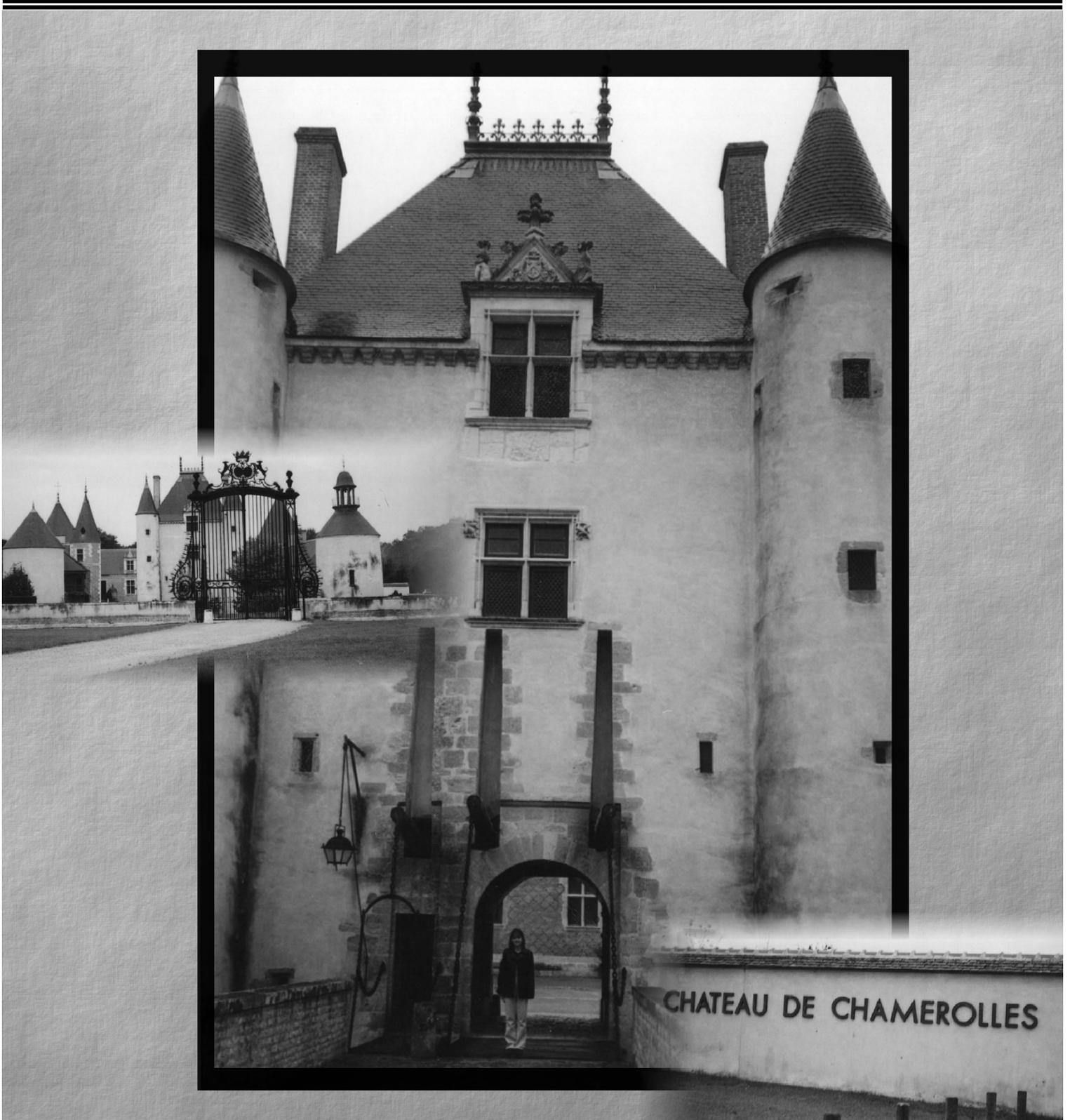


# The Cross of Languedoc

A Publication of the National Huguenot Society

*Fall 2002*

“May God keep us steadfast as He kept them steadfast, and in our joy or sorrow,  
may we know, as they knew, that underneath are the Everlasting Arms”.





### Internet Web Site An Award Winner

The National Huguenot Society Web site has been named one of the 101 best Web sites for 2002 by *Family Tree Magazine*. The listing of all 101 sites judged by *Family Tree Magazine* to be of extraordinary value to genealogists was featured in the June 2002 issue of the magazine, and is listed on their web site. Highlights from the article in the print edition of their magazine can be viewed on the Web by pointing your Internet browser to <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/magazine.asp>, and following the link under the "Features" heading. The National Huguenot Society site is listed in the linked page of 101 best Web sites under "Religious Roots."

Each day *Family Tree Magazine* features information and links to one of these 101 sites on its main home page at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com>. Additionally, this is the third year that *Family Tree Magazine* has selected what it considers to be the best genealogical sites on the Web. Listings and links to the 2000, 2001, and the 2002 sites are also available on this page. It would be extremely worthwhile for any genealogist to review these sites, as it is very likely that the genealogical information you are searching for is available through one of these sites.

The Webmaster of our own National Huguenot Society Web at <http://huguenot.netnation.com> invites us to visit the National Society site often for up-to date information on activities and programs. He also invites state societies and local chapters who wish to develop or display their own Web page to contact him via e-mail at [webmaster@huguenot.netnation.com](mailto:webmaster@huguenot.netnation.com). (Editor's note: Thanks to Stephen Gerth)



(Cover Story)

### *Chateau Chamerolles*

In 1620, Henri Streing and Marie Babault were married in Chateau Chamerolles in the Loire Valley near Orleans, France, 90 miles South of Paris. Chamerolles was the only Protestant Chateau in the country and was a center of Huguenot activity for followers of John Calvin at the University of Orleans.

Shortly afterward, the Catholic French King was persuaded to finally decree that all Huguenots were to convert to Catholicism or be killed. In fact, about 50,000 were killed, and many Huguenots fled France, some to England, then New Rochelle and Rye, NY. One of those descendants was Ernest Edgar Strang, Sr., who died at age 101 in Lavaca, Arkansas in December, 1994.

Chateau Chamerolles was taken over by the French Catholic Church and converted by covering the Protestant creed with a Catholic creed, etc. In the 1980's an U.S. descendant of Henri Streing convinced the French government to spend \$11,000,000 to restore the ruins of Chamerolles. It was reopened in 1988 with many from the surviving generations present for a private inaugural, including 16 from the U.S., eight of them children of Ernest E. Strang, Sr., and their spouses.

## *The President General's Message*

During the year 2002 we had hoped to accomplish good and positive endeavors in keeping with the Society's true purposes. As reported in the Minutes printed in this issue, much was accomplished with full discussion and participation at the Semi-Annual Meeting and Annual Congress which met in combined session in April 2002 in Washington, DC. All members are urged to read the published minutes. An excellent job has been done by the Recording Secretary General. The session was a long one and in an abundance of caution, two recorders were used.

Good works without reward have also resulted in a much improved financial situation as was shown by the report of the Treasurer General. Dues of all Member (State) Societies have been paid. Generous contributions from both individuals and Member Societies have been received. It became necessary for the Society to file amended 990 Tax Forms for the years 1998, 1999, and 2000 and to file 990T Forms for those years as well. Those forms were filed before the end of the year 2001. Because the Schwab account was extensive for a period of time, much work was involved in finding the basis for each stock holding. We were most fortunate to have a well qualified Associate Member complete these forms for filing, at no charge to the Society. The 990 and 990T Tax Forms for the year 2001, although not due until 15 May 2002, were filed in January 2002. We had three Treasurer Generals in the year 2001 - but we are ahead of schedule with our tax filing.

Our Headquarters Office is operating well. The Registrar General and our unpaid office staff at Bloomington, MN, in true Huguenot devotion, have spent hours in assuring the successful operation of that office.

The Scholarship Fund (which is restricted to scholarships alone) has accumulated interest which could easily award two scholarships to qualifying students who are members of The National Huguenot Society, during the present year without endangering the next calendar year awarding. Application Forms are available as is further information referenced on our web site. Application Forms are also available from Member (State) Society Presidents.

Two Member Societies, failing in required membership or available officers, requested that they be disbanded and their members be transferred to Member-At-Large status. The Annual Congress acted accordingly. There is hope that those Societies may be re-organized at a later date. The good news is that we still have a Texas Society that is an integral part of the National Society -- with approximately 145 members and their numbers are growing. Many Texas members have worked to make that Society a worthy example of dedicated Huguenot Spirit.

The President General was the guest of the Maryland Society at their May meeting. She will visit with the Arkansas Society in October - their State meeting will be followed by the National Semi-Annual Council Meeting in Little Rock. In early November the President General will visit the Tennessee Society. Please know that your kind invitations are much appreciated.

In true Huguenot Faith and Devotion,

Neoma O. O'Brien (5 July 2002)

## THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY 66TH ANNUAL CONGRESS MINUTES SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2002

The meeting of the 66th Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society was called to order at 9:30 A.M., in the Colonial Theater of the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. by President General Neoma O'Brien.

The invocation was given by Chaplain General, Reverend John C. Davis, the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America led by First Vice President General, Stephen Gerth, and the Huguenot Pledge to The Flag of The United States of America led by Third Vice President General, Barrett L. McKown.

Barrett L. McKown, Chairman of the Credentials Committee gave the credential report as follows:

General Officers	9
Delegates	23
Alternates	3
Members	1
Guests	<u>1</u>
Present & Registered	37

Quorum declared by the President General - Bylaws state that 12 Member Societies must be represented.

The standing rules were read by Barrett L. McKown, Third Vice President General. It was moved to adopt the standing rules. Motion carried; no discussion - standing rules will be adopted for this Congress.

It was moved that the printed program be adopted - motion carried.

President General Neoma O'Brien entertained a motion to combine the General Council Meeting and the Congress into a joint meeting. The General Council unanimously approved the motion - The Annual Congress unanimously voted to combine the two meetings. President General Neoma O'Brien called the combined meetings together as previously approved. (Annual Congress - General Council).

Report of the National Officers:

Report of the President General - Neoma O'Brien gave her report. (Attached)

Report of First Vice President - Stephen Gerth, summarized his report, (Attached)

Report of Third Vice President, Barrett L. McKown - will be giving reports throughout the meeting.

Report of Chaplain General, Reverend John C. Davis reported 61 deaths since April 2001. Complete Report and Necrology is attached.

Report of Recording Secretary General, Nadine S. Hardin, reported that minutes for the General Officers Meeting held in Minnesota in October 2001 were prepared and printed in the Cross.

Report of Treasurer General, Mrs. Foley White Harris. Nancy gave her report and handed out copies to all present. Report and Financial Statement is attached.

Second Vice President, David Smith - Not Present - No Report.

Corresponding Secretary General, Roy M. Smith. - Not Present - No Report

Surgeon General, Dr. Clarence Pickard. Not Present - Sent regrets.

Genealogist General, Polly Jane Statham. Not Present - No Report

Report of Organizing Secretary General, Grace Dupree read by Recording Secretary General, Nadine S. Hardin. (Report Attached)

President General Neoma O'Brien thanked all Member (State) Societies and individuals for their cash contributions - listed in last *Cross* publication, others will be listed in the next issue of the *Cross*.

Questions and much discussion followed the Treasurer General's Report. President General Neoma O'Brien stated that an audit is in progress. As a result of the discussion the following motion was made by Robert Storm, Connecticut delegate, and seconded by James Barr, Illinois delegate.

"The Counselor General is directed to obtain all documentation relating to the institution of the former margin-trading account of the National Huguenot Society with Charles Schwab, and to report to the Society regarding the opening of that account." Standing vote taken to approve motion - 31 in favor - none opposed - unanimous.

President General Neoma O'Brien addressed exploring the bonding of the Treasurer General. James Barr, Illinois Delegate, volunteered to explore the possibility and feasibility of bonding the Treasurer General with several sources.

Mr. John Howard, an associate member, asked to speak concerning the Advent Trust matter. A motion to suspend the Standing Rule in order to allow Mr. Howard, a non-member to speak carried. - Standing vote taken (21 for; 8 opposed). However, Counselor General, C. William Swinford, Jr., asked to give his report before Mr. Howard spoke.

Report of Counselor General, C. William Swinford, Jr., - handed out report (4 pages) to the body and gave his report. (Attached)

Status of claims and litigations - Advent Trust Company.

Texas matter.

Copyright matters - Arthur Louis Finnell.

Miscellaneous matters - legal opinions.

President General, Neoma O'Brien, asked that the two remaining reports of General Officer (Registrar General and Historian General) be delayed. - Agreed.

President General, Neoma O'Brien, asked Mr. John Howard to speak at this time. Mr. Howard declined based on Counselor General's remarks. There is an ongoing Department of Justice investigation of Advent Trust Company - with grand jury. Mr. John Howard spoke briefly saying that he has been investigating on his own accord for the past two years. It is his contention that Huguenot money (in CDs) is in jumbo accounts along with funds from others.

Recess - 10 minutes.

Report of Registrar General Grace Virginia Rice - report given. (Attached)

Chaplain General, John C. Davis, gave blessing.

Adjournment for lunch in Cabinet Room - to reconvene at 1:00 p.m.

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The afternoon session was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by President General Neoma O'Brien.

Program and Planning Chair, David Stringfellow, introduced guest speaker Dr. Mark Holt, Professor of History at George Mason University. Focused on French Wars of Religion.

The book, 'Louise Moillon – Seventeenth Century Still-Life Artist', written by Helen Sowa (of the Illinois Society) was presented to Dr. Holt by President General, Neoma O'Brien. The President General also presented a copy of the recently published National Huguenot Society Directory, which lists the Huguenot ancestor of each of our members, to Dr. Holt. A box of Huguenot note cards (a product produced by the Wisconsin Society) was also presented to Dr. Holt.

Report of Historian General - Samuel Greeley, gave his report.

No Honorary President Generals present. No report - none filed.

Richard Smith, Sr., Chairman of Scholarship Award Committee, stated that recipient of \$5,000.00 per student, need not have financial need, but must be a member of The National Huguenot Society. A grade point average of 3.0 is required. The applicant must have had two years of college, be presently enrolled in college or be engaged in graduate work. Richard Smith made a motion that this 66th Annual Congress (April 2002) approve the guidelines for Scholarship Awards as published in the *Cross* and adopted in the General Council Meeting of October 2001. - motion carried.

#### Member (State) Society Reports:

Alabama	Not Present
Arizona	Not Present
Arkansas	Report Given
California	Report Given
Connecticut	Report Given
Delaware	Report Given
Georgia	No Report
Illinois	Report Given
Kentucky	Report Filed
Maryland	Report Given
Nebraska	Report Given
Oklahoma	No Report
Oregon	No Report
Pennsylvania	Report Given Complete Report filed
Rhode Island	No Report
Tennessee	
Texas	*Without objection, motion carried that Texas report be read even though neither President nor delegate was present. (Read by Recording Sec. Gen.)
Utah	No Report
Vermont	No Report
Virginia	No Report
Washington State	Report Given
Washington, D.C.	Report Given
West Virginia	No Report
Wisconsin	Report Given

Business Session:

I. Proposed budget for January 1 – December 31, 2003 was presented by Nancy Harris, Treasurer General, with a copy for each delegate – motion carried to approve budget.

II. Two Member Societies have requested that they be disbanded:

(1) Louisiana gave a donation of \$1,000.00 to the National Society. An additional \$600.00 was asked to be retained by The National Society for the Louisiana Society should that Member Society be reinstated. They have paid current dues and members will be transferred to Members-at-Large status.

2) The Montana Society has paid dues and donated the remainder of its treasury to The National Society. Members of the Montana Society will be transferred to Member-At-Large status.

Treasurer General will send each Member-At-Large a bill for \$15.00 when dues are due.

Motions carried that the Member Societies of Louisiana and Montana be disbanded and paid members become Members-At-Large.

III. Recommendation by the Board of General Officers for 67th Congress - dates are April 4th and 5th, 2003, in Washington, D.C. Motion by Recording Secretary General. Motion carried.

IV. Arthur Finnell - Copyright matter. A motion was made that the Executive Officers of the National Huguenot Society be directed to expeditiously apply for a copyright to existing Bible records now the property of the National Huguenot Society to be known as Huguenot Bible Records Vol. 2. Motion by Jim Barr, Illinois - seconded by Connie Sparrow, Maryland - motion carried.

V. Reading of the Bylaws.

Proposed amendments to the Bylaws were submitted to the Member Societies at least 60 days prior to the Annual Congress. Three separate sets of bylaw amendments. First changes within two sections of current bylaws:

- Date due of Member Society dues to be changed from February 15 to January 15.
- Freeze dues payable of life members prior to April 18, 2001, at \$5.00 - those establishing life membership after that date, April 18, 2001 - dues will be prevailing rate of regular membership as determined by Annual Congress - motion carried.

Second proposed Amendment change:

- Article 9 - concerning Section H re Treasurer General - paragraph I summary: deposit money in institutions that are federally insured - ensuring that highest security is in place for the monies at no risk. Motion carried.

Third proposed amendment change:

- Abolish title of Executive Director - Sec. I - re Registrar General - adds duties - #8 signing all authorizations for purchase of Insignia.
- Article 9 - Section N - replace all regarding paid positions and appointed positions. Motion carried.

A COPY OF BYLAWS AS AMENDED IS ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES.

VI. Election of Nominating Committee -

This Committee will elect its own Chair. The most recently elected Honorary President General, Dixon Barr, is automatic member of the Committee. One of the General Officers - Samuel Greeley was elected.

One of the Member Society Presidents - Richard Smith, Sr. was elected. Member that is east of Mississippi River -

*(continued on page 8)*

(continued from page 7)

Betty Miller, (PA) was elected. Member that is west of Mississippi River - MarJo Dill, (AR) was elected. The above named were elected as the five required members of the Committee for Nominations, to select a candidate for each General Office position.

VII. Sam Greeley moved to propose consideration of periodic new locations for Annual Congress meetings other than in Washington, D.C. - Motion carried.

Recess - 5 minutes.

Memorial service conducted by Chaplain General Reverend John C. Davis .

Due to time consideration, the memorial wreath will be placed at the Vietnam Memorial Sunday, 7 April, 2002, at 9:30 AM.\*

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to attend the President General's Tea held in the Mezzanine.

\*Placing of the memorial wreath was attended by: President General, Neoma O'Brien; Chaplain General, Reverend John C. Davis; First Vice President General, Stephen Gerth; Recording Secretary General, Nadine S. Hardin; Arkansas Society President, MarJo Dill; Lori Hardin; Carolyn Davis; and James Dewey O'Brien.

Nadine S. Hardin  
Recording Secretary General



REMEMBERING HUGUENOT MARKERS THAT HAVE BEEN PLACED BY STATE HUGUENOT SOCIETIES

Florida Huguenot Society:

The Ernst D'Erlach Chapter, The Huguenot Society of Florida, on May 13, 1978 dedicated and placed the following marker:

NEAR THIS SITE THE FIRST CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE IN NORTH AMERICA IS SAID TO HAVE OCCURRED IN 1566 BETWEEN ERNST d'ERLACH A FRENCH HUGUENOT NOBLEMAN AND PRINCESS ISSENA OF THE TIMUCUAN INDIAN TRIBE.

The Florida Society reports that, sadly, the marker has been somewhat displaced by recent construction. The good news is that plans are underway to move the marker to a nearby but safer location where it can be viewed in an improved location. Also, plans are underway for the Ernst d'Erlach Chapter to be re-organized.

**\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\***

*Please send to the Chaplain General, the name of deceased members and the name of the nearest relative. Complete information is requested including National Number and Offices held. Rev. Davis would like to have the information as soon as possible. He does wish to contact the family.*

*Send to: Rev. John C. Davis; Chaplain General; P.O. Box 493; Evans, Georgia 30809-0493*

*and*

*Name of the deceased along with National Number and last address should also be sent to the Registrar General, at the Headquarters Office:*

*9033 Lyndale Avenue South, Suite 108; Bloomington, MN 55420-3535. The office email address may also be used for this purpose.*

## The Role of Languedoc in Huguenot History

by James Dewey O'Brien, J. D.

Article XIII, Section C, of the National Huguenot Society's Bylaws, provides that:

"The insignia of the National Society shall be the Languedoc version of the Huguenot Cross as discovered by the Reverend Andrew Maihelt in the Province of Languedoc."

The origin of the name Languedoc was a linguistic one. As Latin scholars learn in Julius Caesar's Commentaries, all Gaul was divided into three parts in his time, with the region south of the Loire River being inhabited by the Aquitanians. After the fall of the Roman Empire, the language of what later became France was called *lingua romana*. Eventually, this dialect split into two parts: the speech in the region north of the Loire River was called *langue d'oïl* and that south of the Loire was called *langue d'oc*.

It should not be supposed that these two divisions were uniform throughout France. The Basques, on both sides of the Pyrennes, living mostly in what was the Kingdom of Navarre, spoke (and still speak) a language of unknown origin; the Provençal dialect developed in the extreme south of France, with its ballads and troubadours; and the Bretons in Brittany spoke (and some still speak) a Keltic language similar to that in Cornwall and Wales, Brythonic, as distinguished from the Goidelic of Eire and Scotland. (Source: *The Races of Europe* by Professor Carleton S. Coon of Harvard University, The MacMillan Company, 1948.)

The origin of "oc" was the Latin "hoc" (this); "oïl" was a fusion of the Latin words "hoc ille" (this-that). (Will Durant, Vol. IV, p.904. (This has been verified further by our neighbor, a retired Professor of French who, though born north of the Loire, has roots in Montpellier which, in Huguenot times, was famed throughout Europe as a medical center. She (Mrs. Herbert LeVan) states that in north France the "e" in "langue" is weak whereas it is pronounced distinctly in Languedoc.)

Because of its broad connotation, the name Languedoc

in this article will be used in its regional sense as most writers cited appear to have done.

The importance of Languedoc in the formative years of this Society is shown by the fact that the Cross of Languedoc was adopted as an emblem of the newly formed Federation of Huguenot Societies in America on June 6, 1931. (Minutes, Vol. 1, p. 2 1.) The Minutes also reflect that, at a memorial service in St. John's Episcopal Church (D.C.) commemorating the Edict of Nantes, "the Huguenot hymn 'La Cevenole' was sung for the first time in this city (Washington), if not in America".

The Cevanne mountains in Languedoc, where events inspired the hymn "La Cevenole", was renowned as a redoubt for Huguenots in times of war. Cardinal Richelieu noted in his memoirs that "This has always been the course of the armies of the Huguenot parties since they have existed in France". (Memoires du Cardinal de Richelieu, ii 17, Library of Congress.) That Languedoc was regarded as a safe haven for Huguenots during the military career of Henry of Navarre is reflected in *The History of France* by Andre Maurois of the Academie of France: before deciding to march on Paris after the assassination of Henri III, Henry of Navarre (Henry IV) considered "withdrawing back into Languedoc", but decided to march north. (Maurois, p. 66.)

It is not surprising that Henry of Navarre, himself, considered Languedoc to represent safety. Except for a few years as a child at the Court in Paris, most of his formative years were spent in Bearn, the only French province remaining in the Kingdom of Navarre, under the tutelage of his devoutly Huguenot mother, Jeanne, daughter of the famous protector of the Huguenots, Queen Marguerite of Navarre. After the St. Bartholomew Day massacre and Henry had escaped from Paris, he said he felt safe after crossing the Loire River, saying: "Thank God for this deliverance! \*\*\*\*they murdered the Admiral (Coligny) and my best friends, and but for God's protection they would have done the same to me". (Henry of Navarre by Henry Dwight Sedgwick, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1930 ed., DC Society Library. This book contains excerpts from Henry's numerous letters both during and between campaigns.)

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One of the most graphic illustrations of the identification and status of Huguenot towns can be found in a map, Vol. 1, frontis, of "The Huguenots and the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes", by Professor Henry M. Baird, University of City of New York, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1895 ed. (DC Society Library). It bears out fully the statement by Hans J. Hillerbrand in "The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation", p. 263, that "the numerical strength of the French Calvinists was in the South", Oxford University Press (Library of Congress).

Long before the Reformation, the South of France had seen repeated church reform movements. Reformers were burned at the stake in Languedoc as early as 1023. Durant, Vol. IV, p. 769. About 1170 the teachings of Pierre Valdes (Peter Waldo) in Languedoc and neighboring areas led to the translation of the Bible into langue d'oc. Ibid, pp.769-770; Ency. Brit., Vol. 12, p. 460. The followers of Valdes persisted for several centuries and migrated abroad. (The principal colony named for Pierre Valdes is the town of Valdese in Burke Co., NC.) The Cathars of south France, preaching nonviolent resistance, survived for many years. One of their strongholds was used as the castle for the Kevin Costner film version of Robin Hood. (Wash. Post, Aug. 24, 1997.)

This article is by no means intended to denigrate the strong Huguenot influence and sacrifices in other parts of France. The sacrifices of the people of La Rochelle warrant that city particular mention. Although it is south of the Loire River and within the regional and linguistic definition of Languedoc, as a major seaport and long-time commercial center, it had an identity very much its own.

In conclusion, it is submitted that, in view of the foregoing, it is most appropriate that the official publication of The National Huguenot Society is titled The Cross of Languedoc.



## THIS and THAT

### TREASURERS:

Deadline for dues is NOW **January 15.**



### **WANTED – INFORMATION**

Samuel Greeley, Historian General, needs your assistance adding information to our Historian General Huguenot ancestor files.

Do YOU know?

- a) **WHO** are they? Names and relationship to you?
- b) **WHAT** is their national origin(s) and individual character, stature in their society?
- c) From **WHERE** exactly in the world did your ancestors originate?
- d) **WHEN** did they start migrating to America or other nations?
- e) **WHY** did this trip start?

Send your information to the Historian General:  
Mr. Samuel E. Greeley  
4529 W. Bonnie Court  
Mequon, WI 53092-2128



### **GENEALOGICAL QUERIES**

Queries will be placed in THE CROSS OF LANGUEDOC for those seeking to prove descent from a French Huguenot or someone may wish to obtain more family information. Please send queries to the Editor, with a check in the amount of \$5.00 per query made payable to The National Huguenot Society.



### DO YOU KNOW THAT...

*It is a desirable thing to be well-descended, but the glory belongs to our ancestors.* —Plutarch

*The law of heredity is that all undesirable traits come from the other parent.* —Anonymous



## **NECROLOGY 2001 - 2002**

The following members were memorialized in the service for the Huguenot Faithful Departed 6 April 2002.

### **ARKANSAS**

Ms. Bennie Frownfelter Burkett  
Mrs. Thelma Cook Martineau

### **CALIFORNIA**

Mr. Lester DeTurk  
Mrs. George (Mariam Parr) Hopiak  
Miss Kathy Koesler  
Ms. Georgia Manning  
Mr. Robert James McNerney  
Ms. Sally Jean B. Newton  
Mr. Armine Wright Waldrop

### **CONNECTICUT**

Mr. Charles Alfred Strange

### **DELAWARE**

Ms. Gretchen Helen Griggs  
Mr. William Gaillard Mikell  
Ms. Lucille Naudain Napier

### **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

Mr. Dallas Hunter  
Mrs. Raymond Moses Owen, Jr.  
Mrs. Donald (Eleanor Hall) Saunders

### **FLORIDA**

Ms. Nancy Gaillard Garry Chadwick  
Mrs. Willie (Helen) Crossfield  
Ms. Lucy Dorsey  
Ms. Elizabeth Gayord  
Miss Jane Grinwell  
Mrs. James H. Lipscomb, Jr.

### **GEORGIA**

Mr. Robert Randolph Jones  
Mrs. Robert S. Mattox

### **ILLINOIS**

Mrs. Gerald (Ruth) Bohrer  
Ms. Louise Michalek  
Mrs. John (Hazel) Pensock  
Mrs. Sherman W. Reed  
Mrs. Verne (Majorie) Swigert

### **IOWA**

Ms. Lila Tudor Carpenter  
Mrs. Ralph (Ruth Spencer) Lehman  
Mr. Stanley Wilson Mahannah  
Mr. Wendall Glen Wall

### **MISSOURI**

Mrs. Charles (Marilyn) Evans

### **NEW MEXICO**

Mr. George L. Dingman  
Mr. Macon Garrett Gean

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

Mrs. Gladys Peck Johnson  
Mr. Francis (Joe) Ruth

### **OHIO**

Mr. Harold Miller  
Mr. Victor K. Thomas

### **OKLAHOMA**

Mrs. Mary Helen Smith Denker

### **PENNSYLVANIA**

Mrs. Charles (Virginia) Cordes  
Ms. Thelma Kostenbauder

### **TENNESSEE**

Mrs. Nathaniel (Gibson Elizabeth) McKay

### **TEXAS**

Mrs. Russell (Kathleen) Bridges  
Mrs. Margaret McDonald Camicheal  
Ms. Lucille Skillern Issac  
Ms. Pauline Jackson Kunze  
Mrs. Crystelle Robert Wickett

### **VIRGINIA**

Mrs. Marjorie Choate Armentrout  
Mrs. Thomas Baber  
Mr. John de Forest  
Mrs. Eliza Copenhagen Gordon  
Mr. Dallas Walker Hunter  
Mrs. Manila Henry Leidy  
Mrs. Jacquelyn Henry Street  
Mr. Guerin Todd  
Mr. James Weaver  
Ms. Elizabeth Baum Wings  
Mrs. Elsa Sharp Woodaman  
**WISCONSIN**  
Mr. John Terry Brown, Jr.

## **REPORTS OF STATE PRESIDENTS**

### **66<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONGRESS**

#### **April 6, 2002**

#### **WASHINGTON, D.C.**

We are an active society, holding three meetings a year with regular communications to all of our members.

The Society held its Day of Remembrance Service on October 27, 2001 at historic St. John's Church with the service conducted by Rev. Dr. Frank Spindler. The business meeting and luncheon followed at the Army and Navy Club.

The Founders Day meeting was held December 1, 2001 at the Westchester Dining Room with a presentation on the Huguenot Society of South Carolina being given by Nancy Harris.

The Annual Meeting was held on March 2, 2002 at the Westchester Dining Room. At the meeting two \$800 scholarships were awarded to two students for their college education. The students are Huguenot descendants.

At the July 4, 2001 ceremony at Congressional Cemetery to honor Elbridge Gerry, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, the Huguenot Society of Washington, D.C. was represented.

The Huguenot Society of Washington, D.C. sends The National Huguenot Society its very best wishes.  
David J. Stringfellow, President

#### **DELAWARE**

We currently have 47 members. Our next meeting will be held April 28, 2002 at the Hale Bynes House.

Sunday, October 6, Professor John Gardner of Delaware State will speak on Botanist's Huguenot descendants. The meeting will be held at the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, formerly a Huguenot farm.

President Kim Burdick was the guest speaker at our last meeting about Louise de Pont Crowninshield.  
Kim Burdick, President

#### **TEXAS**

2001 brought changes to The Huguenot Society of Texas. When I inherited the office of State President, it was with a determined spirit that our Society continue for those of us who are loyal to the National Society, and the ideals it stands for. There have been many heart warming letters and telephone calls, and they all are appreciated and valued. This includes members of the National Board as well as our Texas members. We look forward to growing and going about our work to promote the objects and goals of our fellowship to honor our Huguenot ancestors.

The Texas Society now has 109 members, 52 of La-Rochelle Chapter, and 57 Languedoc Chapter. Our State Assembly was held Saturday, 16 February 2002 at the Holiday Inn Select in Dallas, TX. Thirty members attended. We were honored to have our President General, Mrs. James Dewey O'Brien, meet with us. During the meeting she installed and reaffirmed the State Society officers. She graciously commented on our progress and determination.

With the determined spirit of our Huguenot ancestors, Texas is a strong society.  
Grace Fisher DeuPree, President

#### **CALIFORNIA**

The Huguenot Society of California is alive and well, comprising two chapters-La Rochelle and San Francisco Bay. Our membership as of December 3, 2001 stood at 135 including 26 Life Members plus five Friends and seven Associates. There were five deaths and three resignations.

The Annual meeting is held in the spring with both chapters attending. Each chapter meets separately during the year. San Francisco Bay meets twice and La Rochelle meets four times with programs emphasizing history of Huguenot and family genealogy. Each chapter continues to award scholarships to graduate students at local universities.  
Lola Robertson, President

#### **WISCONSIN**

Our society held two luncheon meetings last year: July 2001 – We toured the new Calatrava wing of Milwaukee Art Museum named by *TIME* magazine “best design of 2001.” Chief Museum Educator and society member Barbara Brown Lee guided us through the new addition overlooking Lake Michigan as well as renovated sections. She enthusiastically shared fascinating details about exquisite art pieces and noted specific art in the French collection. We had an excellent luncheon at the beautiful, nearby Boulevard Inn including a fine Languedoc wine.

President General Neoma O'Brien addressed our group and installed the 2001-2003 officers: President Carol Chew, Vice President Samuel E. Greeley, Secretary Karen Broman, Treasurer William H. Roddis, Registrar Hazel Franseen, Chaplain Andree Orsina, and Historian Sara Hogoboom.

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November 2001 – We met at popular Pandl's in Bayside restaurant for our annual fall commemorative meeting. Carol Chew showed Huguenot history materials, which had been displayed in two glass cases at the Milwaukee County Historical Society for several months.

The exhibit is now mounted on several panels, which can be used in libraries, schools, etc. Each member and guest attending received a copy of the current, beautifully illustrated issue of *Christian History* devoted to Huguenot history.

Our meetings were publicized through our newsletter, Wisconsin Lineage Societies website, and Alliance Française newsletters and calendars.

We continue to sell our Huguenot stamp design note cards. Our newsletter has a new format and our brochure is ready for a second printing.

Our former president, Samuel Greeley, now serves as Historian General.  
Carol Chew, President

### PENNSYLVANIA

As of January 1, 2002 our total membership stands at 337. This figure consists of 131 life members, 197 annual members, and nine annual members that have not responded to our correspondence as of today. We lost three annual members and one life member due to death in the past year.

On April 28, 2001, we had our 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Assembly and Church service at St. Peter's Church in the Great Valley in Malvern, PA. On October 26, 2001, we celebrated the Four Hundred and Eighty Fourth Anniversary of the Reformation, 1557-2001 at the Emmanuel Evangelical Congressional Church, Hatfield, PA. Both of the services were conducted by our Chaplain Reverend Gregory Forrest Dimick. The Colors were paraded at each under the command of Captain Robert Reynolds Van Gullick, Jr., and each was followed by a High Tea reception.

We also met for three council meetings on October 3, 2001, December 5, 2001, and March 6, 2002 at the Merion Cricket Club in Merion, PA.

Kristen M. Thompson, our scholarship student at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, continues to do well. She was chosen to study abroad for the 2001-2002 academic year in Toulouse, France.

Our project with the Historical Society of PA has just been completed. Prior to my tenure as President, the PA Society donated all their records (archives and library material) to the HSP. They now have all been fully processed and catalogued and available at [www.hsp.org](http://www.hsp.org).  
Richard Smith, President

### NEBRASKA

The Huguenot Society of Nebraska consists of 20 members from several cities in Nebraska and Missouri. We are few in members, but mighty, "stay alive" by our members' interest in the continual well-being and growth of our society, and to honor our Huguenot ancestors and their valiant history.

We have several potential new members whose membership we pursue by helping them complete their application papers. Of our present membership, 10 or 12 vitally interested members attend our semi-annual meetings which are held in May and October.

We present books on the Huguenot stories to our local historical library and interesting historical programs are presented at our meetings.

This writer, the present Nebraska State President, has attended the National Congress for the past four years which has had a positive effect to our state society by taking back to Nebraska a personal national view of the greatness of such a society which honors our Huguenot ancestors.

Fran McNenny, President

### ARKANSAS

During the past year, the Arkansas Society has been very active. We have 50 members and seven Friends of the Society. Our three yearly meetings are held in Little Rock.

We are presently working on an appropriate award in honor of the Organizing President of our Society, Thelma Cook Martineau, who passed away last August.

Our Society achieved its yearly goals of giving a \$300 scholarship to a deserving college student and giving books to libraries around the state and to the AR History Commission about the Huguenots.

Our programs have been interesting and educational. We took a pictorial trip to France, which is the ancestral home of several of our members, and heard presentations from the Director of the Arkansas History Commission, the former United States Senator Dale Bumpers, and Charles Strange, an author of Huguenot history.

One of our goals is to increase membership. New committees, Public Awareness and membership, have been created in an effort to reach this goal.

Like the rest of the nation, we all have been saddened by the events of September 11 and acknowledged the tragedy with a moment of silence in October.

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All of our members are so very proud of a member of our Society, Nadine Hardin, who presently serves as Recording Secretary General. The AR State Society is excited and looks forward to the National Council meeting in October of this year to be held in Little Rock.

MarJo Thornton Dill, President



It is with great sadness that we report that **Clarence Mott "Jack" Pickard** died Sunday, July 14, 2002 in Columbia, Missouri. He is survived by his wife, Erica Carlan Pickard, and four children.

Dr. Pickard received a doctoral degree in 1948 from Johns Hopkins Medical School. He was a retired Commander in the Naval Reserve. Dr. Pickard practiced internal medicine in Columbia for 35 years, retiring in 1992.

He was currently serving as Surgeon General of The National Huguenot Society. He was a member of Calvary Episcopal Church in Columbia. A memorial service will be at a later date.

## ***THANK YOU!!!***

The genuine appreciation of The National Society is expressed to those who give willingly, their time, talent, and financial assistance to assure that the Faith and Philosophy of the Huguenots will be preserved.

Contributions during February - April 2002 made to the Operations Fund by both individuals and Member (State) Societies are listed below.

The Huguenot Society of Illinois  
Mrs. Richard A. Myers, President

The Huguenot Society of Louisiana  
Mr. Earl L. Little, Jr., President

The Huguenot Society of New Mexico  
Mrs. Robert E. Berry, President

Dr. Arnold R. Lewis  
Member of California Society  
(A second donation)

The Huguenot Society of Indiana  
Mr. Allen Moore, Treasurer

The Huguenot Society of Georgia  
Mr. Guyton B. McCall, Treasurer

### **Conference Internationale des Huguenots Internasionale Hugenote Konferensie International Huguenot Conference**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Huguenot Conference will be held in Stellenbosch and Franschhoek ("French Corner") in South Africa from 25 -27 September 2002.

The theme of the conference is:  
**The Huguenots: Origins, Settlement and Influence – the story of a Refugee people.**

*For more information go to the website: <http://www.geocities.com/hugenoteblad/conference/>*

## ***CANTERBURY***

*by*  
Arnold Raymond Lewis, TH.D.

It's a great feeling that I still have not run out of Huguenot historical places I've been fortunate enough to visit, Canterbury is one more such.

Historian James H. Robinson calls it "the religious capital of England." (*An Introduction to the History of Western Europe*, Boston, Ginn, 1931, p 61). Others describe the city as the spiritual center of all Great Britain, in large part because the Cathedral itself is the Mother Church of England and of some 80 million Anglicans worldwide.

So it was an emotional experience for me simply to enter this lovely Gothic edifice in 1998, knowing that it dates back nearly 1,000 years. How I wished that those walls could talk. After being overwhelmed with the grandeur of the nave, my wife and I had to inspect every inch of the choir loft (quire), for back home, Mary has sung in church choirs all her life.

Then we strolled down to the crypt, which is directly beneath the quire, taking in all the nooks and crannies enroute. And here the "fun" really began, for we were alone as the deafening silence and physical surroundings reminded us that we were indeed "treading where the saints had trod" over four centuries earlier.

But perhaps the greatest thrill of all came when we peered into the chapel, which is identified by a plaque as the French Protestant/Huguenot Walloon Church. Worship services are still conducted there in French every Sunday at 3, though sadly our schedule did not permit us to attend.

We did, however, purchase enough literature regarding the Cathedral's history to more than fill this entire issue of the Cross of Languedoc! Much of it is obscure, but a few facts are fascinating.

Religious persecution in France and the Low Countries during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries brought many waves of refugees to England. Large numbers located in London and Canterbury, either settling here permanently or regrouping before migrating on to almost the four corners of the world.

Incidentally, these French Protestants called Huguenots, who fled to England in 1685 after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, were the first people to be called refugees. The word derives from the French refugier, "to take refuge." (Hendrickson, Robert, *QPB Encyclopedia of Word and Phrase Origins*, N.Y., Facts on File, Inc., 11 Penn Plaza, 1997, p 569).

Back to the Huguenot chapel, the ambience of reverence is reflected in the altar, pulpit and arrangement of the pews. The vaulted ceiling is veritably exquisite, though its dimensions are a small fraction of those in the nave on the street floor above.

Queen Elizabeth I (Good Queen Bess) is credited with authorizing the use of the crypt by our Huguenot forebears, whose numbers varied through many decades, yet sometimes reached into the thousands, thereby resulting in much overcrowding.

There is evidence that the crypt was utilized also for weaving, though the famous weavers' cottages are in another neighborhood of the city.

Worthy of mention is the posted record of the 49 "pasturs" of this church, complete with their dates of service from 1548 to the present. Only three on the entire long roster are less than certain.

It is truly a sanctuary, not only away from the bustling world, but even from the rest of the cathedral. The words from the Book of Joshua, Chapter 5, came to me: "Remove they shoes from off they feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy; and Joshua did so." Arnold should have done so, though he did not.

\*\*\*\*OCTOBER 4-5\*\*\*\*  
**“Little Rock: City Limitless”**

All are welcome to **LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS** to attend the General Council meeting.

Stay in a beautiful hotel and visit the many sites for fun and educational opportunities.

Just a few attractions: The AR Arts Center, Aerospace Education Center/IMAX Theater; River Market District (great food and shopping), Central High School National Historic Site, Quapaw Quarter (restored neighborhood), Old State House Museum, and the General Douglas MacArthur Museum of Military History. Near the hotel is the future site of the Clinton Library. All are in close proximity to the hotel-some in walking distance.

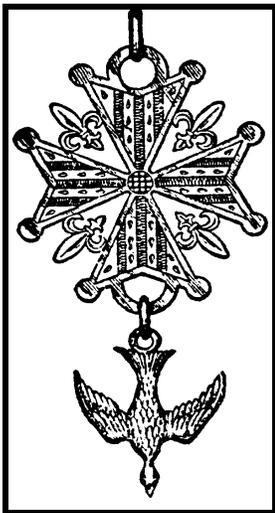
Make your plans NOW to attend. (For more information, see registration form in this issue.)

### *NOMINATING COMMITTEE*

As reported in the Minutes of the April Congress found on pages 7-8 in this issue, the Nominating Committee was elected to propose a slate of national officers for the years 2003-2005.

The Nominating Committee would like input from the Member Societies. Please send suggestions to the Chairman of a possible qualified candidate for one (or more) of the general officer positions. Send the name, address, telephone number, and email, if available, of the prospect, along with some background information, including professional and other volunteer activities.

The Chairman is: Mr. Samuel E. Greeley  
 4529 W. Bonnie Court  
 Mequon, WI 53092-2128  
 Home: 262.242.4529 FAX: 262.238.9986  
 e:mail: mcleanex@execpc.com



## THE CROSS OF LANGUEDOC

The insignia of The National Huguenot Society is the Cross of Languedoc. It is a replica of a cross discovered by Reverend Andrew Mailhet in the province of Languedoc and dates from the 18th century. It consists of an open four-petalled lily of France, the petals of which form a Maltese cross. The four petals signify the four Gospels. Each arm or petal displays two rounded points at the periphery. These points are regarded as signifying the eight Beatitudes. The four petals are joined together by four fleur-de-lis, each of which bears a rounded point distally. The 12 rounded points appearing in the four petals and the four fleur-de-lis are regarded as signifying the 12 Apostles. There is formed beneath each fleur-de-lis and between the arms of the two petals to which each is joined an open space taking the shape of a heart. Suspended from the lower central petal by a ring of gold is a pendant dove, signifying the Church under the Cross. The dove is arched and nicely feathered.

## **ANNUAL CONGRESS ACTIVITIES**

Pre-Congress Events 5 April, 2002

Congress 6 April, 2002

Members who were attending Annual Congress were invited to visit the French Embassy in Washington, D.C. on Friday, 5 April, 2002.



The French Embassy



Sculpture on the grounds of the Embassy



President General Neoma O'Brien with our escort, Fellipe.

## ***More of ANNUAL CONGRESS ACTIVITIES . . .***



James Dewey O'Brien, husband of President General Neoma O'Brien; President General O'Brien.; Jeanne Freeman, Historian Pennsylvania Society and Betty Brown Miller, Honorary President Pennsylvania Society at the Banquet on Friday evening.



First Vice President General Stephen Gerth; Richard Dana Smith, Sr., President Pennsylvania Society; MarJo Dill, President Arkansas Society and Chaplain General John C. Davis. In the background are flags of Member (State) Huguenot Societies. Forty Huguenot Society flags are cared for and placed for the Annual Congress by Peter Arrott Dixon, honorary member of the Washington, D.C. Huguenot Society.



Members enjoying the President General's Afternoon Tea were Robert Storm, President Connecticut Society; Skip Keats of Virginia; and James Barr of Illinois.



Chaplain General Reverend John C. Davis and President General Neoma O'Brien placed the memorial wreath, which contained a flower for each member deceased during the past year, at the Vietnam Memorial Wall on Sunday, 7 April 2002. Also attending the placing of the wreath were: First Vice President General, Stephen Gerth; Recording Secretary General, Nadine S. Hardin; Arkansas Society President, MarJo Dill; Lori Hardin; Carolyn Davis; and James Dewey O'Brien.

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **October 4-5, 2002**

General Council Meeting  
National Huguenot Society  
Little Rock, AR

### **December 1, 2002**

Deadline for the Spring 2003 issue of  
THE CROSS OF LANGUEDOC

### **April 4-5, 2003**

Annual Congress of The National Huguenot  
Society, Washington, D.C.

### **June 1, 2003**

Deadline for the Fall 2003 issue of  
THE CROSS OF LANGUEDOC

## **YOUR PUBLICATION**

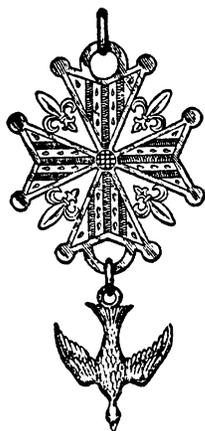
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## **THE CROSS OF LANGUEDOC**

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