



# THE HUNTER'S HORN

CLAN NEWSLETTER • ISSUE #9 • SEPTEMBER 2014



## MEL'S MESSAGE

**P**at & I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer. We had a couple of months of very hot weather here on the gulf coast, so we are looking forward to cooler weather, as many of you probably are. I apologize for the delay in mailing the summer newsletter. We were out of town several weeks due to family medical emergencies that had top priority. Our daughter, Cheryl, is battling a serious illness. And our 2½ year old grandson, George, had open heart surgery twice within thirty days. We are thankful that they are doing well!

Thank you, Madam Pauline, for hosting the 2014 Clan Hunter Gathering. Some U.S.A. members visited Hunterston for the first time, thoroughly enjoyed it, and are already anticipating the next gathering.

Clan Hunter, USA is having a successful year due to many of our members donating their time. I'll not attempt to mention names because I may leave someone out. However, I would like to thank our treasurer, secretary, Scottish festival hosts, website facilitator, contributors of newsletter articles, 54 new members for allowing us to welcome them to Clan Hunter, members who paid annual dues, and others who have contributed.

– Mel Hunter

## MADAM PAULINE'S MESSAGE

Dear Clansfolk,

We have had an excellent year for Clan Hunter with our international gathering held at Hunterston Castle, our clan home. Clansfolk who came to the gathering set off for the Battle of Bannockburn experience. It was a thrilling experience with soldiers on horses, pikemen, and some very bloodthirsty Scottish and English soldiers. Robert the Bruce rode onto the field, and after some very noisy battle with the energetic fighting from the Scottish pikemen, the Scots won the day!

I am pleased to announce that our Clan Hunter Shop is now online at the Clan Hunter website [www.clanhunter.org.uk](http://www.clanhunter.org.uk). We are keeping the prices as competitive as possible for you all. There are several new items, including unique Clan Hunter Corsages and Buttonholes. Pictures of Madam Pauline and Graham, Macer Venatorus, wearing them at a recent wedding are on Facebook at Clan Hunter UK.

Many of you will be pleased to hear that the official Clan Hunter tartan will be sold again. In order to know how much tartan to have woven, please let me know what weight and how many yards you wish to purchase.

– Madam Pauline Hunter of Hunterston

**SEE NOTICE ON THIS PAGE**

## TIME SENSITIVE NOTICE

**Please Response by 30 Oct, 2014**

### HUNTER OF HUNTERSTON TARTAN

Due to requests from many Clan Hunter members, Madam Pauline is planning to have some Hunter of Hunterston tartan woven. Since tartan fabric is produced in several weights, she needs to determine the quantity of each weight to have woven.

#### COMMON USES OF VARIOUS WEIGHTS OF TARTAN FABRIC

**Light Weight** – For Sashes, Shawls, Dresses, Trousers (tropical areas)

**Medium Weight** – Kilts, Skirts, Trousers, Banners, Upholstery

**Heavy Weight** – Kilts (cold climates), Upholstery

Please email Madam Pauline at [hunterclch@aol.com](mailto:hunterclch@aol.com) by **30 October, 2014** and advise her of the weight(s) of tartan you need and the approximate quantities. Thank you in advance for your timely response.

**To View Current *Hunter's Horn*  
Newsletters In Color, Go To  
[www.clanhunterusa.org](http://www.clanhunterusa.org)**

1. Click on news and events
2. Click on the newsletter you wish to view

# 2014 INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

In these days, what does it mean to be Scottish? Most of us esteem our ancestors but know little about their way of life outside of grandfather's stories or virtual histories on the Internet. Perhaps this is why guests converged on the green wooded hills and pastures of Ayrshire for the Gathering of the Clan at Hunterston Castle, to see what truth is lying in our imaginations. Clan means strong ties to family, allegiance, being known by ones deeds, and for Hunters, *cursum perficio*, staying the course. This year, some 40 or 50 Hunters donned their tartan pins, ties, kilts-anything that says we are Hunters, and sought the familiar among those who share the same name. And none were disappointed!



accomplish this feat. Think about it! An 800 year old castle, a sheep farm, a walled garden, all would be a thing of the past without meticulous planning and care. The encroachment of utility companies, both nuclear facilities and wind farms, has demanded 900 of the original 3000 acres. Without a Chieftain who honors Hunterston, more would be eroded away. We have Madam Pauline to thank for her tireless protection.



Three days of Hunter hospitality, food, entertainment, and shared experiences satisfy the desire to bring deeper meaning to our common heritage. A gracious and incredibly accessible Madam Pauline greets guests, instantly recognizing those who have e-mailed and written her. She leads the tour through the castle, which is open to exploration, and she hosts the programs and excursions. Her normal duties include maintaining the land and structures handed down since the 1300s. Clan Association dues provide the wherewithal to



The pictures tell the story of the many events planned for guests: opening ceremonies, storytelling, tours, archery demonstrations, a bus trip to Stirling, and shared meals including a delicious repast with musical entertainment at the Masonic Hall in West Kilbride.





Two events stand out as deserving mention: a special honor bestowed on behalf of the Clan and the excursion to Bannockburn.

This year Graham Wright was installed as Macer *Venitorus* of Clan Hunter. In a ceremony led by Madam Pauline,

he was presented with a hand-carved mace befitting his office. Traditionally, a macer is an officer of the court, one who maintains order. He was so honored because of his loyal support and assistance to Clan Hunter. We owe our thanks to him and Madam Pauline for their willingness to provide the constant preservation and upkeep necessary to maintain order at Hunterston for the benefit of the Clan.



Now, if you'll dust off your history books, you'll recall that Bannockburn was, in the year 1314, the site of a decisive battle for Scottish independence. Robert the Bruce had wrested the throne of Scotland by murdering John Comyn in 1307, and Edward II had come to the throne of England in 1306.



The Scottish wars were nearly lost until Robert the Bruce rallied a nation of "sma' people", farmers and peasants, behind him. Tens of thousands heeded the call, but were ill-matched to the well-equipped, seasoned English cavalry and ground forces. Stirling Castle, a gateway to the Highlands, stood as a challenge to the English. Possession meant control, and Robert the Bruce's brother had taken it in battle. If the English did not regain their control of the castle, they would lose their foothold in the Highlands. It was near Stirling Castle that the



battle of Bannockburn was waged and the English met their doom—at least for the time being. Schiltrons, trained bodies of soldiers wielding pikes shoulder to shoulder, formed an impenetrable defense against a confounded English onslaught. Under low morale and heavy losses after two days of battle, the English survivors were routed and King Edward fled.

In honor of the 700 year anniversary, the Bannockburn Live reenactment was hosted by the National Trust and the Heritage Center and Memorial in Stirling. It was to this event that the Hunter's made their way on Sunday. The scene was like a country fair with food stalls and Scottish wares, a clan village, madrigals, icecream (!), and outdoor music and stories. Who could forget the lady in medieval costume with the small owl sitting snugly on her shoulder? We were admitted to an area the size of a soccer field surrounded by bleachers and ground seating. There we waited for Robert the Bruce, Edward II, Sir Henry de Bohun, and the warriors of Clanranald reenactors (whose work can be seen on *Gladiator* and *Thor*) to enter the battle arena and take us to the past. The Spenserian bard who tells the story and directs your attention to the varied choreography was a crowd-pleasing expert from the Bannockburn Live Project at the Heritage Center. The half-hour reenactment was met by crowd roaring cheers and boos as Robert the Bruce split Bohun's head from "crest to chin", and the schiltrons demonstrated their formation. The English on horseback and Robert on his highland pony were like paintbrushes swirling the colors of our imagination. We entered through the encampment and were released to again wander through the soldiers' preparations and back into the modern world.

My husband and I were lucky enough to have been able to tour the Heritage Center where interactive battle scenes and holograms give life to the personalities and times of the battle of Bannockburn. If you visit Scotland, you won't be disappointed if you visit these exhibits.

And, if you had a great time at the Clan Gathering this year, we're hoping you'll want to reminisce at the Annual Christmas Walk in Alexandria, VA.

– Virginia Hunter Bouchard



# CONNECTIONS

or

## All Roads Lead To Family

**H**ere in the Piedmont of North Carolina, many people are of Scots/Irish and German descent, me included. On the German side, I had been tracing my maternal line (my mother's mother's mother, etc, etc.) for some time, and it led me to a small town on the outskirts of Wiesbaden, Germany, called Bierstadt. There are only a few pictures of this town online, but there is one very interesting landmark, called the Bierstadter Warte (watchtower or lookout) which I had seen in some image searches. It's a small tower that's been in existence since the Middle Ages, and so my 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> great-grandmothers most likely saw it on the high hill where it still stands. My 5<sup>th</sup> great grandmother was just a baby when the family set out for the New World in 1751 on the ship *Edinburgh*. Yes, that's right! My German ancestors traveled on a Scottish-named boat to get to America (so the Scots were getting together with Germans long before my mom and dad met).

In February of 2013, my husband Charles and I visited Bierstadt, climbed that hill and saw the tower. I was looking at something my ancestors saw! I was walking on ground they might have trod. What an experience! But another wonderful experience was waiting for me down the hill near the small church where my maternal ancestors probably worshiped, the *Evangelische Kirche*. After looking around the building and stopping to rest, we began to look for the nearest bus stop. That's when I saw it: the street sign. The church of my foremothers in Germany sits on none other than Venatorstraße (Hunter Street)! I couldn't believe my eyes. I don't know how long the street has held that name, but it's still an awesome coincidence any way you look at it. The land of Hunter was calling me...In July of this year, we set out for Scotland (followed by Ireland) to visit the land of my father's fathers. We first visited the Hunterian Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow. What an impressive place! I was just amazed at the extent of the massive collection. We could have easily spent another day viewing the exhibits from around the world.

The next day, we took the train to Largs for a visit, then traveled to Fairlie and caught a bus. At the stop for Hunterston, it seemed we were being dropped in



Charles & Debbie Hunter

the middle of nowhere. But what a beautiful piece of nowhere it was! The sometimes sunny, sometimes shady lane leading to the castle made for a splendid walk.

Pauline Fraser met us at the castle and was such a gracious guide. She gave a very enthusiastic and informative tour of the castle and grounds. Later, we walked in the walled garden, which was in full bloom, quiet, and enchanting. I walked where other Hunters had walked, and I saw some of what they had seen...It was an inspiring place to be.

In a strange way, things came full circle when we reached Ireland. Remember that small town of my maternal ancestors called Bierstadt? Well, the name doesn't really translate to 'Beer City' as the name implies; it started out as a town dedicated to St. Brigid of Ireland. Its name was originally Birgidsstadt but over time it simply morphed into Bierstadt. On our tour through Ireland, we had gotten ahead of schedule one day and so the bus driver said, "I'm going to take you to a special little shrine with a sacred wellspring surrounded by tributes." Of course it turned out that the shrine honored none other than St. Brigid, patron of Bierstadt!

My travels are ended and I'm happily home now. *Cursum perficio*. Maybe someday far into the future, a great-great-granddaughter of mine will take to the road and make her way to my home here in North Carolina. Who knows? The point is, when you take the time to trace your family, their spirit has a way of being with you wherever you go.

– Debbie Hunter

## HUNTERSTON HAPPENINGS

by Donna Hunter

Still available! Mail a check for \$15 each + \$5 (to cover shipping for up to 3 copies) made out to  
Clan Hunter USA

to  
Pat Hunter  
24370 Bay Forest Drive  
Foley, AL 36535-9060

*You will enjoy this beautifully illustrated book, and it would make wonderful Christmas gifts!*

*The books have been donated to Clan Hunter USA, and the organization will retain all the proceeds.*

**Thanks again, Donna!**

# GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES

The 59th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games were held July 10-13, 2014, in Linville, North Carolina. The Clan Hunter tent was hosted this year by Greg Slaton and his son, William, of Atlanta, Georgia. More than 150 clans attended this year's event that started on Thursday afternoon with a picnic, piping concert, sheep herding exhibition, the Running of The Bear, and opening ceremonies.

For the next four days, thousands of guests enjoyed a taste of our Scottish heritage through music concerts, food, athletic competition, and dance. Adjacent to the parade ground, on MacRae Meadows, were merchants selling Gaelic and tartan gift items, and booths that were filled with offerings of meat pies and sweets to give guests a taste of the Highlands. A tent was available to help guests trace their Scottish roots and explore their heritage.

Friday evening, everyone was invited to enjoy traditional and contemporary Celtic music by the group Celtic Jam at MacRae Meadows. Saturday night offered an evening of Celtic rock performances by several more bands.

Scottish families and guests enjoyed the spectacular North Carolina mountain setting that is so reminiscent of Scotland. This connection makes the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games one of America's grandest annual Scottish gatherings.

– Greg Slaton



*Greg Slaton, Brittany Hunt and Family*



*William Slaton, Mr. & Mrs. William Hunter*



*Morgan & Donna Matthews*



*Greg Slaton, Ian Hunter and Dad, William*

# UTAH AND PAYSON SCOTTISH FESTIVALS

Jonathan and Karlie Alldredge represented Clan Hunter at the Utah Scottish Festival held June 13 & 14, 2014, in American Fork, Utah, and the Payson Scottish Festival held July 11 & 12, 2014, in Payson, Utah.

It's always a privilege to represent Clan Hunter. We enjoy the interaction with new Hunters and those more familiar to us at each event,



and providing information and answers to questions about Hunterston and Clan Hunter. Activities of each festival began on Friday night with entertainment and food. A variety of events on Saturday included heavy athletics, Celtic music, bagpipe competition, dancing, and children's activities. Vendors offered a variety of Scottish products and food. We look forward to welcoming you at next year's festivals.

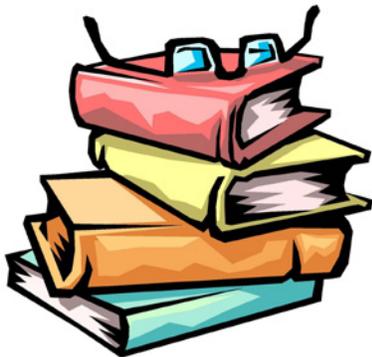
– Jonathan & Karlie Alldredge



## SCOTTISH BOOK REVIEW

Crown and Covenant by Douglas Bond

A couple of years ago I recommended a series of books directed toward girls. Those were the four volumes entitled *The Martha Years*, dealing with the life of Laura Ingalls Wilder's grandmother, Martha Morris, who grew up in the Highlands of Scotland. Now I would like to introduce you to a series that boys will especially enjoy. Though recommended for boys in the 10 to 14 year-old range, I found them very interesting too.



Douglas Bond has three well-written action-packed books dealing with the Scottish Covenanting period of the 17th century. In *Duncan's War*, a young lad named Duncan M'Kethe and his Presbyterian family find themselves in danger from King Charles II's supporters who were attempting to dispel the Covenanters.

The second volume, *King's Arrow*, deals with Duncan's brother, Angus, as a young man continuing the resistance to restriction of his family's religious freedom. Angus gets caught up in The Battle of Drumclog.

In the conclusion of the series, *Rebel's Keep*, the brothers team up to fight the king's injustice. They become hunted men fighting for their very lives.

In all three volumes Bond weaves fictional with historical figures and events masterfully. This delightful series is an entertaining way to learn about this tumultuous period in Scotland's history. They would make great Christmas gifts, and could spark an interest in Scotland's unsettled history.

– Pat Hunter

## CLAN HUNTER COMING EVENTS!



### NIAGARA CELTIC FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

Krull Park; Olcott Beach, NY  
Sept. 13-14, 2014  
Host: William Hunter  
[www.niagaraceltic.com](http://www.niagaraceltic.com)

### CELTIC FAIRE AND GAMES

Aberdeen, SD  
Sept. 20-21, 2014  
Host: Randy Knight  
[www.nesdcelticfaire.com](http://www.nesdcelticfaire.com)

### CHARLESTON SCOTTISH GAMES

Boone Hall Plantation  
Sept. 20, 2014  
Hosts: Jill & Scott Powell & Carl Hunter  
[www.charlestonscots.org](http://www.charlestonscots.org)

### INDIANAPOLIS HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVAL

German Park; Indianapolis, IN  
Oct. 11, 2014 - 9A.M. – 9P.M.  
Host: Mack Hunter  
[www.indyscotgamesandfest.com](http://www.indyscotgamesandfest.com)

### STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

Stone Mtn., GA (Atlanta area)  
Oct. 18-20, 2014  
Hosts: Brad Hunter & Greg Slaton  
[www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org)

### ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK

Alexandria, VA  
Dec. 5-6, 2014  
Host: Virginia Hunter Bouchard  
[www.scottishchristmaswalk.org](http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.org)

**NEW MEMBERS  
JAN.-AUG. 2014**

Marie Butler-Knight  
Spencer, IN

Jessica Butler  
Indianapolis, IN

Kent & Audrey Lewis  
Navarre, FL

John & Wanda Hunter  
Swansea, IL

Robert & Laraine Hunter  
Eagle River, AK

Jeff & Bindi Hunter  
Apple Valley, MN

Michael & Caryl Wray  
Portland, OR

Jack & Adrienne Heuer  
Navarre, FL

David & Tammy Hunter  
Cookeville, TN

John & Carol Hunter  
Pacific, MO

Bryan & Christy Hunter  
Petal, MS

Christopher Hunter  
Winter Springs, FL

Dr. Bob & Mrs. Sandy Purnell  
Montville, NJ

Jason & Khanida Hunter  
Sacramento, CA

Carol Hunter Fraker  
Belfry, MT

William & Jacqueline Kalbas  
Charlotte, NC

**CEUD MILE FAILTE  
(100,000 WELCOMES)**

Wayne & Eleanor Cadman  
Lander, WY

Charles Spaugh & Deborah Hunter  
Kernersville, NC

Aidan Jeffrey  
Brunswick, GA

Charles & Dora Hunter  
Blairsville, GA

Margie Shaw  
Francis, OK

Joseph Hunter Allen  
Nashville, TN

Allan D. Hunter  
New Hyde Park, NY

Jane L. Hunter  
San Jose, CA

Kelly M. Hunter  
Rochester, NY

Jeffrey & Katrina Langley  
Mystic, CT

Donald C. Hunter  
Naples, FL

Lory J. Hunter  
Winchester, WI

Zachery E. Knight  
Wahpeton, ND

Colton R. Knight  
Wahpeton, ND

Bonny S. Rux  
Baker City, OR

Jess & Loraine Hackenburg  
Montoursville, PA 17754

Morgan Matthews  
Garner, NC

David & Brittany Hunt  
Dawsonville, GA

William E. Hunter II  
Tacoma, WA

Steven Hunter  
Geneva, IL

## CLAN HUNTER USA TREASURER REPORT

Beginning Balance 12/31/2013 ..... \$ 18,514  
 Cash Receipts ..... 6,134  
 Cash Disbursements:  
   Hunterston Castle Preservation..... ( 0)  
   Newsletters, Postage, New  
   Member Packets, Supplies..... (1,693)  
   Highland Games..... ( 671)  
   Website ..... ( 261)  
 Ending Balance 06/30/2014 ..... \$ 22,023

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

**Please send in your 2014 annual dues of \$25 if you haven't already. Many members are no longer receiving newsletters because they haven't paid their annual dues in several years.**

Please email me at bradhuntercpa@gmail.com if you have any suggestions for improvements on the Clan Hunter website at clanhunterusa.org.

## CLAN HUNTER GENEALOGIST



Many of our members have submitted genealogy related inquiries—where can I find help with my genealogy research, where do I deposit my genealogy records? We now have some valuable help.

Madam Pauline has appointed **Ron Bogart**, a professional genealogist, as the Genealogist for all branches of Clan Hunter. As Clan Genealogist, Ron's objective is to put together a database for our various Hunter lines. This will be a great resource for those tracing their Hunter ancestry. Please send your family line, as far as you know it, to **jrboogart@hotmail.com**, and put the word Hunter somewhere in your email subject line. You may also send it to Ron Bogart, PO Box 6222, Bloomington, IL 61702-6222. Ron has expressed thanks in advance for your help.

*Thank you, Ron, for agreeing to donate your time and other resources to Clan Hunter!*

## PROSPECTIVE CLAN MEMBER

Clan Hunter USA is pleased to welcome into this world Maximillian Paul Dunphy, grandson of long-time members Owen and Wendy Dunphy. Max was born May 20, 2014, weighed 8 lbs 3 oz, and measured an impressive 21 inches long. We trust that this wee lad will become an active member of Clan Hunter USA if his grandparents have anything to do with it. Congratulations to Max's parents and grandparents.



## 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!* If you are **S N O W B I R D S**, please notify us



of your winter and summer addresses. When contacting us about address changes, please give us your old and new addresses. Sometimes there are several members with the same name! Just email us at melandpat@gulftel.com or call us at 251-971-2881, and we will change your address (es) on our roll. It will only take a few minutes, and we will be able to keep our roster current.

*Thanks so much!*

**Pat Hunter, Secretary, Clan Hunter USA**