"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".
HUGUENOT DESCENDANTS OF DISTINCTION:  
THE TIFFANYS and A FRENCH PROTESTANT JEWELRY DESIGNER CREATE 
WORLD-FAMOUS BRAND AND FINE PRODUCTS

By Janice Murphy Lorenz

To contemplate opening a gift wrapped in a Tiffany blue box with a white ribbon is to anticipate with certainty a beautiful and unique gift. Tiffany & Co. has consistently been and still is one of the most creative and successful American companies ever founded. It was founded by Charles L. Tiffany, a Huguenot descendant, businessman and philanthropist. His son, Louis Comfort Tiffany, became a famous artist who mastered many genres, including painting, interior décor, and stained glass. As a result, he is perhaps the most well-known of the Tiffanys today. We do not know whether the Tiffanys realized that they were of Huguenot descent, but it is interesting to note that the 1956 Tiffany and his talented company president would choose to partner with another French Protestant jewelry artist, Jean Schlumberger (1907-1987), who hailed from the Alsace region of France, to produce exquisitely-designed jewelry for Tiffany.

The Schlumbergers were prominent French Protestants living in the Mulhouse, Alsace region, where the elder Schlumberger was a textile manufacturer. Jean’s brothers were educated in Paris and went on to become geophysicists. They invented an electrical surface-measuring system for mineral exploration, came to the United States, and founded Schlumberger Well Services. Jean, an avid drawer, decided to be an artist against his parents’ wishes; his parents refused to allow him to be formally trained. Undaunted, he started out by making buttons for a dress designer in France, then moved on to designing costume jewelry. His work was noticed by Tiffany & Company, which made him a Vice President and provided him with his own salon on the mezzanine of the Tiffanys office building from which to service his elite clientele. He died in Paris in 1987, having produced original work of such quality that it now appears in museums.

The Tiffany company has undergone name changes over the years, but remains one of the world’s foremost names in beautiful jewelry and products. Schlumberger’s jewelry became renowned the world over for its gorgeous and clever interpretation of natural forms. Thanks in part to Jean Schlumberger’s designs, Tiffany’s clientele included the rich and famous from around the world, and Schlumberger was one of the few jewelers whom Tiffany & Co. has permitted to sign his work.
ENDNOTES FOR FEATURE ARTICLE ON TIFFANY'S


CALL TO MEETINGS AND LUNCHEON

18 APRIL 2015

Cosmos Club
2121 Massachusetts Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

PLEASE JOIN US for a NHS Board Meeting (for Board members only), a General Council Meeting (open to all) and a Luncheon (open to all) on Saturday, 18 April 2015 at the Cosmos Club.

10:00 a.m. Board of General Officers Meeting
11:00 a.m. General Council Meeting for State Presidents, Committee Members, and all interested Members.
12:00 p.m. Luncheon Buffet $80/person
1:00 p.m. Necrology Service and Program
1:45 p.m. Adjourn

We hope to see all of you there!

The Registration Fee for meeting attendance is $10/person. The price of the luncheon is $80/person. Before April 10, 2015, please send your check and the names of those attending to Janice Lorenz, 220 Mayfield Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80906-4305. If you must send your money after April 10th, please notify Janice by email that you plan to attend so that a spot can be reserved for you while Janice is in transit to DC from Colorado.
CALL TO 80th CONGRESS 2015
9-10 October 2015

Hilton Springfield
700 East Adams Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701

PLEASE JOIN US for our social events and meetings in Historic Springfield, Illinois, Friday, 9 October 2015 and Saturday, 10 October 2015 at the Hilton Springfield, 700 East Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701. Telephone 800-445-8667 or 217-789-1530. We have arranged for a discounted room rate of $100/night plus taxes for NHS from October 8-11; TO GET THE NHS $100/night DISCOUNTED ROOM RATE YOU MUST BOOK BEFORE 17 September, 2015. You may book online at the NHS rate of $100/night by going to http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPFSHHF-NHS-20151008/index.jhtml

The following is a summary of the activities being planned for our October 2015 Congress Springfield, Illinois:

FRIDAY 9 October 2015

3:00 p.m. National Board Meeting, for elected Board members

6:00-7:00 p.m. Cocktails at the Hilton Hotel, location to be announced, for those who are interested.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Banquet Dinner at the Hilton Hotel. Cocktail attire. Details to be announced.

SATURDAY 10 October 2015

8:30 a.m. Registration.

9:00-11:30 a.m. General Council/Congress Meetings.

12:00-1:45 p.m. Luncheon at Hilton Hotel, with program.

2:00 p.m. Congress adjourns.
THE PRESIDENT GENERAL’S MESSAGE

We are quite pleased to report that everything is going well. Our Congress in New York this past October was a success in every sense. We saw from financial reports that we got firmly into the black in 2014 and we passed a budget for 2015. The Pennsylvania and Connecticut Societies really came through for us, each sending more than one member. Even more members and guests attended our social events, and we met members we might not have met had we not held the event in New York. It was a marvelous experience.

As you know, one of the purposes of holding that Congress in New York was to make a “pilgrimage” to New Paltz’s Historic Huguenot Street, the site of an old Huguenot colony. We were treated as royalty and our sizeable group enjoyed the beautiful fall day and the creative presentation of historic information at the numerous historic buildings we toured. Once back home to Colorado, I had a conference call with the President of Historic Huguenot Street about ways we might partner to interest more Huguenots in our groups. What they want is for more of us to visit New Paltz’s Historic Huguenot Street and support it. We will continue this new Huguenot-history-based relationship and hope to build upon it to our mutual benefit.

Another successful event we sponsored in 2014 was our exhibit booth at the annual conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, which was held in San Antonio in August of 2014. We were fortunate that the meeting was held there, of all cities, because that is where our indefatigable Registrar General, Nancy Brennan, lives. She recruited valuable Texas Society members to run the booth: Nancy Watson, President of the Languedoc Chapter of the Huguenot Society of Texas, Ann Oppenheimer, Nancy Blackburn, Mary Alice Dell, Janis Myer, and Sandra Burton, who was only a prospective member at the time. They decorated the booth to attract visitors, and sold more than $350 of our Ancestor Register books and other National Huguenot Society products. The President General and the National Huguenot Society extend their warmest thanks to these dedicated ladies, who made our booth a tremendous success in the presence of booths run by most of the major historical and genealogical societies in the United States, who are much larger.

In November 2014, Counselor General Mary Morgan and I, representing the National Huguenot Society, attended a 450th Commemoration Dinner at Fort Caroline, the settlement of Huguenots sent by King Charles IX and Admiral Coligny in 1564 to Florida. Although that settlement ultimately did not survive the Spanish aggression, it made its mark upon history and lives on today at Fort Caroline and in Jacksonville tourism. This particular event was sponsored by the National Park Service, who allowed us to dine within Fort Caroline as the sun set. A French marching bassoon was appropriately inscribed and donated by Buffet Group, and a group of us donated toward its use by the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra.

We are now planning and looking forward to our 2015 Congress, which will be held in Springfield, Illinois at the Hilton Hotel there. The Illinois Society is hosting us and we are enjoying the preparation, knowing that Springfield’s central US location will enable many of you to attend.

There is one negative note which must be shared with you, and that is that two of our State Societies have failed to pay annual dues for two or more consecutive years: New York and Rhode Island. In order to be viable, a State Society must have a President, a Registrar, and a Treasurer (the State Council). New York does not, despite its 40-some members. Although our October Congress was attended by several New York residents, we failed to attract anyone who was in a position in life to be able to assume leadership positions for the New York Society. Rhode Island has only four members, and no Council. It seems time for the NHS Board to decide the future of these two societies. In addition, although I must report to you that the Huguenot Society of Connecticut failed to pay its dues in 2014, we were quite pleased that two Connecticut members attended our New York events and Connecticut is on the road to recovery.
There are a number of housekeeping issues in the Bylaws that could be addressed by the Bylaws Committee, and a list of those and recommendations was recently compiled by this President General and submitted to the Committee for its consideration.

This President General has been in touch Huguenot Society of South Africa and the World Huguenot Centre, and information about them is published in this Cross. I have also obtained information about the International Huguenot gathering in Bordeaux, France in September, which is published in this Cross.

We hope to see you in October in Springfield, Illinois!

In Huguenot Faith from the Heart,
Janice
MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY, INC
GENERAL COUNCIL
OCTOBER 4, 2014

The General Council of the National Huguenot Society, Inc., was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President General Janice Lorenz in the Meeting Room of the Hampton Inn, 60 Centre Drive, Central Valley, NY.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch gave the Invocation.

President General Lorenz announced the General Council is composed of the General officers of the National Society; Honorary Presidents General; the Presidents of Members Societies and the Chairmen of Standing Committees of the National Society. The function of the General Council is to be a creative forum to examine problems and successes of Member Societies; develop long-range plans and to recommend them to the Board of General Officers; and to coordinate with the Board of General Officers the time and places for future meetings of the General Council. All members and registered visitors were invited to attend. No quorum is required.

Thirteen (13) were in attendance.

Discussion centered on bringing back inactive members; effective ways to stay in touch with membership; and the collection of dues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The bus would depart the hotel at 5:30 p.m. for the dinner at the Powelton Club. In the morning the bus to the New Paltz Huguenot-site events would depart at 10:00 a.m. from the front of the hotel.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Linda L. Smith, Recording Secretary General

MINUTES THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY, INC
BOARD OF GENERAL OFFICERS
OCTOBER 4, 2014

The Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society, Inc., was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by President General Janice Lorenz in the Meeting Room of the Hampton Inn, 60 Centre Drive, Central Valley, NY.

The Board of General Officers is composed of all the General Officers of the National Society and all the Honorary Presidents General. The President General may invite other persons including Chairmen of Standing Committees and State Presidents to attend but without vote. The Board of General Officers shall meet at least once a year and shall make recommendations to the Annual Congress.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch gave the Invocation.

A Roll Call of Officers recorded the presence of:
President General Janice Lorenz;
3rd Vice President General Alice Sweeney;
Chaplain General Joel Strauch;
Recording Secretary General Linda Smith;
Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin;
Finance Committee Chairman and Parliamentarian Roger Smith was present.

Registrar General Nancy Brennan;
Genealogist General Jeanine Kallal;
Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller;
Honorary President General Barbara McManus.

Six (6) members of the Board of General Officers shall constitute a quorum. A quorum was established with nine (9) members present.
The Minutes of the previous Board of General Officers meeting held April 12, 2014 had been approved by a Reading Committee and distributed. Barbara McManus was appointed to the current Reading Committee.

Reports of the General Officers were deferred until the 79th Congress Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Nancy Brennan that the following members of the Board of General Officers be appointed to the Nominating Committee: Joel Strauch as Chaplain General and Barbara McManus as the recent Honorary Presidents General. Both agreed to the nomination. It was seconded and passed. Further slots will be filled when the General Council meets.

President General Lorenz recessed the Board of General Officers at 9:40 a.m. until after lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

Nadine Hardin-Miller moved the next Board of General Officers will hold a lunch meeting on April 18, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Further details of time and place to be announced. The motion was seconded and passed after discussion.

Barbara McManus moved the Budget for 2015, which had been approved by the 79th Congress in the morning, be ratified. It was seconded and passed.

Nadine Hardin-Miller moved postage and mailing costs on National Huguenot Society products for sale be set at $4.00 per item. The motion was seconded and passed after discussion.

Nancy Brennan reported four (4) endowment checks had been received of $100.00 each so far. Those sending checks are eligible to purchase a special pin to wear.

Barbara McManus felt a special form should be placed on the National website for the use of givers to the Endowment Fund and agreed to create the form.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Linda L. Smith, Recording Secretary General

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**Historian General Report**

My regrets I am unable to attend the 79th Congress in New York. Below is my report:

I call your attention to the beautiful Fall 2014 issue of The Cross of Languedoc. Please reread pages 22 and 23 because they describe a wonderful opportunity for all of our members to contribute entries for publication in the Huguenot Founders of America book which this Janice Lorenz and I are working on.

The first 100 approved submissions to the Historian General are planned to be included in a new book about the Huguenot Founders of America.

We have many submissions already. Please spread the word throughout all state Societies that we welcome all members to submit their ancestors’ information for publication in the Huguenot Founders of America book we are working on.
MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY, INC
79TH ANNUAL CONGRESS
OCTOBER 4, 2014

The Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society, Inc., was called to order at 9:55 a.m. by President General Janice Lorenz in the Meeting Room of the Hampton Inn, 60 Centre Drive, Central Valley, NY.

The National Bylaws require the Annual Congress shall be held in the Fall of each year for the transaction of business together with the Annual General Council meeting and a meeting of the Board of General Officers. In odd numbered years, Congress shall elect officers of the National Society.

Congress shall be comprised of the Board of General Officers; Presidents of the Member Societies, two (2) Delegates from each Member Society plus alternates as designated in the National Bylaws.

General Officers and delegates representing ten (10) different Member Societies shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch gave the Invocation.

The Roll Call of General Officers was called and included the following present:
President General Janice Lorenz (DC);
3rd Vice President General Alice Sweeney (VA);
Chaplain General Joel Strauch (VA);
Recording Secretary General Linda Smith (FL);
Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin (TN);
Registrar General Nancy Brennan (TX);
Genealogist General Jeannine Kallal (IL);
Honorary President General Barbara MacManus (TX);
Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller (OK).

The Roll Call of Committee Chairmen included the following present:
Credential Chairman Noella Oberlin (TN);
Parliamentarian and Financial Chairman Roger Smith (FL);

The Roll Call of others attending including Delegates, Alternate Delegates and non-credentialed attendees included the following present:
Bonnie Watkins (PA delegate);
Lydia Freeman (PA delegate);
Judy Maneta (PA delegate);
Barbara Dobmeier (PA alternate);
Roxanne O’Malley (PA alternate);
Sonia Hayes (IL delegate);
Jennifer Mills (IL delegate);
Marilyn Regan, Member at Large:
Fred Herbert (CT).

Credential Chairman Noella Oberlin reported 9 states were represented. Until such time as a quorum is established, no official business can be enacted but Minutes will be taken.

President General Lorenz discussed plans for future publications.

3rd Vice President General Alice Sweeney reported she attended the April D.C. Board of General Officers in April 2014.

Chaplain General Joel Strauch announced a Memorial Service would be held after the lunch break.

Treasure Rex Gradeless filed reports and a Budget for 2015. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Treasurer’s reports were read by Finance Chairman Roger Smith. Revenues now exceeded expenditures and an Endowment Fund had been established. The Finance Committee Chairman moved the Budget be approved once a quorum was established. Without objection the President declared the motion be approved by Unanimous Consent once a quorum was established. There was no objection. Recording Secretary Linda Smith received and filed reports from the following state Societies: KY; CT; ARK; FL; MS; and PA.
Registrar General Nancy Brennan filed a report showing activity through September 2014. Sixty (60) applications, three (3) supplemental applications, three (3) reinstatements, five (5) transfers, two (2) dual applications and fourteen (14) youth registrations had been approved. Sixteen (16) states added new members with Florida first with nine (9); Georgia and Virginia tied for second with seven (7) and Texas third with five (5) new members. Twelve (12) additional Huguenot Register books had been sold through the Society; corrections made in the Master List and a booth was opened at staffed at the FGS in San Antonio in August.

Nancy Brennan reported for Webmaster Steve Gerth who noted the website will likely have the largest number of hits ever. Each quarter of 2014 has had more than 300,000 hits with the Ancestor page receiving the highest percentage of requests. Thirteen (13) years (or 26 issues) of the “Cross of Languedoc” can be found on the National Huguenot website at: www.huguenot.netnation.com

President General Janice Lorenz indicated the availability of products for sale showing the new National Logo such as notepads, decals, and travel coffee mugs.

Genealogist General Jeanine Kallal’s report included a 2014 update to the 2012 edition of the National Huguenot Register with some additions and corrections. Copies will be made available to State Registrars.

Membership Chairman Barbara MacManus intends to send dues notices out to Members at Large and letters to those states where societies have been disbanded. She will forward the Members at Large list to State Society Presidents.

Historian General Peter Adams filed a report with forms requesting member input in order to create a publication to showcase individual biographies of Huguenots and their descendant’s contributions to the founding and betterment of America.

Delegate Judith Rembert from NC entered the meeting and the President General declared a quorum existed.

Without objection, President General requested the cost of a bus for transporting attendees to Congress outings in Newburgh and New Paltz be approved by Unanimous Consent. Hearing no objection, the cost would be approved.

The Minutes of the 78th Congress had been approved by committee and were published in the “Cross of Languedoc.” No further corrections were made. Marilyn Regan and Barbara MacManus were appointed to the Minutes Reading Committee for the 79th Congress.

CT President Pro Tem Fred Herbert reported the discovery of Huguenot connections in Oxford, MA where a Huguenot Fort had been built in 1694. After further research, he discovered a yearly festival of celebration was held in Oxford. Mr. Herbert wrote an article on the connections and spoke to the town historical society. An article on his findings was published in the “Cross of Languedoc”. A letter received from the Oxford Town Historian was filed with the Minutes.

A motion was made by Jeannine Kallal that the following members be appointed to the Nominating Committee: Joel Strauch from the Board of Officers; Barbara MacManus as the recent Honorary Presidents General; Lydia Freeman from the State Presidents; Nadine Hardin-Miller as a member from a State Society west of the Mississippi River and Judith Rembert as a member from a State Society east of the Mississippi River. All agreed to their nominations. The motion was seconded and passed.

Barbara MacManus moved that the Budget be approved as well as all prior actions taken by this Congress by Unanimous Consent. It was seconded and passed without objection.

There being no further business, Congress recessed at 11:45 a.m. to reconvene after lunch for the Memorial Service.

At 12:30 p.m. the meeting reconvened and Chaplain General Joel Strauch conducted the Memorial Service. Members rose to honor the names of the deceased from their State Societies.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.
Linda L. Smith, Recording Secretary General
REPORTS FROM STATE SOCIETIES
(Note: Membership calculations are from August 2014 records)

Alabama
The Huguenot Society of Alabama was formed in 1958 and now has about 75 members. It ranks #10 in overall size within National’s 31 state societies plus the MAL category. It is tied with New Hampshire for the #7 spot in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies.
No report.

Arizona
The Huguenot Society of Arizona, organized in 1964, now has about 39 members, which ranks it #20 in overall size within National. Notable growth has occurred since 2011, so we are delighted that Arizona is tied with Illinois for the #8 spot in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies.
Arizona is looking to grow in numbers in 2015. We have several individuals who have requested applications, so we’re on the right track moving forward! Our slate of new officers will be presented to the membership at our March meeting our first meeting in this new year. We meet twice a year on the 4th Saturday of the months of March and October. We enjoy a nice, private room at the Bluewater Grill in Phoenix. Members of Magna Charta join us on these two occasions. Our last program was delightful, with Professor Bob Bjork of the Arizona Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies explaining how their center helps connect the past with our present. He told us they especially try to reach out to young people and show them how history affects their own lives today, bringing examples of armour, swords and other objects from that time period. We are looking forward to 2015, with more exciting speakers as well as finding new ways to honor our ancestors.

Dr. William Hearter, President

Arkansas
The Huguenot Society of Arkansas was established in 1961 and ranks #17 in size within National, having 47 members.
Fred Herbert has agreed to serve as President Pro Tem of the Connecticut Society. You may recognize Fred’s name from a recent Cross which featured his Huguenot promotional work in Oxford, Massachusetts. We hope to revitalize the Connecticut Society.

Fred Herbert

Delaware
The Huguenot Society of Delaware, organized in 1984, is our second-“newest, youngest” state society to be formed, being only slightly older than Nevada. It currently has about 23 members, which makes it 25th in size ranking within National. Since 2011, its presence on the Delaware
and National scene has quickly developed. Delaware officers have recently begun attending National events and it is important that they also supplied us with our 2014 Youth Contest Winners. The biography of its current President, Kim Burdick, is powerful and may be found online. She serves as the Curator of the historic Hale Byrnes House. If we may quote, she “is an award-winning public historian who has coordinated a number of major projects, including the nine-state and DC Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route, and a variety of local seminars and symposiums.” NHS receives regular notices from President Kim and from the Crossans about our Delaware Society and other planned events. One upcoming event of interest will be held in Philadelphia on March 27, Owen Stanwood’s presentation “Dreams of Silk and Wine: Huguenot Refugees in the British Atlantic World.” Delaware, it’s working—keep it up!

No report.

Florida
The Huguenot Society of Florida is #2 in size within National. A rock solid, consistent Huguenot base, it is second only to Pennsylvania in size, now having about 175 members.

Membership
From January through June 2014, 8 applications for new members were approved. That is more than the total new members last year. Four youth registrations were also approved.

State Matters
President Edward Neugaard resigned due to health and family reasons. In accordance with the bylaws David Bahn assumed the office of President at the Annual Meeting in February. At the Annual Meeting, Betsey Lambert and Ronald Benson, Jr. of the Jean Calvin Chapter presented a program on John Tenniel, Huguenot Illustrator and Cartoonist, who illustrated the Alice in Wonderland books and was a political cartoonist for Punch magazine. The members voted to present two scholarships of $700 each to students attending Florida Universities. Alexis Intriago, granddaughter of Fort Caroline member Dr. Claude Godwin and member Michael Dangl of Admiral Gaspard de Coligny Chapter are the recipients of State scholarships. Michael Dangl, who is also a grandson of Former Huguenot Society of Florida President Ed Neugaard also received one of the National Huguenot Society scholarships.

Chapters
Fort Caroline
This is the 450th anniversary of the founding of Fort Caroline, the first Huguenot settlement in America. Both the chapter and individual members have participated in the celebrations. At the upcoming fall meeting we will have a tour of the Fort and Monument.

Louis DuBois
The Louis DuBois Chapter has been actively pursuing prospective members to replace those lost during the prior year. Members plan on manning a table at our main library in West Palm Beach for their “Open House” so that we can publicize the society and answer questions. Our Registrar, Brett Brown has been helping several applicants with gathering information and is in the process of submitting an application for another prospect.

Admiral Gaspard de Coligny
Coligny Chapter served as host for the State Society meeting in February 2014. Each registrant received a gift bag filled with Huguenot-themed gifts. We held one meeting thus far in 2014 in conjunction with the State Society meeting.

Jean Calvin
To accommodate the geographically diverse membership, we meet in a private dining room in the Der Dutchman Restaurant at 3713 Bahia Vista St, Sarasota, FL 34232. On January 25, 2014, Member Roger Smith illustrated his Huguenot ancestor Casper Diller. On March 15, 2014, Member and VP Barbara Schulz presented the works of French Huguenot Frederick Auguste Bartholdi, designer and sculptor. On October 18, 2014, State Registrar and Chapter Chaplain Ronald Benson Jr. will present “How I Used DNA in my Huguenot Research.” During this year we have acquired 4 new members and have updated and approved the Chapter Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Ernst d’Erlach
The chapter membership currently stands at 24 members. The chapter has gained one newly approved member, and has received application and documentation for a second. In January, the chapter donated $269.00 to the Allen-Parker scholarship fund for the 2013 calendar year. Included in this amount was a $100.00 donation in memory of Sarah Wilbanks, who recently passed. Our January chapter meeting was held at Woodland Towers, Deland, Florida. The program was a video from the series Backside of U. S. History, entitled “The Story of Fort Caroline”. Our May meeting was held at Ormond Steak House, Ormond Beach, Florida. It was announced by registrar, Charles Baker, that Caroline Fafeita’s application for membership had been approved by National, and that the application and supporting documentation had been received from prospective member, Anne Schwander. In response to State President David Bahn’s challenge that each member donate $10 to the Allen Parker scholarship fund, a motion was approved to accept
the challenge, and that the chapter make up any deficit (as necessary) from chapter funds. President Brewton made a brief presentation on the recently announced theory of two Florida State University professors that the location of La Caroline was actually on the south bank at the mouth of the Altamaha River in Georgia, rather than the traditional location on the St Johns River in Florida.

David Bahn, President

Georgia
The Huguenot Society of Georgia was organized in 1971 and now ranks #3 in size within National, having about 151 members as of Fall 2014. It has outdone everyone in growth since 2011, achieving a 22% increase from 2011. Accordingly, Georgia has the honor of holding the #1 RANKING IN THE NHS TOP 10 FASTEST-GROWING STATE SOCIETIES! Note to Georgia: Georgia, we’ll have what you’re having! Please send a delegation to attend our General Council meeting 18 April 2015 at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., or send an article to The Cross of Languedoc, and share with us how you did it.

No report.

Illinois
The Huguenot Society of Illinois, organized in 1955, is another of our largest and most stable state societies. Currently with about 99 members, it ranks #7 in size within National’s 31 state societies plus MALs. Moreover, it is tied with Arizona in the #8 spot in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies. Congratulations and thanks to Jane Hamlin, President, who has invited the NHS 80th Congress (9-10 October 2015) to be hosted by the Illinois Society at the Hilton Springfield.

No report.

Indiana
The Huguenot Society of Indiana, organized in 1955, has about 46 members and ranks #18 in size within National. In 2013 it was concerned about sustaining its ability to pay dues for its numerous Life Members, but with donations and a state dues increase, it seems to be on its way to solving the problem.

The new President of the Huguenot Society of Indiana is Mrs. Carolyn L. Jeffries, of Terre Haute. At the fall meeting on 11 October 2014, we had 26 in attendance, and members voted to increase annual dues and encouraged donations to help with the recent increase in national dues. We were pleased to have two new members present.

Our spring meeting is scheduled for 11 April 2015 at the Meridian Hills Country Club.

Allen W. Moore, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar

Kansas
The Huguenot Society of Kansas was formed in 1958 and currently has about 25 members, making it #23 in size within National. It lost its long-time President last year, and is currently voluntarily led by the energetic Kim Kincaid, a business owner and mother. She is seeking Kansas members who are interested in helping her to lead the group forward. Meanwhile, thank you, Kim, for everything you do.

No report.

Kentucky
The Huguenot Society of Kentucky, organized in 1958, is a Huguenot stronghold of about 93 members. Ranking #9 in size within National, it has consistently been one of our largest and most stable societies. It has had many strong leaders over the years, including the late Dixon Barr, Fay Charpentier-Ford and Patricia Hutt. Keep up the great work!

The Huguenot Society of Kentucky will hold its fall meeting at the Pendennis Club, Saturday, October 25, 2014, Louisville, Kentucky. For several years, three societies have met together: Huguenot at Manakin in Kentucky, National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims – Kentucky Branch and the Kentucky Huguenot Society. Each society held separate business sessions prior to the general luncheon meetings with programs. Host responsibilities were rotated. A newly elected president of Huguenot at Manakin has chosen to meet elsewhere, so hosting activities will alternate between the Pilgrims and Kentucky Huguenot. Since most of the Manakin members are also members of Pilgrims and/ or NHS Kentucky, the attendees at meetings are expected to remain relatively stable. The three exceptions will be extended complementary invitations and offers to join Pilgrims and Kentucky Huguenot.

Former Manakin officers who served their society for many consecutive years were cooperative and efficient. Opportunity to continue work with them will be missed.

Meeting locations, Pendennis Club in Louisville and the Lexington Country Club in Lexington, Kentucky, are made available via a club member with reciprocity. The member is required to attend the events. Since our treasurer resigned in July and indicated he would have trouble attending the meetings, another club member offered to sponsor both societies at the two locations. We are indebted to Carroll Goslee for his support. Thanks, also, to Fay Charpentier-Ford, who will serve as interim treasurer until the next elections, April 11, 2015. Stories about banking institutions and their disguised fees and takeaways concerned us. Fortunately PNC Bank has an account for small businesses that has no fees, providing not-to-exceed activity is maintained.
The past year has been difficult for membership.

Six members passed away, three resigned because of personal limitations, and one transferred to Texas. Kentucky’s Registrar is working diligently to offset the losses with new members.

The theme for our fall meeting, October 25, is harvest time. Cooler evening temperatures will stimulate the color in leaves and Kentuckians will be pulling out the sweaters and light jackets. We anxiously are waiting to taste the cuisine by a new chef at the Pendennis, an early James Beard honoree and former chef at one of Louisville’s primo hotel facilities. If in the Louisville area, please let us know and come help us sample his artistry.

Patricia A. Hutt, President

Members at Large

Our Members at Large category is not a state society. Its members are independent members of NHS, and therefore cannot vote or hold national office. When these members joined, they resided in states which had no state society, or they joined state societies which later disbanded. Despite their lack of formal voice via a state society leader, our Members at Large category has emerged to rival even our largest state societies in size: MALs hold the #4 spot size ranking within National, boasting about 133 members. They have become a growing, active presence in NHS. For example, Marilyn Reagan, a MAL from New York City, has attended our National Congresses for the past two years and enjoyed fellowship with state society attendees. In addition, this President General hears regularly from other Members at Large from time to time on various issues. One such correspondent is Eleanor DuBois Fairley of Spencerport, New York. A New Paltz founders’ descendant, she grew up on a farm 5 miles south of New Paltz which had been in her family for more than 200 years. Perhaps the most active MAL correspondent has been our beloved René E.S. Péron, a 90+ year old from Canada who, with his wife, is a longtime Member at Large. Rene is dedicated to advancing the Huguenot cause. He is currently working on several Huguenot projects with Canadian comrades, and one of his articles is published in this Cross.

Mississippi

The Huguenot Society of Mississippi was first organized in 1977. Ever since 2008 it has been steadily growing and now boasts about 29 members, having almost DOUBLED in size since 2011. It is led by NHS Organizing Secretary General Mary Margaret Buck. It ranks #20 in size within NHS, and is #3 in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies. Congratulations!

The Huguenot Society of Mississippi has been growing!!! Since January 1 we have three new members and one who reinstated membership. We have several prospective members. The website has been most helpful in telling our story.

We are saddened by the death of longtime member Mary Elizabeth Thompson this summer and will remember her at our Fall Meeting October 23.

Mary Margaret Buck, President

Missouri

The Huguenot Society of Missouri was organized in 1960 and currently has about 71 members. One of our larger state societies, it ranks #12 in size within National. It is tied with Nebraska for #10 in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies. Great work, Missouri!

I happily report that our society is active and growing! In its 15 Oct 2014 meeting in Columbia, Missouri, the Missouri State Society welcomed two new members, Dr. William Christian Sizemore and Linda Hardin Sehrt, increasing our membership to 71. Several members have had supplemental applications approved while other members and prospective members are actively researching their Huguenot ancestry. The chapter has purchased the new Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors to aid in this research.

President Anne Sizemore reported on her summer meeting with National Huguenot Society Scholarship winner Ellen Reid, who had recently returned from a year’s study in Paris, made possible by the NHS Scholarship. Ellen, who wrote (in French) and illustrated a graphic novel based on her Huguenot ancestors’ experiences living under and escaping persecution by French Catholics, presented a copy of her book, La Saint-Barthelemy, to the Missouri State Society.

The meeting concluded with a program presented by Freddie Pound Nichols.

Anne Sizemore, President

Nebraska

The Huguenot Society of Nebraska, organized in 1955, now has about 17 members and therefore ranks #29 in size within National. A perfect example of a small-but-solid state society doing things right, Nebraska is tied with Missouri in the #10 spot in the NHS Top Ten Fastest-Growing State Societies. Keep it up, Nebraska!

No report.
MEMORIES OF 79TH CONGRESS 2014 IN NEW YORK

Saturday Night at the Powelton Club
L-R: Corresponding Secretary General Linda A. Smith (FL), Parliamentarian Roger Smith (FL), and Registrar General Nancy Brennan (TX)

Saturday Night at the Powelton Club
L-R: Barbara Dobmeier (PA), Honorary President General Barbara MacManus (TX), Robert Miller (guest), Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller (AR), Parliamentarian Roger Smith (FL), Corresponding Secretary General Linda A. Smith (FL)

Saturday Night at the Powelton Club
Chaplain General Joel Strauch (VA), Marilyn Reagan (Member at Large-NY), Kenneth Roach (CT), Joanne Roach (guest), CT Society President Fred Herbert, Roxanne O’Malley (PA).

Saturday Night at the Powelton Club
Janice Lorenz speaking at the Powelton Club
Saturday Night at the Powelton Club
Ralph Sweeney (guest), Registrar General Nancy Brennan, Genealogist General Jeannine Kallal (IL), President General Janice Lorenz (DC), Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin (TN).

Sunday at New Paltz
Chaplain General The Rev. Joel Strauch preaching our sermon at the Crispell Memorial Church on Historic Huguenot Street

Sunday at New Paltz
The National Huguenot Society group at the Crispell Memorial Church

Sunday at New Paltz
Rev. Joel Strauch, Ralph Sweeney, Jeannine Kallal, Roger Smith, Linda Smith after an interesting and inspiring sermon and tour at the Crispell Memorial Church
Nevada
The Huguenot Society of Nevada was not organized until 1986, making it our “newest, youngest” state society. Having DOUBLED in size since 2011, it now has roughly 22 members, ranking #26 in size within National. That earns it the #4 spot in the NHS Top Ten Fastest-Growing State Societies! Fantastic progress, and an inspiration to us all. We would love to hear how you did it, Nevada.

No report.

New Hampshire
The Huguenot Society of New Hampshire was organized in 1967, making it one of our relatively “young” state societies. Just since 2011, it has grown to about 24 members, which ranks it #24 in size within National, and also puts it in a tie with Alabama for the #7 spot in the NHS Top Ten Fastest-Growing State Societies. Awesome.

No report.

New Mexico
The Huguenot Society of New Mexico was organized in 1959. With roughly 7 members, it is currently our next-to-the-smallest active society (second only to Rhode Island), ranking #31 within National. We are so pleased to have the New Mexico Society as part of our organization.

No report.

New York
The Huguenot Society of New York, organized in 1960, has about 40 members now and ranks #19 in size within National, but despite its nice size, it has no active key officers. For that reason and because it has failed to pay annual dues as a state society for more than two years, it is unlikely that the NHS Board will allow it to continue as a state society because of Bylaws restrictions on carrying state societies that fail to pay dues. So, at some point in 2015, unless something changes we will most likely disband it as a state society and ask its current members to either transfer to another state society, or transfer into Member at Large status. Once new leadership emerges, the state society can be reconstituted and its members may return to it.

No report.

North Carolina
The Huguenot Society of North Carolina was organized in 1946 and has grown to about 63 members. It ranks #14 in size within National and is led by Judith Rembert, who attended the National Congress in New York in October 2014.

No report.

Ohio
The Huguenot Society of Ohio, organized in 1934, had a strong 54 members in Fall 2014. That makes it #16 in size within National. It is led by Mrs. Virginia McVay.

The National President General and the National Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin have been contacted by Mrs. Virginia M. McVay, Ohio President, about the perceived problem that many states are having of continuing to have to pay national dues for their life members who no longer live in state. The issue of paying dues on behalf of life members who no longer reside in the state where their membership is held has been discussed at National Board meetings and Congresses and it was determined that there was no recourse at present under current National Bylaws. Ohio has a strong membership with 15 of them being life members who live outside of Ohio. These nonresident Life Members comprise about 24% of the Ohio membership. Mrs. McVay is concerned that Ohio will not be able to continue to pay Life Members’ dues for more than another year or two. Mrs. McVay is serving as President, Treasurer and Registrar, not because she was elected to those positions, but because the previous officers rotated out of office or resigned, which left Ohio without any state officer. She does not consistently use a computer and is in her 80’s. She has tried to hold meetings at the Ohio State Library in Columbus, where she lives, but no members would attend, explaining that they do not drive or they are unable to leave their homes. Ohio is not in any immediate straits, but is reaching out for help due to concerns about the long run situation.

Noella Oberlin, NHS Corresponding Secretary General, for Virginia McVay, Ohio President

Oklahoma
The Huguenot Society of Oklahoma, founded in 1978, has grown to about 19 members. Ranking #27 in size within National, it is another example of a well-run small state society. It is led by Donna Gannt, and has hosted National Huguenot Society meetings twice since its inception.

Pennsylvania
The Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania, founded in 1918, has historically been our largest state society, and continues to hold the #1 spot as the Largest State Society in NHS, with 183 members.

The Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania continues our theme of educating the next generation. We continue to process the surveys, and update the records from some of the generations that lost contact with our society. We have had several people interested in becoming members, so we are helping them organize the needed paperwork.

We had a great turn out for our annual meeting on May 3,
2014 at the Ship Inn in Exton, Pa. The food was delicious, and the service was very good. Our speaker was Miranda Hodgkins from St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. She talked about Dr. Ogier a Huguenot, who was a medical doctor that served his church and community. He is buried with his family in the church graveyard. Some of us went to the Church after lunch for a brief memorial service by Pastor Maxine Doremann at the gravesite. Our society is planning to have this years Reformation Sunday at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church and possibly dedicate a brass plaque, in Dr. Ogier’s name, that will be mounted to the gravestone.

The French Alliance Service on May 4, 2014 at Valley Forge Chapel did not have as big a turn out as last year, possibly due to the weather. The rainy skies cleared up and the sun came out in time for the presentation of the wreath.

This year we are trying to secure a picnic in the Bishop White Library at Valley Forge Chapel with a tour of the Huguenot stained glass window located in the chapel. We were trying to have the picnic in June, but there were scheduling conflicts, so now we are aiming for September.

The Jean Ribault Chapter is having a luncheon with a meeting June 14, 2014, at the Historic Accamac Inn in Hellam, Pa. Their speaker is Chris Vera who is Director of the Columbia Historical Society. He will talk about the tunnels of Columbia.

A small group of us attended the 79th Congress in New Paltz, NY, on October 4th & 5th, 2014.

Lydia Freeman, President

Tennessee
The Huguenot Society of Tennessee, organized in 1960, has about 97 members, ranking it #8 in size within National. It is led by Jo Bandy Hill. We are so pleased to announce that Tennessee is #5 in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies.

No report.

Texas
The Huguenot Society of Texas, organized in 1954, has about 129 members, and therefore ranks #5 in size within National. We are delighted to report that Texas also ranks #6 in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies.

The La Rochelle Chapter of the Huguenot Society of Texas met at The DoubleTree by Hilton, Dallas Campbell Centre on Friday, August 23 at 12 noon for our Summer meeting. Lunch was served in the Blue Cactus Grill. After lunch President David Dibrell called the meeting to order.

President Dibrell reminded everyone that our National Meeting will be held October 3-5 in Central Valley, NY. At least two members expressed a desire to attend. This is early Huguenot/Dutch territory, near New Paltz. Newburgh is in the Hudson Valley and was General Washington’s Headquarters in the Revolutionary War. October should be a wonderful time of year to visit the area for fall foliage so make your reservations early.

The Texas Society will meet in San Antonio on February 7th. Hopefully many will attend. La Rochelle will meet on April 24, 2015.

The new 2014 State Directory has not been received. All were encouraged to be looking for those who might qualify for membership in our Society and wish to join. With no other business and no further announcements the meeting adjourned at 2pm.

David Dibrell, President, La Rochelle Chapter

Virginia
The Virginia Society has about 109 members, and holds the #6 spot in size within National. Having added at least 21 new members since 2011, it ranks #2 in the NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies.

The Fall Meeting of The Huguenot Society of Virginia was held on October 25 at the Wyndham Virginia Crossing in Glen Allen. As usual, we had a great turnout with members,
The Cross of Languedoc Spring 2015

prospective members and guests. Our Hostesses were Brenda Rose and Dorothy Lee Rosen. They provided the fall flowers and table decorations. At the end of the meeting, the yellow chrysanthemums were given as door prizes and as it turned out, one person at each table won.

The Sacred Oath read in French by Brenda Rose was inspiring. The way she read it, the words just flowed like water and made you think of your Huguenot Ancestor. It was truly amazing.

Chaplain General, Rev. Joel Strauch, conducted a beautiful Memorial Service. He transferred into the Huguenot Society of Virginia from CA this year. Assisting him were Diane Wright (wife of our Treasurer Richard Wright, Jr.), Courtenay Stanley and Judith Scovronski, each reading an obituary for our faithful departed:

- Kathryn Shield Newland, 1921-Feb 4, 2014
- Robert Allen Raup, 1928-Feb 20, 2014
- Elizabeth R. J. McDaniel, 1928-Feb 26, 2014

Candles were lit in their memory and several members spoke in remembrance. We were honored to have the daughter for Elizabeth McDaniel attend and participate. Lee McDaniel LeLong is working on completing her application and we look forward to her following in her mother’s footsteps as a Huguenot Society of Virginia member. I would like to thank Joel Strauch for the lovely programs that he printed, as well as a thoughtful service.

As always, Stuart Whitehead, our Librarian brought our library of books and set up a table for members to browse and possibly borrow a book to be returned at our next meeting.

Richard Wright, Jr., our Treasurer, reported all is well. The minutes were read by Brenda Rose and approved. Courtenay Stanley has several possibilities for location of our next meeting, March 28, 2015, and will advise later. Eloise Brooks has sent out all of the notices & created the Newsletters. Duane Wills and Virginia Rouse took pictures that are up and running as a slide show on our webpage. http://www.huguenots-virginia.org/ Duane and Rachel Wills have done a great job with the webpage. Please take a look.
We elected a Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of candidates for election and installation at our next meeting, March 28th. The Nominating Committee members are Brenda Rose, Stuart Whitehead and Jan Welch. They represent three different parts of the state. We have so many wonderful members that I’m sure it will be an outstanding slate. Thank you each for serving.

Ginger Stephens, our Registrar, has done an outstanding job once again. For 2014, the Huguenot Society of Virginia added 10 new members, with 9 of those being approved by the Registrar General so far. One of those was a dual membership from the Georgia Society and one was a transfer from the California Society. There is also one pending and several that should be turned in shortly. We voted and approved 5 new prospective members as well. We also added one life member. Our State Society is strong and growing. Thank you, Ginger, for a job well done.

The program, which Virginia Hurtes Rouse created and presented, was a power point presentation comprised of several bits of information about these Huguenot Ancestors: Gabriel Bernon; Cornelius d’Aubigné/Dabney; John Ernest; John Lois, & James Poyas; Louis DuBois; and Catherine Blanchan. It was very well received. Several members volunteered to look into doing a similar presentation of their own ancestors.

Here is some information that I recently received. The following ancestors are now approved as Gateway Ancestors for The Order of the Crown of Charlemagne in the USA and Baronial Order of the Magna Carta:

Louis DuBois – Child of Christien (The Register of Qualified Huguenot Ancestors, p. 152 & Peter & Hester DuBois page 155)

Huguenot Refugees before July 4, 1776, also qualify as approved ancestors for a female descendant for Daughters of American Colonists. You must have all proofs and supporting documents, as well as sponsors and invitations for each society.

I have enjoyed being your Huguenot Society of Virginia President. It was especially fun to represent you at a Gala in late October sponsored by the Prince William Resolves Chapter, DAR, fundraiser for the Junior Membership. Several guests were invited to speak about different societies. I gave a short speech about The Huguenot Society of Virginia and the Virginia State Colonial Dames XVII Century. Attendees were encouraged to come in costume for a contest. I won 2nd place as Ruirk the Pirate of Kiev (my approved Coat of Arms Ancestor for National Society Colonial Dames XVIIIC). First place went to a young and beautiful Marilyn Monroe. I made flyers and business cards and distributed them to people that I knew from other societies. It was a wonderful night and I was asked to return next year. [insert Virginia photo #4. The caption for it is: Virginia Society President Virginia Hurtes Rouse as “Ruirk The Pirate”]

Have fun in what you are doing and all are invited to our next meeting March 28, 2015. Thank you, to all of the great Officers, Chairmen and Members who make this a Special Society.

Virginia Hurtes Rouse
President, The Huguenot Society of Virginia

Washington
The Huguenot Society of Washington, organized in 1956, has about 17 regular members. It ranks #28 in size within National.
No report.

Washington, DC
The Huguenot Society of Washington, DC Society, organized in 1927, appears strong with more than 60 members and holding the #13 spot in size within National. It also holds the #9 spot in NHS Top 10 Fastest-Growing State Societies since 2011, having experienced growth between 2011-2012. But it has no active Council. Many of its members live outside the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Although the DC Society is still able and willing to pay dues, and has a scholarship fund available, it is currently in discussions with one another about disbanding for lack of key officers. There are many issues to be considered, so things are only a discussion, at this point. Please let us know your views.

ANNOUNCING 2014 YOUTH CONTEST WINNERS

It is with great pleasure that we announce the winners of the 2014 Youth Contest. David Crossan, Jr., of Delaware, won first place ($200) in the 5th grade level, and his brother, Sammy, won the first place prize ($100) for the 3rd grade level. Their entries are below. Congratulations, young Huguenots! We are so glad you participated in our contest and won!
THE PROTESTANT REQUIREMENT DEBATE

The issue of whether to admit non-Protestants into our state societies and/or as Members at Large, and hence into National membership, continues to be hotly debated among our members and even among National officers, and therefore warrants a separate report from your President General. It is my personal view that our Huguenot forefathers fought and died for religious freedom of conscience. Yes, they were Protestants, but according to Admiral Coligny, they fought for the right of each individual to choose his own version of the truth. They fought against the “conform to uniformity” concept of religion and life which was enforced by the French government. Ideally, if we truly stand for Huguenot tenets of faith and liberty, we should as individuals willingly tolerate other religions and other Christian sects. I think we all do. The issue is whether we need to tolerate other Christian sects within our organization. Admitting non-Protestant Christians to any form of membership begins “the slippery slope,” a term we learned in law school. “Protestantism” is part of our “brand” it is a key tenet and is why some of our members joined us. Our strength could be diluted and even confusing vis-à-vis our Huguenot ancestors and our tradition should we include non-Protestant Christians as full members. We are incorporated in Maryland as a “religious” nonprofit organization, in addition to our other purposes. To me, that means that we must as a group have a religion. Therefore, we must as a group choose which religion to practice as a group. As a practical matter, I conclude that we need to and must remain a Protestant organization. Huguenots were Protestant, we need to be unified, so let’s continue to unify around being Protestant and continue to honoring our ancestors’ Protestant beliefs.

But having said that, I would not object to admitting Christians to membership if that membership were just social and well-defined, such as:

- Huguenot Christians may join through a State Society or as Members at Large, which would grant these Huguenot Christians the “Huguenot certification” they most desire, and allow Huguenot Christians to socialize at meetings with everyone;
- Non-Protestants have no vote or voice in their State Society or in National.
- Each State Society would decide whether to accept non-Protestants and any particular individual applicant for membership to a state society;
- National would decide whether to accept a Member at Large non-Protestant Huguenot Christian applicant.

This approach would emphasize and expand our Huguenot heritage by allowing all qualified Christian Huguenots to join if they are acceptable otherwise to the State and to National. Then we could wait and see how many non-Protestants really want to join a Protestant Huguenot organization and sit through our Protestant brand of worship service, attend our events, and sponsor our publications, all of which praise Protestant principles.

Others, such as Rev. Paul “Sonny” Smith, NHS First Vice President General/Bylaws Committee Chairman, feel strongly that more than that should be done. He has submitted a letter for publication in this Cross which explains his view. Meanwhile, Rev. Smith is discussing these issues with the Bylaws Committee. On the Bylaws Committee with him are: Honorary President General Barbara MacManus, Parliamentarian Roger Smith, Recording Secretary General Linda Smith, and our Chaplain General, Rev. Joel Strauch.

Please let the Committee know your views. We all realize that this is a divisive issue, but we need to be acutely aware of the danger of allowing heated emotions fracture our group. History is replete with examples of Huguenot and other Protestant organizations which allowed themselves to fracture because of their inability to tolerate differences of opinion in a civil discussion. Let’s not go there; let’s articulate why we believe what we believe and from there, determine how we want to operate as a cohesive group—do we wish to continue to be a Protestant Huguenot organization—purists, if you will, or do we wish to capture more Huguenots by expanding to be a Protestant Huguenot organization with a non-Protestant Christian social component? We do not necessarily need to change anything. But let’s join in the discussion for the sake of our members whose conscience compels them to ask for a change. And let’s have faith in the Lord that the outcome of our discussion, regardless of what that outcome may be, will lead to increased unity within our organization, and will do His will.
LETTER FROM FIRST VICE PRESIDENT GENERAL REV. PAUL “SONNY” SMITH TO OUR MEMBERS

More than six years ago, I was contacted by a distinguished member of National Huguenot Society. She asked me if I was interested in the position of Chaplain General of the Society. After explaining the duties, responsibilities, and meeting schedules, she asked me if I was against admitting Roman Catholics to the Society. I responded with a “YES.”

After serving as Chaplain General and presently serving as First Vice President General, I have changed my mind. I am aware that our present by-laws require our members to be Protestant.

I truly believe we should accept into membership those Huguenot descendants who are Roman Catholic. I also believe we should accept those descendants who are of the Orthodox faith which includes Russian, Greek, Antiochian, Macedonian, etc. They also are not Protestant.

The Catholic issue grieves me. Exclusiveness concerns me as it is not Christ-like and is divisive.

Christianity is being attacked by the hatred, exclusivity, and unloving forces of Radical Islam. Thousands have been killed, enslaved, raped, beheaded, and tortured in Africa and in the Middle East. It is time for all Christians whether Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican, or Protestant to come together to seek reconciliation, to seek forgiveness, and to PRAY that Almighty God will turn the hearts of those who persecute.

We also must forgive those who persecuted our ancestors. When we forgive the Roman Catholics, God will hear us. God will bless us when we seek reconciliation with those who hurt us four hundred years ago.

Our Huguenot ancestors believed in the Freedom of Conscience. We should honor that heritage.

Pope Francis was recently disappointed when the Synod of Bishops, whilst meeting in Rome, failed to soften the Roman Catholic stand on Gays and divorced Catholics. After the vote, he warned against “hostile rigidity” (hostiles rigidus). I also worry that we will not soften our hearts.

I pray that we will stop the carping, querulous, and churlish language when considering this change to our bylaws. Instead, let us have a logical, calm, and reasonable dialogue. The world has changed, and as a priest of the Church, I admonish all members of our Society to welcome all descendants of our Huguenot ancestors.

The Rev’d Paul Weeghman Smith

NOTICE

Ashgate Publishing has announced a new title, Experiencing Exile: Huguenot Refugees in the Dutch Republic, 1680-1700, by David van der Linden, which can be purchased at www.ashgate.com/isbn/9781472429278. The 310-page book examines how the Huguenot refugees, and particularly the more ordinary ones, experienced leaving France and building a new life in the complex realities of Holland. It discusses the economy of exile, faith in exile, and Huguenot memories in exile. NHS members may buy the book at a 20% discount by purchasing the book online using the code 380Y.
ESSAY ON JEFFERSON DAVIS
By Seth Cook, Huguenot Society of Arkansas

[This essay won Seth, a college nurse anesthetist student, the Huguenot Society of Arkansas’ Scholarship Award in 2014]

Although there are a plethora of famous Huguenots, there is one man who stands out the most in my mind. Jefferson Davis, the only President of the Confederate States of America, was in fact a Huguenot.

Jefferson Davis has always been a hero to me. The honor of being elected President General of the Children of the Confederacy has largely influenced this. There was something about his heroic drive and dedication to his cause that made it no surprise when I discovered he was a Huguenot.

Jefferson Davis was born to Samuel and Jane Davis on June 3, 1807, in Kentucky, but he spent most of his life on plantations in Louisiana and Mississippi. He attended West Point Military Academy, he served as colonel of a regiment in the Mexican-American war, and he served under President Franklin Pearce as Secretary of War. When the threat of succession was on the horizon, Davis felt he should serve his homeland. On February 18, 1861, Jefferson Davis was sworn in as President of the Confederate States of America on the steps of the Alabama State Capitol. He served the Confederacy until the end of the war in 1865.

Huguenots fought for their religious freedom just as the Confederacy fought for its right to maintain its economy in which way it saw fit—without any government influence. Before the Edict of Nantes, Huguenots were persecuted, and thousands were slain because their beliefs didn’t coincide with the beliefs of the government. This led to the Protestant Reformation and, ultimately, the emigration of hundreds of thousands of Huguenots.

When Martin Luther led the Protestant Reformation around 1517, he was uncertain about the future. All he had was his faith to keep him pushing forward. Jefferson Davis was also unsure about the events that would transpire during the Civil War, or War Between the States as a true Southerner would call it. However, he pushed the South forward until the end. Jefferson Davis might not have won the war, but he never ceased trying. If the Huguenots had given up when the Catholic government accused them of heresy, we would more than likely all be Catholic. Instead, though, the Huguenots fought for a religion based on faith without intercession of the government. The Huguenots fought for a religion where individuals interpret Scripture themselves rather than rely on a noble priest. The Huguenots fought for the faith they saw just.

Jefferson Davis was an incredible man. His passion for faith, the South, and his strong dedication to the cause he believed in make him not only an American hero, but a renowned Huguenot.

NECROLOGY LIST
The following members died during 2014.

California
Beatrice Geraldine Hartshorn Wheeler

Delaware
Annie Lou Gelzer Abernathy

Georgia
Charles Haddock Hendry

Illinois
Blanche Honeycutt

Mississippi
Mary Elizabeth Mills Thompson

Oklahoma
Helen Joyce Swearingen Hardgrave

Pennsylvania
Jacqueline Groff Callaway
Virginia Weissert
Frank R. Braden, Jr.
Barb Beahm
Daniel N. Black

Texas
Charles Brandon Chenault
Poly Jane Statham

Virginia
Elizabeth R. McDaniel
Kathryn Shield Newland
What! Impossible! And yet, if one reads carefully details of the lives of French language Protestants in Nouvelle-France and later in Québec after the “conquest”, be they called Huguenots or Calvinists, that is exactly what my ancestors and immediate family lived. Fortunately, in this twenty-first century things have changed and one now speaks fairly openly about such.

Let us look at the definition of the word “ghetto”: “any section of a city, in which many members of some minority group live, or to which they are restricted as by economic pressure or social discrimination” as in Webster’s dictionary. [Webster’s New World Dictionary, Second College Edition, Simon and Schuster, Inc., New York, N. Y.] It is in this sense that one looks back on the lives of one’s ancestors.

Some three hundred, amidst the very first, immigrants to Nouvelle-France, fleeing religious persecution or other dire circumstances in their homeland, France, in the XVIIth century, were of the Calvinist persuasion. Though this number would indicate a good percentage of those immigrating, their hopes, expectations, of religious freedom in the new land were soon crushed in that the Roman Catholic clergy had obtained absolute control of religious matters in the new land through royal decree. To marry, to baptize (i.e. legitimize) a child, to own and settle on land, indeed to be buried in recognizable ground one had to be or become a member of said church.

Many nominally, perfunctorily, did abjure their religion. Those few who did remain adamant either became pariahs within their communities or even within their families. These folk must have lived in a mental “ghetto” and their descendants disappeared gradually into the Roman Catholic majority for almost two centuries. The women were indeed less obdurate than the men to conversion and more inclined to accept for themselves and their children that they should be conformists. They then formed the children’s minds and entire generations followed suit. As a result the memory of this transition period was lost. The history of that time long ago was deliberately obliterated from historical books and, even in this present century, many folk consider or think of anyone having a French or French sounding name as being Roman Catholic.

There came a sudden change in mid XIX century upon the advent of French and English language Protestant missionaries from abroad and from this continent. Gradually, very slowly, folk, families, converted to the Protestant faith and eventually affiliated with one or other of the Protestant denominations of the day. However, no sooner was their new faith apparent to the public around them, they were immediately tarred as “turncoats”. They became ostracized, the priests harassed them, their families often disowned them, their communities disparaged them, they became strangers in their own “home”.

Those who found life under such circumstances to be untenable moved away, some to the United States, some to other provinces of Canada, where they became part of the meld which is North America. And those who remained did indeed live “ghetto” fashion as they founded their own small communities, hamlets, churches, schools, small supportive businesses. Even though this was after the “conquest” matters changed little for them as the Roman Catholic Church retained its legal “rights” to mid XX century. It tried to maintain the weight of its authority in all matters, secular as well as religious. In many cases the converts were “damned French” to the English speaking and mostly Protestant element, and “apostates” (turncoats) to those of the French tongue. Even in a big city such as Montréal, where they lived as an infinitely small minority, the feeling of being “alone” permeated their way of living and thinking, their churches became their only rallying point, the focus not only of their spiritual but often of their physical life.

Thus it is very important for present day historians, researchers such as within the Société d’histoire du protestantisme franco-québécois, now in a more open and enlightened Québec, to cumulate data, history, stories, written and unwritten, in order that present and future generations might understand the whys and wherefores of the real history of Québec.

Although much of that history has been lost, having been deliberately hidden or omitted, forgotten, some reconstruction is possible upon reading memoirs, old books, notes, records, minutes, newspapers, periodicals, documents, found here and there, as well as by gleaning information from the memories of the few left from that era who are still living in the present century.
ESCAPE ACROSS THE WIDE SEA
By Kirsten Kirkpatrick, author

Submitted by David Crossan, Jr. for the
National Huguenot Society Youth Contest, 5th Grade

The main character of Escape Across the Wide Sea is Daniel Bonnet. Daniel was a brave Huguenot from the country of France who was being hunted by the Green Dragoons, the ruthless royal soldiers of Louis XIV of France, because of his faith. Like most fortunate boys and girls Daniel has a mother and a father and a brother (the brother is born later in the story). Daniel has some great and dangerous adventures with him and his family. Allow me to tell you some of these great and dangerous adventures.

One day, the Dragoons destroyed the family’s weaving shop so he fled from the shop. They accidentally went on a slave ship named “The Lily.” On the ship he met a sailor who became his temporary friend. He went to Africa and met a poor little girl named Seynabou who was taken from her home to be sold as a slave. He was devastated and angry when he saw how badly and unkindly the slaves were treated. The ship sailed to Guadeloupe and he found out that slaves were made to make sugar so he refused to eat it. However, the dragoons began to persecute the Protestants in this new place and the family fled to New York. They had to stay in a cooped up cottage with about 50 people until his family got their own house. When they got their own house, Daniel got a new little baby brother. Then Daniel really wanted to be a weaver like his dad. Daniel and his father made two looms and on the looms he made a colorful rug for the new village church.

I would recommend this book to anyone. It is exciting and interesting. I was wiggling in my bed while I was reading Escape Across the Wide Sea. It taught me a lesson which is to hold onto your faith no matter what may happen. In those days it was dangerous to be a Huguenot, but still hold onto your faith like Daniel Bonnet did.

Submitted by David A. Crossan, Jr.

Sammy Crossan also entered the Youth Contest and was the winner at the 3rd Grade Level, with this entry about Huguenot weavers.

Great job, Sammy!
**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!**
*Since the last Cross, the following new members have joined us. Welcome, New Members!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ancestor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>James Edward Wilkinson</td>
<td>Antoine Desasure Perronette de Crocketagne</td>
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<td>California</td>
<td>Henry Francis Russell, III</td>
<td>Jacques Mahieiu</td>
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<td>Delaware</td>
<td>Hope Elizabeth Irvine-Sank</td>
<td>Andre L’Amoureux</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nancy Lee Starr Meadows</td>
<td>Gidéon Merlet/Marlitt/Malott</td>
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<td>John Lawrence Crossan</td>
<td>Nicholas Gaillard-Gaylord</td>
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<td>Sarah Bonett Crossan Lerman</td>
<td>Nicholas Gaillard-Gaylord</td>
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<td>David Adair Crossan</td>
<td>Nicholas Gaillard-Gaylord</td>
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<td>Florida</td>
<td>Diane Elizabeth Chenault-Park</td>
<td>Henri Cabanis</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Frances McLellan McFarland</td>
<td>Pierre Guerrant</td>
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<td>Roger Warren Coursey</td>
<td>Jean Gaston</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Kate Orr Messer</td>
<td>Jean LaTourette</td>
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<td>Alecia Ann Waters Evans</td>
<td>Philip Delano</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Judith Ann Vance Lowery</td>
<td>Louis DuBois</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Susan Milo Rozehnal Fredrickson</td>
<td>Jean Vassall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Keith Timothy Freer</td>
<td>Hugo Freer/Frère</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nancy E. Nettleton Larsen</td>
<td>Louis DuBois</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>David Albert Hockensmith</td>
<td>René St. Julien/Julian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>William Christian Sizemore</td>
<td>Cornielle/Cornelis Melyn</td>
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<td>Linda Irene Hardin Sehrt</td>
<td>Jacques de Zeller/Sellaire</td>
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<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Ann Lee Sawyer Cleland</td>
<td>Gabriel Bobo</td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Thomas Lloyd Norris, Jr.</td>
<td>Abraham Moulin/Mullen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Thomas George St. Aubin</td>
<td>Jacob LeVan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michael Shawn Lemasters</td>
<td>Jean deBricquet/Brickey</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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Since the last Cross, the following new members have joined us. Welcome, New Members!

Texas
Susanne O’Brien
Ancestor: Pierre Chastain
Janet K. Taylor
Ancestor: Jean Pierre Bondurant
Mary Alice Newsom Dell
Ancestor: Louis Tacquet/Tackett
Kellie Jean Fuqua Johnson
Ancestor: Guillaume Fouquet/Fuqua(y)

Virginia
Christine Ann Wescott
Ancestor: Chrétian DuBois
Jane Elizabeth Gurry Bucknan
Ancestor: Laurent Flournoy
Barbara Richmond Powers Wyatt Huf
Ancestor: Mathieu Blanchan
Faye Elizabeth Walton Sobel
Ancestor: Peter Rucker
Rebecca Jane Langan Pariseau
Ancestor: Crétien DuBois

Supplementals
Missouri
Sara Jane Kill Branton Supp #1
Ancestor: Pierre Amer Via
Tamara Lynn Branton Friedman Supp #1
Ancestor: Pierre Amer Via

Dual Memberships
Indiana and Texas: Robert Todd Giffin
Georgia and North Carolina: George Bull Salley, Jr.
Arkansas and Florida: Cheryl Lessey Dehnatel

Reinstatements
PA Elizabeth S. Amend
MS Priscilla Anne Scabery Anderson
FL Dolores Samons Harvell
TX Donna K. Weaver
DE Thomas Herlihy III

Transfers
Maryland to Arkansas Shirley Ann Barham
DC to Virginia Richard Edward Fichter, Jr.

Youth Registrations
Florida
Leah Foulds Krensky b. 2009 Great granddaughter of Betsey Arline Lambert
Natalie Foulds Krensky b. 2004 Great granddaughter of Betsey Arline Lambert
Chloe Foulds Krensky b. 2004 Great granddaughter of Betsey Arline Lambert
Avia Foulds Krensky b. 2001 Great granddaughter of Betsey Arline Lambert

Texas
Kennedy Rae Kuhn b. 2012 Granddaughter of Virginia Kuhn
Reagan Eva Kuhn b. 2008 Granddaughter of Virginia Kuhn
Mary Jane Summers b. 2010 Granddaughter of Virginia Kuhn
Amy Virginia Summers b. 2009 Granddaughter of Virginia Kuhn

CORRECTION ABOUT YOUTH REGISTRATION
There is a $10 fee for Youth Registration, because of the various expenses involved in the Registrar’s producing and mailing the certificate.
INTERNATIONAL HUGUENOT MEETING IN BORDEAUX, FRANCE

The World Huguenot Centre (www.huguenots.fr) will hold its triannual meeting, the XVIIth International Reunion of Huguenot Descendants, from Monday 14 September to Sunday 20 September 2015, in the Bordeaux area. The international meeting might actually be organized by the Committee of the French Protestant Friends Abroad, or else the World Huguenot Center and the Committee are the same organization. In any event the group is affiliated with Huguenot organizations in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the USA. We were not able to find any information online about pricing, but here is a compressed version of their basic program outline. The group will be based in Libourne (close to Bordeaux) for 6 nights at Hotel Mercure ***, located on the bank of the river Dordogne. There will be daily outings by bus. The group will be back at Libourne each evening for dinner on your own, except on Monday and Saturday. Visits, 4 lunches and 2 dinners are included in the program.

**Monday 14 September:** Arrival of participants. Opening dinner close to the hotel.

**Tuesday 15 September:** Visit the valley of the Dordogne from Libourne (through Castillon-la-Bataille and Sainte-Foy); visit town of Bergerac and its temple Chapel of the Cordeliers; Buffet lunch at the Maison des Vins de Bergerac in the Cordeliers hall, with a beautiful view over the harbor and the Dordogne. Château de Montbazillac and rooms dedicated to the history Bergerac Protestants, and to local traditional local trades (wood, barrel-making, flax ropes manufacturing to the tug barges, vine-making process), and showing the special links with the Netherlands. Back to Libourne through villages, including the town where Paul Revere’s family came from; stop in Gensac to see Calvin’s pulpit. Back to Libourne, dinner on your own.

**Wednesday 16 September:** Bordeaux. Welcome at the Temple du Hâ, the former chapel of the convent Sisters of Notre Dame (XVIIth century), where young girls taken away from Huguenot families during the Ancien Regime period were educated. Lunch there. In small groups, a protestant tour in the Chartrons district other and places with a rich old history, Chartrons temple, the Anglican and Lutheran and chapels, hotel Fenwick (built for the Joseph Fenwick the 1st American Consul in Bordeaux and in the world in 1790), museum, Jeanne Lartigue’s house, etc.

**Thursday 17 September:** Sainte-Foy-la-Grande bastide. Short stop at the Temple des Briands (St-Avit-St-Nazaire). Lunch at La Force, then the estate of the Fondation John Bost; then Le Fleix and its temple; drive along the Château du Fauga, a former place for assemblies during the “desert” period (1745).

**Friday 18 September:** Free morning in Libourne on market-day in this restored medieval town. Lunch on your own. In the afternoon, we will visit the Chateau de Vayres, a former estate of the d’Albret family, and its remarkable gardens along the Dordogne.

**Saturday 19 September** (Heritage Day): In Duras, we will visit the Château of the Durfort family with wonderful view; its former temple built in 1611; Lunch on your own; then visit and wine-tasting in a château at Saint-Emilion. We will listen to the Huguenot delegations’ speeches, followed by a cocktail-buffet.

**Sunday 20 September:** 10:30 a.m. Church service in the lovely temple of Montcaret (1822), gathering all members of the Dordogne Protestant Church on that special day. Lunch. Afternoon at Saint-Emilion: 2 hours free visit to see the traditional folk procession of the Jurade and of the “Ban des Vendanges” (the authorization to begin harvesting grapes). Free visit of the underground Church, cloister and medieval streets.

6:00 p.m. Drop off at the Libourne station or at the hotel for the travelers leaving the following day. Optional departure on Monday morning with an additional fee for the night.
OXFORD, MASSACHUSETTS APPRECIATES THE
NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY

Fred Herbert, passionate Huguenot, new Connecticut President, and possible rejuvenator of the Huguenot Society of Massachusetts, reported that the Town of Oxford, Massachusetts very much appreciated our feature of its Huguenot Memorial and Huguenot Fort in our Spring 2014 issue of The Cross. A copy of the magazine was presented by Fred Herbert to a representative of the Department of Public Works. The Town also wrote a letter of appreciation to us.

Fred Herbert’s presentation of The Cross of Languedoc to the Town of Oxford’s Department of Public Works warranted an article published in August 2014 in the Worcester Telegram and Gazette, featuring photographs of the presentation and of the cross memorial at Huguenot Fort. As Fred told the Town and the newspaper, “In Oxford, because you keep the town’s history alive, your grandchildren’s grandchildren will not have to ask: ‘What’s a Huguenot?’” We are all so proud of Fred and his work on behalf of Huguenots.

Mr. Fred Herbert presents Mr. Sean Divoll, Director of the Town of Oxford’s Department of Public Works, which maintains the Huguenot Fort, with a copy of The Cross of Languedoc, Spring 2014, which featured the Huguenot settlement at the Town of Oxford.

ANCESTRY MATTERS

An article published on November 18, 2014 in the UK Daily News online, entitled “How having the right surname STILL sets you up for life: Our ancestors’ social status determines how rich we’ll be, study claims,” discussed a new study published by Gregory Clark from the University of California, Davis and Neil Cummins from the London School of Economics in the journal Human Nature. The study found that a person’s surname is a strong indicator of social status, going back multiple generations. Their conclusion was based upon an analysis of social mobility from 1170 to 2012 using the surnames of students who attended Oxford and Cambridge Universities between 1170 and 2012, national probate registry entries since 1858, and wealthy property owners between 1236 and 1299, under the assumption that the people included on them are highly educated and of a high social standing. They found that social status is consistently passed down among families over hundreds of years and over multiple generations—even from as far back as the 12th century—even moreso than genetic traits such as height. The examples cited in the news article about the study clearly made that point, and it is believed that “Strong forces of familial culture, social connections, and genetics must connect the generations,” said Mr. Clark. “And status persistence measured by education status is just as strong now as in the pre-industrial era.”

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE
HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA

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