



The Jacob Hunter Trust Newsletter



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Remembering Jacob Hunter (II) and Mary Moore Duncan Hunter and Their Times

By Leona Newton White

March 30, 1968

Leona Newton White's handwritten notes were provided to the Jacob Hunter Trust by James Mason, grandson of Leona Newton White and son of Pauline White Mason. [] marks surround additions made for clarity.

One hundred and fifteen years ago my mother [*Lucina Evaline Hunter*] was born and was the seventh child of Mary Moore (Duncan) Hunter and Jacob Hunter who came with their parents to settle in ILL in 1816. My grandmother [*Mary Moore Duncan*] was two years old at that time.

My Grandfather [*Jacob Hunter (II)*] took up land and built a log cabin and I have heard my grandmother tell so often of her first home. It was a well-built cabin of one room tightly chinked and daubed. The chinks were small slabs of wood laid like this between the logs [drawing] and then it was daubed with clay between the chinks and on the outside just a solid strip of clay, and when it was dry, a white wash was made of water and lime and this strip was painted with it. The lime hardened and kept the clay sealed so the rains would not wash the daubing out. Every once in a while it had to be daubed and white washed again.

The furniture of his cabin was two benches made by sawing the desired length of a log about 14 or 15 inches in diameter and putting strong wooden pegs, two at each end, for the legs a little wider at the bottom than where they were driven into holes bored or burned into the half log. One log would make two benches. And watch out for the splinters, as they had no way of smoothing them only with a hunting knife or a hatchet. The bed was a strong forked pole set firmly in the floor of the cabin, which was of earth, packed hard. Then one pole was laid in the fork of the pole set in the floor. It was about seven feet long and the other end rested between the logs of the cabin. That was the length of the bed. Another shorter pole was put in the same fork and went into the other wall in the same way. And there was the side and end of the bed the side of the cabin made the other side and head and poles were laid across them and strong rope of leather thongs were woven back and forth from pole to pole and made a support for the mattress, which was made of torn corn shucks.

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The sheets and pillowcases were cotton grown on the place and spun into cloth on a loom. The blankets were made of wool-sheared from their own sheep and washed, carded, and spun. And the feather pillows were plucked from their own geese. For a table they had a large wooden box about 30 X 30 X 30 maybe larger or smaller. They obtained them from the merchants at Marion, ILL. As all of their merchandise came in wooden boxes as paper boxes were unknown. Then she had a smaller wooden box fastened to the wall with pegs leaving the top open toward the room. In this she kept two pewter cups, two pewter saucers, 2 pewter plates, and two pewter spoons and a earthen ware vegetable dish and meat platter. Her cooking pots were a skillet and lid, a deep iron pan with three iron legs and a lid that sat over it and was somewhat concave.

She cooked on the fireplace, which also heated the cabin. The fireplace had an iron crane built into the wall which would swing over the fire or outside over the hearth. Vegetables and meat were cooked in a pot swung to it. For using the skillet and lid the fire was burned until there was a good bed of coals and they were raked out on the hearth and the skillet was set over them with what ever they had to cook in it. Then the lid was put on and more live coals heaped on the top of it. They baked anything they wanted to bake in the skillet and lid.

Grandma *[Mary Moore Duncan Hunter]* got a yard of bright red calico (a treasure in those days) and made a curtain to hang over the front of the box where she kept her pewter. It was opposite the door so it could be seen as you came in. She said she was so proud of her home as it was so much nicer than the other young married women's houses were. Later on they built a larger two-room house with a lean to (a large porch enclosed) and two large rooms upstairs. And I think my mother was born in the new house. *[This new house is pictured on the Jacob Hunter Trust letterhead and is posted in the Gallery section of the Jacob Hunter Trust website]*

During my mother's girlhood they grew the cotton and made the cloth from it for all of their clothes and house linen.

My grandmother bought the first sewing machine in the country around then and people came from far and near to see my mother sew on it, as she was the one that did the sewing.

My grandmother also bought the first kerosene lamp. She rode into Marion on horseback one day and they had got the first shipment of lamps. And she bought one and some kerosene and was scared to death that it would explode before she got it home. Everyone was afraid of it for it was something new and they didn't know much about it. When they would fill the lamp they would take the lamp and set it on a stump about 200 feet away from the house and pour the oil in it very carefully and then walk very gently back to the house with it. And when it was lighted they all sat as far away from it as possible, afraid it would explode. They used candles for light and they also made them out of tallow *[tallow]*.

All of the stockings were knit and by the time a girl was eight or nine they could knit their own stockings.

Soap was made from old meat scraps and lye. And the lye was made by a deep V shaped trench made of small saplings and filled with ashes from the fireplace

with a tub or pail set at the low end. And when it rained the water would soak through the ashes and drain in the pail. And it was pure caustic lye that was saved and when you had enough to fill a twenty-gallon iron pot you put the lye in the pot, and to so many gallon of lye, they put so many pounds of old grease, meat scraps, and old meat skins and boiled until the lye ate all the meat and it was a thick soapy mixture. Then it was allowed to cool overnight in the pot and the next day was cut in squares and laid in the smoke house to dry. It was used for baths, face soaps, dish washing, and laundry. There was always a liquid left in the bottom of the kettle that was too strong with lye to harden. And it was used to scrub the floors.

My grandfather [*Jacob Hunter (II)*] had a little store at his home where he kept a few things that couldn't be raised on the farm, such as sugar, coffee, turpentine, soda, sulfur, coal oil, axes, hatchets, and knives and a few other things. He went once a year to Shawneetown for supplies making the trip by ox wagon. And it took several days for the trip.

At that time there was a stock law and all the cattle and horses, hogs, and sheep were not kept in fields but went all over the country. Only the cultivated land was fenced with split rails and they had to be so high that the stock couldn't jump them or they would ruin the crops. Splitting rails was a winter job. And it was a great honor to be a good rail-splitter then as it is to be good at sports now. There was plenty of game then and the men took pride in their firearms and marksmanship.

The crops were mostly cotton, corn, and tobacco, and very little wheat as there was no way to harvest it at that time except with a cradle, a scythe with wooden arms to catch the wheat, and when there was enough in the cradle it was tied in a bundle with some of the wheat straw. So folk didn't have biscuits very often, usually for Sunday or if special company came for a meal. They ate cornbread, hoecake, and mush.

Tobacco was the money crop and was very hard work, for it had to be worked and watched from the time it was planted until it was sold. First a big brush pile was burned and then the ground spaded and pulverized until it was loose and mellow. Then the seeds were sown. When they were at the right stage they [*the young plants*] were set out in the well-prepared rich ground. Then the work started. It had to be hoed, the suckers kept pulled off, and the worms pulled off. If they ate a hole in the leaf it was a damaged leaf and only the best brought a good price. Then, just at the right time, the leaves had to be stripped and tied in bunches called hands, then hung in big tobacco barns, cure-fired by building a fire on the dirt floor of the barn and keeping it at the heat—night and day for so long. That is just some of the things that had to be done besides worrying every time a cloud came up all summer for fear there would be hail in it and that would ruin your whole summers work.

My grandfather [*Jacob Hunter (II)*] died before the children were all grown and at fourteen years of age my grandmother would tell her girls, now you are old enough to buy your own clothes. This is your home but you will have to clothe yourselves. My mother [*Lucina Evaline Hunter*] didn't want to hire out to work in other peoples home when they needed a hired girl, so she would put her out a

tobacco patch. Her brother and her sister each had a patch and they would work together and help each other.

During my mother's childhood there was no church building in the settlement and my grandfather's home was the meeting place to hold church. My grandfather and grandmother were both members of the Primitive Baptist Church. And later a log church was built on five acres of land that my grandfather donated to the church. After their marriage, both my father and mother united with the Primitive Baptist Church.

In 1884 the old log church was torn down and a large frame church built. Two of my mother's nephews were ministers there. Charley and Bill Weaver, sons of my mother's oldest sister. Later the church bought land in Johnston City and bought the Methodist Church house and moved it across the street to their lot. The old church was torn down after they sold it. And, they held services in Johnston City for several years till most of the old members died and finally the Methodist Church bought it and tore the old church down. And used the ground for a parking lot for their church.

A short distance S.E. on a little knoll is the Hunter Cemetery with large cedar trees in it. The first people that were buried there were my great grand parents Manuel Hunter and his wife. *[We don't believe this is correct. Jacob Hunter buried many people in unmarked graves that died of cholera in this cemetery and we believe Manual's first wife, Judith Lee was buried in 1852]* At that time every family had their own burying place although anyone was welcome to bury their dead there without cost. There are some in the Hunter graveyard that are no kin.

My mother went to the Lee School, a one-room log house, about two miles from her home. I remember a good conduct award she received at that school. And all were taught by one teacher. At that time during the winter the roads got so muddy the animals couldn't pull the wagons through the mud. And if anyone died during the muddy season they had a hard time getting them to the graveyard to bury them. Sometimes they had to put them on a big sled, as it would not mire like a wagon, and everyone that went had to walk. If the weather was bad sometimes only men could go to the burying, and in cases like that, they only held a short service and prayer at the graveside. Then when the weather got warm, so people could get out, the family would set a date for the funeral to be preached and word would be sent around that at a certain time the dead person's funeral would be preached at the church. Sometimes it would be several months after their death.

Each farmer had to keep his fields fenced and it was an all year round job keeping the fences repaired for every big wind would blow the rails off. And they had to be watched to keep the stock out of them. If there was a rail fence dividing two neighbors farms and they were honest men and played fair and each did their part about keeping the fence repaired, well and good. But, if one didn't supply their half of the rails and do half of the work there was sure to be trouble. And it usually ended in a lawsuit and enmity between former good friends. Then the one that wouldn't do his part of the work rather than help the neighbor keep his fence up would set over just far enough to build his own fence. Thereafter, they didn't speak

to each other and the ground between the two fencerows was called a devil lane. And with a name like that—all of us children wouldn't go near them.

There were no hospitals when my mother [*Lucina Evaline Hunter*] was a child and it was five miles to the nearest doctor. And a Dr. was not called unless the patient was near death. When anyone became ill it was the neighbors job to help care for them. Some of the folk would go see the Dr. and describe how the sick person was feeling, if they had a fever, if their head ached, if their stomach or bowels cramped, if they had an appetite, if they were sick on their stomach, if they had pain anywhere, and if their tongue was coated were the usual questions the Dr. would ask. Then from the answers he got the Dr. would make his diagnosis and send medicine with directions how to take it. Neighbors would come in and help take care of the sick night and day and each one had his own diagnosis of the case and usually had a home remedy of their own and each one's remedy was usually used along with the Doctor's pills. It is a wonder any survived. The sicker the person the more people came to help take care of them and sometimes the house would be crowded with neighbors. Their hearts were right even if their nursing wasn't.

The Bible says the poor will always be with us and it was so then. Scarcely a winter came that two or three wagons would go around the country taking up a collection for some needy family. There was no work but farming and a lot of families lived on rented farms and farmed on shares. And if the man of the house got sick they had a hard time. But, there was always a neighbor that knew when they were in need and would get his wagon and start out and in a day's time would take them enough food to get them through the winter. Everyone knew who needed help and would take things to them.

It was not all hard times and work and they made their work easier by sharing it. The land had to be cleared of trees and brush before it could be cultivated. So the owner would grub out the brush and small trees, then cut the large trees and trim off all the limbs and saw the big logs in about 10 foot lengths until his field would have big logs all over it. Then he would pick a day in winter when there was no farm work to do and invite all the neighbors in for a log rolling. The logs were big and green and heavy and it would take several men with cant hooks to roll all the logs in big piles and set them afire. The stumps would be left until they got dry and rotten enough to burn. Sometimes it was several years before a field was completely clear of stumps. And the bad thing about it was each year the stumps would put up sprouts, which had to be chopped off each year. It was a boy's job and hard work and a job the boys hated.

The women got in on the log rolling for they were all invited too, to help cook the big dinner which usually consisted of fried ham, chicken and dumplings, turnips, cabbage, kraut, hominy, dried peas, or beans. Sometimes dried green beans, pumpkins pie, also dried apple fried pies, along with jellies, jams, pickles, and all grown on the farm. Usually there were several of these log rollings held each year at different farms until the land was cleared.

Then the hog killings were held in the same way. A large family would kill 10 or 12 fat hogs each year. There were a lot of wild hogs during my grandfather's

time. They lived on acorns and roots, but the meat was not very good, although some ate them when times were hard. The meat was said to be stringy and tough with a strong taste. My grandfather kept his brood sows penned up during the winter but turned them out to forage in the spring. He liked to feed his hogs with corn to fatten them before he killed them; and would call them up to the house at evening to feed them. The wild hogs found out when he called. There was food, so if he didn't stand guard, the wild hogs would run his hogs off and eat the corn. He figured out a way to out-smart them. All winter when he left the house to feed his hogs that were penned up, he sang a certain song just as loud as he could. And, next year when it was time to fatten his hogs, all he had to do to get them to come was to start singing that same song. His hogs would hear it and know it meant feed. And, the wild hogs didn't bother him anymore.

Then when a person wanted to build a barn, they got the logs and every thing ready and the neighbors all came in and helped build the barn in one day. Another big dinner for the women to cook.

And the women had their workings too. They would put in a quilt and have the women in for an all day quilting. No men.

The young unmarried folks had their workings too. There was not always a lot of work done, but it gave the young folk a chance to get together. Sometimes in the summer it would be an apple cutting where the girls and boys would meet at some one's place and peel and slice apples which would be put out next day to dry for the family to use next winter. In the fall it would be a husking bee where they would get together and shuck corn. But the best time was when a boy shucked a red ear of corn and that gave him the privilege of kissing any of the girls he wanted.

Then in the winter they had sleigh rides on a big home made sled that would hold six or eight couples. And spelling matches at the schoolhouse. And there were a lot of good spellers then, for the good spellers ranked high in the neighbor society. Then, what everybody liked best were the singers. They would decide to have a singing at someone's house and two or three of the boys would get on their horses and start out going from house to house inviting. You didn't have to have an invitation to be welcome to come. If you got wind of it, that was an invitation. The house would be crowded with old folk and young. Some one of the good singers would have a tuning fork to get the pitch, and away they would go. Someone would ask for a special song and they would all sing it. They would sing for about two hours for nine o'clock was late bedtime. Then overshoes and shawls and hoods would be put on and they would light their lanterns and leave to meet again when someone else had a singing.

Those ancestors of ours worked hard and lived hard, but one thing they had, and that was faith in God, a love for his church, and reverence for his name. They lived in peace with each other as a general thing, although some of their feuds were long and bitter.

They expected and had an independent life, had respect for the rights of their friends and neighbors, shared their joys and sorrows, and always helped in time of need. We as descendants of them should be thankful for the heritage they gave us.

For they were the vanguard of the western civilization and made it easier for the ones that followed them.

I am proud of the family of which I came, and honor the ones who came to this country when it was still an English colony seeking independence and fought in the Revolutionary War, the French and Indian War, the war with Mexico, and the War Between the States. And in each war it was this country they were fighting for. I had one brother in World War I, two sons, a niece, and three nephews in World War II, and two grandsons have served four years each in the Navy and a grandson who served four years as a Marine.

Leona Estella Newton White was born on Jan 5, 1886. She was the daughter of Lucina Evaline Hunter (b. 3-30-1853 d. 11-12-1933) and George Augustus Newton (b. 9-23-1846 d. 11-8-1921). She married Edgar Madison White (b. 4-18-1881 d. 9-19-1943). Leona was killed, along with her daughter Helen Marjorie White, by a tornado that devastated Marion, IL on May 29, 1982.

HUNTER FAMILY RESEARCH CONDUCTED FOR STILL HUNTER, JR, OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

By Still Hunter, Jr. January 5, 2012

Beginning in the early 1980's, the noted genealogist, Elizabeth Shown Mills CG, CGL, FASG, researched the family of Still Hunter, Jr. of Birmingham. Over ten separate reports were done beginning with research into the family origins of Hardy Hunter who died in 1856 in Arkansas and who was known to have been born in North Carolina in 1777. Hardy Hunter was the proven great-great-grandfather of Still Hunter, Jr.

Ms. Mills eventually proved that Hardy Hunter was descended from the well-researched William Hunter of Nansemond County, Virginia. Many inventive techniques were used by Ms. Mills, including proving relationships by studying the migration of related families over several generations. This research was summarized in two reports entitled *Backtracking Hardy Hunter*. These reports were published in the Spring and Summer, 1986, editions of *The APG Quarterly*, the official publication of the Association of Professional Genealogists. These studies have been used in several college courses of genealogy as an example of ways to prove family relationships when facts are scarce.

After the basic work of tracing Still Hunter's family line was done, Hunter engaged Ms. Mills to attempt to trace the origins of William Hunter of Nansemond County who arrived in Virginia prior to 1685. Although there had been extensive research of William of Nansemond, it was unknown where he lived before Virginia.

Working with other well-regarded Southern genealogists, Ms. Mills found many similarities between William of Nansemond and a William Hunter who lived in

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Barnstable, Massachusetts, prior to 1685. The theory was proposed that these two Hunters *might* be the same person.

Many similarities of family names, ages and association with others, primarily Quakers, were found between the two men and their families. William Hunter of Barnstable was a Quaker. The children of William of Nansemond were known to be closely associated with Quakers in North Carolina. For example, in Onslow County, NC, where Nicholas 2, son of William of Nansemond, moved had no less than 22 families from the Barnstable/Plymouth area who settled near the Hunters. Nicholas 2 and several of his family members were witnesses at a Quaker wedding of the Wilson family. The naming patterns of both the Massachusetts and Virginia/North Carolina families were quite similar. The dates for the two families were compatible and there were no conflicts in time for the assumption that the two William Hunters were the same man.

The last study done by Ms. Mills in 1989 recommended strongly that a Boston area researcher be engaged to prove or disprove the theory that William Hunter of Nansemond County, Virginia, was the same person as William Hunter of Sandwich, Massachusetts.

In 2011, Still Hunter, Jr. employed Ms. Mills to find a researcher and attempt to verify the William Hunter theory. She engaged Melinde Lutz Byrne, FASG, to follow up on the research.

Within a few weeks, Ms. Byrne conclusively proved that William Hunter of Barnstable, Massachusetts, did NOT leave the Massachusetts Colony therefore proving that he was not the same person as William Hunter of Nansemond County, Virginia.

The Byrne report, along with her research notes, will be published on the Jacob Hunter Trust web site. It will also be submitted to Ancestry.com in order to put to rest as incorrect the earlier theory about William of Nansemond's origins.

A group of the descendants of William of Nansemond intends to continue research as to where William Hunter lived before coming to Nansemond County Virginia prior to 1685. It will not be an easy task!

Still Hunter, Jr. (1)
Birmingham, Alabama

(1) My line is William¹; Nicholas² of Onslow, NC; Job³ of Onslow & Duplin, NC; Nicholas⁴ of Duplin, NC; Hardy⁵ of Duplin, NC, Wilson Co, TN, & Sevier Co. Arkansas; William Edward⁶ of Sevier Co., Ark.; Still⁷ of Ark. and Jasper, AL; and Still Jr.⁸ of Jasper & Birmingham, AL.

War of 1812: Henry Hunter & the Death of British General Sir Edward Michael Pakenham

By Richard H. Hunter

In June of 1812, just 25 years after America's first war of independence, the U.S. Congress and President James Madison declared its second war against Great Britain. Great Britain had been humiliating Americans by attacking their merchant ships, killing American sailors, and forcing former English sailors into action in the British Navy during its war against Napoléon. Even more damaging was England's arming and inciting American Indians to attack settlers on the frontier in an attempt to restrict American settlements to the Eastern seaboard colonies. Tecumseh's Indian confederacy in the north and the Creek Indians in the south had wrecked havoc on frontier settlers for many years, armed and supported by the English, the French, and the Spanish.

The War proceeded on three fronts: the Northwest, the Southwest, and the East Coast. In the Northwest, Generals William Hull and William Henry Harrison led American troops that took control of Lake Erie and defeated Tecumseh's confederation. In the Southwest, General Andrew Jackson battled the Creek Nation in multiple battles in what is now the state of Alabama. General Jackson gained notoriety by winning the decisive Battle of Horseshoe Bend that brought revenge for the Indians' slaughter of Americans at Fort Mims in August of 1813. Emanuel Hunter, Henry Hunter's cousin, was with General Jackson in the campaigns against the Creek Indians, the Red Sticks, and their affiliated tribes in 1814.

On the East Coast, the British were winning decisive victories and on September 24, 1814 British Major General Robert Ross captured Washington, DC and proceeded to burn the Capitol, the Senate and House chambers, the US Arsenal, the Treasury Building, the War Office, the White House, and the great bridge over the Potomac River. Despite the victories on the frontier, the nation was demoralized by the British war success in the east.

In the fall of 1814, General Jackson was asked to raise another command to attack the British forces approaching New Orleans. The British had plans to capture territory and move up the Mississippi River and join with their Indian allies to surround American colonies and finish off the Americans. Again, Jackson relied primarily on frontiersmen, sharp shooters, and pioneer settlers from his native Tennessee and neighboring Kentucky territories. These rag-tag troops were mostly without uniforms and proper military gear but were very experienced with the Kentucky Long Rifle and knew how to survive on the frontier. These rugged, mostly Scots-Irish settlers had defended America's western boundaries for two hundred years and had the skills to defend themselves and their families.

One of the Tennessee Regiments was led by Colonel John Cocke and was designated the 2nd Regiment of West Tennessee Militia. Henry Hunter (1783-1876), son of Dempsey Hunter (II) (1755-1833), joined Captain Bird Nance's company. Dempsey Hunter (II) was a brother to Jacob Hunter (I) (c. 1755-1806), namesake of

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the Jacob Hunter Trust. Both Dempsey (II) and Jacob (I) fought the British in America's first war of independence just 25 years prior to the service of their sons Emmanuel and Henry in the War of 1812.

Colonel Cocke's Regiment of rag-tag frontiersmen travelled to New Orleans by a flotilla down the Cumberland and Mississippi Rivers. There were several preliminary skirmishes with the British around New Orleans, while British General Edward Pakenham began assembling his 10,000-man army just South of New Orleans. General Pakenham and his troops had successfully fought Napoléon's army and were experienced soldiers. General Jackson had about 4,000 troops made up of around 2,500 frontiersmen and sharp shooters, 1,000 regular army troops, and a few pirates, civilians, and some slaves sent to work on Jackson's fortifications. Jackson ordered a parapet built in an area bordered on one end by a swamp and the other by the Mississippi River. Here, the British would have to concentrate their attack without a substantial flanking potential.

General Pakenham ordered his artillery to open fire on January 8, 1815. His large army then began attacking Jackson's breastworks and was successfully repelled many times. During the battle, General Pakenham was riding his horse back and forth admonishing his men to continue their assault against Jackson's line. General Jackson approached Henry Hunter and pointing out General Pakenham asked, "Do you think you could hit him from here?" Henry replied, "Well, I've shot many a deer on Half Pone Mountain as far away as he is." Henry and his family lived near Half Pone Creek in middle Tennessee. "Load your gun," the General replied.



Henry loaded his Kentucky Long Rifle with a full charge, took aim, and fired. General Pakenham fell, mortally wounded and was drug off the battlefield where he subsequently died. Pakenham suffered a wound to his left knee where he had just been hit by flack from an artillery shell and immediately after received the fatal bullet in the chest from Henry Hunter's rifle. After Pakenham fell, the British Army disintegrated and retreated. This was the final major battle of the War of 1812.

General Pakenham hated America and Americans and had made his officers promise that if he were killed, they would take his body back to England for burial. The story is told that they pressed his body into a half-filled barrel of rum to preserve him for the long trip back to England. A major storm at sea delayed the return making food, water, and other supplies scarce. Rum was severely rationed. One sailor, crawling around in the hold of the ship, found what he thought was a full barrel of rum. As the word leaked out several shipmates consumed the rum

remaining in the barrel. When Pakenham's body began to stink, they found out what they had done and many became sickened. For many years there was a particular type of Jamaican Rum that was known as "Pakenham Rum."

General Pakenham was known to be a surly and unfriendly sort. It was reported that at his funeral one of his relatives stated that, "The General returned in better spirits than when he left."

Pauline White Mason (1911-2003), a descendant of Emanuel Hunter (Henry's first cousin), wrote about Henry Hunter. When Henry was an old man, he lived with his nephew Jacob Hunter (II) (Emanuel's son) on Jacob's farm near White Ash, IL. This is where the Jacob Hunter Cemetery is located. Pauline had taken notes of several family stories primarily from Earl Weaver, an early family historian, and Pauline's grandmother, Lucina Evelina Hunter Newton, who remembered her Great Uncle Henry Hunter.

When Henry would be asked about the decisive battle in America's 2nd war of independence, Henry would remark, "I heard afterwards that he had a bullet hole where I held, but others were firing too. I'd hate to know, for sure, that I killed a man."

Pauline's mother, Leona Estella Newton White (a granddaughter of Jacob Hunter (II)), recalled that when the War of 1812 was studied at school, the teacher always made her and her brothers rise and stand before the class while the teacher told the story of the War and said that, had it not been for a relative of theirs (Uncle Henry Hunter), it was probable that America would still be a part of England.

After the war, beginning in 1816, Henry and his cousin Emmanuel Hunter began bringing people from middle Tennessee to the Illinois country. He and Manuel served as guides, hunters, and protectors for several wagon trains of settlers from 1816 to 1824. Both these frontiersmen settled in Illinois and established families that remain today.

Lucina Evelina Hunter Newton (1853-1933) remembered Henry Hunter as an old man when he lived in her home with her father and mother Jacob and Mary Hunter. She recalled a trick she and her sisters played on this frail, tiny, blind man. He dearly loved to be led out on the porch on a sunny day and sit with his chair tilted back on the two back legs as it leaned against the wall of the cabin. Lucina and her sisters would carefully lead him out, place him in his chair, and then he would throw himself backwards against the wall to lodge his chair so it would be firmly settled. But sometimes, these mischievous children would move his chair out a bit; then when he threw himself backward, the chair would miss the wall, and Uncle Henry would land on his back on the floor, thin old legs waving in the air, helplessly crying out, "Gals, don't laugh, come give me a hand."

Henry enjoyed whittling and made walking canes. I (Richard Hunter) have a cane he made for Jacob Hunter (II), my gr grandfather. A portion of a deer horn is mounted on the top with the inscription "Jac.H. 1856."



Henry Hunter died on April 13, 1876 and lies buried in the Jacob Hunter Cemetery near his cousin, and fellow War of 1812 veteran, Emmanuel Hunter; his nephew, Jacob Hunter; and several other relatives.

When the Civil War came to America in the 1860s, the death and destruction was so severe that history has overlooked the importance of the War of 1812. Without the victories in that war, America would be a very different country today and its boundaries would, most likely, be contained between the Allegheny Mountain Range and the eastern seaboard. Spain, England, France, and a variety of Indian populations would continue to lay claim to much of the territories west and south of the Allegheny Mountains. America would not have become the great nation, as we know it today.

STATE OF TENNESSEE WARRANT # 2228 to JACOB HUNTER dated 1 JULY, 1809

By Thomas E. Hunter

The ancestors of Jacob Hunter, b. ca. 1755, d. 1806 Davidson County, Tennessee have claimed for years that a North Carolina Grant, *The State of Tennessee - No. 634, Warrant No. 2228* dated the 30th day of November 1784, entered on the 6th day of August 1807, surveyed October 17, 1807 for 600 acres located in Rutherford County on Flat Creek, a branch of the Duck River, was awarded to him for his Revolutionary War Service in the state militia of South Carolina. Further research has proven that the Jacob Hunter awarded this grant is a different Jacob Hunter than the one in our family line.

Tennessee, until after the Revolutionary War, was a part of the state of North Carolina. It ceded its western lands, the present state of Tennessee, in the year 1784 the first time to the federal government, but the Watauga settlers had formed the state of Franklin in this area that lasted 4 years. In the year 1790, the state of North Carolina again ceded its western lands and the federal government created the area known as the Territory South of the Ohio River. Tennessee became a state in the year 1796.

In the *Middle Tennessee Genealogy Journal*, Vol.VIII, page 109, "North Carolina's Military Reservation," it states, "In 1783 the North Carolina legislature sent three commissioners - Anthony Bledsoe, Isaac Shelby, and Absalom Tatum - with surveyors, chain carriers, a guard of one hundred men and six hunters into the Cumberland area. They were to survey the boundaries for the military reservation and determine which settlers were seated on the land before June 1, 1780 and thus entitled to preemption rights. This record book kept by David Shelby registered four hundred eighty-four settlers.For their services, the commissioners, surveyors, chain carriers, guard and hunters were paid with land."

"When North Carolina took control of her lands from the Crown in 1777, she established land entry offices in each of her counties. At that time, all of the

occupied land in what is now Tennessee was Washington County, North Carolina. Each head of the family could buy, for forty shillings per hundred acres, six hundred and forty acres for himself and one hundred acres for his wife and each child. Any amount above that cost five pounds per one hundred acres. By 1779 the population had increased and the entry takers office opened in Sullivan County, North Carolina (now Tennessee). These offices closed in 1781". On page 110, "Very few soldiers actually settled on the land; most of them sold their certificates."

In *North Carolina Research - Genealogy & Local History* by Helen F. M. Leary & Maurice R. Stirewalt, published by the North Carolina Genealogy Society, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1980, page 314 states "From 1778 until 1790 North Carolina routinely issued patents to its western lands, which subsequently came within the boundaries of Tennessee." "The Tennessee grants are of two kinds: (1) regular purchase grants, and (2) military bounty grants. The purchase grants were paid for; military bounty lands were awarded for service in the North Carolina Line of the Continental Army during the Revolution. Bounty lands were given according to the following schedule (all ranks suppose 84 months service from 1776 to 1783): private soldier, 640 acres; non-commissioned officers, 1,000 acres; subaltern (below the rank of captain), 2,560 acres; captain, 3,840 acres; major, 4,800 acres, lieutenant colonel, 5,760 acres; lieutenant colonel commandant, 7,200 acres; colonel, 7,200 acres; brigadier, 12,000 acres; chaplain, 7,200 acres; surgeon 4,600 acres; surgeon's mate, 2,560 acres. Bounty lands were given for service in the Continental Line (regular army) only, not for service in the militia, and no land within the present boundaries of North Carolina was granted for Revolutionary service of any kind."

In *Tennessee During the Revolutionary War* by Samuel Cole Williams, University of Tennessee Press, 1944, Chapter XXVI, page 213 stated, "The State of North Carolina, having a depleted treasury and being hard pressed by the Continental Congress to cede to the national government her Trans-Alleghany lands, as preliminary to such cession, in her general assembly took under consideration the rewarding of the officers and soldiers of her Continental Line -not her militia- for their patriotic services in the Revolutionary War." This book also lists what different soldiers would receive for their services.

In the above references, it was noted that only soldiers from the State of North Carolina who served 84 months with the Continental Line from 1778 to 1790 would receive bounty land from the state. It was also noted that no soldier serving in the state militia would receive bounty lands. Our Jacob Hunter, b. ca. 1755, d. 1806 Davidson County, Tennessee served in the (1) South Carolina Militia Volunteer Company of Colleton County Regiment under Capt. Andrew Cummins, 30 October, 1775, (2) South Carolina Militia, 3rd Regiment, commanded by Col. William Thompson, July 16, 1777. His first enlistment was in the year 1775 that was before the date the Revolutionary War started and outside of the dates listed as qualifications for a grant. The second enlistment was within the required dates but for the militia in the state of South Carolina, which disqualified him also.

On the website, <http://www.mindspring.com/~hunter-family/d488.htm#P488> Jacob Hunter applies for 640 acres in South Carolina which has the date of March 16,

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1784. On the warrant listed above is listed the date of November 30, 1784. That is only a period of about 8 months between the date he applied for a grant for land in Tennessee and the time he applied for a grant for land in South Carolina. This seems unlikely that he would apply in two different states at about the same time.

So who is the Jacob Hunter that applied for Warrant # 2228 for land in Tennessee on the Duck River? I don't know if anyone has done research on this warrant or not, but there are six Jacob Hunters registered with the Daughters of the American Revolution that we can study:

1. Jacob, b. ca. 1745 NC, d. 1798 NC. Married to Sarah Rodgers- private service North Carolina
2. Jacob, 1737 NC, d. 1784 NC, married to Sarah? , major & private service north Carolina
3. Jacob, 1755 NC, d. 1806 Tn. Married Polly, sol. South Carolina
4. Jacob, b. 1763 NC, d. 1856 Ky. Married (1) Mary? (2) Polly Montgomery, (3) Mrs. Elizabeth Skyles, Sol. VA.
5. Jacob, b. 1766 VA., d. 1836 GA. Married Anne Clarke, Pvt. VA.
6. Jacob, b. 1740 VA., d. 1780, married (1)? (2) Elizabeth Bush, public service VA.

As stated above two types of Grants were issued from 1778 to 1790 by North Carolina, (1) regular purchase and (2) military bounty grants. Jacob # 2 is the only one listed above as serving in the Continental Army from North Carolina, so he could possibly be the Jacob that received this warrant. But as a major, he would have been eligible for 4,800 acres. Any of the above Jacobs could also have purchased this Warrant. However, in my opinion, Jacob number 4 would be the one most likely to have applied for the above warrant since his family was living in Washington County (later Rutherford and Davidson) during the above dates.

In the book, *A Joseph Hunter Genealogy and his Jager Connection, 1650-2000* by Patricia F. Hunter, Knoxville, Tennessee (a copy of which is located at the Cheatham County Public Library at Ashland City, Tennessee) page 40 states: "In 1775, Brown negotiated a series of purchases with the Indians for two large tracts of land that cover most of the present counties of Washington and Greene, including the Cherokee Creek area....By the late 1770's and early 1780's, other settlers began moving into the land along Cherokee Creek. Included among the early landowners were John Hunter Sr., John Hunter Jr., Jacob Hunter, Charles Robertson, Peter Ruble, Philip, Ausmus.... And many others." The author cites the Watauga Association of Genealogists-Upper Tennessee, *History of Washington County, Tennessee* (Wadsworth Press, 1988) pp. 167-168 as her source.

This Jacob (# 4) has an unusual history, as his fore fathers were not listed as Hunters but as Jager/Yeager from England who changed their name to Hunter. This (Jager/Yeager)-Hunter family and Jacob lived in the western part of North Carolina (Washington County) that later became the state of Tennessee county of Rutherford. I believe Jacob (Jager/Yeager) Hunter purchased the land in Warrant # 2228 that was deeded to him on July 1, 1809.

William Benjamin Hunter's Civil War Record

(Born 1841 - Died 1 Sept 1864)

By Thomas E. Hunter

William Benjamin Hunter (1841-1864) was the 2nd of nine children of George Washington Hunter (1811-1878) born in Williamson County, Illinois. His description at the time of enlistment according to the National Archive Service Record file was 5 feet 8 inches tall, fair complexion, blue eyes, light hair, a farmer, 20-years of age. He was called to serve his country at Jeffersonville, Williamson County, Illinois on 4 November 1864 joining the Illinois 128th Regiment, Company B. His older brother, James Luke Hunter (1839-1922) was also called to the same unit according to his official discharge papers.

The 128th Illinois Regiment had a short history of less than five months, having been reduced from 860 members to 161 mainly because of desertions and a lack of discipline in the unit. All of the officers were dismissed and many of the remaining members reassigned to the 9th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment for a term of 3 years. William was reassigned along with 31 other members of Company B to the 9th Regiment Company F. Along with William were two of his cousins, sons of Elder Allen Hunter (1813-1896), Aaron Manuel Hunter (1841-1897) and Dr. Charles T. Hunter (1839-1914) as listed on the website <http://civilwar.ilgenweb.net/history128.html>. James Luke Hunter, his brother was discharged at Cairo, Illinois for a disability in March 1863 from the 128th Illinois Inf. but is not listed as a part of Company B, 9th Illinois. Further research needs to be done on his military enlistment.

William fought in several battles: Ft. Henry and Ft. Donelson - Feb. 1862, Shiloh - April 6 & 7, 1862, (where his unit had 63% casualties), Corinth - April 29 to May 30, 1862, Vicksburg - Dec. to July 4, 1863, and his final battle at Atlanta. In July and August of 1864 he was reported sick and died on 1st of September 1864 of Diarrhea. On 4 October 1864, his cousin Charles Thomas Hunter collected his bounty money of \$75.00 at Rome, Alabama.



His cousins remained in the unit until they were discharged 9 July 1865. Dr. Charles T. Hunter was promoted to the rank of 2nd Lt. when he was discharged.

William Benjamin Hunter is listed in the "Roll of Honor, Numbers XXII-XXIII" published by the U.S. Government Printing Office, 1869, reprinted by the Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., Baltimore, Md., 1994 as being laid to rest at the Marietta Georgia National Cemetery just north of Atlanta. Richard Hunter visited the cemetery in 2011 and provided the pictures of William's grave.

The Jacob Hunter Trust Account for 2011

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
<hr/>				
The Jacob Hunter Trust	10202 Briggs Road		Marion, IL 62959-5844	
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1/1/11	Balance Forward		\$14,695.46
1/3/11	Richard H. Hunter	\$500.00	\$15,195.46
1/3/11	Judith A. Mathews	\$300.00	\$15,495.46
1/5/11	John & Laura Hunter-Johnson Shedd Web Services (2011 support)	\$50.00	\$15,545.46
1/11/11		\$200.00	\$15,345.46
1/18/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.96	\$15,347.42
1/24/11	Fred E. Hunter	\$100.00	\$15,447.42
1/28/11	Amy & Tom Harmon	\$100.00	\$15,547.42
1/28/11	PayPal transaction fee	\$3.20	\$15,544.22
1/31/11	R. David Lee	\$100.00	\$15,644.22
2/1/11	Sharon Whitehead	\$100.00	\$15,744.22
2/8/11	Ella L. Abney	\$100.00	\$15,844.22
2/18/11	Interest on checking account	\$2.00	\$15,846.22
3/18/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.82	\$15,848.04
4/4/11	Nita Cowsert Johnson	\$25.00	\$15,873.04
4/15/11	R. Fred Hunter	\$300.00	\$16,173.04
4/18/11	Interest on checking account	\$2.03	\$16,175.07
5/2/11	Treasury Direct Interest LT5	\$25.00	\$16,200.07
5/2/11	Treasury Direct Interest HG8	\$96.88	\$16,296.95
5/18/11	Interest on checking account	\$2.00	\$16,298.95
6/2/11	Williamson County Treasurer (Taxes)	\$8.72	\$16,290.23
6/3/11	Matt Crain Mowing (AHC X4, JHC X2)	\$270.00	\$16,020.23
6/17/11	Interest on checking account Matt Crain Mowing (AHC X3, JHC X1)	\$185.00	\$15,837.23
7/6/11	Interest on checking account Matt Crain Mowing (AHC X3, JHC X1)	\$185.00	\$15,654.27
8/2/11	Interest on checking account Matt Crain Mowing (AHC X3, JHC X1)	\$185.00	\$15,471.28
8/18/11	Interest on checking account Matt Crain Mowing (AHC X 2, JHC X1)	\$135.00	\$15,337.61
9/4/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.33	\$15,472.61
9/16/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.35	\$15,338.96
10/3/11	Treasury Direct Interest HG8	\$96.88	\$15,435.84
10/18/11	Treasury Bill Principal HG8	\$5,025.00	\$20,460.84
10/31/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.57	\$20,462.41
11/18/11	Fred E. Hunter	\$100.00	\$20,562.41
12/17/11	Matt Crain Mowing AHC X 1	\$50.00	\$20,512.41
12/17/11	Thomas E. Hunter	\$100.00	\$20,612.41
12/19/11	Interest on checking account	\$1.57	\$20,613.98
12/16/11	Amy & Tom Harmon	\$100.00	\$20,713.98
12/26/11	Bank of Marion CD # 3001492	\$15,000.00	\$5,713.98
	GRAND TOTALS	\$16,221.92	\$7,240.44
	ACTUAL TOTALS MINUS CD	\$1,221.92	\$2,240.44

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PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING AN ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE JACOB HUNTER TRUST

In addition to publishing family history through the Jacob Hunter Trust Newsletter, the Trust maintains three, historic, family cemeteries. The Braxton Lee Cemetery in Ashland City TN is where our grandparents Braxton Lee, Annie Lee, Jacob Hunter, and Mary Polly Dancer Hunter Lee are buried. The Jacob Hunter Cemetery and the Allen Hunter Cemetery in Williamson County, IL are the burial locations of several of our great grandparents, great uncles, great aunts, and other family who married children or grandchildren of Jacob Hunter or the Reverend Allen Hunter. Costs associated with maintaining these two cemeteries with the respect due these early pioneers are substantial and will increase over time.

It is the objective of the Jacob Hunter Trust to raise sufficient funds so the account may be turned over to a professional trust administrator at a bank with a trust department. Before this can be done, the Trust needs to raise sufficient funds so that the interest on the money will cover the costs associated with perpetual care of these cemeteries.

We are asking all interested individuals to donate each year so the income can exceed the annual costs of cemetery maintenance and build a balance to the level required to provide perpetual care based on annual earnings.

We also need people who are interested in providing support via Gifts and Bequests to the Jacob Hunter Trust. Judge Robert S. Hunter has written instructions (see article below) for leaving money through one's will, "payable on death" (POD) to the Jacob Hunter Trust. The Jacob Hunter Trust is registered with the IRS as a tax-exempt 501 (c) 13 charitable organization. Donating to the Jacob Hunter Trust may provide substantial tax benefits.

Gifts and Bequests to the Jacob Hunter Trust

By Judge Robert S. Hunter, Quincy, IL

Your gift or bequest can help to assure that the Jacob Hunter Cemetery, the Allen Hunter Cemetery, and the Braxton Lee Cemetery can be restored and maintained for eternity. The easiest way to accomplish this is to make gifts from time to time. You can do so by making checks payable to "Jacob Hunter Trust" where funds will be strictly controlled and used only for purposes that are consistent with the trust objectives.

You can remember the trust in your will. A simple bequest, as follows will suffice: "I give and bequeath to the Jacob Hunter Trust, a trust created to preserve the burial grounds of descendants of Jacob Hunter the sum of \$(amount)."

Another simple way to make a gift to the trust is known as the payable on death account (POD). You can open such an account at your bank or savings and loan. You open this kind of account by creating it in the name of "(Your name)

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Payable on Death to the Jacob Hunter Trust." The Trustee is Richard H. Hunter, 10202 Briggs Road, Marion, IL 62959-5844.

There are numerous advantages to such an account: 1. you retain full control over it as long as you live, 2. you can increase or decrease the amount or close it out without notifying anyone, 3. you are entitled to the income therefrom as long as you live, 4. it is entirely confidential. The only difference between it and any other account you own is that, upon your death, the balance that is in the account is paid to the Jacob Hunter Trust. The Jacob Hunter Trust is registered with the IRS as a tax-exempt 501 (c) (13) organization.

By contributing to the Trust, you will be strengthening our efforts to preserve family cemeteries, compile further historical information, and share information with interested relatives and selected public libraries.

Notice to Readers:

For all readers of this Newsletter, please contact the Trust via email at: rich@jacobhuntertrust.org, by mail at: 10202 Briggs Road, Marion, IL 62959, or by phone at: 618 997-1044 to let us know if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, would like to add additional family members to our mailings, or would like to make a contributions to the Trust. Please visit our website and sign up to receive notice when we publish a newsletter, make a contribution to the Trust, or join in our blog.

The Jacob Hunter Trust has a few more copies of *Hunter-Lee Family Notes of Belva Armetta Hunter Hall* available for a donation of \$ 150.00 to the Jacob Hunter Trust. Throughout her life, Belva Hunter Hall was dedicated to preserving Hunter family history. She kept several small notebooks where she would record events, meetings with relatives, and listings of children and grandchildren. Belva was a granddaughter of the esteemed Reverend Allen Hunter and his wife Elizabeth Lee. Many of her notebooks and family records are preserved in the files of the Jacob Hunter Trust.

There are several pages discussing Jacob Hunter, Braxton Lee, Manuel Hunter, citing historical dates and family memories. Of special interest are notes Belva's father, Marion Jacob Hunter, wrote to her on June 14, 1922 and notes from her mother Sarah Florence Dial Hunter dated May 2, 1942. This book of Belva's handwritten notes is a valuable record, especially for descendants of the Reverend Allen Hunter and Elizabeth Lee and their 15 children

Ernest E. Hunt, IV maintains a genealogical record of our line of Hunters on his website: <http://mindspring.com/~hunter-family/index.htm>. We work closely with Mr. Hunt and maintain a link to his website from the Trust's website.

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R. David Lee maintains a genealogy of the Lee family that is maintained on the Jacob Hunter Trust website.

Please visit these sites often along with the other family-related websites found in our "Links" section at www.JacobHunterTrust.org.

The Jacob Hunter Trust is grateful for your support of our work and our mission to preserve the rich history of our extended Hunter, Lee, and related families.