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Newsletter of the Clan Hunter Association, Canada

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Crest Badge of a Member of Clan Hunter

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"Whit a Strushie"

Dear Canadian Hunter Clan members,

Thank you all for making me so welcome on my visit this summer to Canada for the 60<sup>th</sup> Fergus Highland Games and Scottish Festival.

To Marion and Don Hunter of Toronto, thank you for hosting me and the wonderful Open Day you arranged in your beautiful garden, and visiting the CN Tower and showing me around Toronto and your area of Toronto.



To Aldene and Bob for hosting me in Port Rowan, a wonderful area of Ontario, on Lake Erie and for inviting local Hunters to meet me in your new home, thank you so much

To Tom, our Clan Officer, and Christine his wife so many thanks for arranging my visit, organizing the tent at Fergus, the open evening at your home in London, and all those other many things that made my stay such a good one.

For those of you that I had the opportunity to meet many for the first time my grateful thanks for coming and it was my pleasure to have had the chance to talk to you all and get to know everyone. Some of you I have had the chance to meet before and also welcome you to Hunterston and it was so wonderful to see you all again and renew our friendship.

My many thanks to the eleven of you who joined the Hunter Clan over my stay, I sincerely hope that you will all enjoy your membership of our Clan and make many friends and even find new relatives, as has recently happened.

The Fergus Games this year was very special being the  $60^{th}$  Games. We were very fortunate to witness the handing over of the Chiefship of the Games from

John Allen Cameron to his son, Stuart. John Allen Cameron has received the Order of Canada, Canada's highest award for his lifetime services to Celtic music and culture. It was a privilege to have shared the stage with him and to have met him.

Pauline

Madam Hunter of Hunterston, 30th laird

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What a summer. Our trip out East was wonderful. Nova Scotia, PEI, New Brunswick and Cape Breton were everything we could have asked for. Wonderful dancing, wonderful music and wonderful people. We attended the Games at Antigonish where the weather was very cold but the people very warm. We only met one Hunter I'm afraid but we still had a good time. The following weekend we attended the Fredericton Highland Games where we met up with sisters, Erma Gibson and Francis Knowles of New Brunswick and Bob & Aldene Hunter of Ontario. It was great to meet up with some of our members outwith Ontario and have dinner together and we are seriously considering returning next year. Then it was back to

Ontario for a couple of days and then off to Maxville and Montreal followed closely by the arrival of our Chief Madam Pauline to attend the 60th anniversary of the Fergus Highland Games. While she was here in Canada, Madam Pauline attend a garden party in Toronto hosted by Don and Marion Hunter, a small dinner party in Port Rowan with Bob and Aldene Hunter and a garden party in London hosted by my wife and I. During the week of the Fergus Games she was a special guest at the Sponsor's reception, met and chatted with untold numbers of people on Saturday and Sunday of the Games, took part in the "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" and attended our own Hunter Clan banquet with 59 Hunters in attendance . Her visit was an outstanding success with close to 50 Hunters taking part in the Clan parade. The Clan Hunter tent was awash with people all weekend and without any exaggeration it was our most successful highland games ever. For those who were not able to be a part of the fun and excitement maybe you might want to consider attending the next Clan Gathering in Scotland in 2007. It would be nice to break all records again and have the biggest contingent attending. I hope everyone enjoys the photos. Unfortunately there is only so much space and I couldn't include everything that I wanted to, so look for more photos in January.

Tom

## Ten Weeks Old Four Highland Games

#### By Lizz Hunter Thibodeau

This summer was a new adventure for my family. All of us have been to "the Games" many, many times. This year, however, we decided to add two new twists. The first twist was to attend the games in Antigonish as well as the local ones. The second twist was to add in a baby.



Tom, Christine and Lizz in chilly Antiqonish



Torry Thibodeau, ninth grandchild of Tom & Christine Hunter, was born on June 4<sup>th</sup> (the tenth was born five days later!). On July 15<sup>th</sup>, we set off for the East Coast of Canada. Mum & Dad (that's Tom & Christine) drove out to Moncton in their van with all of "the Games" paraphernalia, while Andrew, Torry & I flew out to meet Continued on page 4

"We found a Hunter" 5 minutes to closing, Tom and Christine chat with Suzanne Hunter Park from Tyrone, Pennsylvania

## Heritage Highlight of Scottish Festival

By Mark Taylor For The Daily Gleaner (edited)

Frances Knowles is from the Hunter Clan and proud of it. The Perth-Andover resident attended the Clan Hunter booth at the New Brunswick Highland Games and Scottish Festival on Saturday. Filled with members of



The Fredericton Team: Christine Hunter (ON), Erma Gibson (NB), Aldene & Bob Hunter (ON), Francis Knowles (NB), Tom Hunter

Fredericton, New Brunswick



Aldenr Hunter of Ontario carries the torch for Clan

the clan, the booth gave visitors a chance to get informed about all things Hunter and meet Hunter clan members from across Canada."I have always wanted to know where my roots began," Knowles said of her interest in the clan. "But a few years back I took a trip to Scotland and really became more interested after that." She said she saw many things during the trip in 2001, including Hunter Castle. Knowles described the travel as an opportunity she

will never forget. Knowles, who has traced her roots back about 200 years, said she has, uncovered much of the family history. Knowles said she plans to dig further back into her roots.Her first time at the New Brunswick'Highland Games and Scottish Festival, she said she enjoyed the chance to spend time with fellow family members.



What a great day, Let's go to dinner. Erma, Francis, Christine, Aldene and Bob. [Tom is behind the camera]

Erma and Francis being interviewed for the Fredericton, Daily



#### Clan Hunter Annual Meeting August 13, 2005

Our annual Clan Association meeting was held at the Guelph Holiday Inn. Our Clan Officer, Tom Hunter, welcomed us all (All 59 of us, (including his 2 newest grandchildren, who are 2 months old). The annual financial report was presented by our treasurer, Don Hunter and was accepted by unanimous vote. The secretary's report was also accepted.

We had a great turnout for the festival, with almost 50 of us taking part in the opening parade and a lot of activity at the Clan Tent. The day concluded with a banquet at the Guelph Holiday Inn, with the high point of the evening being an address to the assembled members by our Clan Chief, Madam Pauline, who gave us a brief history of Clan Hunter, it's origin and Hunterston. This led up to her announcement that the next Gathering at Hunterston will be in July 2007, the 900<sup>th</sup> year of continuous occupancy of the Hunters on the land that we call ours, the Seat of Clan Hunter! This should be an especially grand occasion and many of us are already making plans to attend. The Clan Officer made a presentation to Pauline at this point. A donation will be made to "The Hector", - the replica of the first ship to bring immigrants to Canada. The replica is open to the public and lies in the harbour of Pictou, Nova Scotia.

The Membership Secretary, Christine Hunter presented her report for the past year, including 2 new members at the Maxville/Montreal Games and 7 new members at Fergus.

Our meeting concluded with entertainment by the Gaels, our own Scottish folk group, and a demonstration of Scottish Country Dancing, a pastime that some of us are very active in, by a contingent of Scottish Country Dancers from London, ON. There was some time after the festivities for folks to take group or individual photos with Pauline. Respectfully Submitted, Nadene B. Hunter, Sec'y

#### **Continued from page 2**

them. We stayed in a lovely B&B for a few days in Moncton, drove across PEI, took the ferry to Pictou and ended up in Antigonish just in time for the Highland Games.

Saturday dawned, cold & windy. Those of our clan members from Ontario might remember the heat wave and drought you were experiencing. Not so for us. By the time we got our display set up in the clan tent, I was quite sure that Torry & I would be spending the day back at our apartment, out of the cold. However, Clan Hunter to the rescue! We dug out a roll of heavy duty plastic which mum & dad always carry and created a wind break, much to the pleasure of all the clans. We became instant heroes.

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While the Antigonish Games were not the biggest we've ever attended, they certainly were lively, particularly considering the weather. We could enjoy some of the heavy events from where we were set up and many of the bagpipe bands serenaded us while tuning. Unfortunately, Torry seemed to have decided that the best way to beat the cold was to "coory doon" in her stroller and sleep the day away, missing all the excitement. Even the bagpipers couldn't rouse her. Only a child of true Scottish heritage could consider the bagpipes to be a lullaby.

After a fantastic day despite the weather, Sunday dawned much brighter and warmer. We returned to the Games in the afternoon, after the church service, to watch some more of the events. The Tug-o'-War was a highlight of Andrew's trip. After hearing him talk about it, I regret that I chose to stay in the shade with Torry rather than go check it out. One of the matches lasted over nine minutes!

From Antigonish, we then toured around Cape Breton Island for a few days before returning to Moncton to fly back to London. Mum & Dad stayed out east to attend the Fredericton Games as well. The following week, we drove up to Maxville and Montreal for the Games there. Two weeks later, we attended the Games at Fergus and enjoyed the visit of Madam Pauline. All in all a busy summer, but a healthy introduction for Torry who turned ten weeks old at her fourth Highland Games.

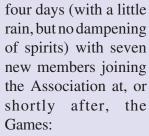
#### Membership Report

Christine Hunter, Membership Secretary This has been a red-letter year so far for membership in the Clan Association.

Tom and I attended the Games in Maxville at the end of July – and received our first membership for the year – Ted Hunter of Peterborough. Next day we moved on to the Games at Montreal and were thrilled to receive another membership from Robert Campbell, whose mother was a Hunter. When Pauline arrived, we had three open houses in Toronto, Port Rowan and London and we were blessed with two new memberships from the Port Rowan open house – Donna Hunter Stewart and Kathleen Hunter.

Then we all went to Fergus

and had a wonderful



James Hunter, Peter Thom and Alex Hunter – all related to each other.

Lynn Morrison, is a sister of our treasurer,



Shown with his nephew, new member Robert Bruce Campbell signs up at Montreal

Don Hunter.

(Peter) David Hunter, David McConnell Hunter and Sharon Joyce Saberton (Hunter).

At the beginning of September we had another membership from the website – Wayne Hunter of North Vancouver.

We welcome all these new members and hope that we will get to know them through meetings, dinners and attendance at their local Games.



New member Ted Hunter of Peterborough with Christine and Tom (Maxville)

#### Fergus Sponsors Reception



Madam Pauline and Tom chats with John Campbell, Avenue of the Clans Chairman

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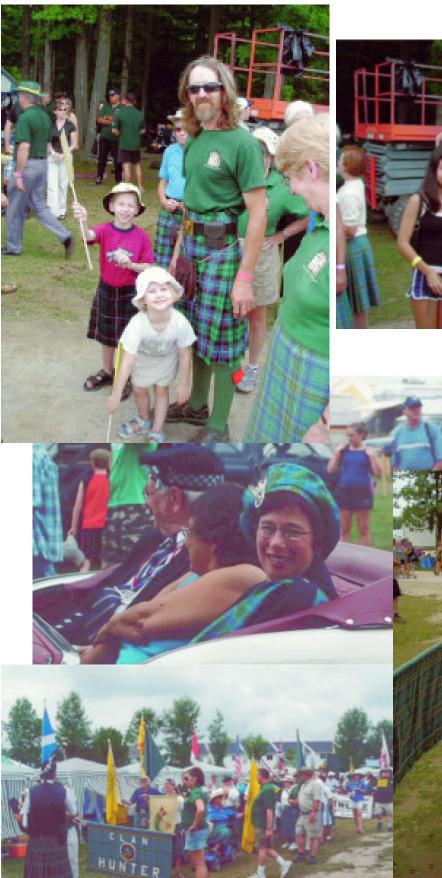




Above: Madam Pauline takes a moment to talk with the Chieften of the Games, John Allen Cameron. John Allen, now confined to a wheel chair passed the chieftainship of the games on to his son Stuart during the opening ceremonies.

Left: Stuart Cameron with Madam Pauline and Tom The Clan Parade at Fergus Are You in Here Somewhere?





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#### "Whit a Strushie"

This was the scene around the tent all day. Never before have we had this many people milling around our tent



