



# THE HUNTER'S HORN

CLAN NEWSLETTER • ISSUE #7 • AUGUST 2013



## MEL'S MESSAGE

I hope summer is going well for all of our Clan Hunter members. A lot of positive things have been going on in our organization. Since the beginning of the year, 18 families have joined Clan Hunter USA resulting in 27 new members. A number of members have visited our family seat, Hunterston Castle, and others are making plans to visit later in the year. Many members have donated their time and resources in support of our clan. Thanks to those who have submitted articles for *The Hunter's Horn*, performed treasurer, secretarial or website duties, hosted or plan to host a Hunter tent, or otherwise contributed.

## ALEXANDRIA CHRISTMAS WALK WEEKEND

One upcoming event is the annual Alexandria Christmas Walk Weekend to be held Friday, December 6 and Saturday, December 7, 2013, in Alexandria, VA. The highlight of the weekend is Saturday's Christmas Walk Parade. Clan Hunter has not participated as a group in this event for several years. However, Virginia Hunter, an English teacher at George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, has stepped up to the plate. She has taken on the leadership role of planning and leading Clan Hunter's involvement in this event.

Why is this event so important to our clan? Hunters of common ancestry, have been influential and made important contributions in many parts of the world. Alexandria, VA, is no exception. For example, William Hunter Jr. was a two-term mayor in the early days of Alexandria and founded the local Saint Andrews Society. John Hunter established Hunter's Shipyard,



Virginia Hunter

one of the first in the city, and the list goes on. The Christmas Walk Weekend will be fun, exciting, and educational, and will promote pride in our Hunter heritage. Virginia has designed and written a brochure that will help in planning activities for the weekend. It includes a self-guided walking tour which will direct you to sites,

monuments, and landmarks related to Scottish Hunters of early Alexandria. If you are interested in the Christmas walk, contact Virginia at **foiled@verizon.net**.

Below is part one of Virginia's interesting article about the founding of Alexandria and the influence of the Hunter family in its early history.

## THE HUNTER FAMILIES OF HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

*By Virginia Hunter*

**W**hat follows are impressions of what is essentially a Scottish community in the New World, Alexandria, VA. By understanding its history, we can see how the Hunters were indeed woven into this remarkable Colonial fabric.

**ORIGINS**...Alexandria is the namesake of John Alexander of the MacDonald Clan who was the son of the Earl of Stirling. In 1669, he acquired a 6,000 acre tract from Welsh sea captain Robert Howson in exchange for 6,000 pounds of tobacco, a common form of payment in those days. The land extended west from the Potomac River in what are now parts of Fairfax and Arlington Counties. Two conditions existed to make this tract of land a powerful draw to King Charles II, the deep natural harbor and a rich agricultural community rapidly expanding inland. Tobacco grew abundantly, and a central tobacco warehouse on the river allowed for convenient preparation for shipment to Britain. Within a few decades, tobacco gave way to wheat and corn, which were better suited to the surrounding land and more lucrative. However, the existing tobacco warehouse was insufficient to accommodate the port's compounding demands.

Scottish and English merchants petitioned the Virginia General Assembly to establish a town near the warehouse where a stable merchant community would bolster trade and encourage skilled immigration. In 1749, Alexandria was approved and a board of eleven trustees appointed. Trustees governed until Alexandria incorporated in 1779. Hunters associated with town management were William Hunter, Jr., (1731-1792) and John Hunter, both of Galston, Ayr.

After the Revolution, Alexandria incorporated. The Trustees continued to serve in local, state,

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# THE HUNTER FAMILIES OF HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

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and national government. Many were Mayors more than once. William Hunter, Jr., was two-time mayor of Alexandria from 1787 to 1788 and 1790 to 1791. He also served as Councilman from 1791 to 1792.

**WILLIAM HUNTER, JR.**...William, Jr., came to the New World from Galston, Ayr in the same wave of immigration as John Hunter, Colin Hunter (no further record), and Dr. John Hunter whose genealogy is well-documented. There were at least three John Hunters who stayed in the area, the owner of Hunter's Mill in Oakton, the owner of Hunter's Shipyard in Alexandria, and Dr. John Hunter.

William, Jr., owned a thriving trade business with London and Liverpool. He was a close acquaintance of George Washington. Washington kept extensive diaries with numerous mentions of William, Jr.<sup>1</sup> He writes about him without introduction in his diaries, while those who were little-known to him received short biographical entries. Dinners, overnight stays, and entertaining merchants and social guests were frequent occurrences at Mt. Vernon. Inclusion in the diaries is evidence of influence, and William Hunter, Jr.'s, association is well-documented.

In 1760, William Hunter, Jr. founded St. Andrew's Society of Alexandria, now St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC. A monument stands in the Old Presbyterian Meeting House cemetery commemorating William Hunter, Jr. On this stone are the words, "Relieve the Distressed." [On December 7th, the Sunday of the Walk, a gathering of St. Andrew's Society at his monument follows services at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House.]

## WILLIAM HUNTER, SR.

...William Hunter, Sr., was a gentleman farmer who may later have been the Hunter in the partnership Hunter and Allison, Wheat Dealers. Either as a grower or a merchant, he presented petitions that would tighten wheat inspection. His dedication to civic duty is exemplified in his length of service to Alexandria. He was a City Councilman from 1780 to 1792. He served as Hustings Court Justice for two terms. Hustings courts were where county cases were heard. As Justice, he presided over the cases of a lively, brawling port, full of "acts of riotous behavior,"<sup>2</sup> and murder, as well as those of the educated gentry.

William, Jr., and William, Sr., were not father and son. Sr. was likely added so that their identities would be clear. In most early town records, William, Sr., was simply referred to as William Hunter.



Resting place of  
William Hunter Jr.  
Old Presbyterian meeting  
House Cemetery

**NEW GENERATIONS**...Influential Alexandrians and their sons were founding members of Alexandria Masonic Lodge No. 39. Among them were William, Jr., William, Sr., John Hunter, Gen. John Chapman Hunter, and Cdr. Thomas Tyler Hunter. In 1788, the lodge received its charter and became Alexandria-Washington No. 22, which now meets at the George Washington Masonic Memorial on Shuter's Hill near the train station.

Masonic records, in addition to other sources, provide biographies of the founding members. Gen. John Chapman Hunter served in the Revolution and the War of 1812. He represented Fairfax County in the Legislature of Virginia (1804-1820), was a member of the Court of Magistrates, and was appointed High Sheriff (1820). As a young man, he was wounded in a *code duello* with "Mr. Lee." His stately home, "Contemplation", was at Mosby's Landing, today located in Vienna. His son Cdr. Thomas Tyler Hunter resigned his commission in the US Navy to join the Confederate States Navy during the Civil War.

Not to be ignored is the Order's association with George Washington. Claude Harris, in *Washington and Freemasonry* states, "Masonic ties and patriotism were so closely entwined during this period that they virtually merge in popular usage."<sup>3</sup> We can surmise that the associations forged there impacted the town's commercial and political fortunes, as well as those of the young nation.

**POLITICAL CLIMATE**...The new town was not just a major shipping center where fortunes were easily made, it was a hot-seat of politics. Political struggles locked step with commerce. Young George Washington was drawn from the plantation into the excitement of military and political affairs that would propel him towards the Revolution and the Presidency. Revolutionaries found a sympathetic welcome in Alexandria as secessionists did a century later.

To unify the new nation, a permanent federal district was necessary. Everyone wanted it where they could reap the commercial benefits, and Alexandrians were no different. With the support of George Washington, they nursed a plan to ensure that the proposed ten-mile square would be located on the Potomac and that they would be a part of it. In 1789, the well-situated town was ceded to the District of Columbia, and, in 1801, its acquisition was approved by Congress. For 46 years, Alexandria was officially Alexandria, DC. Success was theirs, but the cost was great.

In the next issue, we will see the turn of fortune Alexandria experienced under Federal rule, and we will learn which ancestral Hunter championed the cause of retrocession. We will hear more about the Alexandria Hunters and their native-born families' stories.

<sup>1</sup> Library of Congress <http://memory.loc.gov>.

<sup>2</sup> Miller, T. Michael, (1988). *Murder and Mayhem Criminal Conduct in Old Alexandria, Virginia, 1749-1900*. Heritage Books, Inc., Bowie, MD 20716.

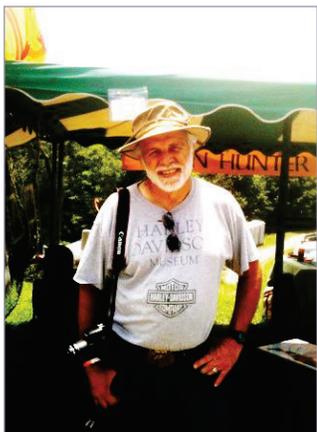
<sup>3</sup> Larris, Claude. (2000) *AW22 Lodge Anecdote 5: Washington and Freemasonry*. Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, History. [http://aw22.org/documents/Anecdote5\\_Washington.pdf](http://aw22.org/documents/Anecdote5_Washington.pdf)

## GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES



*Delissa Parish, Dallas, TX, & grandchildren Meghan & Jaden*

The Hunter Clan was a sponsor for the third year in a row at the 2013 Grandfather Mountain 58<sup>th</sup> annual Highland Games held July 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. The theme for the weekend was rain and then some more rain. We had to close the tent early Sunday morning since the rain was so bad, but Friday and Saturday the games went on.



*Chuck Hunt, Arcadia, SC*

Dr. Richard Hunter, past Clan Hunter USA president, helped with the tent this year. Thank you Richard! We had 17 visitors sign in at our clan tent. Please welcome Sigrid McAllister and her husband Carl from Stone Mountain, GA, who joined our clan during the games. We sold out of a new children's book, *Hunterston Happenings*, by Donna K. Hunter, a Clan Hunter member from

Oregon. The books were graciously donated to Clan Hunter USA by the author. We will also offer the books at the Stone Mountain Games this October. The 2014 Grandfather Mountain games will be held July 10-13, 2014. Come and celebrate your Scottish family heritage.

– Brad Hunter

## CLAN HUNTER IN UTAH

Clan Hunter was represented at two Scottish festivals in Utah this year. The Utah Scottish Festival was held June 7-8 in Lehi, Utah. The Payson Scottish Festival was held July 12-13 in Payson, Utah. Karlie and I enjoy festival season when we get to see some of our festival friends and help promote understanding and foster enthusiasm for Clan Hunter.



*Hunter contingent at Payson Festival*

We had quite a large turnout at the Payson Festival this year with 25 people attending the Opening Ceremonies with our clan. We followed our own Douglas Hunter and his Wasatch and District Pipe Band in the parade. It was a great turnout and a lot of fun. We hope to have an even larger turnout next year.

– Jonathan and Karlie Alldredge

### NEW ADDRESS?

If your mailing address changes, **please** make it a priority to inform us so that you won't miss an issue of *The Hunter's Horn!* Simply email us at [melandpat@gulftel.com](mailto:melandpat@gulftel.com) or call us at 251-971-2881, and we will change your address on our roll. It will only take a couple of minutes, and we will be able to keep our roster current.

*Thanks  
so  
much!*



## BANNOCKBURN LIVE

In June, 1314, 6,000 – 9,000 Scottish troops led by King Robert the Bruce defeated about 19,000 English troops in the Battle of Bannockburn. To commemorate the 700th anniversary of this significant battle for Scottish independence, the National Trust for Scotland will present *Bannockburn Live* at the Battle of Bannockburn heritage site near Stirling, Scotland. This event, which will include an enactment of the battle, will take place Saturday, June 28 thru Monday, June 30, 2014. For more information, go to [www.battleofbannockburn.com](http://www.battleofbannockburn.com). In conjunction with this event, there will be a gathering at Hunterston. See tentative schedule of events below:



*Statue of  
King Robert the Bruce*

## HUNTERSTON GATHERING 2014

Per Email from Madam Pauline:

The arrangements for the next Clan Gathering 2014 will be as follows:

- **Friday 27th June** - We will have Hunterston Castle open all afternoon and a buffet supper/evening meal.
- **Saturday 28th** – Buffet lunch at Hunterston Castle and evening meal at the Masonic Hall in West Kilbride with a band. I will do tours of the castle, and I might have some form of entertainment/display – possibly storyteller or re-enactors, depending on what is available.
- **Sunday 29th** – A coach trip to Stirling from Hunterston Castle (Enjoy Battle of Bannockburn enactment & other activities) – traveling is approximately 2 hrs each way. Return to Hunterston Castle in the evening – no meals provided.

I will be making the final arrangements for the 2014 Gathering after my mother's Memorial Service.

**Note: The Clan Hunter USA website [www.clanhunterusa.org](http://www.clanhunterusa.org) as well as the January, 2014, *Hunter's Horn* will include details of the gathering.**



## PLAQUE DEDICATION

On 21 June, 2013, a special ceremony in memory of Neil Aylmer Hunter, 29th Laird of Hunterston, and his wife, Sonia Isabel Jane Furlong Hunter, was held at Hunterston Castle. Their seven children and eleven grandchildren erected a plaque in memory of their parents and grandparents.

## 2013 ANNUAL DUES

*Thanks to our members who have paid 2013 dues!*

Clan Hunter is classified as a 501(c)(3) public charity, so all dues are tax deductible. One-half of dues receipts are sent to Clan Hunter in Scotland to help with the maintenance of Hunterston Castle.

**If you have not paid 2013 dues, it is not too late to do so.** Just go to [www.clanhunterusa.org](http://www.clanhunterusa.org) and make your \$25 dues payment using PayPal, or mail your check, payable to Clan Hunter USA, to:

Brad Hunter  
Treasurer, Clan Hunter USA  
2501 Macy Drive  
Roswell, Georgia 30076

# SCOTTISH BOOK REVIEW

Clan member, Donna K. Hunter, of Oregon has blessed Clan Hunter USA with a generous gift of 50 copies of her newly published book entitled *Hunterston Happenings*. She directed the proceeds to go into the treasury of our US organization. You may obtain a copy of this delightful book for \$15 at Clan Hunter tents at some of the Highland Games around the country. If it is not available at the games, you may also order the book (s) for \$15 per book plus \$5 shipping (This \$5 shipping charge covers one order up to 3 books). Just mail a check made out to Clan Hunter USA to Clan Hunter USA, 24370 Bay Forest Drive, Foley, AL, 36535. You won't be disappointed!



*John & Donna Hunter in Hunterston's Walled Garden*

Thank you, Donna, so much for this very thoughtful gift. We really appreciate all the time you spent and research you did in preparation for this publication! Following is a brief review of this enchanting book which has wonderful watercolor illustrations by artist, Sandra M. Scott. Donna's son, Jason, contributed the drawings of the Scottish Wildcat.

# HUNTERSTON HAPPENINGS

**Kilts, Casts and Castles**  
By Donna K. Hunter

**SLURP!** What's licking Jeffrey's face? Travel through time with Venator, the Great Hound, who represents the spirit of the Hunters as he takes eight-year-old Jeffrey Hunter on an historical tour of the walled garden, estate grounds and Hunterston Castle in Scotland.

The tour entails over 900 years of history and takes place through a dream sequence since Jeffrey breaks his leg two days before his family is leaving for the 900th Anniversary of Hunterston Castle. His pesky girl cousin, Janet, travels in his place to Hunterston, meets the Clan Laird, Madame Pauline Hunter, and takes Jeffrey's special rock to place at the Castle rock collection (cairn). Follow the dog paws Venator has left throughout the story which will alert you to important words. Watch for the surprise ending. And don't miss that pesky Scottish Wildcat that pops up throughout the story and illustrations. This is indeed a book for children and adults to share and learn about a special Clan and Castle.

*\* Note: This review was copied from the back of Donna's book.*



*Hunterston Castle in Scotland*

## COMING EVENTS!



### Longs Peak Scottish/ Irish Festival

Estes Park, CO  
Sept. 5-8, 2013  
Host: Dr. Denis Hunter  
[www.scotfest.com](http://www.scotfest.com)

### Charleston Scottish Games

Boone Hall Plantation  
Mt. Pleasant, SC (Charleston area)  
Sept. 21, 2013  
Hosts: Jill & Scott Powell & Carl Hunter  
[www.charlestonscots.org](http://www.charlestonscots.org)

### Indianapolis Highland Games & Festival

German Park  
Indianapolis, IN  
October 12, 2013  
Host: Mack Hunter  
[www.indyscotgamesandfest.com](http://www.indyscotgamesandfest.com)

### Stone Mountain Highland Games

Stone Mtn., GA (Atlanta area)  
October 18-20, 2013  
Hosts: Brad Hunter & Greg Slaton  
[www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org)

### Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk

Alexandria, VA  
[www.scottishchristmaswalk.org](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.org)  
Dec. 6-7, 2013  
Host: Virginia Hunter

Clan Hunter members, especially those living in the Alexandria area, are encouraged to participate in this annual event. Please read Virginia's article in this publication about the Hunter family's influence during the early history of Alexandria. Email her at [foiled@verizon.net](mailto:foiled@verizon.net) if you are interested.

*Please plan to support our members who are representing Clan Hunter at the above listed events. You'll get a warm welcome and will meet some new friends!*

## DOUGLAS HUNTER, CLAN HUNTER PIPER, IS HONORED

Clan Hunter member Douglas Hunter, a pipe major, plays with two pipe bands. The Wasatch and District Pipe Band <http://wdpb.org/> is an education and competition group that competes mainly in the western U.S. They have competed in Scotland and next year will compete in the North American Championships in Ontario. Doug said, "Overall it has been a phenomenal experience that has allowed me to meet some wonderful people and kin." Doug and his band led the Hunter contingent during the opening ceremony at the Scottish Festival held at Payson, Utah July, 13, 2013.

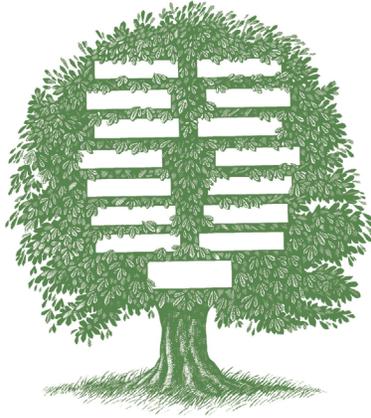


*Douglas Hunter (third from right, wearing bonnet),  
The Heathen Highlanders and The Chieftains*

The Heathen Highlanders, is a more casual band which does a lot of pub playing. **This group was highly honored with an invitation to play with The Chieftains, a very well known Irish band,** during their February 13, 2013, performance in Salt Lake City. The Chieftains, formed in Dublin, Ireland, in 1962 is a traditional Irish band to which a lot of credit is given for making Irish music popular throughout the world. Two of their original members are still active with The Chieftains. What an honor to get to play with them!

# GENEALOGY REQUESTS

Carol Ostergren is asking for genealogy help. "We believe that my great great grandfather, John Hunter, was born in Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, around 1802, and emigrated about 1827.



According to our grandmother, Nora Belle Richards Hunter, John Hunter emigrated with two brothers and a sister. John and his two brothers were stone masons who came to help build Old Kenyon Hall at Kenyon College in Ohio. US Census records for 1840 and 1850 show that John Hunter lived in Knox County, Ohio. The 1850 census lists his occupation as "stone cutting." We would like to know more about our Hunter line back in Alloa, and also about the siblings who came with John Hunter (we think the brothers' names were William and Christian)." Carol's contact information is [costergr@gmail.com](mailto:costergr@gmail.com).

Clan member, **Wendy Sarno**, would appreciate any information on the following family line:

Thomas Hunter. B. 1829 Dumfriesshire, Scotland, who was perhaps a lighthouse keeper.

Siblings: Jane, James, Robert, Elizabeth

Married: Corlin Sloan from New York, 1859, in Tazewell County, IL

Resided: Peoria, IL, from about 1859 to his death

Died: Peoria, IL, Aug. 6, 1899

It's possible that he arrived in 1848 - the name is on a passenger list leaving Scotland and arriving in NY.

Children: Lilly, Jessie, Carrie, and Jay Tyler (Wendy's grandfather), all born in Peoria.

Contact Wendy at [wendysarno@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wendysarno@sbcglobal.net)

## CLAN HUNTER USA TREASURER REPORT

Beginning Balance 1/1/2013.....	\$19,614
Cash Receipts.....	4,565
Cash Disbursements:	
Hunterston Castle Preservation ....	(2,850)
Newsletters & New Member Packets .....	(1,774)
Highland Games.....	( 671)
Website & Other .....	(    0)
Ending Balance 6/30/2013 .....	\$18,884

For those representing Clan Hunter at Highland Games, you can deduct all of your out-of-pocket expenses on your tax return. Meals, lodging, travel, and sponsorship fees may be deducted as charitable contributions, since Clan Hunter USA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

## A Poem by Robert Lewis Stevenson



*There is so much good in the worst of us*

*And so much bad in the best of us,*

*That it behooves all of us*

*Not to talk about the rest of us!*

# CEUD MILE FAILTE (100,000 WELCOMES!)

Josephine S. Walker  
Raleigh, NC

Robert & Carol Ostergren  
Madison, WI

Mack L. Hunter  
Indianapolis, IN

Donald R. Hunter  
Charlotte, NC

Stephen & Deb Knight  
Fort Wayne, IN

Terra Aguirre  
Zionsville, IN

Joseph & Dawn Hunter  
Vineland, NJ

Eileen A. Hunter  
Zephyrhills, FL

Wendy Gooder-Sarno  
Webster Groves, MO

Kathi Hunter-Wolf  
Lutz, FL

Haran M. Hunter  
Orange Beach, AL

Michael Hunter  
Jackson, MO

Rev. Joseph & Mrs. Doris Bogart  
Bloomington, IL

William & Cassandra Hunter  
White Springs, FL

Randolph & Nancy Knight  
Hankinson, ND

Carl & Sigrid McAllister  
Stone Mountain, GA

Vernon & Jackie Murray  
Virginia Beach, VA

John & Grace Hunter-Blair  
Lubbock, TX



## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

We were saddened to learn of the death of one of our members, **Thelma I. Hunter**, who passed away on November 16, 2012. Her daughter, Jo Anne Lyon, who predeceased her, is the lady who wrote the article published in our Jan., 2011, newsletter about how much her membership in Clan Hunter meant to her. We extend our sincere sympathy to Thelma's husband, Rolf, the rest of her family, and a host of friends.

## THE TRADITION OF THE SURCEE

**T**here's a Charleston, SC, tradition to give an unexpected gift called a Surcee. While no one quite knows the origin, there is a Scots word, *sussy*, meaning to care. During the 18th century, many Scots settled in the Carolinas. Perhaps they started the tradition.

In Charleston, the thoughtful act of giving a Surcee took hold and still flourishes today. After all, what better way to express admiration or affection than by giving without occasion? So go ahead. Spread the joy of giving!

*\*Note: Taken from a Charleston Cookie Company advertisement.*