

Hunters' Halloo

New Editors

At the AGM in October, Tom Hunter, Clan Officer expressed his desire to step down as editor of the Clan Hunter, Canada newsletter. My sister, Lynn Hunter Ball and I offered to give it a go. Now I know that Tom, our father, has always encouraged people to contribute to the newsletter, but we would really like to encourage you to think about how you can help keep this newsletter alive. This newsletter is the link between Hunters across Canada. If Lynn and I are the only ones to contribute to it, it will just become the story of the Hunters of London! And although we do think that our family is worthy of it's own sitcom some days, we'd really like to continue the newsletter in the high standard that we've all grown to love and enjoy. So please find a way to contribute—and watch the Clan Hunter Canada Facebook page for ideas of things we'll be including in upcoming issues.



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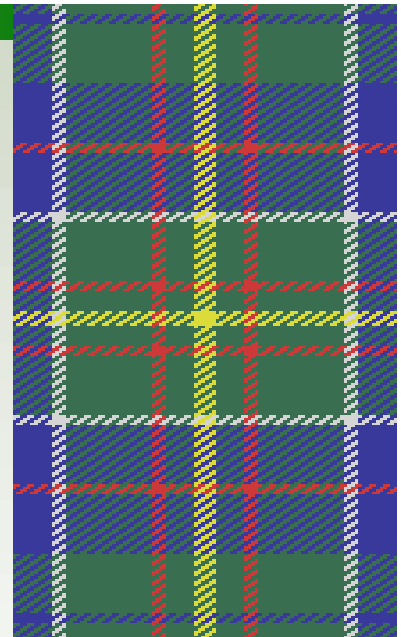
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From Madame Pauline

Greetings,

Wishing you a Happy New Year and the very best for 2018.

Last year was a tremendous year for Clan Hunter with the International Gathering and our performance at the Edinburgh Royal Tattoo, an incredible honour for our Clan.

At the Edinburgh Tattoo opening ceremony I was presented to General Mark Milley, 39th Chief of Staff of the United States Army, he was taking the salute that evening. As part of the opening ceremony he gave me a dram in a quaich, see our photos on Clan Hunter UK Facebook page, following this ceremony General Milley presented me with his personal Challenge Medallion, a very great honour indeed.

For those of you who have never come across Challenge medallions, they have an interesting history. In earlier times before uniforms were universally worn it was difficult often for those who were presenting themselves to their own forces to be recognized. So the habit was started that medallions confirming allegiance were issued, so that when challenged the person carrying the medallion could confirm his identity. The medallions are currently used mostly by the military and are given out on special occasions and to specially valued individuals.

In response to the presentation by General Milley I have presented him with the Order of the Royal Huntsman, with a specially made silver Hunters Horn. I have also made General Milley an honorary member of Clan Hunter as he does not belong to a Scottish Clan.

After eight years of service as President of Clan Hunter USA, Mel, and Pat, Clan Secretary have both retired and handed over the reins to a new team led by Bryan Hunter, our new Clan President of Clan Hunter USA. I am very much looking forward to working with the new team.

It has been such an honour having Mel as

President over the past eight years knowing that Clan Hunter USA was being guided by a steady hand. I thank them both for the years of service to our Clan, their friendship and support. Both Mel and Pat will be sadly missed by myself and Graham and the wider Clan Hunter family in the USA for their commitment in promoting our Hunter heritage. Mel was the instigator in raising funds for the reconstruction of the front of Hunterston Castle to its former glory, now locked in time for future generations.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Graham, Macer Venatorus and myself will be attending the 2018 Stone Mountain Highland Games in Atlanta. It will give us both so much pleasure to meet you and hope that you will come and support our new Clan President, of Clan Hunter USA, Bryan Hunter, and his team.

With all my very best wishes to you all

Yours aye,

Madam Pauline



Hunting Dogs tattoo from lovetoknow.com

From the Clan Officer, Tom Hunter

Greetings Clansfolk, we are well into winter now and my thoughts are hovering over an early Spring. I don't suppose that will happen but I can always dream can't I? There are some changes about to happen this year in the association and the first one has to do with our genealogy page on the web. We initiated this page somewhere around Sept 2010 and the idea was that this would be a private page for members only to share their family trees and perhaps find links to one another. Since then the Genealogy search field has really opened up on the internet with programs such as Ancestry.com leading the pack. Searching has become much easier and much more fulfilling with all the aids and "Hints" supplied. With this in mind and coupled with the fact that although we have 193 supposed trees registered on our site only 42 are actually populated and 19 of them were created by me, we have decided to discontinue this "service". It would seem that many users are creating a registration and then searching the system without actually inputting any people to their family tree, which actually defeats the purpose of the page. Add to that the fact that we have to run the genealogy database on a special server which costs us additional funds and this no longer makes sense.

So effective May 1st, 2018 the Clan Hunter Canada Genealogy page will be removed from the website. Current users are advised to remove any information they wish to retain by using the import/export function from the main menu.

The second change that needs to happen is that I need to retire from the position of Clan Officer. I have been in this position since 1995 and it is time to have a younger body take up the reins. I mentioned in a previous letter that I was having surgery and it seems that the need has returned for further surgery. So we are now actively searching for a replacement. We would be happy to receive nominations for this position. As a side issue to this but no less important is that, Christine my wife would retire as membership secretary with me. The membership secretary position does not need to be a spousal one.

Connected directly to this is the third change which is that Lizz Thibodeau and Lynn Ball have agreed to lessen my load by taking control of the newsletter starting with this issue. They are both extremely creative young ladies and I have great confidence in their ability to bring the newsletter into the 21st century.

Tom

Connections Corner by Lizz Hunter Thibodeau

I had a very neat experience recently as the office administrator at our church which brought traditional genealogy and modern technology together.

Sadly, a member of our congregation who was originally from Aberdeen, Scotland, passed away. A few weeks after his funeral, which was held at our church, I received an email from a woman in Aberdeen who had seen his obituary in the local newspaper. She recognized the name and realized that she had gone to school with his daughter up to the age of eight. They had been very good friends but lost touch when the family moved to Canada. She noticed the name of the church in the obituary, looked us up on-line and sent me an email.

I was happy to forward her email on to the daughter in hopes of rekindling their friendship, but I was absolutely thrilled by the idea that she had seen the news in a newspaper and turned to modern technology to track down a friend across the ocean.

Clan Hunter Association Canada 2017 AGM

The minutes of the 2017 AGM were misplaced in a move. They have been reconstructed to the best of our ability.

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of Clan Hunter (Canada) was held on Sunday, October 1st at Chalmers Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario.

There were 14 members present.

The meeting was called to order at 3:16pm by Clan Officer Tom Hunter who welcomed those present.

A special welcome was given to one of our newer (2017) members, William (Bill) Hunter of Lansing, Michigan, attending his first Clan Hunter (Canada) AGM.

CLAN OFFICER'S REPORT

Tom reported that the year just passed had been an interesting one of medical treatments which resulted in a missed Spring edition of our newsletter in which Membership dues reminders are usually included. The result of this is that, as of today, only 40% of our memberships have paid.

Tom also reported that one of our long-time members, CATHERINE ELDER of Chatham, Ontario, following a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease, died on Sunday, July 2nd, 2017 in her 96th year. Catherine was a member of the Ontario Genealogical Society and for many years was our Clan Genealogist. In 2003, she was presented with "The Order of the Royal Huntsman" for her many contributions to the Clan Hunter Association. Tom also mentioned that it was when he and Christine joined the Clan Hunter Association in 1984 that they came to know Catherine. When Tom became Clan Officer in 1995, it was Catherine, along with her husband, David, who showed them 'the ropes' with regards to creating a presence at the Highland Games. Tom and Christine were able to attend Catherine's funeral.

The **FERGUS** Games were the only ones where we had a Clan tent this year. The Games came very close to being cancelled altogether due to dreadful weather. All Friday night events were cancelled. The following two days were absolutely perfect Games weather and we saw a sizable increase in attendance round the Clan tents.

We did have some presence on the **East Coast** this year, though we didn't actually have a tent. Janet Lindstrom of Kenora, ON, was visiting her brother in Fredericton, NB who was involved in the Games there, and asked if she could have some packages of information that she might distribute. We have since received 4 new members from that area though we have no confirmation that Janet was the catalyst, but well done anyway.

CLAN GATHERING –HUNTERSTON We had only 2 Canadians attend the Clan Gathering in Scotland this year: Sheila Massi of Thunder Bay, ON and Linda Hunter of Sydenham, ON. Linda was not a member when she left but immediately applied for membership when she returned.

MINUTES OF THE 2016 AGM

The minutes of the 2016 AGM were approved with one correction. The name of the seconder of the Genealogy Report should have been reported as Lynn (Hunter) Ball, not Lynn Hunter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of our Treasurer, Tom presented the Treasurer's report. We are in a good financial position with a current balance of \$1631.65. Tom complimented Don, in absentia, for an excellent job as our Treasurer.



GENEALOGY REPORT (Lizz Thibodeau)

This year Lizz presented her report in the form of a very interesting and informative visual presentation of some of the places and things concerning Genealogy that she had published in our newsletters this past year. Her PowerPoint presentation included pictures of the Burryman parade, Vimy Ridge, the correct wearing of the tartan, and a sneak peak at the art of George Hunter.

WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE AND NEWSLETTER (Tom Hunter)

The website is pretty stable but our Facebook Page is not getting much traffic which is disappointing. Our Newsletter continues to be a challenge due to the lack of news and articles submitted by our members. However, we always seem to “come up with” articles of interest.

MEMBERSHIP (Christine Hunter)

A matter of concern is the fact that quite a few of our members still have not paid their membership dues. We welcomed the following new members during this past year: William Hunter from Lansing Michigan, Terry Hunter from Fredericton, NB, Vincent & Barbara Hunter from Astle, NB, Richard Wright from Surrey, BC, Kimberly Hunter-Gafur & Rev. Alistair Hunter-Gafur P.T.S. from Innisfil, ON, Kelsey Hunter from Hamilton, ON, Linda Hunter from Sydenham, ON and Lorinda Barnet from Yarmouth, NS.

THE DR. NADENE HUNTER HERITAGE FUND

There were no applications for grants from this Fund during the year.

We have not yet received a report from Justin Hunter (recipient of last year’s grant) saying how the grant is helping him achieve his goals in Highland Dance. Christine will contact him about this matter. There is currently a balance of \$340 in this Fund. It was moved by Kathryn Lecocq, seconded by Lizz Thibodeau that we transfer the sum of \$160 to this fund in accordance with the motion passed at the AGM in 2015 that 10% of the surplus in our Clan Funds be put into the Heritage Fund each year.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom again expressed the opinion that since he has been the Clan Officer for Canada since 1995 it might be time to start looking for his successor.

Tom also mentioned that he would like help in producing the Newsletter and wondered if there was a member who would be interested in helping and eventually perhaps becoming Editor. Before the meeting ended Lynn Hunter Ball and Lizz Hunter Thibodeau had volunteered to do this. Thanks to Lynn & Lizz was expressed by all present.

2017 AGM

A discussion was held about a venue and date for the 2017 AGM. For the past two years, the AGM has been held in the fall in London, Ontario. While this venue has worked well for those members living in Southern Ontario there were few members from elsewhere attending. Opinions were expressed that it might be time to re-evaluate having the AGM during the week-end of the Fergus Highland Festival and in the Fergus Area. It was the consensus of those present that a survey should be placed in the next newsletter asking for feedback from members. Tom said he would do this.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm and those present then enjoyed dinner and fellowship at a local Swiss Chalet Restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,
Mida Hunter Lecocq, Secretary.

Membership Report—Winter 2018

Well, we have had no new memberships since my last report in October of last year, so I will have to fill my report with some other “stuff”.

First a Recipe:

Scotch Eggs:

12 oz pork sausagemeat
2 tsp parsley, finely chopped
4 eggs
1 oz flour, seasoned with salt & pepper
1 egg beaten
4 oz dry breadcrumbs
Vegetable oil for deep frying

Method:

Boil the eggs for 10 minutes. Cool and remove the shells. Place the sausagemeat in a bowl, add the chopped parsley and mix well (hands are the best)! Coat the eggs with seasoned flour and cover completely with a layer of sausagemeat (wet hands help to mould it evenly). Dip into the beaten egg, and roll in the breadcrumbs. Fry in deep fat until golden brown. Drain well on kitchen paper. Serve hot or cold.

Serves 4

Let me know how you enjoy this Scottish dish.

Now – membership dues!

We currently have 96 members, but only 42 have paid their membership dues this year. I am not going to go into the semantics of running an Association on those kinds of numbers – you all know that, but I am just going to request that, if you have not paid for the current year, please consider catching up before your dues become ‘due’ again at the end of June. I will be adding a note to the “Newsletter by regular mail” group if they are in arrears. The “Newsletter by e-mail” members are a little harder to message – but we will do our best to contact each person who needs to catch up! Remember that after 2 years of non-payment, we are expected to cancel all correspondence with members who are not in good standing. We currently have 16 members who have actually passed this mark.

Please consider catching up on payment of unpaid dues.

Christine Hunter, Membership Secretary

Family News

Josephine Spates, 13th of 16 children born to Miles and Besse Hunter, grew up along the Miramichi River in New Brunswick and moved to Danvers, Massachusetts when she was 17. That was in 1926. On July 21st, 2017, Josie celebrated her 108th birthday.

She grew up on a farm, ate good, healthy food, never smoked or drank and had a strong faith, all of which are credited with contributing to her long life. Josie, herself, however would tell you that “Only the good die young”. With a still-sharp mind, Josephine can recall stories of her childhood, like Christmases with her siblings, thunderstorms on the river and fixing her glasses when the eyeglass shop wasn’t open. But when asked to name her favourite memory, her response is one we should all aspire to: “It was all pretty good. I can’t complain. I liked all of it.”



Josephine and her son, Lewis.
Photo credits to Hadley Green.

Scottish Humour

“How’s the flat you’re living in in London, Jock?” asks his mother when he calls home to Aberdeen.

“It’s okay,” he replies, “but the woman next door keeps screaming and crying all night and the guy on the other side keeps banging his head on the wall.”

“Never you mind,” says his mother, “don’t you let them get to you, just ignore them.”

“Aye, that I do,” he says, “I just keep playing my bagpipes.”

Family News Cont'

On November 17, 2017 Alex Cridland, son of Clan member Barb Cridland and husband Jeff (grandson of Marion and Don Hunter), received his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from McMaster University. His degree and thesis are in Astrophysics. Alex has now obtained a three-year post-doctoral position at Leiden University in Leiden, Netherlands, where he will continue his research in that field. He returned to Canada for a week to attend his graduation, attend a wedding and visit with family and friends. He has set up Blog and Instagram accounts so we can follow his activities in the Netherlands. We wish him well in this new venture.



SCOTTISH DIASPORA REUNION CRUISE

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Prestonpans

Stitchers:
Gillian Hart &
Yvonne Murphy



Clan Hunter Association, Canada

This newsletter is for members and friends of Clan Hunter Association, Canada. If you have an important event in your family's life that you'd like to share, please send us a photo or two and a brief explanation of what you are celebrating. Graduations, new babies, birthdays, retirements, if you're celebrating, we'd like to know!

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***Ask for Scottish Diaspora Reunion Cruise Aug. 5-17, 2018**