This format of our weekly/bi-weekly newsletter started when the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the Museum closed. We wanted to make sure our members and partners were staying informed about what we were up to, but we also wanted to provide something to take your minds off of the stress of the unknown and to fill your time when you couldn’t leave the house. We hope you have enjoyed the videos, quizzes, crosswords and the postcard series and that it has kept you engaged with Niagara's history during this time.

We want to thank John Sayers for the wonderful research he has shared through his postcard series. We still have a couple more submissions from the Judith Sayers collection that we will continue to share with you through our quarterly member newsletter.

Tomorrow, Niagara moves into Stage 3 of the Province's reopening and this will mean that almost all businesses will open. Many of our local organizations will also start to bring back their programming, gallery hours and events. Although a lot of events will remain digital or be altered from the original, we want to help promote what is happening in Town.

So, we will be bringing back the Cultural Newsletter in August that many of you are familiar with. This communication shares the cultural events and happenings in Niagara-on-the-Lake and celebrates all the wonderful work our cultural partners are doing in the community. Plus, we will still continue to share with you weekly updates relevant to the Museum at the same time.

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support us through pig roasts, online donations, gift shop sales and member renewals. Without you we would not have managed successfully through these trying times. We will keep you updated on any changes to our operating hours as the re-opening phases progress, as well as our upcoming fall programming and special events.
UPCOMING WEBINARS

All presentations start at 4 pm and require online registration:

**July 30 | Sarah Kaufman** - Ask the Curator (submit your questions to us ahead of time!)
REGISTER HERE

**August 13 | Barbara Worthy** - Virtual Scandal & Gossip Tour of Niagara-on-the-Lake
REGISTER HERE

**August 20 | John Henry** - The Cayuga and her consorts: Remembering those beloved Niagara-to-Toronto steamers
REGISTER HERE

**August 27 | Scott Finlay** - Ten Things That Will Save Your Life in the Trenches
REGISTER HERE

Recordings will be emailed to all members following each presentation

NOTL MUSEUM DOC CLUB

We are looking for participants for a new monthly documentary club. Each month from September to December, we will send you a documentary to watch, which will be followed by an online discussion group. Films will all be sent as links to the National Film Board of Canada's online resources and participants will meet on Zoom on the first Friday of the month for a discussion led by our Visitor & Member Services Coordinator, Babs Worthy. Films will all be historical in nature but will cover a variety of topics.

If you would like to be part of this monthly club, please email Babs at bworthy@nhsm.ca.

THIS WEEK'S FUN LINKS:

"Ordinance Boundary Stones of Niagara-on-The-Lake" Recording

"Some Women in Niagara-on-the-Lake's History" Recording

**Virtual Exhibit:**
NHS 125th Anniversary

**Staff emails:**
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Babs: bworthy@nhsm.ca
A NOTL Genealogist’s Delight

This postcard resides in the John Sayers collection of ocean liner postcards rather than spouse Judith’s collection of NOTL material. But it could belong in either one. Let me tell you why.

The shipping line, the Henderson Line, sailed to the Far East via South Africa, so the passenger who wrote this in 1922 could have been sailing as far as Burma. “So,” you ask, “What has this got to do with Niagara-on-the-Lake? The trick is to turn the card over and see where the addressee, ‘My Dear Alexander’ lived.

Given the context of this series, you won’t be surprised to hear that the addressee is ‘Master Alex Hunter, Stone Road, Niagara on the Lake’. Certainly the ‘Hunter’ name is well known in town today (including a street name).

Clearly the sender is well known to the family and to young Alex. They apologize for including the card in a letter to ‘J’. Why were they in England and why were they going to the Far East?

When you hit a challenge such as this one you call upon a genealogist – in this case our local genealogist extraordinaire, David Hemmings. David gave us a lot of answers.

John
Alec was a very young boy when this postcard was sent to him.
He was the son of William Hunter, who built the Hunter Farm on Hunter Road – the family still owns it today.
I think Doug Hunter is still alive at Pleasant Manor. They are strong Presbyterians (St. Andrews).
If you need more, please let me know.
There are no other Hunter alternatives of this name at this time.
David

David also furnished other family information from a search of public records. It appears that Alex was born in 1919, the seventh of nine children of William Hunter and Alexina Muir. The youngest, Douglas, is the Doug Hunter referred to in David Hemmings’s report. The oldest child, Jessie, is probably the ‘J’ to whom the sender refers.

Other sites disclosed that William Hunter and his wife had come from Scotland in 1912 aboard the Cassandra of the Anchor Line. He worked for the Niagara Land & Fruit Co. and later bought a farm which had been known as the Bufton Farm and then came to be known as the Hunter Farm.

David’s records show that young Alex grew up in town, married, and had four sons, all of whom are reported as still alive.

When you find a letter such as this one to Alex, you wonder where it has been all these years and how it came into the hands of the dealer from whom you bought it. Regardless, today it is a NOTL genealogist’s delight. Thank you, David Hemmings.

Judith Sayers (jasayers@saybuck.com) has a large collection of postcards of Niagara Camp and Niagara-on-the-Lake which will be shared with you in this series.