



CHARLESTOWN BRANCH  
BUNKER HILL, MA

DOVER BRANCH, DURHAM, N.H.

TOPSFIELD BRANCH  
NANTUCKET, MA

No. 206

February 2024

## WATERMELON SURPRISE

In our continued story of the successful gardening of the Thomas Bunker family on Bourbon Way, the credit went to the organic gardening methods used by Pat Bunker. However, today our picture of two enormous watermelon vines had nothing to do with organic garden methods at all.

They are growing over a gravelled front yard where the gravel takes the place of a lawn very neatly. It's bounded by a rail fence and palms, scrubs and yucca to give accent to corners and against the house. One palm grows in the center. It is watered by an underground pipe and the ground slopes gently toward the street and to the south.

This is the setting for our happening. It seems that last summer a truck from Texas, loaded with oversized Texas watermelons, came trundling down the street, attended by two hucksters, who were peddling their wares up and down the byways in the heat of the summer in a leisurely fashion. One was a tall, husky fellow and the other, on the ground, was an undersized helper. The one on the truck thought it great fun to toss down melons weighing 50 pounds or more to the helper down below. This type of horseplay ended when one of those monster Texas melons slipped though and smashed on the pavement and the little guy began bombarding his tormenter with hunks of the juicy fruit, bringing about a full-fledged watermelon fight in the middle of the street.

In the course of this a large chunk landed under the palm in the Bunker yard in just the right spot. After the fight was finally over and the men sheepishly cleaned up the mess they'd made, the seeds lay there, unseen by anyone, to lie until spring and sprouting time.

Only two vines resulted but, fed by the underground water supply and whatever plant food had been given the palm, they developed rapidly into a very attractive ground cover. From just a short way off no melons are visible but, standing in the midst of the vines, the monster melons are everywhere under cover. In one spot six of them, weighing over 30 pounds each, lie like eggs in a basket.

Seventeen melons developed, as well as a half-developed one just discovered. Three have been stolen, as is the fate of melons in melon patches, and a strict watch now is being kept by neighbors and family alike to give them a chance to ripen thoroughly.

Mrs. Bunker said she planted watermelons in her organic garden but had no luck there. It would seem the melons liked that rocky ground but probably more especially that deep supply of water.

A lady from Sunset Magazine visited the Bunkers and took pictures of their organic garden and also the melon patch in front. She was absolutely amazed that the melons would grow here like that. Mrs. Bunker had entered her garden in a contest conducted by Sunset and it's quite possible pictures of either the melon patch or the organic garden she's developed will appear in later issues. We'll be looking for it.

It seems that volunteer plants always do so well. I'm thinking of throwing out seeds of melons next year just about everywhere they do best. No more neat rows for me!

WEEDER'S DIGEST by Adelene Burtlett, published in *Las Vegas Review Journal* 1972-09-10, p. 99

This article brought such memories for me. When my husband was young, he and his friends were unloading squash off a wagon when one of the squashes hit one of the boys smack in the face and splattered all over. Ever after, the poor kid was called squash-head. Years later when I met him, the first thing he said was, "Don't you dare call me squash-head."

It also reminded me of us kids stealing watermelons every summer and the farmers shooting at us with rock salt. Many a melon got dropped and splattered all over as we ran away.

- Bette

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### **SEND DUES PAYMENTS TO:**

Bunker Family Association, 3292 Royalwood Drive,  
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to: [BFAcontributions@gmail.com](mailto:BFAcontributions@gmail.com) – Write “renew  
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sent to your account.

### **STATEMENT**

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- Benefactor \$300 - Humanitarian \$400 - Philanthropist \$500

The **Bunker Family Association** is recognized as a tax-  
exempt organization; contributions qualify as charitable  
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**Join the largest Bunker association in the world.**  
[www.BunkerFamilyAssn.org](http://www.BunkerFamilyAssn.org)

## **President's Note**

While looking through crafting books, trying to get  
inspiration for Valentine's Day, I found a book I have no  
memory of buying. Usually I hate when that happens!  
However, I learned some new things from it. “The Art of  
the Family Tree” by Jenn Mason, (available at Amazon  
used) has multiple ideas for ways to artfully display one's  
family tree. It made me realize another way to appeal to  
younger family members. We often spend hours having  
fallen into the research rabbit hole following fact after  
fact. It gets a little boring sometimes. Some of us like a  
more tactile activity. As it is the month for it, I am  
making a personal goal of recording the history behind  
those facts. After all, it's the history that bring our  
ancestors to life in our memories. Even if we find the  
stories have been embellished over the years, it still is  
another way to engage us to our past.

I was surprised to find, on a trip to Dublin, how  
passionate the Irish can be about their history. The Irish  
have not been painted very attractively in our minds. The  
history I was aware of involved them dying from the  
potato famine and being treated poorly as immigrants to  
America.

The Irish Family History Centre

<https://www.irishfamilyhistorycentre.com> has many  
sources to find family. The population of Ireland HAS  
NOT recovered from the loss of population due to famine  
and emigration. There were 8 million people. That  
number dropped to 4 million and is currently about 6  
million. Imagine! That is the population of the  
Dallas/Fort Worth area! There are currently more Irish  
people in America than there are in Ireland. When you  
lose half your family, a desire to reconnect the dots to  
your “people” becomes even greater.

Know your people. Tell their stories.

P.S. I would be remiss if I neglect to mention our beloved  
Gil Bunker. Gil has reluctantly stepped down from his  
duties of Editor of the Bunker Family Association  
newsletter, the *Bunker Banner*. There are not enough  
words to tell him how much I and my family appreciate  
him and his dedication to BFA.

BFA members can become more involved in our activities  
by volunteering for assignments as Vice President,  
Banner editor, Graveyard Committee chair, or members  
of the scholarship committee. If interested in any of these  
positions, please contact me.

- LiAnn

## Book Sale

### Devonshire Bunkers – 2000

-Bette Bunker Richards

Descendants of James (D-1) on a USB flash-drive.  
Approximately 1,333 pages in length, it updates  
the 1982 Bunker Genealogy – parts of the  
1965 Bunker Genealogy and more.

It includes descendants of:

- James (D-1) Bunker of Dover, New Hampshire
- Benjamin Bunker & Betsey Daniels, New London, NH
- Thomas Bunker & Alice Pertie, Rattery, Devon, UK
- William Bunker & Ann Forrester, New Castle, DE
  - Devonshire Parish Records
- Military service info for Bunkers from all branches
- Nearly 100 pictures      • Maps      • Indexes

### Bedfordshire Bunkers – 2008

-Bette Bunker Richards

Descendants of

Roger Bunker, Tingrith, Bedfordshire, England  
available on a USB flash-drive, including:

- George (C-1) Bunker of Charlestown,
- George (N-1) Bunker of Nantucket

and the following connected by DNA tests:

- Joseph Bunker (b ca.1797 St. Albans, UK) and Mary
- Henry Bunker (c1814-1866) m. Mary Ann Cassiday
  - Thomas Bunker and Clarissa Chamberlin

Plus:

- Parish records (except Devon) that are copied to date
- Military service info for Bunkers from all branches
- Ships named *Bunker Hill* (with histories & photos)
  - Numerous images and photographs

One book \$25.00; both books on one USB \$35.00

Mail to: Dan Greenland, 3292 Royalwood Drive,  
Taylorsville Utah 84129

- Indicate which drive you want •

Long-time members of the BFA will recognize that the format of this issue is different—principally in its length (previous issues were usually 12-16 pages).

Future issues may continue to be shorter, and formatted (as is this issue) so we do not have to mail in envelopes. Making changes such as these likely will save money for the association.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the first issue of the Bunker Banner since Gil Bunker retired as editor. As you can see, it is not up to the standard Gil set for many years. I have been a member of the Bunker Family Association since before the first Banner was published. I have provided research for many of the articles that have been published over the years and I will keep doing that as long as I can. However, I am 86 years old, my eyesight is failing and I have arthritis in my hands, which made it very difficult to edit this edition of the Banner. I cannot continue to edit it. Doug Detling has volunteered to take over as editor on a temporary basis, but we would like to find another member who can learn the duties and take over more permanently. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact LiAnn Pennington.

- Bette

## Cousin Conundrums

Reunions Magazine, December 2023 [Reunions Magazine - Family, class, military reunion planning resources](#) contains an article by our President, LiAnn Pennington. Good going LiAnn!

### LT.-COM. BUNKER HEADS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

#### Annual Meeting of National Body Held in This City

Lt.-Com. C.W.O. Bunker, U.S.M.C. of Washington, was elected president of the Bunker Family Association of North America yesterday afternoon at the annual meeting held at the Vendome. Anne Everett Bunker of Auburndale was elected secretary-treasurer.

The following were chosen as vice-presidents: Mrs. James R. Pringle of Gloucester, Horace M. Bunker of New York, Alfred Bunker of Roxbury, Eugene L. Bunker of Newton, Mrs. Eva E. Bunker of Providence.

A genealogical committee was chosen, composed of Lt.-Com. Bunker, Capt. Paige S. Bunker, U.S.A.; Cornelia Scott of Washington, Dr. Jane Bunker of Brooklyn, Eva E. Bunker, Col. Paul D. Bunker, U.S.A.; Nathaniel Bunker of Belmont, and the Rev. Fred G. Bunker of Wilton, Ct. The following membership committee was also elected: Mrs. James Watson, Newmarket, N.H., chairman; Alice M. Bunker of Roxbury, and Mrs. Annie R. Lewis.

Following the elections there was a discussion and a reading. Mrs. Vina Bunker Pringle presided.

*Boston Herald* 1922-06-18, p. 8

## **SEBEWA FARMER INPLICATED**

PORTLAND, MICH. JULY 14 – Perry Arnold, a well-known Sebewa farmer, was arrested in Portland last night, charged with assaulting with intent to kill. A few nights ago Will Nichols of the same town was arrested on the same charge, having stabbed Pat Bunker in a Portland saloon. Nichols has since told the officers that Arnold coaxed him to do the stabbing.  
*Grand Rapids Herald* 1899-07-15, p. 2)

## **Fire destroys Hamel home**

Fire early this morning completely destroyed the home of Mrs. Pat Bunker of Green Hedge Road near Hamel, according to a Madison County Sheriff's Department report.

Mrs. Bunker was not at home during the fire because she was reported to be remarried Thursday and was on her honeymoon.

Deputies said the Hamel Fire Department was able to save a garage and a parked vehicle in the yard.  
*Edwardsville Intelligencer* 1977-07-15, p. 5

## **Boy Shot is Recovering**

Jake Bunker, 1902 Stewart street, who was accidentally shot in the left side last Sunday afternoon by a companion, while playing soldier, was improved in condition yesterday. According to physicians, he will recover.

*Daily Illinois State Register* 1917-05-15, p. 9

**Captain Joseph Bunker** yesterday paid the School Fund \$15 and the costs of prosecution for the privilege of having blackened Jake Fricker's eyes. Jake showed up on the witness-stand with both optics still in mourning for the loss of his position in the Fire Department.

*Cincinnati Daily Enquirer* 1873-11-18, p. 8

## **EUGENE J. BUNKER, LUMBER DEALER**

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### **An Extensive Dealer in All Kinds of White Pine Lumber, Lath and Shingles.**

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The mission of this review is to set forth a few of the more salient facts concerning the present status of the city as a living-lasting force and factor in the commercial and industrial life of this section. A thoroughly representative house, which has always had the best interests of the city at heart and has striven to advance its prosperity, is that of Eugene J. Bunker.

There is hardly any business pursuit in which the interests of both capital and labor are more at stake than in the lumber industry. It takes a large amount of capital to conduct this work and it gives employment to a large force of workingmen.

Eugene J. Bunker is an extensive dealer in all kinds of white pine lumber, lath and shingles. This is an old, popular and well established firm, and controls a good portion of the business done in this important branch of industry.

Mr. Bunker keeps constantly in close touch with the conditions of the market and is thus prepared to quote the lowest prices. Mr. Bunker has a large yard and is prepared at all times to fill all retail orders and it is a well known fact that his customers are always taken care of and orders filled with all possible dispatch.

Mr. Bunker has his office and yards at 401 Lake Avenue.

*Labor World* 1910-05-14, p. 5 -Duluth, MN

**Orville Eugene Bunker** was born in Kenosha, WI, Nov. 25, 1853 and went to Kent County, Michigan, with his parents, John Wesley Bunker and Mary Louise Walkey, when he was two years old. His family were pioneers in the county. He lived in Newaygo County, MI, for 60 years before his death Sept. 1, 1936. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. He and his wife, Cylisa McDonald had ten children.

*Muskegon Chronicle* 1936-09-03, p. 13

## **European Trip Deferred**

Miss Minnie Bunker of Berkeley is still in the East, where she has been spending the summer visiting with friends in Maine. With her is her sister, Mrs. Benjamin F. Weston of Palo Alto. Miss Bunker, who is first vice president of the College Women's Club, left here in May with the intention of going to Europe almost immediately. Her European visit has been deferred in favor of her Eastern visit.

Miss Bunker and Mrs. Weston are now at York Harbor, Me.

*San Francisco Chronicle* 1929-08-27, p. 36; D-295-VI,  
*Devon Bunkers* 2007, p. 207

## **TREASURE HUNT RENEWED**

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### **San Francisco Policeman to Try Again in South America.**

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Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 12 – Having obtained an extended furlough to enable him to undertake a second treasure hunt on Cocoa Island, Walter Bunker, a police patrolman, left today for the little dot in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Peru, where he hoped to unearth a vast store of gold said to have been buried on the island 200 years ago. Bunker has obtained the use of a yacht belonging to J. Bender, Mexican capitalist, who accompanies the expedition. Bunker's former expedition failed on account of trouble with his crew.  
(perhaps D-442-V, *Devon Bunkers* 2007, p. 282)



## **SAMUEL BUNKER, CIVIL WAR CAVALRYMAN, DEAD**

BUCHANAN – Samuel Bunker, 91, Civil War veteran, died here Sunday. He served in Company K, 11<sup>th</sup> Michigan cavalry, three years.

Mr. Bunker was born in a log cabin in the “Bend” of the St. Joseph river, a few miles from here, and had been a life long resident. He was one of four brothers, all of whom saw service in the Union army.

He is survived by two sons, Eugene Bunker, former manager of the Postal Telegraph, and now of Detroit, and A. Tennyson Bunker, chief of the Buchanan fire department.

*Kalamazoo Gazette*, 1935-12-23, p. 3; D-471 F, *Devon Bunkers* 2007, p. 306 contains a picture of the log cabin he was born in)

**Capt. Willis E. Bunker**, in schooner “Margaret Leonard” is the “high-liner” amongst all the fishing vessels in this vicinity, having stocked \$2,000 up to the last of June.

*Ellsworth American* 1900-07-18, p. 7; D-590, *Devon Bunkers* 2007, p. 386)

## **In Memory Of**

### **Ann E. Bunker**

**April 8, 1952 - Nov. 3, 2023**

AUBURN - Ann E. Bunker, 71, of Hamilton Avenue, Auburn passed away Friday, November 3, 2023 in Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester. A life resident of Auburn, Ann was born April 8, 1952, the daughter of the late Richard and Carolina Leitner Bunker.

Across her personal life and career, Ann possessed a deep belief in doing what she could to create a safe, fair, and equitable community.

Ann received her B.A. in Sociology from SUNY Albany in 1974 and went on to earn her Juris Doctorate from Syracuse University College of Law in 1984.

The majority of her career in law was spent as a Sole Practitioner in general practice with an emphasis on Family Law, Juvenile Advocacy, and Domestic Relations. She also worked for the Cayuga Integrated Domestic Violence Court from 2005 to 2015.

Outside of her law career, Ann was the first woman to be elected to the Auburn City Council, where she served two terms. She co-founded the Sexual Assault Victims' Advocate Resource (SAVAR) and worked for the

Cayuga County Action Program (now the Cayuga-Seneca Community Action Agency). She also oversaw the Falcon Park Stadium Project as the Auburn Community Baseball Board President.

She is survived by her loving husband, William "Bill" Cadwallader; two sons: Adam Cadwallader and Benjamin Cadwallader (fiance, Alicia Cabral); sisters: Carol Barbagallo and Jean Bunker; one niece, Chris Barbagallo; and several loving extended family members and friends.

Friends are invited to join the family for a funeral service to be offered 10:00 a.m. Thursday, November 9, 2023 in the United Methodist Church, 99 South Street, Auburn. Burial will follow in Fort Hill Cemetery. Calling hours for Ann will be conducted Wednesday, November 8, 2023 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the White Chapel Funeral Home Inc., 197 South Street, Auburn.

Contributions may be made in memory of Ann to the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Programs (CAP) (<https://caphelps.org/>). To offer condolences, please visit <http://www.whitechapelafh.com>.

*The Citizen* (New York) on Nov. 7, 2023.

### **Joseph James Bunker**

**December 29, 1967 – September 27, 2023**

Joe passed away peacefully in his home near Dallas, TX early Wednesday morning. September 27. Succumbing to the devastating effects of cancer. Surrounded by his wife, mother, and son, Joe left this mortal existence to return to our loving Heavenly Parents. Joe was born in Provo, UT to Claudia Thompson and James Bunker. He was the oldest of five children and took on that role seriously as the leader of the family. Joe learned about hard work and love of family from an early age. He also knew how to play hard and enjoy life. Joe was preceded in death by his father, Jim, and other loved ones. He will be greatly missed by many family members and friends left behind including his 4 beautiful children: Zach, Madie, Hally and Justin; his lovely wife, Heather and her children: Hannah Wenninger (Weston), Hayden Hodapp (girlfriend Corbie Chapman), Thomas Hodapp; his amazing mother Claudia; brothers Paul (Danielle), Mark (Lisa), and Brandon (Amber); his sister Jame Taggart (Chris), and many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held Saturday October 7 at the LDS chapel located at 2301 East 7600 South, Cottonwood Heights. The funeral followed the visitation.

*Deseret News* Sept 29-Oct 1, 2023; D734-I *Devon Bunkers* 2007 p. 561)

## Henry L. Bunker IV

With heavy hearts, we announce the death of Henry L. Bunker IV of Newton, Massachusetts, born in Wilmington, Delaware, who passed away on September 27, 2023 at the age of 78.

He was loved and cherished by many people including his parents, Carolyn Bunker (Watts) and Henry L. Bunker, III.

No services are planned.

(U-37-IV, Devon Branch)

## Craig Allen Bunker

**March 2, 1976 – July 29, 2023**

Craig Allen Bunker, age 47, of Mackinac Island passed away unexpectedly on July 29, 2023. He was born on March 2, 1976, in Petoskey, Michigan.

Craig was a lifelong resident of Mackinac Island. After graduating from Mackinac Island Public School, he attended Olivet College earning a Bachelor of Arts degree and was a member of Phi Alpha Pi Fraternity.

He was a tremendous athlete and fierce competitor and lived life to the fullest. He loved all sports, but softball, basketball, and soccer were his favorites. He was also an avid University of Michigan fan and went to many UM-MSU rivalry games with his dad and friend Mike (even though Mike was an MSU fan). He also loved the Tiger Lions and the LA Lakers and could be heard yelling at the TV when any of his teams were playing.

Craig was an avid outdoorsman having learned how to hunt at an early age from his grandfather, Ike in the Cedarville area and then with his father and many of his island friends on Bois Blanc. In addition to hunting you could find him out on the ice fishing.

Craig was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He also served as a 20+ year volunteer on the Mackinac Island Fire Department. He coached both basketball and golf at Mackinac Island Public School and in recent years could be seen running the scoreboard (and sideline coaching) volleyball games.

Craig was loved by all and hated by none. He will truly be missed.

Craig is survived by his daughter, Lakelyn; mother Brenda; father, Clay Fuller; partner, Mary Patay; grandmother, Elaine Bunker; aunts and uncles, Isaac Jr; Clark; Jennifer Bunker, and Shan Nichols, Patricia, Marion Bunker and Jay Davis; cousins, Michael and Madison Gamble, Nicholas and Vincent Davis, Marie Bunker and Melissa, Joe, Kylee and Ally Meehan, and Lakelyn's mother, Holly DeZwann.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Isaac Bunker, Sr., and uncles, Mike Gamble and Scott Fuller.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for any donation to be made to Mackinac Firefighters Association, PO Box 122, Mackinac Island, MI 49757.

Galer Funeral Homes of Pickford, Michigan, is serving the family. Condolences may be left to the family at [www.galerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.galerfuneralhomes.com) (grandson of D-1299)