



Hunters' Halloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

Nov 2012

Crest Badge of a
Member of Clan Hunter

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It is with much sadness that I have to announce the death of Sonia Madam Hunter of Hunterston, mother of our Clan Chief Pauline Hunter of Hunterston, on Tuesday 20th Nov. 2012 . Sonia became ill while in Paris en-route to Glasgow and later died in a Paris hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with Madam Pauline and the family as they grieve the passing of this fine lady. She will be sorely missed by her many friends here in Canada.



It was in 1984 that my family and I first met Madam Sonia Hunter of Hunterston as she was known then. She was the wife of Niel Aylmer Hunter Laird and Clan Chief of Clan Hunter (Pauline's father). We visited with her on our many Hunterston occasions in Scotland and were always treated with great kindness and friendship. We will remember her with much fondness. May the Lord bless her and keep her.

Although the date above says this is a November Newsletter it is really the October Newsletter. I delayed the printing of this edition because I had already issued an extra newsletter in August. This year as I have already reported we were off to an excellent Clan Gathering at Hunterston. Congratulations to Madam Pauline once more for all her hard work in preparation. I felt the atmosphere was particularly good this year with lots of mixing and visiting with one another and the bus tour was lots of fun also.

Because of our time in Scotland we were restricted in how many Games we could attend and only managed Maxville and Fergus. It is most unusual to have to say, that Maxville was too hot and by the end of the day we were well and truly DONE!! However Fergus was as usual a wonderful time of renewed friendships and fellowship.

Tom

Sonia Madam Hunter of Hunterston

Mother of our Clan Chief, Madam Pauline

Died suddenly Nov 20th 2012



The Flowers of the Forest

I've seen the smiling
Of fortune beguiling,
I've tasted her pleasures,
And felt her decay;
Sweet is her blessing,
And kind her caressing,
But now they are fled
And fled far away.

I've seen the forest
Adorned the foremost,
Wi' flowers o' the fairest
Baith pleasant and gay,
Sae bonnie was their bloom-
ing,
Their scent the air perfuming,
But now they are withered
away.

I've seen the morning,
With gold hills adorning,
And loud tempests storming,
Before parting day,
I've seen Tweed's silver
streams,
Glitt'ring in the sunny beams,
Grow drumlie and dark,
As they roll'd on their way;

O fickle fortune!
Why this cruel sportin'?
Oh! Why thus perplex
Us poor sons of a day?
Thy frown canna fear me,
Thy smile canna cheer me,
Since the flowers o' the forest
Are a' wede away.

editor's note: The melody to this song is oftimes played on the pipes on the loss of loved ones. It was written to remember the awful losses at the Battle of Flodden

Minutes of Clan Hunter Canada AGM

Fergus Highland Games, August 11, 2012

There were 21 members in attendance.

Report by Tom Hunter, Clan Officer

After welcoming everyone to the AGM, Tom gave a report on the Highland Games he and his wife Christine had attended this summer. He also spoke about the Hunterston Gathering at Hunterston castle in July.

The Minutes of the 2011 AGM:

These minutes were not available, due to an unforeseen problem. Tom however had a couple of notes of Old Business from last year.

Old Business:

Youth Heritage Fund – A committee was set up last year to look into the possibility of starting a fund to encourage one of our younger members in the furtherance of their Scottish Heritage Pursuits. This committee have not met, so have been asked to look into this idea this year.

Banner – It was suggested last year that a Clan Hunter Banner be made available to John and Lianne Hunter who are now manning a tent at the Victoria Highland Games in B.C. This Banner was ordered and shipped to John and Lianne in time for their Games in May.

Financial Report:

Don Hunter, our treasurer stepped us through the financial report, with a bottom line that we have \$1,507.82 in the bank.

After a few questions the acceptance of this report was moved by Don Hunter, seconded by Mida Betty Lecocq and was passed by a show of hands.

Membership Report:

Christine Hunter, our membership secretary reported that we had 6 new members since our last AGM.

After officially welcoming these new members, Christine moved that this report be accepted. It was seconded by Tom Hunter of Hagersville, and was passed.

Genealogy Report:

Lizz Thibodeau's report was quite short as she has not had any calls for help from Association members.

Lizz moved that this report be accepted, seconded by Bill Jones, the motion carried.

Newsletter and Web-site Report

Back to our clan Officer for these reports.

-The new **genealogy** area of the web-site – only open to Clan Hunter members – has created a lot of interest. It has 148 family trees on it, but only 45 users.



-We now have a **Facebook** page: Clan Hunter Canada – Official. This has been well used so far, and had photos of the Hunterston Gathering and the Fergus Games before most of us had caught our breath!

-Our clan Newsletter is also still receiving good reviews, but Tom is always looking for fresh input and articles to truly make it **your** newsletter.

Tom threw out a challenge to let him know if you like the newsletter or not. If not – what do you not like about it – it is something we can change? What else would you like to see included?

The acceptance of this report was moved by Tom Hunter, seconded by Bill Jones and was passed.

Members' News:

Bill and Joan Jones celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary earlier this summer.

Tom and Christine Hunter also celebrated 50 years of marriage earlier this year.

Bob and Aldene Hunter joined together to celebrate 160th birthday greetings – 15 months after Bob's birthday and 15 months before Aldene's! What a grand idea!

Paul and Bonnie Hunter's daughter **Jennifer** graduated recently from the U of T with her degree in Forensic Science. She has now secured a place at Strathclyde University (yes folks that's in Scotland) and will be carrying on her studies there starting this fall!

Don Hunter told us about a Sailing Cruise out of Toronto on the tall ship Empire Sandy on September 2nd. This cruise is organised by Scottish Studies.

Don also told us about a new flag that Cassoc is having made – that will be made available for purchase when it is completed. It will cost approx \$100.00 and will have the Canadian tartan on the main part of the flag, with the coat of arms of Canada in the middle!

Tom Hunter showed us his cromack (walking stick), made for him by Ian Hunter, clan officer for the UK!

Christine Hunter was proudly wearing a brooch that had been presented to all our clan officer's wives by our clan chief Pauline at the Gathering at Hunterston in July.

The meeting adjourned at 6.10, and at 6.30pm a wonderful buffet dinner was enjoyed by 44 members.

Look Mum we grewed again

Reporting from the Saskatoon TWIG of the family tree. A Hunter reunion is being planned for 2013. This will be 130 years since my grandparents - William and Margaret Hunter arrived in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. My youngest great grandchild - Hunter David Ewen was born August 5, 2011. At his christening - April 22, 2012 he wore tartan to match dad's (Jason, Ewen) and Grandad's (George, Ewen) which made him the most popular picture model that day!!

The family celebrated my 90th birthday on May 19, 2012. I was happy to have all the children and their spouses, twenty four of thirty grandchildren and ALL eight great grandchildren there for family pictures and visiting. Also my brothers Bill (92+) Hunter and Eric (84+) Hunter came out from Saskatoon.

Ruth Ewan (nee Hunter), Lanigan. SK.

(Editor's note: we will need lots of photographs Ruth from what sounds like a wonderful reunion)

Send your submissions
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Connections Corner



Lizz Thibodeau

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

someone taking an interest, but more importantly, this niece has asked her aunt to write down all of the stories that she could remember about her childhood and her parents and grandparents. The aunt was thrilled that someone wanted her to record her memories and wanted to hear the stories.

I've seen families with massive family trees. I've even seen beautiful ones with photos of many ancestors.



But imagine having a family tree to pass down generation to generation with stories of your ancestors – where they grew up, what it was like in those days, what the voyage was like from “the old country”, etc. I have grown up hearing “the stories”: My mum’s mum lived with us for the first 13 years of my life and

loved to tell the stories (ad nauseam some might say), and now my parents tell the stories – and I love to hear them – but I really hope that someday we'll get around to writing them down, because no matter how often I hear them, I still forget. I can remember the overall gist of the story, but not the details and when I try to tell the stories to my children, so much is missing that there's hardly a story left (“You know someone in our family, I think it was one of nana’s uncles, came home from the war, must have been WWII, on leave but then got caught in a bombing raid in Glasgow and was killed. Strange thing was that he had taken shelter in the apartment where a family with the same last name lived so... something about it taking a while to realize that he didn't belong to them and a bit about red hair or something...”). So I encourage you – this is not an easy project, or one to be done over an afternoon, but oh, how worthwhile it would be to start writing down the stories. What a fabulous gift to give your children, or grandchildren, nieces or nephews! There is so much that we can learn from our ancestors and how they lived, but only if we know “the stories”!



Thank You

Thank you for the lovely note that you sent with my certificate of membership. Victoria (my cousin and travel buddy) and I had an absolutely amazing visit to Hunterston. Attached is a photo of the two of us on the battlements. It was a great experience to physically connect with our heritage and see where we have come from. I am starting school in the fall at Durham University and I hope to visit Hunterston again while living in the UK. I hope we will connect at the Fergus Highland Games again this year. Have a wonderful time at the Hunter Gathering!

Heidi Schulze (new member)



Membership Report Addendum. Give a Gift.



Kathryn Lecocq (new member) and Mida Betty (Hunter) Lecocq with Faith, Alan and Joshua at the Orilia Scottish Festival, July 21, 2012

Well here we are coming towards Christmas time, a time when we gather with family and share stories, food and gifts. The Hunter Clan is also very family oriented and well if you haven't picked up on a theme here I was just thinking what a wonderful gift it would be to give a membership to the Clan Association to a family member! Do you have a son, a daughter, a brother, a sister who would appreciate being included in a family oriented Association that encourages meeting together at Highland Games, researching family roots and possibly taking a trip back to those roots when the opportunity arises!

Think about it – download a membership form – and send it to me! I will send a membership package.

Christine Hunter,
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Rumbledethumps?

When we were in Scotland this year, Tom and I were driving along the road and passed a sign that pointed to “Rumbledethumps”. Of course we didn’t know if it was a town, a band, a castle, a restaurantor what. The name just made us laugh – and after saying it a few times - we put it out of our minds. We were staying a few days with my brother, who lives in Cupar in Fife. Bert and his wife May always take us out for a meal when we are staying with them and you’ve guessed itthey said they were taking us to Rumbledethumps. Honestly we had not mentioned it to them – this was pure coincidence!

Curiosity got the better of us and we asked about this unusual (and funny) name – only to be told that this is a restaurant, but the name comes from a fairly common meal in Scotland and is a potato and cabbage dish. So I checked out the internet (where else do we get all our information) and came up with this recipe. Go on Try it and let us know what you think!

(Enough for 8 people)

½ head green cabbage (thinly sliced)

2 ½ lbs russet potatoes (peeled & coarsely chopped)

½ cup unsalted butter (or margarine)

¼ cup chopped chives

1 cup (4 oz) grated extra-sharp cheddar cheese

Butter 8 cup baking dish, preheat oven to 350 degrees F

Cook cabbage until tender (about 2 minutes) – set aside

In a large pot, cook potatoes until tender – drain, add butter and mash.

Mix in chives, then cabbage.

Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Spoon mixture into prepared dish.

Sprinkle with cheese and bake for 35 minutes until cheese bubbles.



Enjoy!!!

SHE'S OFF TO SCOTLAND



Jennifer Hunter, daughter of members Bonnie and Paul Hunter of Toronto, is off for post-graduate study in Glasgow. Jenn graduated With Distinction this Spring from the University of Toronto in Forensic Science with a Specialist degree in Chemistry and a Minor in Biology. She will do a 12 month Master’s program at the University of Strathclyde (Est 1796). The university has the longest established Forensic Science program in the United Kingdom, having taught this specialty for over 40 years.

Interestingly, we have no Master’s program in Canada.

Jenn hopes to return and work in the Chemistry Division of the Centre for Forensic Science in Toronto or in a comparable position elsewhere.

Submitted by proud grandparents, Bob and Aldene Hunter of Port Rowan, Ontario



The Hunter sons and Daughters of Cumberland County, Nova Scotia.

This picture is only to show the Upper Canadians that the Hunter sons and daughters of Cumberland County, Nova Scotia are alive and well and propogating. This crowd is the descendants of my grand father, J Kempton Hunter of Linden (formerly Goose River), Cumberland County, plus assorted spouses. It's a very old picture. Numbers have increased

substantially; for example, I have fourteen grandchildren, and none was around when the photo was taken. Which, I suppose, is a round about way of letting you know that not all Hunters live in Southern Ontario and we would be pleased to meet some of you if you come this way sometime.

Kempton Hayes MD CCFP, Halifax.

(Editor's note: We were at the Fredericton Highland Games in 2005 and 2006 Kempton, too bad we missed you)



Congratulations on your 50th Anniversary Bill and Joan Jones.

Tom and Christine were delighted to be able to attend Bill and Joan Jones' 50th wedding anniversary earlier this summer. In the picture above left to right - Christine, Joan, Bill, Tom and Mida Betty, Bill's cousin and clan member.

Right: Bill and Joan decided to go "all Scottish" for their anniversary and even supplied Haggis. Bill and Tom shared the honours and stabbed the haggis in tandem.



Membership News

Since our last newsletter, we have welcomed three new members to our ranks. I look forward to getting to know these new members at the various Highland Games we visit in the summertime. I really, really hope that if any members attend any highlands games that Tom and I are at, that they will make themselves known to us. We love to get to know you, put a face to a name, and maybe get a photograph for the next newsletter. If you attend any Games that we are not at – then take some photographs of some of the events at these Games (including one of yourselves) and send it to us! We would love to add more members' photographs

to our newsletter. After all – this is the Hunter Clan Newsletter – not the (Tom) Hunter Clan Newsletter!!

Now a little information on our new members:

Michael Hunter from Turkey Point, On. I don't know a lot about Michael, but since he lives at Turkey Point – not too far away, I hope he will 'bite-the-bullet' and join us at Fergus soon, so that we can get to know him!

Kathryn Jo Lecocq, daughter of long time member Mida Betty Lecocq, from Kitchener, Ontario. As with all families, Kathryn has been "encouraged" by Mida Betty many times to join the association, but now, in her own time Kathryn has decided to join us. Kathryn brings many skills to our

Association which we look forward to putting to good use!

Allan Edward Hunter is our newest member, is the brother of Kenneth Hunter and hails from Oakhill, New Brunswick. Allan enjoys woodworking, hockey and farming and has a great interest in genealogy.

We welcome all these new members and hope that they enjoy being a part of our Association and are able to meet up with other Hunters either at their local Highland Games, or by travelling to Fergus Ontario for the Fergus Games and dinner meeting. After all – that's what it is all about - getting to know each other, trading information on genealogy and sharing stories. Christine Hunter, Membership Secretary

Maxville Highland Games



Above: Tom (with new bonnet), Lizz, and Isla prepare for the Parade of the Clans.

Below: Torry helps out at the Clan Table with Christine.



Fergus Highland Games



Above: Dr Nadene and daughter Nadene with Lizz, Christine and Tom at the clan tent



Above: Shona Hunter shows off her tartan painted fingernails



Below: Isla Thibodeau in her medieval costume with cousin Shona Hunter



Above: Aldene Hunter, Paul and Mattryk Hunter Checking out the tent



Above: Aldene Hunter and Christine sorting things out at the tent.

Below: The Ball family enjoying dinner after the Clan Meeting



Left: Paul and Bonnie Hunter of Toronto having a great time at the banquet.



Right: Tom and Joyce Hunter of Hagersville ready for food.

After Dinner entertainment at Fergus



*Above: Torry raises a cheer with her stepdancing
Below: Mummy (Lizz) also makes her stepdancing debut*

*Above: Christine creates much laughter with her poem, "Granny's Porridge"
Below: Crissy Ball delights with her traditional "Highland Dance" style.*

