

bunters' balloo

Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

April 2002

Vol 3.6

Crest Badge of a Member of Clan Hunter

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Greetings to one and all. Spring has sprung and it is time for us to be planning the summer activities. My wife Christine and I will again be trying to fit in as many Highland Games appearances as we can. But I have a confession to make. This year is our 40th year together in married bliss and so we are celebrating by cruising around the Greek Islands. This will be happening during the

first two weeks in July and so it will mean that we will not be attending the Chatham Games. This is a sweet sorrow happening because although we will be enjoying the cruise we will miss being with out very dear friends, Catherine and Dave Elder. The Games that we plan to attend are Maxville, Montreal, Fergus and Sarnia, all of which are being held in August. Fergus of course is where we will be holding our own Clan Hunter gathering. We have made some changes to this event based on some decisions made at last year's meeting. This year, instead on holding our meeting on Sunday afternoon, we will be meeting on Saturday at 5.00p.m. in the meeting room on site at the Highland Games. Following the meeting we plan to dine as a group in a local family restaurant (yet to be confirmed). We hope these changes will encourage people to stay for the meeting who might otherwise not be able to attend on the Sunday. If you are close to any of the games we plan to attend please drop by and say hello. If you want to help out at the tent that's even better. I am including an all Canada listing of highland Games for your convenience.

An interesting thing happened when putting this newsletter together. The Clan Membership secretary, Christine, put together a list of recent members for me to include, which included some interesting fact about these folks. Almost at the same time I received a letter from Catherine Elder with some photographs that I might like for our archives. Imagine my surprise when I discovered a photo of Malcolm and May Hunter who happen to be the grandparents of Jean-Pierre Hunter one of our new members. Another interesting fact is that the writing on the photo indicated that Malcolm was the first Canadian Clan Representative. This was before my time in the Association but I can only assume that it was the equivalent to the Clan Officer, making Malcolm the first Clan Officer and John Hunter the second. So my previous report on John Hunter was slightly in error, but I'm sure everyone will forgive my inaccuracy.

I have been trying to bring mini-portraits of Hunter celebrities from the past and present. In this edition of the newsletter you will find a modern day portrait of Canadian writer *Bernice Thurman Hunter*. I hope you enjoy it.

Tom

Dear Clansfolk,

At this very sad time for Queen Elizabeth and the Royal family on the death of the Queen Mother, I am sure you would wish me to extend our most sincere condolences on behalf of all the Hunter Clan. The Queen Mother will always be remembered for her steadfastness and devotion to her country, often during very trying times.

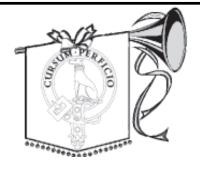
The funeral service held for the Queen Mother was an awe-inspiring occasion, especially poignant to see was the many thousands who lined the streets of London and Windsor to pay their last respects to a very valued and loved member of the British Royal Family.



Clan Hunter pay a special tribute to Her Majesty, the Queen Mother, as she had occasion to visit Hunterston Castle following the opening of Hunterston Nuclear Power Station on 5th June 1975. Neil Hunter of Hunterston, 29th Laird, presented the Queen Mother with a Silver Penny, the Royal Rent for the Hunter lands on this occasion. Also given to her as a personal present was a spectacle case, with the Hunter emblem, a greyhound, embroidered by the present Clan Chief, Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston. A photograph of the occasion is on show in the Castle.

It is with great sorrow that I have announce the loss of a very valued Clan member of the UK Clan Association, Adrian Hunter Gardner. I had planned to give Adrian The Order of the Royal Huntsman this year for his sterling and tireless devotion and work for our Clan. Fortunately we were able through the good offices of Robert Hunter, Clan Officer UK Clan Association to arrange for the presentation to Adrian before he died. Adrian had requested that his ashes be spread at Hunterston Castle, this I have personally carried out for him and his wife Peggi. We have planted a tree in remembrance of him near to that planted for Brett Pirkle Hunter.

Hunterston Castle is looking very good this Spring with all the daffodils in bloom. The lawns are being restored and maintenance work is being carried out on the Castle. Christine has spring-cleaned the Castle from top to bottom and new velvet curtains have been put up in the Great Hall. We are looking forward to your visits with pleasure.



Membership 2001/2002 Welcome to the Association.

Since my last report, we have had 4 new members to the Clan Hunter Association.

Andrew John Hunter, of Victoria, B.C. joined last November.
John Bell Hunter, also of Victoria, B.C. joined in March of this year.
Evelyn Delina Inglis of Sarnia Ont.
Also joined in March of this year.

Jean-Pierre Mineau Hunter, of Craven, SK. joined in April this year.

John and Evelyn are both planning on visiting Scotland this year, and hope to roll a visit to Hunterston into their trips.

Andrew who brings a great wealth of knowledge of all things "Hunter", is a poet, and has an enviable genealogy tree tracing his ancestry back to the Scottish King, John Baliol.

Jean-Pierre is a potter, and his wife, Naomi, is a silversmith. His grandfather Malcolm Hunter was a Clan Association member until his death in 1988



From the Archives. As "The Beatles" say, With a little help from my friends, here is a photograph of Jean-Pierre's grandparents, Malcolm and May Hunter on Malcolm's retirement as Canada's first Clan Representative 1986. Presenting a gift to the couple is Charles Hunter, brother to Madam Pauline, present clan chief. (Thanks to Catherine Elder)



Madam Pauline continues her support of the Killie Cheerleaders by handing over a cheque to the girls at Hunterston Castle . This will allow the girls to continue their practice sessions. Kilmarnock Football Club and the Kilmarnock Cheerleaders give Madam Pauline a big thank you for her support.



Bernice Thurman Hunter

Author

Born: November 3, 1922. Toronto, Ontario.

Two children, four grandchildren, (no great-grandchildren as yet).

Bernice has been interested in writing since early childhood. She would often have a captive audience of school chums lined up along the curb to listen to her stories. In her teens she met, and had the temerity to present a story to, her idol, L.M. Montgomery. When her own

children were small, Bernice wrote for them an ongoing story with themselves as protagonists. But it was not until they were grown up that she began to publish. Bernice's novels, especially the "Booky" (pronounced Boo-key) trilogy, are autobiographical in nature. Her strength as a writer lies in her ability to bring her childhood memories vividly to life. Bernice is in constant demand as a guest speaker in schools and libraries across Canada. Her natural style and friendly personality are apparent in her informal talks as well as in her written work. "My favourite part of a school visit is question time," says Bernice. "But sometimes I get comments instead of questions. This is my favourite: When a twelve-year-old girl realized that Booky and I are one and the same she exclaimed, 'I wish I was a kid when you were a kid so we could be best friends!' I can't think of a nicer compliment."

Published Works

Numerous short stories in readers and magazines.

Bernice's novels are published by Scholastic

Canada.

"That Scatterbrain Booky" 1981 "With Love From Booky" 1983

"A Place For Margaret" 1984

"As Ever, Booky" 1985

"Margaret In The Middle" 1986

"Lamplighter" 1987 "Margaret On Her Way" 1988

"The Railroader" 1990

"The Firefighter" 1991

"Hawk and Stretch" 1993

"Amy's Promise" 1995

"Janey's Choice" 1997

The Young People's Theatre, in Toronto, produced the musical,"That Scatterbrain Booky", in April, 1990. It won three "Dora" awards

On August 22, 1992, Global T.V. aired a half-hour production of "That Scatterbrain Booky" by Atlantis Films.

Awards

Winner of: IODE Book Award, 1981, for 'That Scatterbrain Booky'.

The Vicky Metcalf Award for a body of work, 1990

B.C.'s Red Cedar Award, 1997©98, for 'Amy's Promise'.

Finalist for: The Toronto Book Award, 1982, for 'That Scatterbrain Booky'.

The Ruth Schwartz Award, 1983, for 'With Love from Booky'.

The Geoffrey Bilson Award, 1987, for 'Lamplighter'

The Geoffrey Bilson Award, 1999, for 'Janey's Choice'

Three times nominated for The Silverbirch Award.

Other Memberships CANSCAIP

The Writers' Union of Canada
The Canadian Authors Association.

Congratulations

Clan Member Ian Lecocq and his wife Coreen are thrilled to announce their precious gift and miracle from God, Joshua Calvin Wayne Lecocq, born 28 January 2002 and weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz. Joshua is named in memory of his late Great-Grandfather Joshua Wells Hunter of Ottawa, in memory of "Grandpa" Wayne Funk of Vineland and in memory of "Uncle" Cal Rea of Toronto. Joshua is the latest grandchild of Don and Mida-Betty Hunter Lecocq



Hunterston Castle Embroidered Crest Shirts

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store. Available

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