



Crest Badge of a
Member of Clan Hunter

hunters' halloo

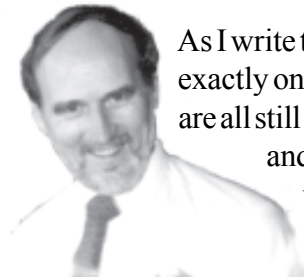
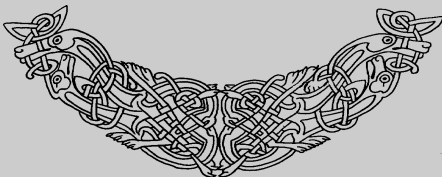
Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

October 2001

Vol 3,4

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As I write this "Word from the Editor" I realize that it is now exactly one month since the Terrorist Attack on the USA. We are all still in a heightened sense of frustration, anger, sadness, and in some cases fear. I know, for some folks, the best way to deal with this is to limit their exposure to all the media coverage which continues day after day and yet for others, the more information they have, the more, "in control" they feel. I felt the need to talk about the attack in this news letter because our American brothers, sisters, friends and cousins, if you will, need to know that, here in Canada, our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with them. We all share in their loss, as we understand how few people can be untouched by such a tragedy. We pray that a time will soon come when both our countries can return to peace and tranquility.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find the minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Fergus. The minutes are just as they were written but I have added some photos that were taken that day which will, hopefully, help you feel as if you were there. You will notice in the minutes that our Clan Chief, Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston, 30th Laird has agreed to visit Canada in August 2003. We are very pleased with this news and hope that everyone will start making plans and attempt to be at the gathering that year so that we can put on a great show. Also as promised, we have some more photographs of the Gathering at Hunterston. (*Thank you to Joan, Mida and Nadine who responded to my plea for help.*) I wish I could have printed this issue in colour as some of the photos are quite wonderful. Especially the one of Pauline in her Mediaeval dress which was quite beautiful. Again I am proud to say that Clan Hunter - Canada won yet another award for best tent this year (see article on page 2). Thank you to Christine Hunter (my wife) for the article on "doing the games". We do so enjoy meeting some of you folks out there and wish we could do more, but....

I must say it is getting a bit embarrassing that Don and Mida Lecocq and Christine and I seem to be the only folks announcing grandchildren and such. Is the rest of the Hunter Domain totally dry of such occasions. I THINK NOT! Please folks don't be shy about sharing the good news be-it babies, weddings, University degrees etc. If you've had an occasion to be proud of, we want to hear about it, and if you have photos so much the better.

Tom

Dear Clansfolk,

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Hunterston Castle Restoration Fund, either through your subscriptions or by individual donation. Our Clan Seat is now looking as it should and I hope that many of you will come and see the work that has been carried out on your behalf. The official reopening of the Castle was held as the first event of the gathering on a beautiful warm Friday evening. Two Clan pipers, Hal Hunter (USA) and Mel Hunter (Canada) played their pipes on the battlements and all the Clan Officers were present.

The front of our Castle is now filled in with stone and an arrow slit, while surrounding the Pele Tower is a wide border of gravel and fencing. Thanks to the extra funds, I have put a slate sign at the front of the Castle and installed new floodlights.

After the ceremony I presented the Order of the Royal Huntsman to Mel Hunter, Treasurer of the USA Clan Association, and a boxed presentation arrow to his wife, Pat. This is in recognition of the fact that it was Mel and Pat who approached me in 1998 with the suggestion that we raise funds to restore the Castle. This work is now complete, but the Fund will continue for the maintenance and any other restoration work that needs doing. At the Clan Officer's meeting, it was decided to put any further funds into the creation of the Genealogy Library and the improvement of the Clan Museum room.

I must also thank Nadene Hunter Jr. of the Canadian Clan Hunter Association for the idea of creating a memorial Cairn. This has now been placed next to Hunterston Castle. The Cairn is in tribute to all Hunter Clansmen and women who visit the Castle and any Clan member who visits will be welcome to add to it. Those who attended the Gathering were able to take away with them a piece of stone from Hunterston Castle that had been removed during the restoration work.

The gathering was the best we have ever had with 150 Clan members present from all over the world. The weather was glorious and everyone was able to eat outdoors. All six Clan Officers and their wives came and it gave me great pleasure to be able to introduce our two newest Clan Officers, Richard Kearney of New Zealand and Ramon Santamarina Hunter of Argentina, to our other Clan Officers and Clan President. There was a great spirit of camaraderie and many new friendships were formed as well as old ones being renewed. We had a very wide range of Clan members in attendance from Annie Hunter of the USA, our oldest and one of our longest members, to Sophie Santamarina Hunter of Argentina, at six months our youngest Clan member.

After a Service on Sunday given by our UK Clan Chaplain, Rev Alastair Hunter and US Clan Chaplain Father Victor Hunter, there was a moving dedication of a newly planted Rowan tree in memory of Brett Hunter Pirkle. Brett's parents, Larry and Janice Pirkle were in attendance. Scott McNab, UK Clan Piper played a lament after Madam Pauline read a dedication. This was followed by Mel Hunter playing the Rowan Tree.

We all regretted the accident on the Castle stairs which resulted in Father Rodger Hunter Hall breaking a leg. I'm glad to say that he is making a good recovery back home.

I must express my thanks to our pipers, Harold Hunter from Michigan and Mel Hunter from Canada and our newly appointed Clan Hunter Association UK piper Scott Dundas McNab, and to everybody on my team and Clan members at Hunterston for making the Gathering such a success. It has been decided to hold the next International Clan Gathering at Hunterston Castle in the second half of July 2004 and at three yearly intervals thereafter.

Yours aye,

Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston and of that Ilk,
Clan Chief and 30th Laird



We did it again.

We have just been informed officially that the Clan Hunter – Canada tent won the “Best Tent” award at the Montreal Highland Games for the second year running. Although the scoring was not

revealed I was informed that it was a very close call indeed and Clan Hunter won by only a very small lead. Which leaves us with a challenge for next year on how we might improve and appeal to the judges. Maybe fireworks would do the trick.

This is the 4th award that Clan Hunter has been awarded, having won an award each successive year starting in 1998. Needless to say we are thrilled and feel very encouraged making all the work involved seem worthwhile.

The Games – Summer 2001

I would like to share with you some of the highlights of our trips around Ontario this summer.

Tom and I participated in five different Highland Games this year.

As always, we start off the year at **Chatham**. Not usually a big draw for the Hunter Tent, but we usually meet a few Hunters, have a yarn and generally enjoy ourselves. Chatham Highland Games is organized in part by David and Catherine Elder, who, as most of you will know, are part of the Hunter clan. So we feel a special pull to be part of this event each year and meet with our friends again

The clan tents are set up in such a way, that we can really enjoy the highland dancing at these games. Member Ted Hunter usually drops by the tent, signs the guest book and shares what is happening in his life. Our son, Paul and his wife Jayne-Ann spent some time with us too, with our grandson Adair. Always a pleasure!

On the first weekend in August (thank goodness it's a holiday weekend) – we set off for Glengarry County and take

Hawkesbury, with his wife Lillian, and Pat and Laurie Hunter from Ottawa. All members of the Association. It really brightens up the day for Tom and I when members drop by the Clan Tent, sign the guest book and stop for a chat. We had a Ross Hunter, over from Scotland on a business trip, come by our tent and sign our guest book. He was a very personable young man who was traveling with David Ross, an author.



Mida and Don Lecocq meet up with a bunch of family at the Clan Hunter Tent at the Fergus Highland Games

book, and let us know how things are going for her. Tom and I do not speak French very well – in fact only ‘un peu’

so we sometimes feels a little overwhelmed at Montreal. But the folks we meet there are most gracious, usually speak English, and if they don't we can usually have some sort of conversation with gestures, our smattering of French, and lots of smiles, nods and the



Tom carries the Clan banner onto the field at Sarnia

shaking of heads. Oh and it looks like we won the ‘Best Tent’ award at Montreal again this year. That always puts a big smile on our faces.

The next weekend it is on to **Fergus**, the big event of the year for us. Here we have lots of help around the tent, usually meet at least a few new Hunters, and have our Clan Annual General Meeting. This year we had Dr. Nadene, Nadene and Wally all here from Rochester, New York. Mida, Don and Ian Lecocq joined us from Waterloo, as did Julie and Mark Nycamp. Sharon and Al Chicoine came from St Thomas and Paul and Jayne-Ann Hunter with Adair

Continued on page 4



Christine visits with Ross Hunter of Scotland at Maxville Games

They were visiting the Highland Games to promote David's new book ‘On the Trail of Robert the Bruce’ and were giving demonstrations of fighting techniques and weaponry. A most interesting day all round.

Next day we were at **Montreal** Highland

Games on a very, very hot Sunday. June Hunter, another of our members, is usually working at these Games, but always finds time to drop by, sign the

part in the **Maxville** Highland Games. This year we had the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Alexander Hunter from

Continued from page 3

again joined us from London. We had a good showing in the parade that day,



Dr. Alexander Hunter from Hawkesbury, with his wife Lillian, chat with Christine

with our Clan Hunter banner carried at the front of our group. Tom and I really get a rest at these games because there are so many helpers to talk to prospective new members, to look after the items for sale, and to just generally be there to give us time to have a look around and see some of the other things that are going on at the Games. Last, but not least, we head for **Sarnia**. One of the things we enjoy at Sarnia is the placement of the Clan tents again. At these Games, we are looking right on to the main field where the opening ceremony, pipe band parades and the sheep dog trials take

place. Behind us are the heavy events. So whenever we have a quiet moment, we can take in some of these events.

We were very pleased to see Sharon and Al Chicoine, with some of their grandchildren in tow, at these games.

It is so nice to be able to meet members - old and new, - as well as encourage other Hunters to become

part of 'oor clan' at these games. This is how Tom and I spend a large part of our summer holidays - so



"The Tent" during a quiet moment at Sarnia

please make it worth our while. Please come to the Games near where you live and let us get to know you better. We would love to be able to travel further afield, but that is not very possible at the moment. Please be assured, we are working on it, and have had the offer of some company if we make our way to the east coast one of these summers. You never can tell when we may pop up in your area - look out for us. Of course we will always post our plans

in the newsletter.

Christine Hunter

Our Genealogist (retired)

As well as the usual things which occur at the annual general meeting, this year, we were pleased to present a small gift to our retiring genealogist, Catherine



Catherine Elder retiring Clan genealogist with Clan Officer, Tom Hunter

Elder. Catherine announced her retirement last year at the annual meeting by way of her annual report, but we were not able to respond suitably until this year. Catherine has been a loyal and hard working member of the Canadian team, with always a word of encouragement and insightful advice for those "lost" in the search for family links. We are extremely thankful for all of her hard work over the years. Catherine, with her husband David (also a loyal supporter of "The Clan"), reside in Chatham, Ontario.

Congratulations

Our very best congratulations go out to David and Stacey Hunter of Petawawa on the birth of their second child **Laura Michaela Hunter**, born on 23 Aug. 2001 in Pembroke, Ontario. According to her very biased grandparents, Tom and Christine Hunter, Laura is a sweetheart.



Christine, visiting again with Pat and Laurie Hunter from Ottawa

The "Gathering"

Here are some of the photographs from the Clan Gathering June 2001, which I promised in the July newsletter



Most of the attendees at the 2001 Gathering at Hunterston



Not quite all of the Canadian Contingent





Clan Hunter Association of Canada

16th Annual Meeting

August 12, 2001

Wellington County Museum & Archives

Present: Tom & Christine Hunter, Don & Marion Hunter, Catherine & Dave Elder, Lizz & Andrew Thibodeau, Paul, Jane Ann & Adair Hunter, Sharon & Al Chicoine, Dr. Nadene, Wally & Nadene Hunter and Julie & Mark Nykamp.

Once again we met after the Fergus games for our annual meeting. We were a small, but faithful group gathered at the Wellington County Museum and, as usual, we had a good time.

After a light lunch of sandwiches and such, Andrew Thibodeau treated us to a brief talk on the history of Scotland. He used as his model a book entitled *Horrible History of Scotland*, a tongue in cheek, but essentially accurate story of Scotland that he had picked up on his trip to Scotland in June. There were many stories told of the Gathering at Hunterston, pictures shared and adventures relived.

We were especially glad to see Marion Hunter present. She has been ill and was to have had surgery this past week. That has been rescheduled and we wish her well and a speedy recovery. Other health news was that John Hunter (London, Ont.) is slipping further into the awful grip of Alzheimers Disease. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and Marion.

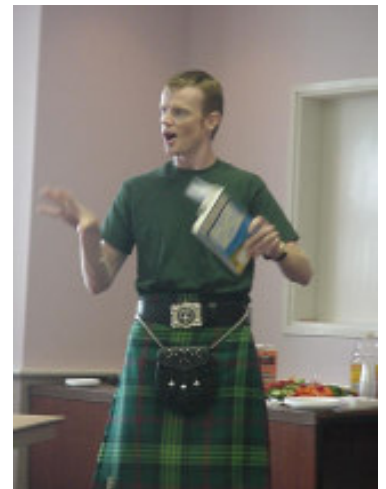
Tom welcomed all present and relayed regards from Pauline. He also relayed regrets from Mel & Cindy Hunter, who are very busy building a new home, and Mida & Don LeCocq, who had another commitment.

Tom was pleased to present a gift of appreciation to Catherine Elder for her years of hard work as association genealogist. She has passed the baton on to Mel Hunter but her diligent work gave him a solid base from which to proceed.

Tom announced that the games went very well. They were our group's most successful yet, with FOUR new members not only signed up, but paid, right at the clan tent! We rarely have anyone actually signing up at the games. The minutes from our last annual meeting were accepted after a couple of corrections. They had been published in the newsletter prior to the meeting so all had had an opportunity to review them ahead of this gathering. There were a few items of old business. A modification to the membership form has been added. It asks how or where the applicant found us. This



Don Hunter, treasurer



Andrew Thibodeau, storyteller

may be helpful in our efforts to increase awareness of the association. It was noted that the membership directory was made, as promised. It will need to be maintained and kept up to date over time. Several of our members attended the Lake Ontario Cruise last fall (mentioned during last year's meeting)» They enjoyed it and some plan to go again. Don Hunter gave a financial report. He noted that there is some overlap in the timing of memberships and the fiscal year which makes a "dogleg" in the flow of the numbers for fees and other expenses. We have had a total of 16 new members since our



Tom and Nadine, chair and minutes



Christine Hunter, membership sec.

last meeting. This includes the four we gained yesterday. Don moved and Dr. Nadene seconded a motion that we send membership money to Scotland just once a year. This was passed. Lizz asked about the possibility of changing to a bank, which would offer better interest on our money and not charge us for services. Such banks exist but the logistics of getting all of the officers at the bank, in person, at the same time to sign the required papers makes such a change impractical. Christine reported on the process for new memberships. An application comes in and the applicant gets the last two- (2) newsletters and a copy of the directory. Christine sends a copy of the form and the application fee to Don. She also sends a copy of the application form to Mel for his genealogical records. The new member receives a membership packet and certificate from Scotland.

Tom read an emailed report from Mel on genealogy, which was accepted as presented.

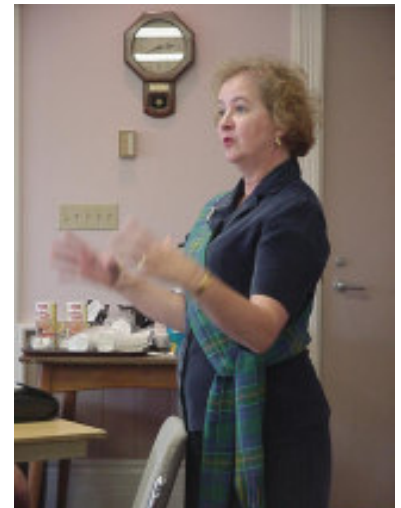
Sharon gave a report on the gathering. It was her first and she was thrilled to go. Al wasn't able to go but they had spent their honeymoon there, including a couple of nights at the main house. There were 160 people at the gathering and Sharon reported that it was delightful to meet Hunters from different parts of the world. She felt the strong familial and cultural heritage of the group and remarked on the noticeable community orientation, stability and support that was evident among those gathered at the castle for the weekend. She reported that Pauline had an enormous job to do in orchestrating the event. The food, music, fraternal visiting and ceilidh were all great. The battle recreation was excellent and she looks forward to going again.

Sharon noted that there is a wealth of skill, love and talent among the members of the Clan Association, worldwide, and that there is much that we could do to help around the castle. She is especially interested in the possibilities for the walled garden. There were 25 of the Canadian association members present at the Gathering. There were also 12 members from Argentina.

Tom reported that all six of the clan officers of associations around the world were present at Hunterston. Membership was reported as follows: USA—600, Canada—150, New Zealand—25. Australia—30, Great Britain—

—?, and Argentina—30. The next Gathering will be in the 2nd half of July 2004. That will put it clearly past the end of the school year and hopefully that will allow more people to attend.

Clan Hunter has formed a link of friendship with the Muirheads who have no clan chief, castle or anything. They met Pauline at the Flodden Memorial and approached her about this bond. The Muirheads are now officially "Friends of the Hunters" and will be invited to share in events with us. They are not a sept



Sharon Chicoine, Clan Gathering

of Hunter, but friends.

It is hoped that there may be a display on the medical Hunters, William and John, at the next gathering. The restoration fund campaign was a huge success and there was enough money raised to do a couple of additional things. Now that the project of restoring the tower to what it should be is complete, the fund will continue and be used to establish a genealogy room and to upgrade the museum.

Pauline's visitation schedule for the next four years is set as follows: Australia/New Zealand first in 2002, Canada-August 2003, USA-December 2001 (has already been set) and UK at Hunterston-July 2004. The officers from each association were given a sample packet that new members will get as they join. This way prospective new members can see what to expect to get from Scotland on joining.

Tom asked for news items and photos for the newsletter. It will be a better publication if we all contribute. Compliments to Tom for a job Well Done. We have a new website, Tom bought a domain name for a yearly fee. The new site is;

www.clanhuntercanada.com

The group discussed starting plans for Pauline's visit in 2003. We need to think about what we want to do while Pauline is here at the games. Where do we want to meet? Do we want to arrange a dinner with everyone? Have a Gala reception? Etc. We want to be sure to look after Pauline as she should be looked after. It was suggested that we ask Pauline if there is something special she would like to do or see while visiting, in addition to the games. Please START thinking. We really don't have That much time.

Julie & Sharon, Lizz & Andrew and Jane Ann will start looking into some possible arrangements, get rates, comparisons etc. and will report at the next meeting.

There was some discussion of meeting places. This venue is expensive, though nice. It was suggested that we try changing the time of the meeting to Saturday after the games instead of Sunday, with a dinner instead of lunch. This might allow more people to attend and go to all the events of the festival (Kirkin', sheep dog demos etc.) and will reduce expenses due to the need to stay overnight with children. This can get to be a burdensome expense for young families. Lizz moved and Dr. Nadene seconded that we try a Saturday meeting next year. Carried. A committee of Tom, Christine, Sharon & Al will work on setting the meeting up.

It was agreed that we would pay \$10.00 each for the meeting and lunch with the association to subsidize the remainder of the expense of \$225.00 plus food because of the small number present, 17. We were told that, if we wanted, we could take a free look around the museum before leaving. We were also reminded that there were posters of Pauline for any who wanted them.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Andrew and seconded by Christine.

Respectfully submitted,
Nadene B. Hunter, Sec'y



Mark and Julie browse the photographs and genealogy material

Hunterston Sweatshirts

Sweatshirts, golfshirts and t-shirts with the Hunterston Castle embroidered logo can still be ordered from Christine at the address shown on the right.

Sweatshirts \$35.00 Golf shirts \$30.00 T-shirts \$18.00

If you don't have your Christmas presents yet this would be a wonderful way to surprise someone you love. Don't delay... It takes time to mail things you know. Dont forget postage \$5 for 1 item, \$6 for 2 items, \$7 for 3 items etc. All taxes included.

Send your submissions
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