



Crest Badge of a  
Member of Clan Hunter

# Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

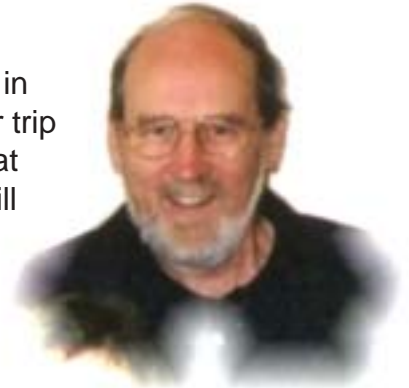
July 2009 Vol 5,12

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## *From the Clan Officer*

As I write this note my wife and I are in the midst of final preparations for our trip to Scotland and 5 days of activities at "The Gathering" in Edinburgh. We will be attending the Clan dinner on Thursday evening, I will be Madam Pauline's guest at the Clan Convention to be held in the new Scottish Parliament on Friday, then two days of Highland Games and finally a trip across the country to our own Hunterston Castle. The event promises to be unique to say the least. Unfortunately as we will be in Scotland for most of July we will not be able to attend the usual number of Highland Games here in Canada. We did manage to attend Georgetown and we will be back in time for our main event and meeting at Fergus. Please read the info on page 8 and try and be a part of our special event here in Canada. It is always a special time at Fergus when we get to catch up with our Hunter friends and share our stories. Please consider attending the Games and then afterwards joining us for the Clan meeting and dinner. It is not necessary to stay for dinner but we would love to have folks attend the meeting. However in order to make the proper arrangements it is important that we know who will be attending. So please fill in the form and tell us you are coming. One of the unfortunate things about an association that tries to include the whole of Canada is that we just can't do that. It is just so difficult to be inclusive when we are so far apart. Christine and I have managed to visit the East Coast a couple of times to meet with some of our members there and we are making plans to try and visit the West Coast very soon but we would like your thoughts and ideas of what you would like the Association to be. Don't be shy. Tell us what we are doing wrong or at least what we could do better. What are the best Games out West and should we be there? If we came would you meet with us over dinner? Think about it then let us know



*Tom*



***Congratulations Gillian and Graham from the rest of your Hunter family***

Alex and Janet Hunter of Pickering, Ontario celebrated most happily with their daughter Gillian and new son-in-law Graham Stott of Toronto on the occasion of their marriage on 21st March, 2009.

Want to see more photographs? Just click on this link

[www.flickr.com/photos/hunterstottwedding](http://www.flickr.com/photos/hunterstottwedding).

***Please, Please, Please.***

Let us know if you change your address, change your e-mail address or change anything else that would interfere with us being able to get in touch with you. Every year we have a couple of newsletters returned marked “gone away”, “return to sender” or “no longer at this address”. At that point there is not a lot we can do to find a new address. So every year I have to tag one or two of our members as “lost”. E-mail newsletters too go into that great “cyberspace” if you change your e-mail address and forget to let us know.

So if you suddenly stop getting your newsletters – contact us and let us work out with you what has gone wrong.

The other reason we lose membership is because of unpaid dues. I would just like to send everyone a wee reminder that our constitution only allows for two years unpaid dues before the newsletters are stopped. So please keep your dues current and then there will be no break in communications.

Christine Hunter  
Membership Secretary  
Trying to keep in touch.

**Happy note from the editor:**

I am happy to say that Gillian is a second cousin once removed from your Clan Officer.

Discovered through the Clan Hunter Association

Send your submissions for the newsletter to  
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## 🎵 Connections Corner



*Lizz Thibodeau*

lizzt@rogers.com

Wandering in the rain through a cemetery is not everyone's idea of a great way to spend an afternoon but it is something I have done from time to time. Although there is much research available on-line these days and more resources to be found at libraries, there is still something very satisfying about wandering through a cemetery scouring for that lost ancestor. When the cry goes up, "Here he is" and everyone runs to look it is really inconsequential who has found the right stone. Not only does walking through the cemetery offer some light exercise and some fresh air, it's interesting to see who else is buried nearby – sometimes with exciting results.

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

However, taking a stroll is not always an option since all ancestors didn't conveniently pass away within a ten minute drive of my house so oftentimes it is necessary to resort to other forms of research.

In Ontario, we have a wonderful resource called the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid. It is available at <http://www.islandnet.com/ocfa/search.php>. I have just discovered that British Columbia offers a similar resource available at <http://www.islandnet.com/bccfa/search.php>. I have not done any BC research so I have not had the opportunity to use this site yet but it was created by the same author as the Ontario version. Two notes of warning: these resources are not exhaustive so you cannot base information on the fact that someone does NOT appear. Also, all these resources do is tell you WHERE someone is buried. They do not include transcriptions of the stone, any dates,

relationships, etc. But knowing where someone is buried is the first step to finding the transcription.

Doing some research in Nova Scotia recently, I have been using the site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pictou/chancem.htm>. It includes cemeteries in Antigonish, Colchester, and Pictou Counties of Nova Scotia and also cemeteries from Prince Edward Island. I am not sure that every cemetery is included, but they are fully transcribed so if the person you're researching is in one of those cemeteries, everything on the stone is available on-line.

I have not ever done research in the other provinces (well, some in Quebec but it's a world unto itself) so I'm not entirely sure what resources are there. If you have some good resources for one of the provinces, please forward them to me so I can use them and share them. And if anyone is looking for ancestors in Southwestern Ontario, I'd love to go for a stroll.



Kevin & Tori Hunter of Georgetown

### *Fathers and Daughters at Georgetown Highland Games*



Dave & Michelle Parker Mississauga



## **The Low Road**

### **Scottish Lore and Folklore**

An old Celtic belief - current still in Scotland, and not only in Scotland, but in Ireland too, and in Wales and Brittany - has it that when a man meets with death in a foreign land, his spirit returns to the place of his birth by an underground fairy way - **The Low Road**.



In 1745, during the retreat of the Scottish army following its invasion of England, several of the wounded had, unfortunately, to be left behind in Carlisle as they could not struggle further. Many of them fell into the hands of the English and were flung into Carlisle jail. The song "The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond", which was undoubtedly written at that period, tells of two of the Scottish prisoners - one of whom was to be released, and who would take **The High Road** home to Scotland, whilst the other, who was to be executed, would take **The Low**

**Road**. As the release of one and the execution of the other were timed for the same hour, the Dead, travelling by **The Low Road** with the speed of the spirit, would, naturally - or supernaturally - be in Scotland before the Living, who would have to tramp several weary miles of **The High Road** before he could hope to cross the Border.

If this little story were better known we might have "The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond" sung more in the spirit in which it should be sung, and less in the entirely wrong, but more customary, spirit of vainglorious ranting.

## Membership Report

Well, we are off to a good start with the dues payments this year. Thank you to all who have paid so far – 27 people out of a total of 92 memberships are in already – that's close to a third!. Wow! I also have it on the best authority that even the Clan Officer has sent in his membership dues.

For those who are not sure what happens with the dues that we pay – of the \$30.00, \$20.00 goes to Scotland to help with the upkeep of the Castle. The rest of the money goes into our coffers here in Canada and is used at the discretion of the Association to further the cause of the Clan Hunter Association here in Canada. We have had a new banner made this year, we have a membership in the Scottish paper "The Banner", we have a

membership in the Association called Cassoc (Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada), we donate towards worthy causes like the refurbishing of the ship The Hector which is a replica of the first ship to bring emigrants from Scotland to the shores of Nova Scotia. At our Annual General Meeting in Fergus in August, any planned expenses are discussed and passed or rejected – but you all have the right to bring items to the attention of the meeting, or ideas that you would like to see implemented. We are always open to new ideas.

Tom and I try to visit as many Highland Games each year as we are able to – to bring information about our Association to as many Hunters as we can. We enjoy this – but would like to know how many of you attend Highland

Games in your areas, so that we can attempt at some time to visit these games too. We have visited the east coast of Canada a couple of times – had a great time thanks to our members there. We would like to head to the west coast in the near future – but we need you to do your bit and let us know where we should be heading. Get on that computer and e-mail me – or write to me and give me some places and dates where we could meet as many of our members as we can.

That's your homework for this newsletter. - If we can make it to Vancouver next summer – where can we meet you?

Christine Hunter  
Membership Secretary  
cbhhunter@rogers.com

## Minutes Clan Hunter AGM 8/9/08

Tom greeted us for the meeting & dinner after a very rainy day. The parade was cancelled, due to rain, and most Clan tents and vendors shut down early, for the same reason.

In a dryer venue, we enjoyed a very nice buffet at the Holiday Inn in Guelph.

### Clan Officer Report:

Thank you everyone for coming out today. Sadly I have to report that we lost John Reid earlier this year and our sympathies are with you Margaret. I'm so pleased Margaret that you have come along with Tom and Joyce to be with us today. We also miss Catherine and Dave Elder who have always been so faithful but who now find that they can't handle the crowds at Fergus. Christine and I will be driving down to Chatham sometime in the next couple of weeks to have lunch with them. A couple of weeks ago we had a mini family gathering at Springbank park with Sharon Jackson and her son Chris and his wife Ming Wa and their two little boys, Eric and Justin and some of the London Hunters. Chris and his family were home on vacation from Brunei where Chris is a teacher. They returned to Brunei yesterday and so were not able to be here today. We also welcome two new faces all the way from Michigan. Doug and Linda are brand new members from the US who decided it might be easier to join us here in Canada. Lizz is already working with Doug on his genealogy which coincidentally is entrenched here in our area of Ontario.

This year Christine and I decided to spread our wings a little and move out in a few more directions to try and cover more of Ontario. So we added a few spots and cruised off to find our members and hopefully soon to be members in, Georgetown.... Kincardine.... Chatham.... Orillia.... Maxville.... Montreal.... And finally Fergus. We were soaked in Chatham... we were soaked in Maxville and we were finally drowned in Montreal but we had a great time and met some really nice folks and hopefully we will gain a few new members if the enthusiasm shown is anything to go by.

### Holyrood Park, Edinburgh Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th of July 2009

*The Gathering 2009 will take the form of an international clan gathering and the largest highland games ever held in Scotland, and will be one of the key events of Homecoming Scotland.*

*It is estimated that there will be over 80 clan tents, with around 7500 clan and Scottish association members from around the world. The highland games will attract a further 30,000 people over the two days.*

#### **Web:**

We are working on some new ideas for the web page the main one being a page for our membership to display their family tree. This is a bigger challenge than it sounds on the surface but we are working on the logistics of updating a data base where the families contained within are not necessarily linked together. We need to have a good search routine that jumps between families transparently and a whole lot of other stuff that we haven't even thought of yet. But we don't intend to allow anyone to change data on the web interactively. I would be happy to chat with anyone who has thoughts on this subject.

**Election of officers:** Lynn Ball moved and Bill Jones seconded that the current officers be re-elected.....carried.

**2007 Minutes:** Mida Betty LeCoq moved, Beryl Hunter seconded to accept the minutes as printed,..... carried.

**Treasures Report:** Don Hunter reported on cash flow as it goes, with overlaps of time: \$3055 revenue, newsletter cost, dues to CASSOC, membership with Scottish Studies Foundation & money sent to Scotland (20/30 dues + 25/30 initiation, advert. 2 yrs cost., website, stationary, AGM.....\$4113 on hand. We owe Scotland \$865.....Balance available; \$3208. Don moved, Bob 2nd to accept the financial report.....carried.

**Membership report** (Christine): We gained 2 new members at the Fergus games last year; Joyce & George. Donna Lee MacLeish, Mary Bernard, Douglas & Linda Hunter joined during the year, and Bonnie Finney joined at Maxville last week.

Last year '07, about 29% of members did not pay dues. Reminders will be sent; we try very hard to keep our members and will remind them for 3 years before dropping anyone.

**Genealogy report** (Lizz): This year Lizz has helped out with clan genealogy for our Clan members (especially Canadian). Mark Hamilton of Ill. asked for research aid.....is writing a column for a newsletter on genealogy. Lizz will be doing research on how to do Irish genealogy research.....has had some requests for research into Ireland and is hoping to start a clan data base on genealogy. There has been 1 family find a link with Lizz's family via the family tree on the Web.

**Newsletter:** Feedback has been good: '07—38 via email, '08 increased to 45 via email & email is increasing! We now have 72 email recipients but email mailings still fail because people fail to report changes of address, (snail mail also).

**Clan Website** continues to be one of the best: ours is the best of the Hunter websites. We are always trying to keep a fresh look to our web page! Christine suggested that we list the games we attend on the website. It's nice to meet other members at the various games.

**Clan tent:** A new clan tent was purchased in June, in anticipation of approval by the Clan Hunter, Canada. Tom moved, Dr. Nadene seconded to approve this purchase, in retrospect. We will need about 4 cans of waterproofing (\$12.00/can) for the canopy. Moved by Dr. Nadene, seconded by Lizz.....carried.

**Internet mailing of newsletter:** This goes as bulk mail, which is why it is rejected by some systems/servers. Tom has software that will send it on individually. Don moved, Lynn seconded that we approve spending \$70.00 on this software: approved.

**Canadian Booklet & directory:** It may be time to issue an updated booklet to include new additions and changes of email & snailmail addresses for all members (printed by Christine through Stihl). The last edition was done in 2004.

After some discussion this was moved by Don, seconded by Christine, and passed.

Recorded: A vote of thanks to Tom for all his work.

Tom Hunter of Hagersville brought copies of his family tree for all to examine.

Crackers etc. tonight were courtesy of Don & Marian.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nadene Hunter

# Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games  
Aug 7, 8, 9 2009

Preliminary plans include

- Fergus Tattoo & Lighting 6.45pm Friday 7 Aug 2009 Fergus
- Fergus Highland games 7.00am Saturday 8 Aug 2009 Fergus
- Clan Hunter AGM 5.00pm Saturday 8 Aug 2009 Holiday Inn 601 Scottsdale Dr.,  
Guelph
- Supper 6.30pm Saturday 8 Aug 2009 Holiday Inn 601 Scottsdale Dr.,  
Guelph
- Kirkin' o' the Tartan 10.00am Sunday 9 Aug 2009 St Andrew's Presb. Fergus
- Fergus Highland games 12 noon Sunday 9 Aug 2009 Fergus

## Why not plan to attend this special gathering

Stay over in the Fergus area  
Enjoy the Games - Hang out at the Clan Tent  
Join in with other Hunters in the Clan Parade - 11.30 am on 8th  
Enjoy the fabulous Celtic Music  
Meet some old and 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 website  
for up to date information  
<http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com>



## Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Annual Clan Gathering 7-9th August 2008

Yes I/we will be attending the Tattoo & Lighting on Friday 7th August      Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes I/we will be taking part in the parade on Saturday 8th August      Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes I/we will be attending the dinner on Saturday 8th August      Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes I/we will be attending the Kirkin' o' the Tartan on Sunday 9th August      Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



***The Story o' a Laddie  
Frae Leith***  
By James Thomson Hunter

***The Compass***

James Iven Hunter  
Born: January 6th, 1886 Leith,  
Scotland  
Died: November 19th, 1969  
Edinburgh, Scotland

He was the last of a rare breed  
Of bold men and tall ships  
Who prayed hard to Heaven  
But found Hell on some trips

Men who would dare to fight  
A hurricane at sea  
Tied together with ropes  
Lest one washed free

Mariners to their very core  
Sailors who journeyed to a  
distant shore  
Just as their fathers did before  
Men of valour, we see no more

One in particular, a slender  
man  
Strong of build with sandy hair  
Had a quirk of a smile  
That was always there

He never slouched but stood  
erect  
Standing sixty-nine inches tall  
His hand's were well-seasoned  
As I fondly recall

His arms were firm and strong  
His right bore a sailors tattoo  
Of "Royal Britannia" holding her  
flag  
The artwork in inks of red and  
blue

He stated many times  
"Silliest thing I ever did"  
And most of the time  
He kept it hid

He had searched the icy seas  
In pursuit of giant whales  
And how he could entertain  
With his many sea-going tales

Proud a man  
As could ever be!  
Fought in the "Great War"  
To Keep us all free



He showed me how to tie some  
knots  
Using a simple piece of string  
Saying "They could save a life  
As well as secure most  
anything"

He brought "geography" home  
To me and mine  
Telling us stories of places  
He had seen in his time

No angel was he - but  
He had a loving,  
compassionate side  
And one I believe  
He tried hard to hide

He was the most talented  
Man I ever knew  
Clocks were his passion  
And he repaired quite a few

His hands showed all his  
seasons  
But both his thumbs were green  
His garden was living proof  
Of his love to pamper and  
preen

He handed me a Compass  
Saying "Life has some golden  
rules;  
Success for those who abide by  
them;  
Those who don't, live their lives  
as fools"

"By the measure of things is  
how we live!  
Determines who and what we  
are.  
That God himself will be our  
judge  
From Heaven's throne afar"

Yes! He was a soldier, sailor,  
Gardener, mechanic, barber ...  
philosopher too  
But most of all  
He was the Father I knew!

And if I could bend  
God's listening ear  
I'd ask "Bless James Iven  
Hunter  
Our Father Dear".



# Clan Hunter Association - Canada

Notice of Dues for July 1st 2009 to June 30th 2010

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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