning 10.00a.m.	_____	_____
I will be attending the annual general meeting at the Dalby House Restaurant, Elora on Sunday at 1.30p.m.	_____	_____



Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Notice of Dues for July 1st 1998 to June 30th 1999

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: _____ \$ _____

Address: _____
