



Crest Badge of a Member of Clan Hunter

# Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

July 2005 Vol 4,7

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Dear Clansfolk,

The Clan always welcomes new members with open arms but it is always sad to lose Clan members as well, especially when they have been an integral part of the active members.



I am very distressed to have to inform you all of the loss of not one but two active and valued members of Clan Hunter. The first loss is David Hunter Marks a member of the UK Clan Association. Although not a Hunter by birth he became a member of Clan Hunter through his brother, Peter. David quickly became an involved and esteemed member attending all functions as his health allowed. He always remained cheerful and was valued for his sense of humour and kindness. If he could help in any capacity he would. He will be remembered by those of the UK Clan Association and everyone else who met him with respect and admiration.

Our other sad loss is the Clan Officer for New Zealand, Richard Kearney, who leaves behind his devoted wife, Betty and their children and grandchildren. Richard became the first Clan Officer for New Zealand and he devoted his efforts to establishing the Clan Association with all the drive that he put into everything. It is due solely to his work, with the support of his wife Betty, that we have a thriving Clan Association in New Zealand. He will be well remembered and honoured in New Zealand for his work as a judge for the New Zealand Maoris in establishing their land rights. In all that he did Richard will be recalled with great affection and I have sent our condolences to his wife Betty on behalf of all the Clan.

To all of you who are about to represent Clan Hunter at Highland and Scottish events my profound thanks for all your work on behalf of us all. If you are still thinking about whether to get involved, please do, it is a great time to meet up with fellow Hunters and Clan members. You may well discover new family and new connections, or find that family member in your genealogy that you have been looking for.

Good Luck and Good Gathering  
Pauline  
Madam Hunter of Hunterston, 30th laird



Wellfolks,

*the April newsletter was a little late and the July newsletter is a little early (normally the newsletters are targeted for the middle of the month), but Christine and I are heading off this week to the East Coast to do a little touring and a couple of the Clan Games, namely Antigonish (15-17 July) and Fredericton(22-24 July), and we need to get this newsletter out before we go. We have had a call from Francis Knowles and her sister Irma Gibson who intend to meet up with us at Fredericton and have dinner. Is anyone else interested? I hope others will take this opportunity to meet us while we are in your neck of the woods. We have also sent out invitations to everyone to join us at one of two garden parties (Toronto and London) while our chief Pauline is here in August and we are aware that for many it would not be a possibility but who can tell, you may very well be on holiday in this area because you have decided to come and meet the Chief at Fergus. We have already had enquiries from Alberta from members contemplating attendance. Those who are thinking of attending should let us know as soon as possible so that we can be properly prepared. Pauline has requested that every effort should be made to allow her to meet as many Hunters as possible. I must once again encourage all members who possibly can, to join us at the Fergus Highland Games on August 13th, come to the banquet for great food, good music, a bit of dancing and make this a spectacular event for our Chief. She is travelling a long way to be with us and we want to show her some real Canadian Hospitality and enthusiasm, don't you think?*

**Tom**

### ***Hunter Surname DNA Project***

Hello possible Hunter cousin and Clan Hunter fellow member. Would you like to unlock road blocks in tracing your ancestry – to verify or prove what you already know or more importantly, perhaps even to help trace your ancestral line all the way back to the Hunterston Castle in Scotland.

In an effort to identify missing Hunter ancestors & to determine Scottish or other Hunter ancestry for many of us that descend from Hunter ancestors, I have started a Hunter Surname DNA Project. In case you are not familiar with the amazing potential of DNA testing, please take the time to review the website: DNA testing does not replace conventional record based genealogy – nor does it identify specific persons. It does provide an extremely valid indication when two or more people share a common ancestor. The website is at:

<http://www.hunter-dna.com>

For those that may wish to obtain a test or to encourage a family member to obtain a test, it simply requires ordering a free test kit from the website shown on the above hunter-dna.com website; and then swabbing the inside of one’s cheek with a “Q-Tip” type swab. Since y-chromosome DNA (males only) is



essentially the same for all males that share a common ancestor – back ten or more generations, one test can suffice

for many, if you have valid record based genealogy information, In nearly all cases, identical Y-chromosome DNA is passed from father to son to son. Thus, only a few (as little as two) persons in a known group of descendants from a known common ancestor need to be tested. The best plan for females with a known Hunter ancestor is to locate and encourage a known Hunter Male relative (Hunter brother, father, cousin or uncle) to submit a sample. Of course the same principle would be valid regardless of surname.

To help initiate the Hunter Surname DNA Project & initially for the Hunter Surname program introduction at the Houston Highland Games, I was given authority for a 20 percent discount on what already appears to be the lowest priced full range genetic DNA test. This discount

requires that the kit be ordered – along with a special code number I can supply – prior to June 12, 2005 – with no billing until the sample is received back at the laboratory (in either the UK or US). Alternatively, if interested and if you prefer, you may wish to consider any other qualified genetic genealogy (DNA) lab.

If enough Hunter Surname people are tested, we can identify specific areas or groups of persons in Scotland or elsewhere, where your or our common ancestor's descendants may still live. In any case, the increased interest in unlocking road blocks to Hunter ancestry will no doubt increase Clan Hunter membership and thus through possible increased Clan membership and Clan interest, help support the Hunterston Castle in Scotland. Please

feel free to forward this e-mail to any that descend from those with Hunter or any variant (Hunt, Huntar, etc) of Hunter as their surname. If they are interested in their Hunter family history you or they may find that you have more common Hunter ancestors than they knew they had.

I hope to meet you at one of the Clan Hunter gatherings in the future.

*Cursum Perficio*

Claude Hunter  
2 Townsend Place  
The Woodlands, TX 77382

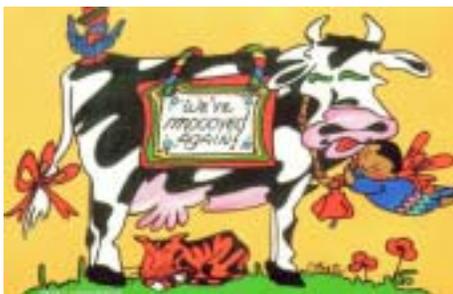
*(Editor's note: Unfortunately this info was received after the April newsletter and so had to wait until the July issue which of course negates the June 12th offer.)*

**Clan Hunter Newsletters**

We would like to remind everyone that this is your newsletter and though we try to provide you with interesting clan related material, this can be quite a challenge unless we get feedback from our membership. We are always interested in what is happening out there in Clan Hunter land, but we can't print it if you don't send it. Thank you to those who have taken the time to comment on the news letter (all good). It is very encouraging to me. Don't forget, if you have e-mail you should try receiving your newsletter in this medium. Drop me a line at [thunter01@rogers.com](mailto:thunter01@rogers.com) and tell me that you want to change over. You can always switch back if you wish later. Trust me, you won't want to switch back.

**Where have they Gone?**

In the past year or so we have had some newsletters returned because



the recipient is no longer at that address. We need your help.

1. If you are moving – please let us know.
2. If you change your e-mail address (even if you don't get your newsletter by e-mail) – please let us know

3. If you know the updated address of any of the following people – please either contact them and ask them to contact us, or contact us directly with a new or updated address.

Anna Katrine Hunter – Indian Road, Pembroke  
Robert & Catherine Hunter – Main Street South, Uxbridge  
M. Elizabeth Hunter – Peel Street, Montreal  
William H. McKnight – Elliot Street, Saskatoon

Please help us if you can – we hate to lose touch with any of our members.  
Christine Hunter  
Membership secretary

**Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 13th August in the Holiday Inn Guelph as part of the reception and festivities. The reception begins at 6.00pm and the shortened meeting will follow the meal. The evening will continue with dancing (Highland/Country?) and entertainment by "The Gaels" scottish folk group

Send your submissions for the Newsletter to Tom Hunter  
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London, Ontario  
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Tel (519) 681-4101  
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WEB [www.clanhuntercanada.com](http://www.clanhuntercanada.com)

## Genealogy Research By Lizz Hunter Thibodeau (and Tom Hunter)

When it comes to talking genealogy, some people find it exciting, fascinating, enthralling and intriguing. Others find it downright boring. Some would like to know their history, without all the work. Others enjoy the work regardless of whose family it is.

Regardless of which group you fall into, being a part of the Hunter Clan gives you a great resource. If you enjoy the thrill of family history, there are many here who will listen to your stories and share their own. If genealogy is not your thing, feel free to enjoy the other aspects of clan life and Highland Games without partaking in the “who begat whom” discussions. If you enjoy the knowledge but not the search, please accept this article as an invitation to contact Clan Hunter and tap into our resources. We have Tom Hunter who is quite knowledgeable in Scottish research, Mel Hunter who can look after your American inquiries and I have a pretty good handle on Ontarian resources. All of us are also willing to



try our best in areas beyond our common experience. As you might remember from the last newsletter, with Robert Watt’s article, it is sometimes amazing how quickly what seems like a major

obstacle can be overcome if someone knows the right resource or has local access. Feel free to send your questions to Tom Hunter and he’ll direct them to the proper person who’s willing to take a stab at them.

Now if you enjoy doing the work yourself, or think you might like to give it a try, perhaps we have some resources to offer that will aid in your search. Once you have done as much of your history as you can by talking to members of your family, you should start with the Church of Latter Day Saints. Because of their belief in post-mortem baptism, they have a real interest in genealogy. Don’t worry about your own religious affiliations, they are extremely open to welcoming people to use their resources with no discussion of religion. In fact, most of their volunteers are historians, not Mormons. There are two options here. One is to use their website:

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). This website is fantastic...sometimes. Not all of the information that they have is available on-line yet, so sometimes I’ve hit the jackpot and other times, I’ve found nothing. The second option is to spend some time in their genealogy library. Most major towns have one and the volunteers there can help you enormously and also order in resources from the major library in Salt Lake City. While the website might give you information, the library will allow you to access copies of the actual birth, death and marriage certificates (among numerous other materials) which sometimes

have some useful additional information on them. They also have access to many Censuses which can be time-consuming but invaluable resources.

While the LDS is the number one source that most of us use, there are many other places to look too; however,

much depends on where and when you are searching. For example, if you are looking for someone who died in Ontario, check out [www.islandnet.com/ocfa/homepage.html](http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/homepage.html). This is the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid. It is a searchable database which allows you to find a name on any gravestone in Ontario. This can be very helpful at times, and very frustrating at others. There are no dates in this database and it does not tell who is buried with whom. It only tells you what graveyard someone is buried in. This can help you to find the gravestone yourself (or ask someone who lives nearer to go and take a photo) or in leading you to an obituary in a local newspaper.

Another Ontario resource is the Government archives page. Check out [www.archives.gov.on.ca](http://www.archives.gov.on.ca) and see what they’ve got. Other provinces must have this too but I haven’t yet had a need to check.

If you are searching for someone in Scotland, Register House in Edinburgh is the place to go.

[www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk) Thankfully, you can go there on-line too. Scotlands People is a partnership between the General Register Office for Scotland, the National Archives of Scotland, The Court of the Lord Lyon and Scotland On Line, Scotlands People and is the official online source of parish register, civil registration, census and wills & testaments records for Scotland. Containing over 43 million records, the Scotlands People database is one of the world’s largest resources of genealogical information and one of the largest single information resources on the Web. They provide a fully searchable index of Scottish births from 1553-1904, marriages from 1553 to 1929 and deaths from 1855 to 1954. In addition, indexed census data is available from 1871 to 1901 as well as Scottish Wills

& Testaments from 1513 to 1901. To respect privacy of living people, internet access has been limited to birth records over 100 years old, marriage records over 75 years, and death records over 50 years.

From the results of an index search made on the site you may view, save and print images of many of the original documents, and order extracts of any register entries of interest. Such requests are forwarded automatically to New Register House, and the requested extracts are mailed to you (airmail in the case of overseas orders). This is not a free search site but costs are reasonable especially if you find what you are looking for.

There are so many resources available, each with a specific purpose and severe limitations, it would take pages to list them all. If you're doing some research and find yourself stuck, why not drop Tom an e-mail and let him suggest some options or put you in contact with someone who can offer suggestions for your specific situation.

Or, if you're experiencing success in your search, why not write a little blurb for the newsletter to share your story with the rest of us? Many of us would love to hear of your successes, struggles and perhaps even an insight that we've never thought of! Who knows, if enough of us share, we might even find some cousins we didn't know we had!

### ***Congratulations***

To Paul and Jayne Anne Hunter on the birth of their new son



Mattryk Gordon Oliver Hunter

and to Lizz and Andrew Thibodeau on the birth of their daughter



Victoria Edith Ada Thibodeau (Torry)

Both of these children, born 5 days apart, are the newest grandchildren of Tom and Christine Hunter of London (Clan Officer)

Do you have some good news? Share it with us. Send us a photo.

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## Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Notice of Dues for July 1st 2005 to June 30th 2006

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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Donald R Hunter  
138 Sweeney Drive  
Toronto, ON M4A 1T9

# Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Here are the proposed plans for the visit of our chief  
**Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston**

**August 11,12,13,14, 2005**

Preliminary plans include ...

- Sponsors Reception 11 Aug. 2005 Fergus
- Fergus Tattoo & Lighting 6.45 pm 12 Aug. 2005 Fergus
- Fergus Highland Games 7.00 am 13 Aug. 2005 Fergus
- Clan Hunter reception 6.00 pm 13 Aug. 2005 Holiday Inn  
601 Scottsdale Dr., Guelph
- Kirkin' o' the Tartan 10.00am 14 Aug. 2005 St Andrew's Presb.Fergus

Madam Pauline will be staying at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Centre, Guelph. If you wish to join the group of Hunters there you should contact the Ramada directly at (519) 836-1240 as soon as possible. However there are lots of alternative accommodation at Fergus (please refer to the accommodations list provided with our January newsletter)

## Why not plan to attend this special gathering

Stay over in the Fergus area

Enjoy the Games - Hang out at the Clan Tent with Madam Pauline

Join in with the other Hunters in the Clan Parade -11.30am on 13th

Enjoy the fabulous Celtic Music

Meet some new Clan friends

Attend the Kirkin' of the Tartan

in St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Fergus

10 am Sunday morning

Share your genealogy with other clan members

Check out the Fergus Highland Games web site  
for up to date information

<http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com>



## Clan Hunter Association - Canada

**Annual Clan Gathering 12-14th August 2005**

**with Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston and of that Ilk, Clan Chief and 30th Laird**

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Yes I/we will be attending the Tattoo & Lighting on Friday 12th Aug                | Number in Party _____   |
| Yes I/we will be taking part in the parade on Saturday 13th. Aug                   | Number in Party _____   |
| Yes I/we will be attending the reception/dinner on Saturday 13th Aug \$20.00/adult | Adults in Party _____   |
| \$9.00/child (5-12)  | Children in Party _____ |
| Yes I/we will be attending the Kirkin' o' the Tartan on Sunday 14th Aug            | Number in Party _____   |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**cheques for the reception should be made payable to Clan Hunter**