Nostre ayde soit au nom de Dieu, qui a fait le ciel et la terre, Amen.

Let our help be in the name of God who has made the sky and the earth, Amen.

So wrote Pasteur Gillet in 1694 as the heading for the register of baptisms, marriages and burials for the French church in Portarlington (located in the Irish midlands) where a colony of Huguenots had settled.
(Cover Story)

The French Church, Portarlington, Ireland

After the Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685, making Protestantism illegal, thousands fled their native France. About 500 were settled in Portarlington by 1700. These settlers were mostly from the military, having fought with William of Orange in the wars of the late 17th Century against the army of James II, in conflicts such as the Battle of the Boyne, the sieges of Limerick and the Battle of Aughrim.

Henri Massue (1648—1720) who was Marquis de Ruvigny and then Earl of Galway had been a general in the Williamite forces and seeing himself as a patron of the Huguenot regiments, he settled them and their families on an estate which had been given to him, as a personal gift, by King William.

It is odd that no church was built when Portarlington was founded in 1666. The traditional territories of the OíDempsey clan had been confiscated again under Cromwell and were not to be returned despite serious efforts by the clan leader Lord Clanmaliere. The land instead passed to Sir Henry Bennet, Lord Arlington, friend and minister to King Charles II of England. The king never visited Ireland, but aimed at creating a colony of industrious Protestants. The venture was not successful, although a map drawn in 1679 showed that weaving had been attempted. The í loome houseí was the largest single room in town, spacious enough to hold a congregation. Whether it still had a roof when the French arrived is not known but the site was chosen for the í French Churchì.

The registers begun by Pasteur Jacques Gillet in 1694 were written in French. They are not just lists but full of details. A fatherís rank or profession was recorded at baptism. Marriages entries often give the place of origin in France. Most settlers came from the south of France, an area shaped like a crescent stretching from the Alps in the east through the Languedoc region and up the Atlantic coast to La Rochelle.

Approximately two hundred forty-four years after the first entry in Pasteur Gilletís register, in 1938, came one of the greatest achievements of the Irish Government — the enactment of the new Constitution of an independent Ireland.

The Irish Constitution asserts that Ireland is a sovereign and democratic state, that all powers derive under God from the people, who are the final arbiters of any and every question. It guarantees freedom of conscience and free profession and practice of religion. The tenets of Huguenot faith surely must have been influential in assuring freedom of religion in the Republic of Irelandís Constitution.
The President General's Message

Happy Year 2002 to each and everyone, and my special thanks for the most welcome support from the Member (State) Societies, from the General Officers and many others which made it possible for the Society to meet the most unusual challenges which confronted this Administration during its first eight months in office. Those challenges and how they were resolved will be reported elsewhere in this publication. As one would expect of members of a Society dedicated to the ideals of our Huguenot forebears, in every instance, someone, somewhere, has come forward to fill the breach, to undertake the difficult tasks. I truly believe that most of the difficult times are behind us; that during the Year 2002 we will be able to do more of those good and positive things to which our Society is dedicated. Note in particular the guidelines set up for our new Scholarship Award.

The bequest left to the Society, restricted to Scholarships, by Mrs. Jacqueline Wells Dickey, affords a rare opportunity for The National Huguenot Society to assist students whose background has prepared them to appreciate the importance of the preservation of the history of our common ancestry.

The influence of our Huguenot ancestors helped assure freedom of religion from the earliest beginnings of our own nation. We are blessed, under the first amendment to The Constitution of our United States. We are assured of: “no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” Our Huguenot ancestors left their native France seeking such freedom. Let us all give thanks and remember that many do not enjoy the freedoms that we might be inclined to take for granted. Recently we have been reminded that freedom is not free, that it must be guarded and nourished.

In the history of all nations, there are particular times when unity is of especial importance. Now, indeed, is one of those times. Our Nation needs continued unity, and that includes all its integral parts, including The National Huguenot Society, which has played a positive role in the life of our Nation, promoting those virtues for which our progenitors lived and died. Though we are relatively few in number in a great Nation, those virtues, ideals, and philosophy have been influential since the founding of this Republic. They awaken, in particular, in times of stress in the nation and within our Society as currently demonstrated. Let us work together for the good of our Society and our Country to make the brighter promises of Year 2002 a reality.

In the hope of helping to promote unity and better understanding of the good works of our Society, I have accepted invitations to visit several of our Member (State) Societies. The most immediate visit will be with The Huguenot Society of Texas for its State Assembly to be held at Dallas, Texas, on February 16th.

My most sincere thanks for your expressions of good will, by letter, FAX, email and telephone from all parts of the country!

In true Huguenot Faith and Devotion,

Neoma O. O'Brien
(12 January 2002)
GENERAL OFFICERS

Present General
Mrs. James Dewey O'Brien
812 Braeburn Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744-6021
301-292-9372 (FAX and Telephone)
E-mail noob13@att.net

Organizing Secretary General
Mrs. Lamar DeuPree
4414 Alta Vista Lane
Dallas, TX 75229-2915
214-357-6003 FAX 214-357-7374
E-mail agdp@flash.net

First Vice President General
Mr. Stephen B. Gerth
3819 Knight Street
Glenview, IL 60025-1234
847-998-1793
(new) E-mail sbgerth@attbi.com

Treasurer General
Mrs. Nancy E. Harris
4705 Surry Place
Alexandria, VA 22304-2237
703-751-0539

Second Vice President General
Mr. David C. Smith
P.O. Box 339
Pembroke, KY 40266-0339
270-475-4572
E-mail dcsmith@spis.net

Registrar General
Ms. Grace Virginia Rice
6200 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422
763-591-1249
Office: 9033 Lyndale Avenue, South, Suite 108
Bloomington, MN 55420-3535
952-885-9776
(E-mail and answering machine yet to be installed)

Third Vice President General
Mr. Barrett L. McKown
3580 South River Terrace
Edgewater, MD 21037-3245
E-mail bmckown@web.aacpl.lib.md.us

Historian General
Mr. Samuel E. Greeley
4529 W. Bonnie Court
Mequon, WI 53092-2128
262-242-4529 FAX 262-238-9986
E-mail mcleanex@execpc.com

Chaplain General
Rev. John C. Davis
P. O. Box 493
Evans, GA 30809-0493
760-860-0209

Counselor General
Mr. C. William Swinford, Jr., Esq.
271 West Short Street, Suite 505
Lexington, KY 40507-1369
859-233-1786 FAX 859-231-0691
E-mail SwinCox@aol.com

Recording Secretary General
Mrs. Nadine Strang Hardin
3 Free Ferry Heights
Fort Smith, AR 72903-2417
501-782-8573 FAX 501-784-2734
E-mail mshardin@aol.com

Surgeon General
Dr. Clarence Pickard
1213 Parkridge Drive
Columbia, MO 65203-1809
E-mail epickard@mail.trib.net

Corresponding Secretary General
Mr. Roy M. Smith
3909 Sudbury Road
Charlotte, NC 28208-4542
704-536-2525
E-mail r-jsmith@worldnet.att.net

Genealogist General
Mrs. Polly Jane Statham
6 Vancouver Place
Sherman, TX 75092-2249
Corrections and Changes
State Presidents & Chapter Presidents

Mrs. Jenette Fordham Kelley - President - AL
The National Huguenot Society
556 Lakeside Circle
Birmingham, AL 35215-5700

Mr. Earl L. Little, Jr., Acting President - LA
The National Huguenot Society
2722 Hudson Place
New Orleans, LA 70131

Mrs. Frances McNenny, President - NE
The National Huguenot Society
7100 Holmes Park Road #103
Lincoln, NE 68506

Mrs. Robert E. Berry, President - NM
The National Huguenot Society
P.O. Box 331
Corrales, NM 87078

Mr. Bruce C. MacGunnigle, President - RI
The National Huguenot Society
80 Rector Street
East Greenwich, RI 02818-3313

Mrs. Lamar DeuPree, President - TX
The National Huguenot Society
4414 Alta Vista Lane
Dallas, Texas 75229-2915

Fleur-de-Lis Chapter - Texas (reorganizing)

Languedoc Chapter - Texas
Mr. Thomas Hershel Walters, Chapter President
P.O. Box 576
San Antonio, TX 78606-0576

La Rochelle Chapter - Texas
Mrs. Elizabeth L. Johnson, Chapter President
11218 Dalron Drive
Dallas, Texas 75218-1316

Navarre Chapter - Texas (reorganizing)

St. Bartholomew Chapter - Texas (reorganizing)

Mrs. Daniel Chew, President - WI
The National Huguenot Society
8920 Lake Drive
Bayside, WI 53217

Mr. Peter Dupuy, P Eng
President - Canada
Affiliate Society of
The National Huguenot Society
47 Thorncliffe Park Drive - Suite 107
Toronto, ON M4H 1J5

Please help keep our records up-to-date by reporting all changes of address or change in Officers as quickly as possible to the Registrar General, at the National Headquarters address:
9033 Lyndale Avenue, South, Suite # 108
Bloomington, MN 55420-3535
(Telephone: 952-885-9776)
E-mail & answering machine to be installed.

All Member (State) Societies are encouraged to send articles or reports of happenings within your State Society to the Editor of The Cross of Languedoc. It is well to let others know of your activities. Clear pictures are welcome!

The Cross of Languedoc is published twice a year. The deadline for submitting articles for the Spring issue is 1 December. The deadline for the Fall issue is 1 June. Hopefully, members will receive their copy in February and October. We are not always as prompt as we wish to be, we ask your patience. There are times when a name is missed in the print out that goes to the mailing service. If you feel that you have missed an issue, please notify the Headquarters Office as soon as possible in order that they may check the official list for any omissions. Please give your name and complete address in writing to the office.

THANKS!
General Council—Oct. 2001

Top left: Mrs. Nadine Hardin, Rec. Sec. General and Steven Gerth, 1st VP General.

Center: Mrs. Neoma O'Brien

Top right: Ms. Grace Rice, Registrar General.

Bottom left: Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Alice Bostrom, State President, Minnesota Society

Bottom right: Mrs. Carole Chew, State President, Wisconsin Society and Mrs. Carey Myers, State President, Illinois Society.
General Council Meeting  
Saturday, October 6, 2001  
Bloomington, Minnesota  
Holiday Inn Select

The General Council meeting was convened at 9:30 a.m. by President General Neoma O'Brien. The invocation was given by the 2nd Vice President General, Stephen Gerth. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the Huguenot Flag was given.

The national officers, state officers and members present were:


Roll call was taken. The total number attending was ten persons. A quorum was declared.

Reports were given by the officers and reports filed with the Recording Secretary General.

The President General gave a summary of the meeting of the Board of General Officers which took place Friday, October 5, 2001.

I. The Society has received a generous bequest from the Estate of Mrs. Jacquelyn Dickey which is restricted by will for scholarships.

Therefore, Guidelines for Scholarships were developed and approved by the Council.

Guidelines are as follows:

1. The recipient must be a member of The National Huguenot Society (meeting all requirements for that membership).
2. Should be given to a student at an accredited college or graduate school who has had at least two semesters of history which include in part history of religion.
3. Should have completed at least two years of college maintaining a 3.0 average before receiving scholarship money from the Society.
4. Need is not necessarily a factor.
5. Scholarship should be limited to $5,000.00 per student.
6. Application forms will be designed by Committee and process of selection is to be determined by Committee with adherence to these guidelines.

II. The 66th Annual Congress will be two days at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, DC on Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6, 2002.

Schedule as follows:

- Friday, April 5, 10:00 a.m., invited to the French Embassy.
- Friday, April 5, Lunch on your own.
- Friday, April 5, 2:00 p.m., the Board of the General Officers Meeting in the Board Room, on the second floor of the Mayflower Hotel.
- Friday, April 5, evening - Annual Banquet.
- Saturday, April 6, 2002 - 9:30 a.m. Meeting of the General Council followed by General Congress.
- Saturday, April 6, General Congress will reconvene at 1:00 p.m. until adjournment, at approximately 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. The Presidents General Tea (Members and guests are welcome.)

Motion to approve date and schedule was made by Carey Myers. Motion approved.

III. After much discussion of the Texas matter the following resolution was made and unanimously approved:

We, the General Council support and recognize the continuing members of The Huguenot Society of Texas (also known as National Huguenot Society, Texas Division) who adhere to the National Bylaws and Texas Bylaws in effect April 19, 2001, and (recognize) the Officers who honor their oath of office.

The Council asked the President General to write to every member of The Huguenot Society of Texas/ National Huguenot Society, Texas Division regarding this resolution.

IV. Regarding the Texas Advent Chapter XI matter, the Counselor General advised the President General of new developments which meant a bankruptcy attorney in the State of Texas (might be) needed to protect our interests.
A motion was made by Mrs. Chew and seconded by Mrs. Myers that up to $1,500.00 be allowed for local counsel. Motion was approved.

V. Proposed Amendments to the National Bylaws:

(1) Re: Art. IX, Sec. N: (1) Delete the title of The Executive Director as a paid employee of the National Society. Add instead: The following services may be contracted depending upon need and availability of funds as determined by the Board of General Officers.


(3) The annual dues for life members who established their life membership on or prior to 18 April 2001, shall be $5.00 per year, to be paid no later than 1 January of each year.

The annual dues of life members, who established their life membership on or after 19 April 2001, shall be paid by 1 January of each year at the prevailing rate and amount specified for regular members.

Lucy Blocker made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded and proposed amendments were approved.

The need to reduce expenditures was discussed but no solution reached.

Treasurer General Hugh Blockerís resignation was accepted. The office was filled by the Board of General Officers. Nancy E. Harris of the Washington, DC Society was asked to (and she accepted ) fill the office as interim Treasurer General. The General Congress will be asked to confirm.

The motion to approve was made by Stephen Gerth and seconded by Arthur Finnell. Motion approved.

The President General will write a letter on behalf of the General Officers to the Pennsylvania Society for their generous gift of $5,000.00 to the operating fund. This was sent in response to the President Generalís appeal for donations, printed in the fall issue of the Cross.

Historian General Samuel Greeley (express) mailed his report for this meeting when he found that he would not be able to attend. Carol Chew read his report. It was suggested that the individual societies be asked and encouraged to write the U.S. Post Office General regarding the issuing of a Huguenot Stamp. Each Society is asked to send a copy of their letter to the Historian General.
OFFICIAL CALL
The National Huguenot Society
66th Annual Congress - Mayflower Hotel, Washington, DC

All members and friends are cordially invited to attend the Annual Congress on Saturday, 6 April 2002, and pre-congress events on Friday, 5 April.

DELEGATES
The Presidents of Member Societies should complete the Credentials Form with the names of Delegates and Alternates of their Society. (The Credentials Form will be mailed to the Presidents by the Corresponding Secretary General.) The Credentials Form should be completed and mailed before 20 March to the Credentials Chair:

Mr. Barrett L. McKown, Credentials Chair
3580 South River Terrace
Edgewater, MD 21037-3245

Schedule of Events: Friday, 5 April 2002:
9:20 AM Gather in Lobby for visit to French Embassy - reservation required, with Social Security number. Fee for transportation. $  5.00
2:00 PM Board of General Officers Meeting - Board Room on 2nd Floor
6:30 PM Banquet (black tie preferred) - Cabinet Room $60.00

Schedule of Events: Saturday, 6 April 2002:
8:30 AM Registration - immediately outside the Cabinet Room $  5.00
9:20 AM General Council & Opening of Annual Congress - Cabinet Room
11:30 AM Chaplain Generalís Service for Departed - Cabinet Room
12:00 noon Luncheon served on Mezzanine $35.00
1:00 PM Guest Speaker - Congress Reconvenes - Cabinet Room
3:00 PM (Approximately) Following Adjournment, The Chaplain General, President General and all who wish will place our wreath at the Vietnam Memorial.
5:00 PM - 6:30 President Generalís Afternoon Tea - Mezzanine $23.00

Checks for all fees and costs of events should be made payable to The National Huguenot Society. (For all events the total cost would be: $128.00.) Mail checks to:

Mr. David Stringfellow, Program and Planning Chair
10619 Lakeside Oak Court
Burke, VA 22015-2221

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:
The rate is $195.00 plus tax for single, double or up to four persons in a room. Request the rate for Genealogical Societies. The cut-off date is 15 March. Request a confirmation number for your reservation or written confirmation. The Mayflower Hotel telephone number for reservations is: 202-347-3000. Please make your reservations as early as possible and join your fellow Huguenots and friends at what promises to be an outstanding and important Congress.
From General Officers:

The Treasurer General, Mrs. Foley White Harris (Nancy Edwards Harris), was selected by the Board of General Officers to fill the vacancy of this important office. Nancy is a Past National President of another genealogical organization and has held the office of National Treasurer in two other organizations. She assumed the duties of Treasurer General in late October 2001. The Society is fortunate to have one of her experience agree to serve.

Mrs. Harris would appreciate very much receiving all dues by 15 January of each year hereafter and that all dues for the year 2001 be paid as soon as possible. The fiscal year ending March 31st of each year was changed to the calendar year in 1999 with the consent of the Internal Revenue Service. It is much less confusing to both members and State Treasurers if dues are collected by the State Societies beginning in October to be transmitted to the Treasurer General at the beginning of the calendar year which, now, is the taxable year. The Treasurer General requests a listing of the members whose dues are being paid. (A duplicate list should also be sent to the Registrar General.) It is acceptable to send an updated copy of your State Society Yearbook to indicate the active members of your State Society.

Since taking office Mrs. Harris has sent a Treasurer Generalis Report each month to the President General. All funds of the Society are in FDIC insured banks. The Dickey bequest (restricted for Scholarships) is carefully marked in all accounts and will not be combined with funds for operations, or any other fund.

A voucher system is in place whereby all bills are sent to the President General for her review. A voucher is written, the supporting documents are attached and sent to the Treasurer General for each check that is written. We hope to keep our financial records in good order and assure all members that time and our best effort is being spent. We have no paid employees. Our General Officers give of their time and in many cases take care of expenditures of the National Society.

The National Huguenot Societyís tax exempt status is a group exemption. It is necessary, therefore, that the Treasurer General send to IRS (each year) a listing of the current State Societies and the name of their State Treasurer or State President. It would be appreciated if each State Society would send an updated notification to Mrs. Harris which includes the name of both the State President and the State Treasurer.

From General Officers:

The Registrar General, Ms. Grace Virginia Rice, was approved by the Board of General Officers to fill the vacancy created by resignation. Ms. Rice is a past President of the Minnesota Society and has held the office of State Registrar in several other genealogical organizations.

The Registrar General (who assumed the office on 1 January 2002) met with the past Registrar General at the Headquarters Office a few days prior to his departure for Arizona. Two members of the Minnesota Society (who are computer knowledgeable) accompanied Ms. Rice. With the able assistance of volunteers, an answering machine will be installed soon. An email for the Huguenot Headquarters Office in Minnesota will also be put into place.

Ms. Rice has asked that everyone remember that no two people do things exactly the same way, but that she is willing to do her very best for the Society and for its members and prospective members. (Grace is a fairly recently retired business woman. She is willing, and the Society is fortunate to have her in this office.) She reports that she has been busy reviewing Applications for Membership. She has approved quite a few and will soon complete the final process of mailing the Certificates of Membership for those members whose applications she has approved.
It is most important that any changes of membership be reported to the Headquarters Office, promptly. Please do this in writing. Remember to give name, complete address and national number when reporting any change.

Ms. Rice is also inventorying all books, files and supplies that are located at the Headquarters Office. Orders for supplies will be filled as promptly as possible.

Insignia orders must be approved by the Registrar General. Caldwell has been notified that all orders must be signed by Grace Rice, Registrar General. Orders to Caldwell, now, must be paid in advance -- by credit card or check. (This is a new policy of Caldwell for all genealogical societies.)

A Registrar Generalís report will be made at the Annual Congress, 6 April 2002. Any questions can be addressed at that time or sent by mail to the National Huguenot Headquarters Office at:
9033 Lyndale Avenue, South, Suite 108; Bloomington, MN 55420-3535. The telephone number remains the same: 952-885-9776 with an answering machine to be installed as soon as possible.

From General Officers:
Historian General

Dear Friends,

You probably know that I have the honor of having been elected as your Historian General effective with the April 2001 Annual Congress in Washington. To commence this worthy effort I wish to revert to letters I sent to some of you, during these past years, dealing with Huguenot Historic Sites. In reply, many have sent various documents, photos and other memorabilia. These material represent our initial efforts. The previous Historian General, Mrs. Grace DeuPree gave me her reference book on which I plan to build. Our purpose here is to add additional Huguenot sites such as grave markers, cemeteries, or buildings named for or used by Huguenots, or any such entities with cultural significance as New Paltz; individual histories, such as Paul Revere, churches, the list goes on. See The Huguenot Historic Sites and Burials, Vol. I, for printed resources.

I have found that through the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service Cultural Resources, we have available to us (if our sites qualify) opportunities for evaluating and registering cemeteries, burial places, historic property and such significant items of HUGUENOT ORIGIN! The National Register Bulletin publishes, i How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluationi. I will be pleased to study with your State Society, to determine if your geographic area has such locations, anytime. It would be grand if we were able to identify and register sites yet unknown. More on that later!

Next I would like to ask that you, with your State Historian, do some additional research pertaining to your State. In Library Reference Departments (as well as local book stores) you can seek out computer glossaries of books, publications or other printed materials dealing specifically with HUGUENOTS. I believe that if we collectively can organize a bibliography covering all State references, the amount of data uncovered will surprise us all. Why such lists? Such information is most helpful to genealogists, and your Registrars. Our joint discoveries will surely be quite valuable for us all.

While in Washington, DC last year, I visited The National Park Service and made contact with the Cultural Resources Department. They have a WEB page well worth your time. See The Chief Historian, History Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127 to check your Stateís listing. Are there new Huguenot entries? Do you have sites, monuments, burial plots in your area? Please make this search at www.cr.nps.gov/nr or write The National Register, Department of Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

I welcome any further comments or suggestions or already existing lists of materials such as we referred to here. The fruits of our labors might surprise us all!

Yours in Huguenot Faith and Devotion,
Samuel E. Greeley, Historian General

P.S. When you do contact the National Park Service or other worthy source in your area, please copy me on your correspondence. This way all our files will be up to date.

Notice: We are most fortunate to have Professor Mack Holt, author of i The French Wars of Religion, 1562–1629î and i The Short Oxford History of France, 1500–1648î at Annual Congress on Saturday, 6 April 2002.
Special contributions to The National Huguenot Society’s Operations Fund have been made by individuals and Member (State) Societies. It is through dedication and generosity that the Society is able to continue the good work of our Organization. The thanks of the Society to all who give of their time, talent, and their money to assure that the Faith and Philosophy of the Huguenots will be preserved.

It is with pleasure that we list those who have made generous monetary contributions.

Mr. Earl M. Hyde
Member of Washington, DC Society

Mr. Hugh B. Cassell
Member of Kentucky Society
(Donation given in memory of Mr. Cassell’s sister, Ethel Cassell Walton)

Mrs. Nancy Edwards Harris
Member of Washington, DC Society

Lillian H. Livingstone (Mrs. Earl L.)
Member of Georgia Society
(Living in Fort Collins, CO)

Miss Grace Virginia Rice
Member of Minnesota Society

The Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania
Mr. Richard D. Smith, Sr., State President

Mrs. Dorothy H. Stetler
Member of Texas Society

Mrs. Nancy Edwards Harris
Member of Washington, DC Society
(A second monetary donation was given.)

The Huguenot Society of Kentucky
Dr. Jack J. Early, State President

Mrs. Margaret Nell Longeteig
Member of Idaho Society

Dr. Arnold R. Lewis
Member of California Society

Mrs. Patricia Leigh
Member of Texas Society

Mr. Robert B. Mirick
Member of Minnesota Society

Mrs. Linda A. Jones
Member of California Society

The Huguenot Society of North Carolina
Mr. James M. S. Blocker, State President

Mrs. James Dewey O’Brien
Member of Washington, DC Society

The Huguenot Society of Washington, DC
Mr. David Stringfellow, State President

The Huguenot Society of Tennessee
Mrs. Charles E. Driver, State President

Letter to the President General

From:
Comite Protestant Des Amities Francaises A L’Etranger
Deux fois couronne par l’Academie Francaise
World Huguenot Centre
Welt Hugenotten Zentrum

Paris, November 5th 2001
Dear President,

During the last meeting of our board, on October 9, 2001, we decided to write a letter to all the presidents of U.S. Huguenot Societies to tell them how much we share your emotion after the horrible terrorist attack which struck your country and how deeply concerned we feel in the following events. Although this message comes a little late, we wish to express strongly that our values are the same as yours, in remembrance of the Huguenots who left their country for their freedom and their faith.

We would also like to inform you that our XIIIth Huguenot International Meeting of Huguenot Descendants will take place from 4. to 10. September 2003 in the Cevennes. This is a historic Huguenot region in the South of France where the Camisards war took place against the king’s dragoons in the XVIIIth century. We will participate in the Assemblee du Desert, which takes place each year on the first Sunday of September. It commemorates the secret assemblies gathering the protestants who remained in France, endangering their lives to worship God. We will send you a detailed programme in due time, and do hope we will have a good American participation.

We much appreciate being informed of your activities and would be glad to visit you and take part in one of your meetings, should there be an opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Thierry DuPasquier, President
From the Member (State) Society of: Delaware

The Delaware Society has had an active and busy year. The Society has contributed two Huguenot related books, *Elegant Plate* and *Seeing Beyond the Word* to the Historical Society of Delaware in memory of our much beloved founding member Warner Naudain who died in September of 2000. We have also donated all duplicate materials from our files to the Historical Society in the hope that potential members may find it easier to join our group.

Our Spring Meeting of 2001 was held at the Hale-Byrnes House in Christiana, Delaware. This charming little house on the banks of the Christiana River was George Washington’s headquarters when the British were occupying nearby Coochis Bridge. It was here that Washington made the decision to move his troops slightly north to the Brandywine at Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. Our guest speaker at this meeting was George Caley of Smyrna, Delaware, who spoke about the Allee family of Delaware.

Our Fall Meeting will be an afternoon tea at the Hercules Country Club with guest speaker, Bill Troppman, a park interpreter at Valley Forge National Military Park, speaking on Revolutionary Patriots of Huguenot Descent.

For information concerning the Huguenot Society of Delaware and / or joining our Society, please call President Kim Burdick at 302-477-1854 or e-mail us at Rburd2420@aol.com.

Kim Burdick
President, Huguenot Society of Delaware

From the Member (State) Society of: Iowa

The Huguenot Society of Iowa extends warm greetings to the 66th Annual Congress of The National Huguenot Society.

We have 53 paid members including one new member. We have reported four deaths and one resignation. At this time, we have 8 members who have not paid dues for the year 2002 -- we trust they are just a bit late. Our Society met in May and October of 2001. Our May meeting was held at the First Baptist Church in Ames, Iowa. We catered box lunches at $4.00 each.

Our program consisted of a trilogy on Huguenot history which turned out to be fun. I also passed out the history of the Huguenots which was found on the internet. We had a High School student present as a guest of one of our members and he was extremely interested in the Huguenot Society.

Our October meeting was held at a nearby restaurant near Colo, IA. We ordered a meal off the menu. One of our members, Mrs. Martha DeYoe spoke to us on her recent trip to New Paltz and the Plymouth Rock. She had excellent pictures taken and since her husband is directly related to the DeYoe house in New Paltz, we were very interested in her comments on the houses on Huguenot Street.

We have donated $100 to the Iowa Genealogical Society’s building project. It is their hope to find a more fitting place to display their library in Des Moines, IA. I have been investigating the fact that there are a number of Huguenots in Pella, IA. This is a Dutch community founded in the mid 1800ís by Hendrik Peter Scholte. Our Society has made several visits to this community and at one time held a service in the Scholte Church given in the French language. We are told that a number of the Dutch were Calvinists who came to Holland from France during the persecution.

We are trying hard to up-date our Society. Although there is a decline in membership, we are pressing onward! We wish the best for the National Society and hope for a good year in 2002!

In Huguenot Faith,
Hazel Orton
President, Huguenot Society of Iowa

From the Member (State) Society of: Missouri

The Huguenot Society of Missouri meets twice a year in Columbia, Missouri which is in the center of the State, to make it accessible as possible for its 67 members.

A Luncheon Meeting in June was well attended and the program was presented by member Elma Hopkins. Elma gave a program on the Protestant Cross found in Belgium which is almost identical to the Languedoc cross that is the emblem of our present Member (State) Societies of The National Huguenot Society. The Huguenot Cross is worn as a sign by
which Protestant minorities can recognize each other in public places in Belgium and other countries near to France.

Elma displayed a framed history of the Huguenot Crosses. Elma had embellished the border around the verse with her own artwork in the Huguenot colors which made it a beautiful wall hanging. She then gave to all members present a smaller black and white copy of the Verse of the Huguenot Cross.

New officers were installed in a beautiful ceremony comparing each officer's job to a flower. Mrs. Eugene (Betty) Swisher was installed as President of the Missouri State Society and was presented with a rose.

Sara Branton
Treasurer, Huguenot Society of Missouri

*From the Member (State) Society of: Texas*

The Texas Society is doing quite well considering that a break away group composed of some State Officers and others have continued their attempt to have the Texas Society become independent and separate from The National Huguenot Society. Any group that wishes to become an independent society can form a society of their own. What they cannot legally do is to take the identity of the existing Huguenot Society of Texas, terminate the National membership of the individuals who joined The National Huguenot Society by application, paid their national dues, and had no say in the matter.

This is a matter of great concern to the National Society and much time and effort has been spent to serve the interests of the individual members of the Texas Society. After a previous written vote from all members of the General Council (18 in number) sent by mail to the President General, the General Council Meeting of The National Huguenot Society on 6 October 2001, unanimously adopted the following Resolution. We the General Council, support and recognize the continuing members of the Huguenot Society of Texas, also known as The National Huguenot Society/ Texas Division who adhere to the National Bylaws and Texas Bylaws in effect April 19, 2001, and the Officers who honor their oath of office.

This Resolution recognizes a basic, legal fact. So long as The Huguenot Society of Texas, also known as The National Huguenot Society, Texas Division, as provided in Article I of the Texas Society's Constitution, has the requisite number for the existence of a Member Society it will continue to exist. Those who have expressed their wish to remain as members (by sending their national dues directly to the Organizing Secretary General) far exceed that number required for a Member Society. Some Chapters have actually voted to remain as they are, members of The Huguenot Society of Texas and an integral part of The National Huguenot Society. Other Chapters have sufficient members to remain a Chapter (according to Texas Bylaws) but do not have the required officers. In accordance with Texas Bylaws, Mrs. C. Lamar DeuPree, State President, will assist any chapter that needs reorganization. If there is no Chapter President nor a lawful successor, the State President (Mrs. DeuPree) may appoint a Chapter President.

We are fortunate that so many remain true to the Society that they joined. Texas members who have concerns should know that The Huguenot Society of Texas as constituted in their Texas Bylaws, and an integral part of The National Huguenot Society welcomes them and hopes that they will choose to remain with the National Society which accepted them into membership upon the approval of their original application.

It is a pleasure to name the following State Officers who have worked so hard to maintain their State Society: Mrs. C. Lamar DeuPree, State President; Mr. Hershel Walters, State First Vice President; Mrs. Jay MacManus, State Treasurer; Mrs. Hershel Walters, State Registrar; Miss Mary Carolyn Trent, Recording Secretary; and Mrs. Robert Johnson, State Librarian.

Those intact Chapters (not in reorganization) should collect Chapter, State, and National dues in the normal fashion. Members of Chapters in reorganization should send State and National dues to: Mrs. Jay MacManus, State Treasurer, 2915 Burnside Drive, San Antonio, TX 78209-3012. For those who have already paid their 2002 National dues -- please so indicate to Mrs. MacManus.
The Huguenot Society of Wisconsin Meeting  
21 July 2001 in Milwaukee

A tour of the new Calatrava wing of the Milwaukee Art Museum
Left to right: Steohen Gerth, 2nd VP General, Mrs. Neoma O'Brien, President General
and Samuel Greely, Historian General
(Photo by Bonnie Gerth)

Mrs. Karen Broman with baby Mariah Elizabeth (the youngest Huguenot of all) toured the Art Museum
and attended the luncheon meeting at Boulevard Inn.
(Mariah Elizabeth slept through lunch)

Mrs. James Dewey O'Brien, President General spoke
at the luncheon meeting at the Boulevard Inn.
The Huguenot Society of Wisconsin held its 33rd Annual Summer Meeting on July 21, 2001 in Milwaukee. Twenty-five members and guests were present including President General, Neoma O'Brien and Vice President General, Stephen Gerth.

At 10:00 am Barbara Lee led members and guests on a wonderful tour of the new wing and the renovated sections of the Milwaukee Art Museum, including showing us a number of French paintings, sculpture, and porcelain. She gave an enthusiastic and informative insider tour, even telling us about the styles, age, and value of frames. The group walked back to the Boulevard Inn and had a chance to see an outdoor, elevated view of the new Calatrava wing of the Museum.

The noon Luncheon Meeting was held at the Boulevard Inn. The meeting was called to order by President Samuel Greeley who welcomed guests. Chaplain Andree Orsina repeated the Notre Pere. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Huguenot Pledge to the Flag. The Chaplain said the avant le repas. The President General gave a toast to our Society after the entree. Dessert featured Huguenot torte.

President General Neoma O'Brien gave greetings and spoke of the contributions of Huguenots to encourage freedom of thought and encouragement of separation of church and state. She explained and asked for understanding of the National Society’s current financial problems and said we will learn from any mistakes, that we will pick up and carry on with the good works of the Society.

President Greeley asked for the report of the nominating committee which submitted the following list of nominations: President - Carol Chew, Vice President - Andree Orsina, Registrar - Hazel Franseen, and Historian - Sarah Hogoboom. Unfortunately, the person nominated for secretary had to withdraw, and the office will be filled later. The slate was accepted as read. New officers were installed by the President General. Bee Jannsen made a motion to name Samuel Greeley as Honorary President of the Wisconsin Huguenot Society. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by President Carol Chew who thanked Barbara Lee for our museum tour, E. J. Brumder for giving our President General a tour of Milwaukee, the Greeleys for the Languedoc wine, and all others for their participation. The next luncheon meeting will be held at Pandlis in Bayside on Saturday, November 3, 2001 at noon.

Carol Chew
President, Huguenot Society of Wisconsin

Please Note:

In this issue you will see several examples of Huguenot postage stamps which have been issued over the years by both the United States and France. These stamps are depicted in an enlarged color collection that have been printed on nice quality note paper. There are twelve cards (all different) with matching envelopes. They are for sale by the Wisconsin Huguenot Society at ten dollars for a box of twelve, including postage. To order, make your check payable to Wisconsin Huguenot Society, state the number of boxes ($10. per box) and mail your check and order to: Sam Greeley, 4529 W. Bonnie Court, Mequon, WI 53092-2128. The cards are striking and you will find them a joy to use. They also make an excellent gift to a guest speaker, or any friend.

Queries:

Jeremy Packquet, naturalized Sept. 1673 in James Cittee was married to Elizabeth Heard, daughter of Walter. (Aka Mr. Packquet, Jersoine Pacquit, Jeremiah Pasquet.) He died 8 Nov. 1705 in Lancaster Co., VA. Was he a Huguenot and when and where did he arrive? Please contact: Mrs. Thomas L. Samuel, 12 St. George’s Road, Baltimore, MD 21210-2011

It is the summer of 1999 and you are traveling via train across Canada starting in Vancouver, B.C. Now you've just left Montreal heading toward Halifax, and the couple opposite you in the diner introduce themselves as Nova Scotians.

You mention having just read in the AAA Tour Book about a tiny town on the northern shore of the peninsula which comprises most of Nova Scotia. The article refers to a Colonel Joseph Desbarres, the French Huguenot who received a land grant in that region. When they ask you the name of that village, you of course mispronounce it because, after all, it is French: Tatamagouche, with four syllables, not five. Then these new friends announce that they come from the next town and know all about Tatamagouche.

So you gingerly report having learned that there once was a strong Huguenot community there, whereupon your dinner companions, of English background, confirm this and add, “We actually know some descendants of those early settlers. They are good people who still pride themselves on their Huguenot ancestry.”

All this ties in with a fine summary from J. H. S. Careless’ book, Canada, A Story of Challenge, Toronto, Macmillan, 1965, page 64:

“The Huguenots, a Protestant minority in Catholic France, had been specially strong in western French seaports, and from there had entered actively into the fur trade of the St. Lawrence during the later sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

But, Champlain had urged that the new land be kept free from heresy, and the King’s minister, Cardinal Richelieu, had listened. He wanted no such difficulties with Huguenots in New France as the Crown was facing in Old. He ordered that the colony should admit Catholics only, and henceforth New France was a Catholic preserve.”

Canada, another of our exalted family of twenty or more nations who, sooner or later, have provided haven and home for our honored Huguenot forebears.


About the author: Arnold Raymond Lewis, Doctor of Theology, is a member of the Huguenot Society of California. He is a longtime, active supporter of the Society’s attempt to preserve accurate history of the Huguenots.
From the Member (State) Society of:

Florida

Six area Chapters serve the Huguenot membership in Florida. The Current Chapter Presidents are:

Admiral Gaspard de Coligny Chapter
Linda Neal, Chapter President
6608 Mybole Place
Temple Terrace, FL 33617-3830

Fleur de Lis Chapter
Dr. Abraham Lavender, Chapter President
P. O. Box 398866
Miami Beach, FL 33239

Henry of Navarre Chapter
Lelia Klaffky (Mrs. Richard), Chapter President
322 Neapolitan Way
Naples, FL 33940-8558

Jean Calvin Chapter
Mr. Alvin Abbott, Chapter President
9007 Ashbourne Court
Sarasota, FL 34238-3228

Fort Caroline Chapter
Anne Drummond (Mrs. Ansley), Chapter President
2893 Park Square Place—East
Amelia Island, FL 32034-8931

Louis DuBois Chapter
Mary Ellen Campbell (Mrs. James), Chapter President
2429 Del Lago Drive
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316-2301

Most of our Chapters hold two or three meetings a year with programs that give insight into our Huguenot heritage— from historic buildings abroad to historic figures like the truly Renaissance woman, Marguerite de Navarre, whose ideas on religion and rights influenced the course of history during the Reformation. In a conversation with Bill Moyers, he expressed the opinion that the democratic principles of religious freedom that our ancestors brought to this nation influenced Thomas Jefferson who later incorporated these into his own Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom and the Declaration of Independence. We are aware of the need for religious understanding and freedom today. Each new year brings new challenges for the world, our country and organizations like ours. Even though the latter may seem insignificant in the face of global conflict, what we do can facilitate the functioning of civil society and further the goals of religious freedom and democracy.

In Huguenot faith,

Roberta Somach
President, Huguenot Society of Florida

GOLDEN THOUGHT

Forgiveness is the fragrance the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it. — Mark Twain

Washington, DC—Founders Day Luncheon
Mrs. Foley White Harris (Nancy), Treasurer General and Mrs. James Dewey O'Brien (Neoma), President General
From the Member (State) Society of:

Washington, DC

On 12 December 2002, The Huguenot Society of Washington, DC will mark its 75th anniversary!

Our Society held its annual Day of Remembrance Service on 27 October 2001 at St. Johnís Church at Lafayette Square, sometimes known as the Presidentís Church. There is a mid-week service held at the Church which is conducted in French.

Following the service conducted by The Rev. Dr. Frank MacDonald Spindler, who is an Honorary Member of our Society, the members and friends gathered at the Army and Navy Club for a brief meeting and a very pleasant lunch. Our host at the club was Col. Donald Perkins, a Past State President (two terms). Col. Perkins had not been well for sometime and it was a joy for all to see him there and enjoy his company.

Our Founders Day meeting was held Saturday, 1 December 2001 at the Westchester Dining Room. The Westchester is located very near the National Cathedral and the Society has enjoyed meeting there on a number of occasions. The meeting was conducted by David Stringfellow, President of the Washington, DC Society.

A very interesting talk was given by Mrs. Foley White Harris (Nancy) entitled: Huguenot Societies - South Carolina and Others. Mrs. Harris told us that she first became a member of the South Carolina Society before she became a member of The National Huguenot Society.

Mrs. Harris listed the four largest (in number of members) Huguenot Societies in the United States. The National Huguenot Society, Inc. is the largest, The Huguenot Society of South Carolina is second, The Huguenot Society Founders of Manakin Virginia is third, and the Huguenot Society of America in New York is fourth. No matter the numbers - all have special qualities and most importantly Huguenot beliefs and heritage.

The Pennsylvania Huguenot Society was formed in 1918, the New Jersey Society was formed in 1922, and the Washington, DC Society in 1927. The three societies formed the Confederation of Huguenot Societies. As other States requested membership, the Confederation formed The National Huguenot Society in 1951. The National Huguenot Society now consists of forty-one Member (State) Societies, each an integral part of the Society. National Bylaws have been amended to allow Huguenot Societies outside the United States to become Affiliate Societies.

The very first Huguenot settlers to come to what is now South Carolina came with Jean Ribaut in 1562 to Port Royal. That settlement failed, however by 1670 there were many Huguenots in the Colony of South Carolina. A large number of colonists arrived by ship at Charles Town in 1680. On 12 April 1764 the last large group came to Charleston.

State President, Mr. Stringfellow, thanked Mrs. Harris for her very interesting talk. We all came away feeling renewed — we knew the Huguenot influence was great in the building of our nation, and now we were reminded again that our ancestors were early and many!