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

The cover depicts a spherical French style watch made by the French-born master watchmaker, David Bouquet. It is on display at the British Museum. This beautiful work of enameled gold encrusted with diamonds presents miniature paintings inside when the watch case is open. The movement of the watch on the cover is signed “D. Bouquet Londini.” It was made about 1650.

Mr. Bouquet was French, probably from Lyon. He moved to London in the early 1600’s at about the same time many other French watchmakers migrated to Geneva and London. The timing of his move, his subsequent membership in the French Church at Threadneedle Street, and his association with Huguenots in London, all lead one to conclude that he was a Huguenot even though very little has been published about him. He is mentioned in “The Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of London” (by the Huguenot Society of London) as an “ancien” or “elder” in the French Church. At that time, church elders were responsible for “church membership and finance, supervised behavior, signed authorizations for baptisms, kept an eye on members’ marriages, and distributed tokens before the monthly communion.” (Huguenot Heritage, by Robin D. Gwynn, at p. 106). Many French watchmakers migrated to Geneva instead of London. Charlen Randolph, one of our members from the Huguenot Society of Florida, has written a lovely article in this issue of The Cross about the influence of Huguenots on the evolution of Swiss watchmaking.

In London, Mr. Bouquet established himself as a master watchmaker in the area of Blackfriars, where many other Huguenots had set up shop. The stunning beauty of the watch depicted on the cover of The Cross is but one example of his talent. The complexity and precision required to make such a fine watch and to either enamel it oneself or, as many watchmakers did, arrange for an enamellist to perform the enameling, is amazing.

The British Museum mentions that David Bouquet’s expertise was such that he was specifically mentioned in a petition by British horologists sent to King James I to stop the influx of French watchmakers from trading. One of his watches was referenced in the London Gazette, March 3-7, 1689, as follows: “A Pocket Clock made some years since by Mr. Boquett of Black-Fryars, Watchmaker... it hath the day of the Month, Tides, age of the Moon, and some other motions, it strikes every hour.” (Former Clock & watchmakers and Their Work, p. 301-02).

Mr. Bouquet probably died in the plague of 1665 along with another elder of the French Church. (The Art of the Jeweller: A Catalogue of the Hull Grundy Gift to the British Museum: Jewellery, Engraved Gems, and Goldsmith’s Work. By British Museum, Charlotte Gere, Hugh Tait, 1984). His wife Dorcas lived until 1676. Two other watchmakers in London bore the same surname and may have been his sons: Solomon and David.

Cover Photograph of gold and enamel cased watch by David Bouquet, about 1650, London ©Trustees of the British Museum.
The 73nd Annual Congress of The National Huguenot Society, Inc., will be held at the Marriott Washington Hotel Saturday, 11 April 2009. General Officers and Delegates representing at least ten (10) different State Member Societies must be present to have a quorum for the conduct of business at the Congress. The Spring General Council meeting will be held the previous day, 10 April, 2009 at the same hotel. All members are encouraged to attend both the General Council meeting and the Annual Congress, and are invited to bring guests. The Board of General Officers will also meet the previous day.

Among the items of business to come before the Congress at this meeting are the election of General Officers for the 2009-2011 term. A consolidation of the Bylaws and Amendments passed subsequent to publication of the 2002 Handbook, and several important proposed amendments, will be presented by the Bylaws Committee. Every member should participate in the decisions made at Congress that affect their State Societies.

Please, make every effort to attend. The fellowship and networking with fellow members and guests is most rewarding.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
(Meeting rooms to be determined)
Friday, 10 April 2009
9:00 A.M. General Council Meeting
1:30 PM Meeting of the Board of General Officers
6:30 PM Annual Reception
7:00 PM Annual Banquet

Saturday, 11 April 2009
8:30 AM Registration
9:30 AM Congress Convenes
12:00 Noon Luncheon
1:30 PM Congress Reconvenes

Note: Standing Committee Chairmen are invited to attend the Meeting of the Board of General Officers. All other meetings and meal functions are open, and all members and guests are encouraged to attend those.

REGISTRATION FEE, BANQUET, AND LUNCHEON COSTS: Registration fee, $10.00, Friday night banquet, $70.00, Saturday luncheon, $45.00, being a total of $125.00. (Omit the $10.00 registration fees for guests.) Please make checks payable to: The National Huguenot Society, Inc. Payment should be mailed by 12 March 2009 to:
Robert R. Van Gulick, Treasurer General
108 Swan Court
North Wales, PA 19454-1129

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Room reservations should be made directly with the Washington Marriott Hotel as soon as possible, but no later than the cut-off date of Thursday, 12 March 2009. The rate is $179.00, plus tax, per night, with a maximum of four people per room. Be sure to request the group rate for The National Huguenot Society, Inc., and request a confirmation number. Double check the confirmation number, rate, and dates of your stay.

DELEGATES: The President of each State Member Society should complete the Credentials Form with the names of Delegates and Alternates representing their Society. Blank forms will be mailed to all State Member Society Presidents. The completed Credentials forms should be mailed (if at all possible) before 12 March 2009 to the Credentials Committee Chairman, whose name and address will be printed on the forms.
The National Huguenot Society, Inc.

**PRESIDENT GENERAL’S REPORT**  
24 October 2008

The President General presided over the meeting of the Board of General Officers Friday, 4 April 2008 and the 72nd Annual Congress Saturday, 5 April 2008, in Washington, DC. Many compliments on the facilities, service, and food as well as on the programs were received from those attending. Attendance for the Congress could have been better, and those who were not there missed a really good meeting, great speaker, and outstanding entertainment. All-in-all, it was quite successful.

During the past several months, this officer has corresponded with one or more of the officers of all of the State Member Societies by mail, e-mail and/or telephone in an effort to keep the Members of the State Societies informed of what is going on at National. She has also endeavored to keep the members of the Board of General Officers and Standing Committee Chairmen informed as well.

The President General has been working closely with a very enthusiastic member of the Huguenot Society of Mississippi in an effort to reactivate that State Member Society. The President General was scheduled to travel to Jackson, Mississippi, for a meeting on 27 September 2008; however, that meeting was postponed to 8 November, 2008. Members of the Board of General Officers have voiced approval for the President General to appoint identified members of the Huguenot Society of Mississippi as Organizing Officers to conduct the business of that State Member Society until elections can be held at their Spring Assembly the last Saturday of March 2009. It is a pleasure to report that the Huguenot Society of Mississippi should be reactivated by year end and up and running before the end of the term of this administration.

A letter from the President of the Huguenot Society of Iowa requesting the disbandment of that State Member Society was presented to the Board of General Officers at its meeting 4 April 2008 in Washington, DC. The request was put on hold, and the Board of General Officers requested that the President General survey the membership of the Huguenot Society of Iowa to determine if there might be a sufficient number of members who are not in favor of disbandment to continue a State Member Society in Iowa. The President General has sent a letter and survey questionnaire to each of the Iowa members. The results are still pending, and a report will be made to the Board of General Officers and Congress in April.

This officer has been in frequent communication with the Chairman of the Committee on Bylaws while that Committee has been diligently researching past records and publications to ferret out all amendments adopted since the publication of the 2002 Bylaws and Handbook. The Bylaws Committee was given the task of updating the Bylaws by incorporating all such amendments in preparation for a new publication of Bylaws and Handbook.

The President General has communicated with each of the State Member Societies regarding the need for relocating the “Headquarters Office” from Bloomington, Minnesota. There have been several suggestions and a couple of firm proposals, one of which would be a temporary arrangement. Some additional leads have developed in the last few days. These will all be considered by the Relocation Committee and a decision will be forthcoming in the very near future as time is running out to fulfill the wishes of the Archivist and Headquarters Chairman, Grace Rice, who has said she will not continue once the bad winter weather sets in in Minnesota.

This officer has continued to receive and use the voucher system to approve all bills and invoices for payment by the Treasurer General, and to review the financial statements provided by the Treasurer General.

The President General has provided updates and corrections to the 2007-2009 Directory of The General Council as changes have become known.

This officer has performed these and the many other duties of the Office of President General with humility and devotion to The National Huguenot Society, Inc., and the memory, principles, and virtues of our Huguenot ancestors.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. MacManus  
President General
ORGANIZING SECRETARY GENERAL

As your National Organizing Secretary General I have received no inquiries concerning the organization of new National Huguenot member Societies in States where none currently exist. However we are currently trying to encourage interest and work with a new state after receiving a new member approval. It was learned how thrilled the member was over their ancestor, the motivation and excitement they experienced and what meant to them being a member! They are so very interested in sharing their new membership with others and we are trying to offer encouragement and support for a possible new chapter!

Although many of our Societies are experiencing a decline in membership, we must press onward! Together, we can do it!

We are very encouraged at this time on the reorganization of Mississippi Society becoming active again. We certainly appreciate all the help of our National President is doing for this Society to become active again.

We continue planting seeds about our National Huguenot Heritage and what a fine organization it is. Let us never forget the price our ancestors paid for their freedom and which allows us to be a member! Let us never take this for granted.

Our challenge is for our National Huguenot Society to grow and prosper!

Madam President, it is an honor to serve you and the Society.

Betty Swisher

TREASURER GENERAL’S ACTIVITY REPORT

24 October 2008

During the period since the Treasurer General’s year end 2007 report to the present, I have accomplished the following tasks:

· Deposited all funds received from the Registrar General, the Headquarters Office, State Member Societies, Members-at-Large and Individuals.

· Disbursed payment of all bills and invoices approved and submitted by the President General in accordance with the established voucher system.

· Reviewed and reconciled all bank statements from the various financial institutions in which funds of the National Huguenot Society, Inc. are maintained.

· Interacted with the President General regarding maturities and renewals of certificates of deposit.

· Prepared the Treasurer General’s report through June 30, 2008 which was distributed to the finance committee. The September 30, 2008 report is in process.

Robert Van Gulick
Treasurer General

TREASURER GENERAL’S SECOND QUARTER REPORT

12 August 2008

The undersigned, Treasurer General of the The National Huguenot Society, Inc. does hereby submit the following Financial Report for the Period 1 January 2008 through 30 June 2008.

The balance of funds on hand at the start of the 2008 year, including the Dickey Scholarship Restricted Funds of $309,439.73, the Lewis Memorial Restricted Funds of $23,208.91, and the Unrestricted Operating Funds (including the Advent Recovery Funds) of $160,334.59, totaled $492,983.23.

There were received (and accrued with regard to certificates of deposit not at maturity) $30,501.90 for the period 1 January 2008 through 30 June 2008. During the same period, disbursements totaled $27,959.92, leaving a net increase of $2,541.98 year to date in 2008.

The balance of funds on hand as of 30 June 2008, including the Dickey Scholarship Restricted Funds of $306,354.57, the Lewis Memorial Restricted Funds of $23,696.43, and the Unrestricted Operating Funds (including the Advent Recovery Funds) of $165,474.21, totaled $495,525.21. The above figures reflect an August transfer of $10,000 from the Capital One Dickey money market account associated with scholarships issued during 2008, the funds for which were paid from the operating checking account. Such scholarship payments are appropriately reflected as payments from restricted funds.


Robert Van Gulick
Treasurer General
REGISTRAR GENERAL

Since the Annual Assembly on 5 April 2008, this officer has approved 52 new members by application and 11 supplemental papers. Additionally, 4 transfers, 1 reinstatement and 1 reinstatement + transfer.

Two applications were rejected: one because the ancestor was not proven to be a Huguenot and the other because the ancestor was not proven to have had French lineage during the required time period. One application is on hold until the fee has been sent. One supplemental was rejected as the ancestor is not a proven Huguenot. That line was previously closed and not enough documentation was provided to overturn that decision. There are no papers on hand that have not been read.

Totals for this administration since 7 April 2007: 147 new members by application, 29 approved supplemental papers, 11 transfers, 1 dual membership, 1 junior to senior membership, 8 reinstatements, 3 reinstatements + transfer and 6 Youth Registrations.

Fifteen Member Societies plus Member-at-Large papers were submitted during this period. Georgia had 9 new members by application + 2 supplemental papers -- congratulations to GA State Registrar Michael Motes; Florida and Illinois each had 6 new members by application although Florida submitted a supplemental as well. Alabama, Missouri and Virginia all had 4 new members by application and Missouri also had one supplemental. Nebraska, North Carolina and Texas each had 3 new members by application. The hard work by the State Registrars is greatly appreciated by this officer.

The Annual State Registrar’s Report Form will be sent to all the state registrars in late November/early December. The mailing list continues to be a work in progress. Changes are made when they are received. The list can only be as accurate as the information provided by the state societies. The number of returns by the Post Office each time The Cross is sent is discouraging.

Steve Gerth, 1st Vice President General, of the Illinois Society has been kind enough to print the membership certificates. He has just finished some and they will be mailed out soon. His willingness to do this job is greatly appreciated by this officer.

Progress on the new Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors has been slow. Approving papers as they come in is a priority so working on the Register is an on-again, off-again project. Countless emails and phone calls have been answered. Many requests for information regarding membership are received from the National Huguenot Society website and referrals made to the state registrars. The website has been an invaluable tool for attracting new members. This officer has carried out all the duties of this office and regrets her inability to attend the Semi-Annual meeting.

Jeannine Sheldon Kallal
Registrar General

HISTORIAN GENERAL’S REPORT

Huguenot Collection at the DAR Library: This officer will be checking the continued growth of the Huguenot Collection when she visits Washington, D.C. in November, as she did in April this year. Committee member Neoma O’Brien reports she is cataloging books for inclusion that have been collected over a seventy-five year period at the Washington, D.C. society. Another society has also expressed interest in funding additional book purchases. All donations are screened by the Books & Archives Review Committee. Please contact the Historian General about submitting a donation or suggesting additional materials which will help us develop a list for future purchases. Books related to Huguenot lineage, heritage, history, and religion are included in the collection now numbering over 500 volumes. Items have been professionally cataloged and appear online on the DAR Library website. NHS members have free access to the library located near the White House at 1776 D Street NW.

State Societies: State Society historians or presidents are again being contacted to learn current information about their historical work and programming. Any information about Huguenot descendants or sites in various states is welcomed. Such material will be added to a computer data base which has been developed over nearly a decade. If a state society is interested in receiving this information which may be helpful in program planning or as a resource for further research, please email or call the Historian General.

Board of General Officers Bios: The Historian General requests that general officers submit biographical information for our scrapbook. This may include a resume, clipping, and photo. Please contact her for additional information, if you have not already done so.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chew
Historian General
BOOKS AND ARCHIVES REVIEW COMMITTEE

I have received two checks from The Huguenot Society of Georgia to be used to purchase books for the Huguenot Collection at the DAR Library, Washington, D.C. Copies of the letters are attached. We thank the Georgia Society for these generous gifts, which we deeply appreciate.

Carol Chew
Historian General
Chair, Books & Archives Review Committee

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAMS AND ARRANGEMENTS

The 72nd Annual Congress in Washington, DC, was held the weekend of April 4 - 5, 2008 at the Washington Marriott at 1221 22nd Street NW.

The guest rooms were quite comfortable with reasonable rates, the meeting rooms were very nice, the staff was most accommodating, the food and service were excellent, and we received very positive comments from those in attendance.

In accordance with the vote of the Officers and Delegates present at the 72nd Annual Congress, the 73rd Annual Congress will be held in Washington, DC, the weekend of April 10-11, 2009.

The Washington Marriott was most eager to have the National Huguenot Society return for the 2009 Board of General Officers, General Council, and Congress meetings, and after comparing their facilities and proposal to other hotels, including the Mayflower, the Committee on Programs and Arrangements has selected the Washington Marriott for the meetings April 10 - 11, 2009.

The room rates will be $179.00 with one to four occupants as compared to $237.00 at the Mayflower. Other hotels ranged from $199.00 to $275.00.

The Program for the April 2009 meetings is a “work in progress”, and will be announced at a later date. Look for the Official Call and more information in the Spring issue of The Cross.

Respectfully submitted,

Nadine Hardin-Miller,
Honorary President General
Chairman, Committee on Programs and Arrangements

EDITOR’S REPORT

As Editor of the Cross, I submit this report for your consideration. The Cross has been published twice per year as required by the Bylaws. Since I have become the Editor, I have received correspondence from several members and non-members about the publications issued since my appointment. Most were offers to submit articles or other input. The outside communications were favorable commentary about the particular publication as well as commentary about specific statements contained in the issue being discussed. These communications have been positive and rewarding and are a testament to the broad reach of The Cross.

These communications also suggest an opportunity to expand the reach of the NHS, which has been my goal as Editor. With the assistance of the webmaster, we have been posting The Cross on line for the past several years. My strategy has been to include information that might be of interest to not only current members, but also that which might help to attract potential Huguenots surfing the web for genealogical data. I have tried to include more photographs than previously, and also frankly acknowledge some of the more controversial aspects of the period of history we in our Society are so familiar with.

Another opportunity is to use the extra issues of The Cross to our advantage moreso than before. We should try to find places willing to display our extra issues of The Cross as perhaps one way to take advantage of the additional exposure it would provide, but also to have our extra copies serve a positive function of increasing our visibility. The more exposure the NHS is able to enjoy, the more opportunity for new members and for those who share our interest in history and our ancestors to find one another.

This concludes my report. Thank you for the honor of serving as Editor of The Cross.

Janice Murphy Lorenz

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that The National Huguenot Society, Inc. has moved to a new location. Our new address and telephone number:

The National Huguenot Society, Inc.
7340 Blanco road, Suite 104
San Antonio, TX 78216-4970

Telephone: 210-366-9995
The regular meeting of the General Council of The National Huguenot Society, Inc., was held at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on October 24, 2008. It was called to order at 1:20 PM, by Barbara MacManus, President General of The National Huguenot Society, Inc.

General Council Members Present: Barbara MacManus, President General; Steve Gerth, First Vice President General; Allen Moore, Third Vice President General; The Rev. Dr. Albert C. Walling, II, Chaplain General; Robert Van Gulick, Treasurer General; Elizabeth Wilson Fomby, MD, Surgeon General; George Cooper, State President, Huguenot Society of Tennessee; Todd B. Frary, State President, Huguenot Society of Georgia, and Chairman, Finance Standing Committee; Rachel L. Wills, State President, Huguenot Society of Virginia and Chairman of Credentials Standing Committee; Dallie M. Howerton, State President, Huguenot Society of Missouri and Chairman of Awards Standing Committee; James F. Barr, State President, Illinois; Aubrey L. Wilson, State President, Huguenot Society of Texas; Sylvia McAuliffe, Chairman of the Bylaws Standing Committee, Honorary President General; Nadine S. Hardin-Miller, Honorary President General and Chairman of Programs and Arrangements.

General Council Members Absent: Ann D. Hallgren-Arrowsmith, Second Vice President General; Nancy W. Brennan, Recording Secretary General; Donna L. Gantt, Corresponding Secretary General; Betty L. Swisher, Organizing Secretary General; Jeannine S. Kallal, Registrar General, Carol W. Chew, Historian General; Janice M. Lorenz, Counselor General; Charles O. Johnson, Genealogist General; Arthur F. Stocker, Honorary President General; Dr. Travis T. Dupriest, Jr., Honorary President General; Joyce M. Bockemuehl, Honorary President General; The Rev. Dixon Barr, Honorary President General; Neoma O’Brien, Honorary President General; Richard D. Smith, Sr., Chairman, Scholarship Awards; Barbara Garner, State President, Huguenot Society of Alabama; John K. Thorne, State President, Huguenot Society of Arizona; Mary Lewis, State President, Huguenot Society of Arkansas; Donna Cole, State President, Huguenot Society of California; The Rev. Dr. Canon Robert G. Carroon, State President, Huguenot society of Connecticut; William M. Brown, Jr., State President Pro Tem, Huguenot Society of Delaware; Robert E. Burt, State President, Huguenot Society of Florida; Rose Mary Kiersma, State President Huguenot Society of Indiana, Martha Deyoe, State President, Huguenot Society of Iowa; Betty Bernstorf, State President, Huguenot Society of Kansas; William A. Buckaway, State President, Huguenot Society of Kentucky, Edwin A. Garrett, IV, State President, Huguenot Society of Maine; William S. de Rosset, State President, Huguenot Society of Maryland; Thomas M. Smith, State President, Huguenot Society of Massachusetts; Sanford K. Loomis, State President, Huguenot Society of Minnesota; Howard O. Leach, State President, Huguenot Society of Mississippi; Judith Moore, State President, Huguenot Society of Nebraska; Elizabeth Mortensen, State President, Huguenot Society of Nevada; Marsha Stewart, State President, Huguenot Society of New Hampshire; Anita Jo Berry, State President of New Mexico; Rae F. Laird, State President, Huguenot Society of New York, Marie Y. Thiele, State President, Huguenot Society of North Carolina; Virginia M. McVay, State Treasurer, Huguenot Society of Ohio; Donna Gantt, State President, Huguenot Society of Oklahoma; Robert M. Kline, MD; State President, Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania; Col. Bruce C. MacGunnigle, State President, Huguenot Society of Rhode Island; Donald H. Wingerson, State President, Huguenot Society of Washington State; Karen E. Broman, State President, Huguenot Society of Wisconsin.

The Rev. Dr. Albert C. Walling II, Chaplain General gave the Invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Steve Gerth, First Vice President General. The Huguenot Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Allen Moore, Third Vice President. Sylvia McAuliffe, Honorary President General, led the “Sacred Oath.”

George Cooper, State President, Huguenot Society of Tennessee, welcomed the members and their guests.

Barbara MacManus, President General thanked Mr. Cooper.

Marcia Guilbert, State Treasurer of Tennessee and Chairman of Registration introduced the guests, Jack Howerton, Bonnie Gerth, Bob Miller, Barbara Moore, Carroll Walling, and Duane Wills, Walter Guerard, Stephen L. Warren, Guy M. Beaty, III, Noella Oberlin.
Marcia also introduced the Tennessee members who were present: Sally Batts, Willie May Beattie, Catherine C. Brown, Nancy R. Carr, John J. Hood, Mary Wells James, Shirley Rogers, Pat Jobe, Lenore Levy.

The President General announced the open forum workshop where members shared their experience and successes with such topics as efforts to improve meeting attendance, membership development, collection of dues, communication with members and with National; and member services provided to members by states and chapters and what is expected from National.

A lively discussion period took place. Some of the ideas brought forward were: a newsletter, breaking state membership into smaller chapters to facilitate ease in attendance, a calendar of state organization meetings to aid in scheduling state meetings, periodic genealogy workshops incl. instruction on how to correctly complete an application.

The President General called for a brief recess.

The General Council meeting reconvened at 2:55 PM.

The business portion of the meeting began with the President General appointing Rachel L. Wills to serve as Recording Secretary General Pro Tem.

The minutes of the General Council meeting that was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, in October 2007 as well as the last General Council meeting held in Washington, DC, that was combined with the 72nd Annual Congress were read and approved with corrections by reading committees and published in the Cross of Languedoc. There were no questions or corrections. Therefore, the minutes were approved as published.

The Chair appointed George Cooper, President of the Huguenot Society of Tennessee and Dallie Howerton, President of the Huguenot Society of Missouri to serve as the Reading Committee to read and attest to minutes of this meeting.

Reports of General Officers:

President General, Barbara C. MacManus read her report which is attached
First Vice President General, Stephen B. Gerth, gave an oral report
Second Vice President General, Ann Hallgren-Arrowshmith, absent, no report
Third Vice President General, Allen W. Moore, gave an oral report
Chaplain General, The Rev. Dr. Albert C. Walling II gave an oral report and written report is attached
Recording Secretary General, Nancy Brennan, absent, no report
Corresponding Secretary General, Donna L. Gantt, absent, no report
Organizing Secretary General, Betty Swisher, absent, report read by President General and is attached
Treasurer General, Robert R. Van Gulick, present, oral report and written report attached
Registrar General, Jeannine S. Kallal, absent, report read by President General and attached
Historian General, Carol W. Chew, absent, report filed
Counselor General, Janice Murphy Lorenz, Esq., absent, no report
Surgeon General, Dr. Elizabeth Fomby, MD, present, no report
Genealogist General, Dr. C. Owen Johnson, absent, no report

Honorary Presidents General:

Mrs. Nadine Strang Hardin-Miller, present, no report
Mrs. Sylvia F. McAuliffe, present, no report
Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Awards: Dallie Howerton, present, no report
The President General reported that she has received a book that is perhaps a possibility.

By-laws Committee: Sylvia F. McAuliffe, present, oral report
She stated that the compilation of the by-laws is expected to be ready for distribution in 2009 at Annual Congress.

Committee on Credentials: Rachel L. Wills, present, no report

Committee on Finance: Todd Frary, present, oral report

Committee on Genealogy: Dr. C. Owen Johnson, absent, no report

Committee on Membership: Position vacant

Committee on Programs and Arrangements: Nadine Hardin-Miller, present, report read and filed. After careful study of possible sites, Washington Marriott was once again chosen as the best choice for the Annual Congress of The National Huguenot Society, April 10 and 11, 2009.

Committee on Publications: Janice M. Lorenz, absent, report read by President General.

Committee on Resolutions: Position vacant

Committee on Scholarships: Richard C. Smith, Sr., absent, no report.

Special Committees:

Archivist and Headquarters Chairman: Grace V. Rice, absent, no report.
Auditing Committee: Sara Branton, absent, no report.
Publicity and Web Master: Stephen B. Gerth, present, oral report
Headquarters Relocation Committee – President General, oral report

Member (State) Society Reports:

Alabama, Barbara Garner, President, absent, report filed (received late)
Arizona, John K. Thorne, President, absent, report read by President General and filed.
Arkansas, Mary Lewis, President, absent, no report
California, Donna Cole, President, absent, no report
Connecticut, Rev. Dr. Canon Robert G. Carroon, President, absent, no report
Delaware, William M. Brown, Jr., President Pro Tem, absent, no report
District of Columbia, Janice M. Lorenz, President, absent, report attached
Florida, Robert E. Burt, President, absent, report filed (received late)
Georgia, Dr. Charles B. Upshaw, Jr., MD, President, absent, report filed
Illinois, James F. Barr, President, present, oral report and written report attached
Indiana, Rose Mary Kiersma, President, absent
   Report was read by Allen Moore, 3rd VPG and attached.
Iowa, Martha Deyoe, President, absent, no report
Kansas, Betty Bernstorf, President, absent, no report
Kentucky, William A. Buckaway, Esq., President, absent, no report
Maine, Edwin A. Garrett IV, President, absent, report filed
Massachusetts, inactive
Minnesota, Sanford K. Loomis, President, absent, no report
Mississippi, inactive
Missouri, Dallie O. Howerton, President, present, oral report
Nebraska, Judith Moore, President, absent, no report
Nevada, Elizabeth Mortensen, President, absent, no report
New Hampshire, Marsha Stewart, President, absent, no report
New Mexico, Anita Jo Berry, President, absent, no report
New York, Rae F. Laird, President, absent, no report
North Carolina, Marie Y. Thiele, President, absent, no report
Ohio, Virginia M. McVay, Treasurer, absent, no report
Oklahoma, Donna Gantt, President, absent
Pennsylvania, Robert M. Kline, MD, President, absent, no report
Rhode Island, Col. Bruce C. MacGunnigle, President, absent, no report
Tennessee, George M. Cooper, Jr. President, present, oral report and written report attached
Texas, Aubrey L. Wilson, President, present, oral report and written report attached
Virginia, Rachel L. Wills, President, present, oral report and written report attached
Wisconsin, Karen E. Broman, President, absent, no report

Unfinished Business: Recommendations from the General Council to the Board of General Officers:

#1 – James F. Barr, moved that the General Council recommend to the Board of General Officers that the National Huguenot Society support financially (to provide legal assistance) to any state society or their successors whose society has been split through schismatic action, to protect their property and rights. Seconded by Todd Frairy, Chairman of the Finance Committee. Motion adopted.

#2 – Marcia Guilbert, moved that the General Council recommend to the Board of General Officers that the by-laws recommendation that junior members should pay initial application fee, and pay no annual fees to national until age 18. Seconded by Jim Barr, State President, Huguenot Society of Illinois. Motion adopted.

Announcements:

Those who have registered for the dinner this evening will begin assembling at 6:30 in the Crystal Room. Dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.

Those who have registered for the Huguenot Society of Tennessee meeting, lunch and program tomorrow will assemble in the main lobby at 10:15 tomorrow morning for transportation to the Fairyland Club. Departure will be at 10:30 AM.

The meeting of the Board of General Officers and Standing Committee Chairmen will meet in this same room tomorrow afternoon upon return from the Fairyland Club. The meeting will begin at 2:30 PM or as soon thereafter as we can get back to the hotel.

The Rev. Dr. Albert C. Walling, II, Chaplain General, gave the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 PM.

Submitted by:

Rachel Lotterhos Wills
Recording Secretary, Pro Tem

Monday, October 27, 2008
Barbara MacManus and Nadine Hardin-Miller

Well-attended midyear meeting

NHS President General MacManus reinvigorates the Mississippi Society in 2008

Highlights of the 2008 Mid-Year Meeting
2008 Mid-Year Meeting

Folks enjoying the TN Society’s hospitality

Rachel Wills of Virginia and Allen Moore of Indiana

Ladies enjoying the midyear meeting
“Owing to his protestant views” Didier Rousseau, a Huguenot bookseller, left Paris in 1550 and established himself as wine merchant in Geneva. He and his descendents were warmly received in Geneva, whose culture was being transformed by John Calvin(1509-1564). In that era, watchmaking was Geneva’s most important trade.

Didier’s son, Jean Rousseau the Elder, married a watchmaker’s daughter and sired three generations of Swiss Huguenot watchmakers. John Rousseau the Elder’s son, John the Younger, became a famous watch maker. Jean the Younger (1606-1684) fathered David Rousseau, a liberal political activist as well as a watchmaker. Of David’s six surviving children, three became watch makers, including Isaac, the father of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. (Cranston) Although the fifth generation Rousseau was not a watchmaker, he was the famous Jean-Jacques Rousseau, philosopher, who wrote The Social Contract (1762). That publication significantly influenced the leaders of the French revolution.

The philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau is much better known than Jean Rousseau, the watchmaker, perhaps in part because of his lifestyle. Jean-Jacques was born in Geneva in 1712. His mother died a few days after his birth. His father Isaac fled Geneva in 1722 to avoid a trial following an altercation with a French Captain. Raised by an uncle, he wandered though educated society until he launched his career in 1750 with a prize winning essay, The Discourse on the Sciences and Arts. For the rest of his life his fame and stature grew. However, he appears to have inherited the irritable and tempestuous temperament seen in his father and grandfather. He quarreled and ended most of his important relationships including with Voltaire, his patron Mme. D’Epinary, Diderot, and even David Hume, who had invited him to come to England. He died in 1778 and was entombed in Paris’ Pantheon. Ref Wikipedia

Jean Rousseau the Elder’s brother in law, Jacques Sermand(1595-1651), was also a gifted Huguenot watchmaker. Jacques Sermand watches were usually cased in a form such as a dolphin, a tulip, a Star of David. The book by Catherine Cardinal, THE WATCH from its origins to the XIXth century (The Wellfleet Press, 1985) contains beautiful photographs of such watches by Jean Rousseau and by Jacques Sermand.

1. Graham.
2. Cranston.
ALABAMA

The Alabama Huguenot Society held a very special meeting in September. The Organization was 50 years old in 2008 and we celebrated with special decorations and place favors with beautiful table centerpieces of African Violets provided by member Lit White.

After our business meeting, a very interesting program was presented by Dr. Timothy George. He spoke on Luther and Calvin and expanded on their influence in Europe and the Colonies.

After the program, a buffet lunch was enjoyed by everyone and Champagne toasts were given to the founder of the State Society by Treasurer, Steve Saxon. Then a large cake, beautifully decorated honoring the Huguenot Society was shown and then cut and served to everyone. Door prizes were given and the meeting was adjourned.

We will have our Huguenot Church Service in the spring. This is always a highly anticipated event.

President, Alabama Huguenot Society

ARIZONA

Thank you for your letter of August 19 advising of the changes in the General Council Directory and of the forthcoming October 25 Mid-Year meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee. This letter is to let you know that we will not be represented at the Mid-Year meeting but do wish it to be a successful one. I especially want you to know that The Huguenot Society of Arizona is “alive and well”. I say this after reading the current issue of The Cross of Languedoc in which the struggles of several state societies are described and these reporters talk so pessimistically about the future of their particular organizations. In Arizona we are a small group with an aging membership but we are not “going out of business” and we are not contesting the rules for membership in the National organization. Our state treasury is modest but solid to the extent that for the second year in a row we will be waiving state dues and collect only the dues for National. We are seeking new members and I intend to be pushing that issue at our next semi-annual lunch meeting in Phoenix on October 25 (coincidentally). I joined the National Huguenot Society only a few years ago when I discovered in my family history research that I am a direct descendant of Bourgon Broucard (now Brokaw-Tom Brokaw, the TV commentator, is a 7th cousin), and of Loris Rapalje. The latter, with his wife Catalina Trico, are well documented as amongst the first settlers of New Amsterdam, and I am very proud of them. (See “The Island at the Center of the World”, Russell Shorto (2004), currently available at Bames and Noble). When I joined I knew very little about Huguenot history, and now as President of the Arizona Society I think it especially important to know as much as I can about what I am representing. So, I have been doing considerable reading on the subject, and must say that I am so impressed and respectful of these ancestors and what they endured. It is almost unbelievable, and only with a strong religious faith could they have survived at all. I am also vice-president of the Arizona Chapter of the National Society Dames and Barons of the Magna Charta. And, I am past-president, and now registrar, of the Prescott Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution. All of this keeps me busy and my brain active in retirement. It is so important that we honor these ancestors and teach the history of our culture, our society, and our great country. Preservation of our way of life depends on the next generation knowing of the sacrifices, struggles, and expectations of those who came before them. This is, unfortunately, not well taught in current public education.

Best Regards,
John K. Thome, PhD
jsthome@commspeed.net

WASHINGTON, DC

The Washington Society has conducted its regular meetings this year. We were not able to conduct our annual Day of Remembrance, but we have a core group of members who enjoy meeting and socializing together. We all attended our annual Founder’s Day meeting and champagne brunch at a local French restaurant, as we did last year.

It has been an honor to serve as the President this term.

Janice Murphy Lorenz
President
FLORIDA

A special greeting from The Huguenot Society of Florida. Many State Society meetings have been attended by this President, Robert E. Burt, including DAR, SAR, CAR, Mayflower, Genealogy, Huguenot and has been introduced as President of the Florida Huguenot Society.

Have inherited a dropped Chapter in the SW part of Florida. A genealogical Happening for Huguenots was scheduled in Naples-Florida 2006. With the help of DAR, SAR, Mayflower and Genealogical Societies leadership, we ask them to poll their membership for possible Huguenot connection. More than 40 were suggested and 18 attended the meeting. The chapter is being reorganized and hopefully will be up and running before next year’s state meeting. It is my belief that before a chapter or state society is allowed to drop, a genealogy happening be held.

A Bylaws Committee and Communications Committee have been selected to review changes being made at this meeting. Our next state meeting is 24 Oct 2008 in Ruskin, FL. Our state annual meeting will be held in western Dade County the second week of February, where I will turn over the leadership to the nominating committee’s choice for the new term.

Our 193 members wish the very best for our National leadership and we are very proud to have in our Florida Society Syliva F. McAuliffe, Honorary President General.

Robert E. Burt, President

GEORGIA

I write to give you an annual report on the Huguenot Society of Georgia for publication in the journal, The Cross of Languedoc. Our Society, organized in 1971 in Metter, Georgia, now has 160 members on our books including 17 out of state members and four living in Australia. We meet twice yearly, the last Saturday of April and October, at a site centrally located in Georgia for ease of travel where ever our members may live. We have about 50 members attending each meeting.

We are an active and strong Society.

1) We support three libraries each year to a total annual amount of $200.00. Each library is asked to use these monies to acquire and preserve books concerning Huguenot history. The libraries are: a) Statesboro Regional Library, Statesboro, Georgia; b) Cobb County Public library, Marietta, Georgia; c) Library of the National Huguenot Society, now housed in the Library of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C.

2) Since 1978 we have sponsored the Zada Bird Brannen Scholarship Fund, named in honor of our founder and our first President. The Fund’s current value is $30,000.00. Our recent scholarship recipients are Miss Mary Reed Daugette of Smyrna, Georgia, and Miss Laura Elizabeth Parker of Millen, Georgia. Each award amounted to $1,477.00.

3) We are connected to the Internet with our website of www.huguenotsocietyofgeorgia.org.

4) Our Society is financially strong due to donations and payment of dues. The Society’s Foundation Fund is valued at $125,000.00.

5) At our recent October 2008 meeting in Macon we designated three of our members as Distinguished Members, the highest honor awarded by the Huguenot Society of Georgia. Each recipient has served the Society faithfully in various ways for 35 years or more. They are John Parham Rabun, Jr. of Atlanta and Reidsville, Georgia; Lucy Ann Phillips Singleton of Washington, Georgia; and Marion Moore Bird Martin of Statesboro and Savannah, Georgia.

We continue to strive to perpetuate the memory, spirit and deeds of the men and women called Huguenots, and to foster additional research of materials relating to Huguenot history and families.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles B. Upshaw, Jr., M.D.
President

ILLINOIS

The Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society was attended last April by Illinois members Jeannine Kallal and Stephen Brown Gerth. Our President remains unable to attend due to the press of business activities in early April. In May, the Rev’d. Travis Talmadge DuPriest, Honorary President General, National Huguenot Society, addressed our meeting, joined by the Illinois Society, Sons of the Revolution and the Illinois Society, Order of Founders and Patriots. His talk “Tracking Pierre LeGrand, Colonial Huguenot and Patriot” was warmly received by the thirty-some people present.
In August, we journeyed to Western Illinois for a joint meeting with the Daughters of Colonial Wars and the Illinois Court of Assistants, National Society Women Descendants of the Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company. The guest speaker was A&H President General Marge Knight, speaking on “the John Jenney Grist Mill.”

In November 2008 we shall meet jointly again with DCW and Women Descendants, A&H for a program by Tim Pleetkovich, Editor of the recently published book, “Civil War Fathers; Sons of the Civil War in WWII.” The Washington Times favorably reviewed this work.

We have been invited to attend an Annual Dinner hosted by the Illinois society of the Order of Founders and Patriots and The Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Illinois. His Excellency, Governor General John M. Bourne (OFPA) and General President Paul M. Davis (Gen. Soc, SR) will be in attendance, as will be Honorary President General the Rev’d. Travis Talmadge DuPriest (NHS). We are obviously guaranteed at least a three star evening!

We currently have had only one scholarship recipient, and continue to encourage more submissions. We again anticipate awarding two scholarships for this next and all future years, due to the generosity of our membership.

Our Registrar, Shari Worrell, reports that we now have just over 100 members, including 23 life members and 2 junior members. We have purged several inactive and nonresponsive members, and have, of course, lost some dear ones who are fondly remembered from my relative youth when I came to this Society almost thirty years ago. But we have gained many wonderful new members and friends, and some new leadership along the way.

It has been our pleasure to extend to President General MacManus the invitation of the Illinois Society to provide at no cost a national office site including unlimited storage facilities. This location would be included within a current working, professional office of one of our members, thus facilitating complete communication systems, staffing, and telephone answering during all regular office work days. Daily access would be possible to all archival materials.

We continue to grow with new applicants coming in from throughout Illinois. We have co-hosted a meeting in Western Illinois with two other hereditary groups, and were pleased to see several members whom we had never met. It would seem wise to continue this extra (third) meeting of our year in this part of our state.

We cannot close without acknowledging the support, assistance, and love which our immediate past (and my predecessor) State President Cary Downing Myers poured into this society over her many years of service. We are all grateful to her for so very much, as we are to our loving, current state officers who serve tirelessly. Specifically, we would be remiss not to mention Jeannine Sheldon Kallal, Carol Wandschneider and Shari Worrell.

James F. Barr, President

INDIANA

The Huguenot Society of Indiana meets twice a year at the Meridian Hills Country Club in Indianapolis. Our April spring meeting speaker was Dr. Mark West, Associate Professor of French at Taylor University. His topic was “Expansion of the Gospel in Europe and America.” There were 22 persons in attendance.

Our October 18 fall meeting speaker was Dr. Fred Mitzig, Assistant Professor of History at Franklin College. His talk was entitled “Polite Huguenots in Colonial South Carolina.” Due to several conflicts, there were 18 persons present.

Currently we have 61 members and 6 associate members. During this year we have recruited one new member, we have lost three members due to death, and one member resigned. Two membership applications are in process. These are for university students whose grandfather is a member.

I have already engaged two outstanding speakers for our spring and fall 2009 meetings. We are trying to avoid scheduling our meetings on the same date that other hereditary societies meet since many of our members belong to several societies.

MAINE

It is with regret that I write to inform you of the death on August 23, 2008 of the past President of the Maine Society, C. Eugene DeGroff from complications resulting from a heart attack and congestive heart failure.

On that same day, the Maine Society held previously scheduled reorganizational meeting and the following officers were elected: President Edwin Garrett, IV; Vice President Pamela Feyler; Secretary/Treasurer S. Clyde Ross.

I would appreciate your assistance in communicating the
above information to the appropriate officers of the National Society. Further, if there are forms which I should return to the National Society as a new State Society President, I would deeply appreciate your assistance and advice. Having just completed over a decade as Secretary of Maine state society of the Society of Colonial Wars, as I prepare for a new career in the Law, I find this new office thrust upon me a bit unexpectedly, however I shall due my utmost to perform the duties of this office to the very best of my abilities.

Faithfully,
Edwin A. Garrett, IV, President
email: eagarettiv@hotmail.com

TENNESSEE

As President of the Huguenot Society of Tennessee, welcome to the semi-annual General Counsel and Board of General Officers meeting here on Track 29 at the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo. As hosts, we look forward to our State Society assembly tomorrow at the Fairyland Club on Lookout Mountain, where our Society has met since 1960. Since January 2007, we have added five new members, but unfortunately, lost seven members. A young member, Christopher Cowden Wardlaw Rayburn, now a sophomore at Davidson College, has received the Marie Rose Huguenot Scholarship. A former junior member, Cowden's family has long been active in our Society.

We meet twice a year on the first Saturday in April and November. Our April speaker gave a talk on “Anthony Bernezet, Huguenot Abolitionist”. We especially look forward to our speaker tomorrow - President General Barbara MacManus. Her topic is “Three Voyages” based on the account of attempts by France to colonize North America by Rene Laudonniere, as translated by Charles E. Bennett. We, also, hope to hear a few remarks about the National Huguenot Society.

Thank you for coming. We hope you enjoy your visit to Chattanooga and its many attractions.

George M. Cooper, Jr.
President

VIRGINIA

The Huguenot Society of Virginia IS ALIVE AND WELL! In January 2008, this State President Pro Tem, traveled to Richmond, VA to consult with the attorney, William F. Etherington, recommended by Janice Lorenz, Counsel General. The attorney reviewed the National and State By-laws, minutes of the 31 March 2007 meeting, and the motion and rationale mailed to state members in early March 2007 by Dr. David Harpole. Mr. Etherington stated quite emphatically that they can have their autonomous society but NOT with the assets belonging to the Huguenot Society of Virginia.

The meeting of General Council during the Annual Congress in April 2008 did not bring the hoped for results for Huguenot Society of Virginia much to the shock and dismay of the President General and this state President. This State President served the Society’s Annual Congress as Chairman of Credentials and also provided assistance by fulfilling the requests of the President General such as presenting stated corrections to the program of events of the Congress. This State President was elected as a member of the nominating committee to represent the State Presidents.

Since the split in membership and loss of our assets, our officers have given of their time and talents on a volunteer basis due to the lack of funds for reimbursement. This member has spent approximately $800-$1000 of her own money since March 2007, to inform the remaining membership of the outcome of that fateful meeting; printing and mailing of those many letters and the call to meetings, and to produce a yearbook which was distributed to the membership present at the March 2008 meeting. The yearbooks were mailed to those known members who had paid 2008 dues and who were absent from the spring meeting of the Huguenot Society of Virginia.

This State President also purchased her own State President’s insignia, so that she could properly represent the Society when formally introduced at the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution State Conference held in Roanoke, VA in March 2008. She has used her personal presentation gavel given to her many years ago in place of the gavel of the Huguenot Society of Virginia for her meetings. She has used her own desk set of small flags as temporary substitutes for the large flags and stands purchased by the State Society many years ago. An inventory of missing assets of the society is attached.

This March 2008 meeting, hosted by Elmer and Alice Birdseye, was held at Williamsburg National Golf Club in

HOROLOGICAL MUSEUM

The Musée International d’Horlogerie (international Watchmaking Museum) is located in La Chaux-de-Fonds, the capital city of the district of La Chaux-de-Fonds in the canton of Neuchâtel in Switzerland.
The Cross of Languedoc

January 2009  Williamsburg, VA. The actions of the October 2007 meeting were ratified, having a quorum present. All officers could drop the “pro tem” and are now serving the society as duly elected officers. After lunch and a business meeting, The Rev. Ramsey Richardson, former State Chaplain, installed the officers of the Huguenot Society of Virginia.

Afterward, Barbara Crittenden gave a wonderful program about her ancestor, Pierre de Cozenose. The program material was taken from his journal written as he was in flight across France. It has been placed on our state web site, www.Huguenots-Virginia.org.

Over the summer, this state President has been helping Penny Lotterhos, the wife of one of her first cousins, Joseph E. Lotterhos, Esq., by answering questions via email. Penny admits that she had attended only one meeting several years ago because of conflict with ‘ole Miss football games. The emails regarding the fundamentals in setting up a luncheon meeting such as where to find space, as well as components of a meeting, for the hoped for revitalization of their State Society. Her efforts have been fraught with frustration and disappointment because of the advanced age and poor health of the majority of the members. The meeting originally scheduled for earlier in the fall has been postponed until Nov. 8. She has persevered and has begun to receive encouragement from some of the former officers and has received the bank account which is still intact. Barbara MacManus, President General, has promised to attend that meeting, the first to be held in quite some time.

This officer has also been busily keeping up with the myriad of changes for the membership contact information, as well as the new members as their papers have been approved by the registrar general.

Sadly, we have received news of the deaths of four of our members, one being a dear friend, a former State President, Peytie Moncure, who recently returned to us when she heard that I was the new State President. Another death was of another dear friend, Sally Lemley, who had traveled from Williamsburg to Vienna, to give an excellent program on Heraldry to my Colonial Dames XVII Century chapter years ago while I was Chapter President and Chairman of Heraldry. She had been ill for a very long time.

We were sorry to have to bid adieu to our dear friend and fellow state officer, The Rev. Frank Blair, as he and his wife moved back to New Mexico, their home state. He hopes to start another Anglican Church there.

This officer was pleased to add the names, new member numbers and ancestors, plus contact information for five new members, plus four reinstated members.

Our October 11, 2008 meeting was held in Culpeper, VA, at the Best Western Culpeper Inn with seventeen members and guests present. After lunch, The Rev. Norman Dubois Nettleton, a retired Presbyterian minister, gave the Service of Remembrance and sent or delivered the programs to the families of the deceased. We had a good business meeting; updates for our 2008-2010 yearbooks were distributed to those present and mailed to those absent. Our treasurer, Susan Webber, reported that our balance is now $1,875.94 including the restricted funds of $749.00 for scholarship. Yes, we are rebuilding our scholarship fund. All bills have been paid with the exception of the Oct. 11 luncheon.

Frustration with the continued flow of misleading information from the breakaway group resulted in the decision to institute an Executive Working Group to proceed with some form of legal action to retrieve our assets and to stop the use of our name on misleading information being distributed by the breakaway group.

The business was followed by a program consisting of excerpts from the papers of William Phipps of Davis & Elkins College, in Elkins, WVA entitled Huguenot Influences in Colonial Virginia, presented by Rachel L. Wills, State President, Huguenot Society of Virginia. These papers were from the files of Professor Galen R. Kline, of VA Tech., who died in Nov. 1989. His widow chose to mail his Huguenot files to me as she clears her house in preparation for returning to France where she still has living family. Those files will be a good resource for programs in the future!

Yes, we are alive and well, but we hope to improve our situation considerably and GROW. We are getting inquiries about membership through our web site and from the words of the mouths of friends who want to help.

Rachel L. Wills, State President
Huguenot Society of Virginia

MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY REORGANIZES

With the expert guidance of National Huguenot Society President General Barbara MacManus, the Mississippi Society has reorganized. As pictured in the Clinton News, its leaders met recently to plan its future activities. The meeting group included Penny Lotterhos of Clinton, its President-elect, Lynn Meador of Hattiesburg, Treasurer-elect, and Mary Margaret Buck of Memphis, Secretary-elect.
The Evolution of Swiss Watch Making and the Huguenot Impact

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The first appearance of the watch took place somewhere in Europe at the end of the 15th century. It was not an invention but a reduction in the size of the stationary table clock. At least two techniques were developed, primarily small driving mechanisms whose action cannot be disturbed as the time piece is transported, thus enabling the watch to become portable. Subsequently, watches were made throughout Europe, and although they were carefully crafted luxury items, initially they lacked precision. France’s craftsmen created beautiful watches and the major watch making centers were located in Blois, Lyon, Paris and La Rochelle. A large proportion of the French watchmakers and goldsmiths were Huguenots.

Following the Protestant Reformation and subsequent religious persecution, a large number of Huguenots fled France, many taking refuge in Switzerland and especially in Geneva, later to be known as The City of Calvin, which welcomed them with open arms. They arrived in waves, beginning in the 16th century, with a steady expansion of their population including talented goldsmiths, with the largest group to come following the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. These refugees brought with them not only their artistic abilities but their entrepreneurial skills. The Huguenots belonged to the most industrious and economically active class in France, and they revitalized the commercial activity of Geneva which had been in decline.


In the 1660’s, Jean Calvin forbade the wearing of jewelry (too close to popery), and gifted Huguenot goldsmiths transferred their skills to watch making in order to remain employed. Geneva horology expanded rapidly and flourished. In time, guilds in Geneva shut out many of these gifted watchmaker craftsmen, and a large number of them moved to the nearby Jura Mountains to small villages (primarily Neuchatel, La Choix-de-Fonds, Le Locle, Les Brenets), freeing themselves from the restraints of the Geneva guilds. Talented craftsmen were able to develop ingenious tools and innovations. Many of these watchmakers were also farmers who devoted their idle days during long cold winters to watch making. Entire families were often involved, forming a cottage industry called a “homeshop.” A natural division of labor developed in some of the families, an important concept in the later practice of factory production.

Huguenot Torte

The recipe for the Huguenot Torte served at the National and Tennessee state Societies luncheon at the Fairyland Club on Saturday, October 25, 2008, was from “Charleston Recipes” cookbook, published in 1950 by the Charleston Junior League. Marcia Guilbert, Treasurer of the Huguenot Society of Tennessee, shared with us that she inherited the book from her mother, and has passed it along to her own daughter, Julie. The recipe book is also reportedly enjoyed by other members of the National Huguenot Society.

From Charleston Receipts cook book:

Huguenot Torte

4 eggs
3 cups sugar
8 tablespoons flour
5 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla
2 cups chopped pecans or walnuts
2 cups chopped tart cooking apples

Beat whole eggs in electric mixer or with rotary beater until very frothy and lemon-colored. Add other ingredients in above order. Pour into two well-buttered baking pans about 8 by 12 inches. Bake in 325 oven about 45 minutes or until crusty and brown. To serve, scoop up with pancake turner (keeping crusty part on top), pile on large plate and cover with whipped cream and a sprinkling of the chopped nuts, or make 16 individual servings.

Mrs. Cornelius Huguenin (Evelyn Anderson)
It is such an honor to be with you today. I have met some of you before, in the course of the Annual Luncheons of the Huguenot Society of America in New York City, and I can only hope that when we welcome you in New York, we do so as warmly and as openly as you have welcomed me here today. I have to admit that I’m slightly worried that the subject of my talk is a little bit lurid and not very Easter-Like. After a delicious lunch, and a good share of Huguenot conviviality, do we really want to hear about funerals and disinterred bones, fisticuffs between a Huguenot minister and a Catholic priest, and the ghastly symptoms which lead to death from scurvy? After having accepted your kind invitation, all I can say is – I hope I won’t make you feel queasy, and I hope you ate up all your nice scurvy-preventing green vegetables this lunchtime.

About four years ago, I received a phone call from a National Parks official who asked me if I might be available to preside at a funeral service. As the conversation progressed, it soon became clear that this was to be no ordinary funeral. The thirty five gentlemen concerned had been dead for three hundred and ninety nine years. For the most part, their names were unknown. The majority of them had never received a proper Christian burial, for reasons which I hope to make clear. They were to be re-interred on a small island of six or so acres in the middle of the Sainte Croix River; the river which forms the international boundary between the State of Maine in the United States of America, and New Brunswick in Canada. In effect, they were to be re-interred in the oldest European cemetery in North America.

The events which led up to the Park Ranger’s extraordinary request were no less extraordinary than the request itself. On March 7, 1604 (three years before the foundation of Jamestown Virginia, and four years before the founding of the city of Quebec) a group of one hundred and twenty men captained by our hero, a Huguenot nobleman named Pierre Dugua, sieur de Mons, set sail from Le Havre in Northern France to try their luck at founding a permanent French colony in Acadia. You will note that I said one hundred and twenty men. How they hoped to found a permanent colony by sending over a boat with only men on board is anyone’s guess. Perhaps if they had had a few sensible Huguenot women with them, more of them would have eaten their greens.

They were not the first Frenchmen to try their luck in the New World. In 1541, Jean François de la Roque, (a Huguenot nobleman) left France with two hundred men with the same idea in mind. That colony met with insuperable difficulties, and failed within a few months. Other Huguenots and French Catholics tried their luck in warmer climes in Brazil and Florida: they were quickly repulsed by the Portuguese and the Spanish. The bitter Wars of Religion in France in the late fifteen-hundreds meant that no further attempts were made to settle the new world until the dawn of the seventeenth century.

In November 1603, our hero Pierre Dugua received a Royal Commission from Henry IV, naming him Lieutenant General of Acadie. He was granted unlimited powers and a monopoly of the lucrative North American fur trade – in which the Huguenots excelled. His boat was named la Bonne renommée. (The Great Renown, or The Worthy Fame). He was accompanied by Champlain, the mapmaker and the chronicler of the expedition. The expedition was made up of various French, Dutch and Swiss gentlemen, a Roman Catholic Priest, a Huguenot minister, at least one surgeon, various skilled workmen and the usual compliment of vagabonds and hangers-on conscripted to do the hard work. It is likely that the Huguenot members of the expedition (who were probably in the majority) bought the chaplain with them. After converting to Catholicism to become the King of France, Henry IV had solemnly charged the settlers that the Catholic minister alone was allowed to engage in missionary work among the indigenous peoples. They bought weapons with them, together with grain and vegetable seeds, utensils, tools, trading goods and prefabricated frame buildings, window frames, chimneys and doors. It was clear that they fully intended to stay.

After a transatlantic crossing, and a careful exploration of the coast from Newfoundland to Maine that lasted just over three months, they decided that a small island in a river fed by two opposite tributaries was a perfect spot for the first European town in North America. Because the confluence of the river and its tributaries made the sign of a cross, they named the island Sainte Croix. It was central, it was defensible, and on June 27, (near midsummer’s day) very beautiful. The decision was a momentous one. To quote Gannong, the most well known historian of Ste Croix, “From the day the keel of that small
boat grated on the beach of Sainte Croix island, this continent has never been without a population of those races which have made the history of the principle part of America, the French and the English.” The settlers rapidly set to in order to build their permanent homes on the island. It is interesting to note that in his diary, Champlain tells us that the workers were pestered by mosquito bites. Their faces swelled up so much that they could hardly see. The mosquito, as many of you may be aware, has since become known as the state bird of Maine.

Champlain goes on to tell us that despite their being situated on the same latitude as France, they had their first snowfall on October 6. On December 3, they saw large chunks of ice floating down the river. Everything froze apart from the Spanish wine. Cider was served by the pound, since there was not enough fuel available to defrost it. The island had no fresh water supply of its own, and because of the ice-floes thrown about by the extreme tides it became impossible to fetch fresh water from the mainland. They could shoot a moose on the mainland from the island, but they could not get a boat over to collect it once it was shot. The island rapidly became a prison. Some of the men squabbled. The Huguenot minister and the Catholic priest actually came to physical blows. The men began to fall ill of a mysterious disease which Champlain called Mal de Terre. Some, including Champlain himself, were convinced that the disease resulted from relying on melted snow for drinking water. The flesh in their mouths became white and putrefied. You could pull out their teeth with your fingers. They suffered from muscle contractions, a dreadful cough and frequent fainting fits. The surgeons in the party performed post mortems on some of the victims of the disease, in an attempt to discover what had caused their death. One hundred and twenty men had set out. Forty one returned before the winter set in. Of the seventy nine who were left, thirty five died, and forty four survived. Given their sedentary occupation, two of the first to succumb were the ministers of religion. Tradition has it that they were buried in the same grave, so that they could continue their bitter arguments in the after life. No one was left to give the remaining deceased the benefit of clergy at their grave side. As Champlain famously lamented, “There are six months of winter in this land.” In the summer of 1605, De Mons outfitted two pinnacles to transport the settlers, the woodwork of the homes and all other movable items to Port Royal, several miles north in what is now Nova Scotia. De Mons himself eventually returned to France, where several plots were afoot to deprive him of his monopoly. He was soon to learn that Huguenot settlement in Canada had worse enemies than climate or sickness. When his monopoly was revoked in 1607, the Marquise de Guercheville purchased it from him. This Catholic noblewoman was apparently under the impression that she now owned all the land between Florida and the St. Lawrence River. Huguenots were subsequently forbidden to over-winter or even to trade in the French dominions in the New World. In 1625, all religion apart from Catholic was suppressed in the French provinces in Canada.

The island and its little cemetery almost disappeared from history. It resurfaced briefly in the late seventeen hundreds, when its identity became the lynch pin of an argument between the United States and Canada on the thorny question of the frontier between the recently divided countries. And then in the 1960’s – a decade which seems to have been marked by an obsession with the concept that seeing is believing – an archaeologist named Jacob Gruber decided to dig up the remains of the settlers to discover if they had really died of scurvy. He published an article on the subject entitled: “The Earliest European Human Remains in the North Eastern United States.” Shamefully, the remains languished in a depository in an American University for thirty two years; until the Park Ranger called me to see if I was available to take part in a funeral service to re-inter them before the four hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Sainte Croix, due to take place in the summer of 2004. She believed that the Huguenots among them were entitled to a decent Huguenot re-burial.

That was the funeral to which I referred at the start of this speech. It was held on a beautiful day in June 2003. Despite the beauty of the weather, the trip to the island in small boats was a little difficult. In the Bay of Fundy the tides rise and fall twenty one feet, creating quite a tidal rush. The water was very choppy, and we were all soon drenched. I decided to get into the boat with the head of the Acadia National Park and the French Ambassador to the Maritimes: I thought that they would be the ones most likely to have a helicopter called for them if the boat should overturn. Out of a party of fifteen or sixteen people, only one person fell into the water – the representative of the Parks Service of Canada. After disembarking on the island we made a solemn gathering at the site of the cemetery. It was very peaceful. The Roman Catholic priest read the Lord’s Prayer and the Hail Mary in Latin. I chose a passage from the Geneva Bible and a metrical version of the twenty third Psalm dating from 1543. I also read some prayers written by Huguenots of the time. It was a privilege to feel that sort of connection across the centuries, and to walk around the little island which has become a landmark and a symbol of so many hopes and such extraordinary courage.
The wonderful celebration that I attended in June of 2004 marked the four hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first European colony in North America in continuous existence. The head of that colony was a Huguenot nobleman. The President of Canada attended, as did the American Ambassador to Canada. Chirac sent his personal greetings. Chirac awarded The First nation people – the Passamaquoddy - the Legion d’Honneur. Deputies of the French parliament presented them with two ceremonial swords during a sunrise ceremony on the anniversary of the landing at Sainte Croix. There were speeches, concerts, a religious service and a firework display. De Mons emerged from the byways of history in a blaze of glory.

I know that some people like to focus on the “if onlys” of the Sainte Croix settlement. “Had the first winter been as mild as is sometimes experienced in that vicinity, it is quite likely that this region, if not the island itself, would have remained the center of French settlement and power in Acadia.” “If France had continued to allow Huguenots in North America, they may have held on to the New World against the English in the North. As it is, most French Canadians date their foundation to Quebec City in 1608 by Chaplain. De Mons has almost faded from history.” I don’t like these “if onlys”. I believe that they detract from the remarkable achievement of De Mons and his company of seventy nine men. There must be few other places in North America where the sheer tenacity and the courage in the face of terrible adversity that was faced by the earliest European settlers is so palpable and so moving. The little island of Sainte Croix is a microcosm of every community in North America. Like all true visionaries before and since, De Mons showed himself to be willing to sow seeds whose harvest others would reap.

The French raconteur historian and author Lescarbot was a contemporary of De Mons. He paid a visit to Sainte Croix in 1607. As he sat in the ruins which were already being reclaimed by nature, he drank the last of the wine the settlers had bought with them from France and left behind them on the island. Lescarbot wrote the following lines in honor of his friend: 

“Du Monts, you know that life is given to us from Heaven, not to be concealed in a body free of care, but to be of help to him who is in need, that some kind God may take care of his misfortune, and to search for true glory by an untried way, that the memory of us may live to immortality. De Monts, it is you who with great courage have carved the way to such a noble work. And for this, despite the many years, around your name the leaf will keep its verdure of eternal spring.”

I reserve the last words to Leonie Cummings, a poet who paid tribute to those who lost their lives in that first terrible winter on the island of Sainte Croix.

Content now upon yon briny cross they sleep,  
amid the tangled floss  
Of wild seaweed and sounding deep  
While two great nations guard their keep.

The Reverend Nigel Massey, Rector of Saint Esprit in New York City
Welcome to New Members
and
Congratulations to those who have had Supplemental Papers approved.


11 May 2008
Beck, Charles H. (Supp #1)
State: FL
Ancestor: Catherine Martin

16 May 2008
Chaudoin, Codie Jae Goble
State: MAL
Ancestor: Francois Chaudoin

16 May 2008
Stewart, Gail Lottie Strang
State: ME
Ancestor: Daniel Streing

18 May 2008
Breithaupt, Florence Elizabeth Budd (Supp #3)
State: CA
Ancestor: David Provoost

18 May 2008
Harvell, Dolores Watson Samons
State: FL
Ancestor: Gideon Macon

18 May 2008
Mueller, Ann Elizabeth Cope
State: NC
Ancestor: Gabriel Bernon

25 May 2008
Parker, Laura Elizabeth
State: GA
Ancestor: Jacques Fontaine

26 May 2008 Curtis, Philip Kerry
State: GA
Ancestor: William Gillette

3 Jun 2008 Tillotson, John Martin (Supp #1)
State: MO
Ancestor: Pierre Amer Via

3 Jun 2008
Moore, Geneva Ruth Corbin Wilcoxson
State: MO
Ancestor: Jacob Forney, Sr.

3 Jun 2008
Bennett, Virginia Ruth Corbin
State: MO
Ancestor: Jacob Forney, Sr.

3 Jun 2008
Daugette, William Reed
State: GA
Ancestor: Pierre Chevalier de Ferney

3 Jun 2008
Daugette, Mary Reed
State: GA
Ancestor: Pierre Chevalier de Ferney

3 Jun 2008
Harlowe, Alice Gay
State: FL
Ancestor: Jean Henri Fortineux

8 Jun 2008
Bitting, Romaine Patricia Stroup (Supp #1)
State: PA
Ancestor: Antoine Osias

8 Jun 2008
Bitting, John Stephen (Supp #1)
State: PA
Ancestor: Pierre Maneval

8 Jun 2008
Bitting, Anna Lynn (Supp #1)
State: PA
Ancestor: Pierre Maneval

8 Jun 2008
Bitting, Anna Lynn (Supp #2)
State: PA
Ancestor: Antoine Osias

8 Jun 2008
Steele-Mahaffey, Susie Evaughn Pierce
State: AL
Ancestor: Nicholas Martiau

8 Jun 2008
Smith, Jeremy Robert
State: KY
Ancestor: Abraham Soblet

10 Jun 2008
Conroyd, Hazel Cheney
State: IL
Ancestor: Pierre Robert

12 Jun 2008
Shanks, Mary Elinor Strang
State: IL
Ancestor: Daniel Streing

17 Jun 2008
Creighton, Cynthia Diane Smith
State: TX
Ancestor: Daniel Jouett

18 Jun 2008
Albrecht, Barbara Louise
State: CA
Ancestor: William Gillet
28 Jul 2008
Wade, Cora Mae deShong
State: CA
Ancestor: Gideon LaPlante Merlet

28 Jul 2008
Poorman, Kyle Barrett
State: IN
Ancestor: Joris Jansen Rapalje

29 Jul 2008
Shrader, Susan Tondolayo Stevenson
State: VA
Ancestor: Etienne Mallet

31 Jul 2008
Makant, Barbara Ruth Whalin
State: FL
Ancestor: Barbara DeBarrette

31 Jul 2008
Albrecht, Lois Virginia Reaves
State: CA
Ancestor: William Gillet

31 Jul 2008
Forsythe, Dianne Elizabeth Johnson
State: VA
Ancestor: Daniel Trezevant

28 Jul 2008
Owens, Susan Kay Molloy
State: IL
Ancestor: Jacques Cossart

28 Jul 2008
Hopping, Meredith Joy Owens
State: IL
Ancestor: Jacques Cossart

28 Jul 2008
Owens, William Albert
State: IL
Ancestor: Jacques Cossart

4 Aug 2008
Johansen, Mary Jane Morgan
State: FL

18 Aug 2008
Montgomery, Cynthia Ann Carnevale
State: NC
Ancestor: Nicholas Gaillard

19 Aug 2008
Rogers, Shirley Fay Dyer
State: TN
Ancestor: Gabriel Bobo

20 Aug 2008
Smith, Phillip Lee
State: KY
Ancestor: Abraham Soblet

22 Aug 2008
Horner, Ronald George (Supp #1)
State: PA
Ancestor: Jean Jacques Bonnet

16 Sep 2008
Riner, Beverly Virginia Garnett Cummings
State: KY
Ancestor: James Fouchee

16 Sep 2008
Olson, Elaine Kay Hill
State: MO
Ancestor: John Vivion

16 Sep 2008
Hom, Susan Diane Hill
State: MO
Ancestor: John Vivion

22 Sep 2008
Sowa, Stephanie Marie
State: IL
Ancestor: Pierre Chastain

25 Sep 2008
Reinert, Carroll Ray
State: NE
Ancestor: Barbara de Barrette

28 Sep 2008
Goslin, Charles Edward Jr.
State: FL

1 Oct 2008
Porter, Kathryn Lynn Hicks
State: AL
Ancestor: Jean de Jarnat

1 Oct 2008
Porter, James Wallace II
State: AL
Ancestor: Jean de Jarnat

1 Oct 2008
Cole-Tyson, Althea Wallace Porter
State: AL
Ancestor: Jean de Jarnat

1 Oct 2008
Caven, Sherry Gwendolyn Wideman
State: GA
Ancestor: Jacques de la Fontaine

9 Oct 2008
Upshaw, Charles Bell III
State: GA
Ancestor: Philip LeRoy

9 Oct 2008
Upshaw, Agnor LeRoy
State: GA
Ancestor: Philip LeRoy

9 Oct 2008
Upshaw, Thomas Arthur
State: GA
Ancestor: Philip LeRoy

9 Oct 2008
Upshaw, Charles Andrew
State: GA
Ancestor: Philip LeRoy

11 Oct 2008
Upchurch, Oliver Lee III
State: DC
Ancestor: Etienne Mallet

17 Oct 2008
Rouse, Virginia Susan Hurtes
State: VA
Ancestor: Jean Louis Poyas
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<td>Casper Elias Dillier</td>
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<td>Jacques d’Auge</td>
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<td>Gradeless, Rex Lavern</td>
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<td>Mathieu Blanjean</td>
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