



Crest Badge of a Member of Clan Hunter

Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

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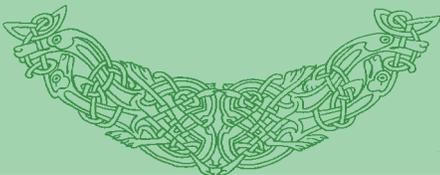
Hello to all clan members old and new. It's getting late in the year and thoughts are turning to Christmas already. Christine and I received our first Christmas card in early October, would you believe. It was from an old friend of my wife's in Scotland but I did think it was a wee bit early. You'll be pleased to hear that this is the only reference to Christmas in this issue. Christine and I travelled to Fredericton again this summer and had a wonderful time with the folks there. We were joined by Bob and Aldene Hunter from Port Rowan and Lizz Thibodeau and 1yr old daughter Torry from London and with locals Francis Knowles and Erma Gibson, Winston Hunter and his wife Rita and Vincent Hunter and friend, all from NB we made a fun group of 12 for dinner. We found a delightful restaurant in Fredericton called "The Snooty Fox" complete with an equally delightful waitress. This is our second visit to the Games in Fredericton and it certainly won't be our last, but we hope to establish a "local" presence at the Games.

After the games Christine, Lizz, Torry and I spent a week touring the Gaspé Peninsula arriving in Montreal just in time for the Maxville and Montreal Highland Games (2 separate events) where we again met some interesting people and said hello to some old friends and members of the Clan, Ted Hunter and his wife (sorry Ted I didn't catch your wife's name and you didn't sign our guest book) and David Hunter. We also had a great visit with Albert Jeror and his daughter Tracy, and Bill and Joan Jones with their son and his wife Daryl and Teresa Jones, who were accompanied by their children, Eryka and Eddie. Not too many Hunters at Montreal I'm afraid but still we did manage to catch up with member Nicky Mofford for a little chat.

A slow cruise back to London (via Petawawa to see our son and his family) got us here just in time to unpack before heading off to Fergus for 3 days to attend our "main" event, The Fergus Highland Games and annual general meeting. This year we held our AGM at the Holiday Inn Guelph complete with dinner for about 30. To all accounts it was a great success. Next year will see us heading off to Scotland to the International Clan Gathering at Hunterston. No more news on that event at the moment but we will update you as soon as the details are released.

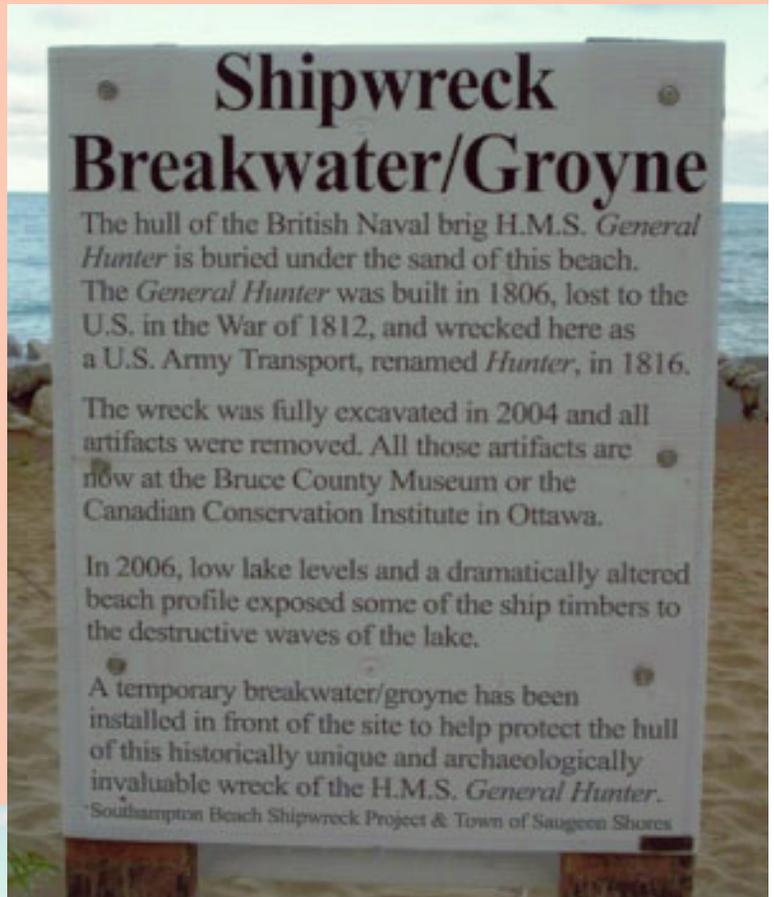
We are always seeking out items for the newsletter so please write to us and tell us what is going on. Photos are great too just try and send a copy so I don't have to send it back or send it by email and that would be even better.

Tom



Lizz on the Loose

Andrew, Torry & I decided to take a much needed break this summer in a wonderful little town on the shores of Lake Huron called Southampton (about 35 kilometres west of Owen Sound). No work, no schedules, no plans other than dividing our time between the beach and the playground. Okay, I had some plans to do a little genealogy research at the local library. (Andrew's family immigrated to Bruce county from Scotland.) Sounds so peaceful, doesn't it? So while I was researching genealogy, Torry & Andrew browsed around the museum and found out that there had been a shipwreck near Southampton in 1816 and the name of the ship was ... the General Hunter. The ship was named after Peter Hunter, a commander of the British forces and Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada. The General Hunter was a navy ship, built in 1806 and captured by the Americans in the Battle of Lake Erie in 1813, one of the battles of the War of 1812. After the end of the war, the General Hunter was sold into private



US hands and renamed the Hunter. Eventually, the Hunter was purchased by the US Army for transport. The ship was lost in 1816 near Southampton.

Army General Alexander Macomb states in a letter to the US Secretary of War on September 7th, 1816 "...I am sorry ... to inform you that the Government Transport Brig "Hunter" was cast away on Canadian shores in returning from Michmilmackinac on the (19th) of last month in a violent gale ... all the crew reached (Detroit) in safety. I have dispatched two boats to save the rigging, anchors and cables and to burn the wreck so as to secure the iron of the hull..." The crew consisted of eight men and two children passengers.

In 2001, Lake Huron had unusually low water levels. That, combined with a spring ice scour in April revealed a dozen ship frames pushing up through the sands of Southampton. The ship was excavated in 2004 but reburied due to the immense expense involved with re-excavating, recovery, conservation & display—an estimated three million dollars. It is now safely hidden beneath the sand, protected by a stone breakwater and a sign asking people not to disturb the sand.

Connections Corner

Tom

Thanks for the offer of help.

My Great Grandmother's name was Elizabeth Hunter. She married William Brown. She was born in 1854 the same year as William and she died in 1899, William died in 1948. They had 8 children. William June 26, 1879 - James 1881 - Herman 1882 - Agnes 1884 - Andrew 1885 - Janet 1888, Lindsey 1890 - Gordon 1895. They lived in Howick Township at Lot 27, Con. 8. I know nothing more of her.

John Brown

So Here is what we did (Lizz Thibodeau)

Once again my dad was asked to help out with a genealogical quandary. Someone at Fergus was looking for information to help get beyond their grandmother, Elizabeth Hunter. He knew her year of birth & death, her husband's year of birth & death, and the names of her eight children. He also knew some information about where she was buried. Since Elizabeth was buried in Ontario, my dad called on me for some local insight and a fresh set of eyes.

The first thing I did was to check out the Ontario Cemetery Finding Aid. Our informant told dad that Elizabeth's grave had been moved once so I wanted to confirm that he was right about where she was currently buried. He was correct, but in verifying that, I was able to see that some of the other names in that cemetery matched five of her children and her husband. That might make it worth the drive to check out that many gravestones! Next we checked out the 1881 Ontario Census (through the LDS website). Dad had already looked for Elizabeth and her husband using her approximate year of birth. Of course, that's where I started too but I got the same result as dad – nothing. (The definition of stupidity is doing the same thing twice and expecting different results; however, in genealogy it's often a good place to start.) Then I tried

looking for the oldest son with Elizabeth's husband, using the son's year of birth. Lo and behold, we found something! According to the census, Elizabeth was born in 1850 not 1854 as we had searched for. Likelihood is that we actually have the correct information but the transcription of the census was typed incorrectly. Anyway, one small error like that had made our initial search futile. Now, we had some exciting results. The census told us with whom she was living, where she had been



William and Elizabeth Hunter (Brown)

born and what she considered to be her race. She was born in Ontario but listed her race as Scottish. It also appeared that Elizabeth and her husband were living with her husband's parents, whose names matched Elizabeth's first son and first daughter. That may seem insignificant but it may indicate that the second son and second daughter are named after Elizabeth's parents. (Traditionally, the first son and second daughter are named after the husband's parents and the second son and first daughter are named after the mother's parents; however since it appeared that Elizabeth had named both firsts after her husband's parents, we can assume that both seconds will be after her parents.) Going on this assumption, I searched the 1881 Ontario census for a James Hunter (Elizabeth's second son) who would have been between 20 and 30 years old when Elizabeth was born and who lived in the same county as where Elizabeth died. Sure enough, we found one who was 25 years old when Elizabeth was born and lived not too far away. His wife's name also matched Elizabeth's second daughter. Now, this is too little to confirm a connection, but it was exciting. Later this week dad and I will be heading to the local public library to look up Elizabeth's marriage certificate (hopefully listing her parents' names) and her death certificate (also hopefully including info about her parents) and the cemetery transcriptions for her and her family. (No need to take that drive I had mentioned. It turns out that cemetery's transcriptions are available locally!) With any luck, we'll be able to confirm that I did indeed find her parents on the 1881 census and we'll be able to continue on from there. One mystery solved; many more to go!!



*Vincent H Hunter, 1936, guide on the Miramichi River, N.B.
Portrait painted by Ernest L. Ipsen **

One of the best parts of attending the Highland Games is being able to meet Hunters from all over the country. This year we were back in New Brunswick for the New Brunswick Games and were able to have dinner with 10 other Hunters, one of whom was Vincent Hunter. Vincent and I had a wonderful chat and he revealed that he had 7 siblings and that his father, Vincent H Hunter Sr., had been a guide on the Miramichi River. Vincent Jr. also told me that his father's portrait had been painted by a famous painter. I was so interested that I asked if Vincent could send me a photograph of the painting with a bit of its history. Vincent's daughter, Necia, very kindly responded with the following information.

My Grandfather's name was Vincent H. Hunter Sr. He was born April 14, 1898. This is a life size portrait of him which is still in the family homestead in Astle, N.B. Grandfather worked as a guide on the Miramichi River from 1925 - 1967. He was known as the Ace on the River. The portrait was painted by the famous artist Ernest L. Ipsen in 1936. Grandfather was Mr. Ipsen's wife's guide for many years. She would not go in anyone else's Canoe. Grandfather was married to Lillian (Palmer) Hunter and had eight children. My father believes that the artist was from Massachusetts, U.S.A. The portrait was actually signed E. L. Ipsen. The year it was painted was 1936 Mr. Ipsen kept the painting in his studio in Boiestown, N.B. as long as he was able to come, but told my grandfather he could have it when he stopped coming. Dad believes that Grandfather brought the painting home in the early 50's

About The Artist

Portraitist Ernest Ipsen was born near Boston to Danish parents. His father, Ludvig S. Ipsen, was an architect with a genius for design, and his mother was a well-known musician with a beautiful voice. The families of both were closely connected with the Danish court, and young Ernest was sent to the Royal Academy in Copenhagen after his preliminary training in Boston. There, he speedily won a prize for his figure works, and a scholarship in life painting.



Left: A view from inside the tent at Fergus

Below: Scenes from the Business meeting and supper



*Right: The Clan Hunter Canada Mascot.
Courtesy of Don and Marion Hunter*



Below: Hurry up Mum, I'm starving





Lizz and Torry play hide and seek at Fergus



Young Eryka Jones shows her style at Fergus



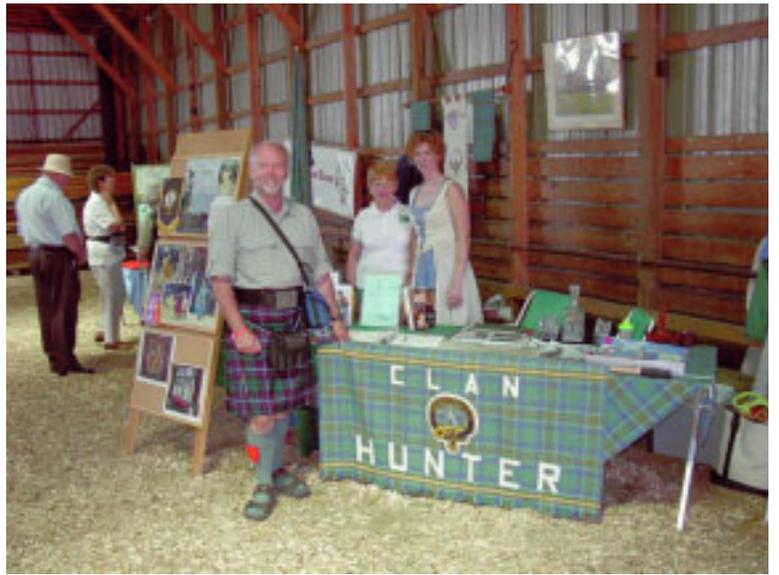
*The Ball family at the Clan Tent Fergus
Boy I love that T-shirt!*



Getting ready for the parade at Fergus



Ted Hunter and wife stop by for a chat



David Hunter visits at Maxville



*Above:
The Fredericton Team*



Above: Bob is determined to get the castle in the photo.



Left: Vincent Hunter and friend visit with the team before joining us for supper



The Clan Tent Montreal... a bit quiet at the moment.



Nicky Mofford drives up in style on her scooter for a quick visit at Montreal



Christine walking from the Governor's Mansion, Fredericton

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