



The Cross of Languedoc

A Publication of the National Huguenot Society

SPRING 2016

“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 Image courtesy of the Gardiner Pearson, President, Washington Memorial Heritage, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

The 1697 Enfranchisement of the Huguenots in South Carolina Depicted in The “Settlement” Huguenot Window at the Valley Forge Washington Memorial Chapel

By Janice Murphy Lorenz, J.D.

The stained glass window on the cover of this issue of the Cross is one of a series of “settlement windows” at the Chapel at Valley Forge portraying the founding of America in various scenes. The settlement windows were conceived with an eye toward thanking General Lafayette and the government of France for their assistance in the founding of America. The one pictured is the sixth window in the series, and portrays South Carolina Governor Joseph Blake after signing the statutory Act of enforcement of the franchise to Huguenots and other aliens living in South Carolina in 1697. This Act granted citizenship to all who swore allegiance to England, and granted the privileges of religious freedom and worship to all—except “Papists” and non-Christians. It was the most important measure of Governor Blake’s administration, according to historians. [See *A Sketch of the History of South Carolina: To the Close of the Proprietary Government*, by William James Rivers (Charleston: McCarter & Co., 1856).] And it was of huge importance to the Huguenots of South Carolina. The stained glass window memorializing this event was given to the Washington Chapel at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, by the Huguenot Society of South Carolina, a hereditary organization separate from ours but which shares a mission similar to ours. The historical theme of the windows was planned by Rev. W. Herbert Burk, former Rector of the Chapel, and the windows were designed and fabricated by Nicola D’Ascenzo in Philadelphia.

Now to tie this all together for you: The Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania has long been one of our largest state societies, and it has just voted to pay up to \$60,000 to restore this Huguenot Window window from the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge. Rev. Burk’s vision for the window was that it would represent “the coming of the Races, of Swedes, Dutch, Quakers, English Cavaliers, Puritans, and others, all helping to build the colonial hearthstone and the citizenship of a new world.” [See *The Memorial Windows Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, PA., by the D’Ascenzo Studios, Philadelphia, Pa., 1930.*] More will be explained in a separate article by Lydia Freeman, President of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania. The generous gift by the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania to restore the Huguenot window was influenced by our very own Honorary Historian General, Peter Morgan Adams, who is a banker by day, and a member of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania, as well as of the Washington Memorial Chapel’s historical group, and of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution (PSSR). The PSSR Color Guard has just sponsored the cleaning and restoration of the John Paul Jones window from the Valley Forge chapel, demonstrating the things that can be accomplished when we take advantage of our cross-overs in interests and memberships.

The process by which such a window is cleaned and restored every 50-100 years or so is quite technical, as it must be in order to preserve the delicate glass, and considering that such windows were installed during an era which used different technology than we have available today. Probably the last event I attended as your President General was to travel to Philadelphia to the large studio operated by Joseph Beyer, Beyer Studio, specializing in architectural stained glass and sacred window rescue. Joe employs a host of artisans, and their techniques and artistic skill must still bear some resemblance to that of the Huguenot artisans who made France famous during the Renaissance era. Remember, King Francois I of France was impressed by the art and architecture of Italy during his imprisonment there during France’s wars with Italy, and upon his release, his most important legacy to France has been his promotion of the arts and literature in France during the Renaissance. His son, Henri II, and of course, Henri II’s widow, the Queen Mother Catherine de Medicis, sponsored many fine artistic projects in France during their lifetime. We still admire them today. Stained glass windows are one of France’s treasures, and the Huguenot artist, the painter and sculptor Jean Cousin the Elder (c. 1495-1560), and his son, artist Jean Cousin the Younger (c. 1522-1594), were among the best stained glass painters of the 1500s in France. Huguenots should visit the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge to see these stained glass windows honoring American history, and see the Chapel and the surrounding park land, which honor the Revolutionary War, France’s aid in founding America, and of course, the most famous Huguenot descendant in American history, George Washington.

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT GENERAL

My Fellow Huguenots,

It is an honor to address you as your President General. The time since the October meeting in Springfield, IL, has been spent making appointments and getting a handle on the business of our Society. My years on the NHS Board have made things a bit easier. Per usual, a job looks easier from a distance! My thanks to Janice Lorenz for leaving the Society in good shape and being available to answer all my questions!

The meeting in Springfield was well attended and everyone seemed to have a good time. Unfortunately, for some, there wasn't much time to visit all the Lincoln sites. The business of the Society was the most important item. We did get a lot accomplished. The venue proved to be great as the Springfield Hilton did a wonderful job meeting our needs. Only downside is that someone managed to put some nasty scratches on my car while it was parked in the hotel garage!

The 2015-2017 National Leadership Directory was sent to the officers, chairmen and state presidents. A few corrections were made and an amended version was distributed. The great thing is that we have several new faces in various national offices, which is wonderful.

The next meeting will be at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. The Board will meet about 9:30 a.m. with the General Meeting at 10:30, followed by a luncheon. Final details will be sent to all the officers, chairmen and state presidents in March. Please plan to attend.

An exciting venue is planned for October 2016 – Charleston, SC! A wonderful, historic city with Huguenot connections. The plan is to stay at a hotel in the Historic District so that the sites of interest will be within easy walking distance. There are several details to be worked out and you will be informed as soon as everything is firmed up. Typically, our Congress concludes on Saturday night. Some of you might want to plan to stay over until Sunday so that you can attend a service at the Huguenot Church. If we're lucky it may be the Sunday that the service is in French! Again, another detail to be considered.

In October, 2014, we were in New Paltz, another site with Huguenot history. It was interesting to see the wonderfully maintained homes and church. I think that making connections to our ancestors' past is a wonderful way to honor them and to remind us of our heritage. If anyone has a suggestion as to a possible Huguenot venue for fall, 2017, please let me know.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome – this is your Society.

En la foi,

Jeannine

Jeannine Sheldon Kallal

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY
9 OCTOBER 2015
HILTON HOTEL SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

The General Council of the National Huguenot Society consists of all members and guests. This is a creative session designed to encourage the discussion of issues concerning State Presidents and members. No quorum is required for this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING

The meeting was called to order by President General Janice Lorenz at 3:40 p.m. The invocation was given by Chaplain General the Rev. Joel Strauch.

President General Lorenz welcomed all in attendance who introduced themselves and named their State Society. A sign up sheet was passed around for signatures.

In attendance were:	David Bahn, FL;	Bonnie Gerth;
Janet Butler Walker, GA;	Stephen Gerth, IL;	Nancy Schultz, IL;
Fay Charpentier Ford, KY;	Glen Bower, IL;	Christie Noble;
Patricia Hutt, KY;	Sally Gradeless, IN (guest);	Mary Margaret Buck, MS;
Jeannine Kallal, IL;	Rex Gradeless, IN;	Barbara MacManus, TX;
Nancy Brennan, TX;	Bob Miller, AR (guest);	Roger Smith, FL;
Linda Smith, FL;	Nadine Hardin-Miller, AR;	Carol Wandschneider, IL
Nancy Watson, TX;	Lori Hardin, AR;	
Sandra Staley, TX;	Noella Mae Oberlin, TN;	
Christine Crossan, DE;	Joel Strauch, VA;	
Mr. Robin A. Crossan, DE (guest);	Richard De Coe, CA (guest);	

MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 18, 2015 General Council meeting held at the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C. were approved by a Reading Committee, published and distributed. The Minutes were accepted as published.

President General Lorenz appointed a Reading Committee for this meeting consisting of Honorary President General Barbara MacManus and TN State President Mary Margaret Buck.

REPORTS

Treasurer General distributed 2015 year-to-date Financial Report and Budget indicating the Society's Budget should be in "the black" at year's end.

Finance Chairman Roger Smith reported the Society overcame a previous Budget deficit with concerted effort, publication of the Ancestor book and removal of the Congress meetings from Washington, D.C. The prior Internal Review showed the progress. A new Internal Review is recommended when the new slate of officers is elected and installed.

Assistant Treasurer/Membership Chairman Barbara MacManus distributed her report showing a spreadsheet of contacts with all Disbanded Societies and Members at Large in an attempt to bring them into paid Membership At Large. All previously were being carried on our rolls and mailed the "Cross" at the expense of the National Society. Many dues were paid up and further contacts will be made before dropping those unpaid from the rolls on January 1. She further recommended a future Member At Large Chairman to keep track of this membership. A full report will be attached to Congress Minutes.

A Resolution will be recommended to Congress to dissolve the New York Society.

Registrar General Nancy Brennan reported a membership of approximately 2100 members who are mailed the "Cross." Perhaps 20-25 magazines are returned due to address changes.

President General Lorenz reported that the April 18 NHS Board recommended the Fall 2016 Congress be held in Charleston, SC near the Huguenot Church. The final decision was deferred to the Congress meeting tomorrow since another member suggested Louisville as the meeting site for 2016.

She further reported the April Board suggested the 2016 meeting date for April 9 in D.C. at the Mayflower. The final decision will be made by Congress.

She also reported a request had been received from Peter Dixon to share our flag storage space with the National Society of American Colonists. Officers felt the liability was too great to share the space.

Those in attendance were given time for questions and comments.

After the Benediction by Chaplain General Joel Strauch, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Linda L. Smith
Recording Secretary General

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONGRESS
OF THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY
10 OCTOBER 2015
HILTON HOTEL SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

The Annual Congress of the National Huguenot Society consists of elected Delegate members of the Society consisting of at least 10 Delegates from 10 different State Societies.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President General Janice Lorenz at 9:45 a.m. The invocation was given by Chaplain General the Rev. Joel Strauch.

OPENING

President General Lorenz led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America; the Huguenot Pledge to the Flag of the United States of America and the Sacred Oath.

President General Lorenz welcomed the large crowd of Officers, Honorary Presidents General, Delegates, and Guests.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the October 2014 Congress held in New Paltz, NY were approved by a Reading Committee, published and distributed. The Minutes were accepted as published.

President General Lorenz appointed a Minutes Reading Committee consisting of Honorary President General Barbara MacManus and Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin.

ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary General Linda Smith called the roll of General Officers and Honorary President Generals. Those in attendance were:

President General Janice Lorenz;

Chaplain General the Rev. Joel Strauch;

Recording Secretary General Linda Smith; Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin;

Treasurer General Rex Gradeless;

Organizing Secretary General Mary Margaret Buck;

Registrar General Nancy Brennan;

Genealogist General Jeanine Kallal;

Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller; and Honorary President General Barbara MacManus for a total of 8 General Officers and 2 Honorary Presidents General.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Credentials Chairman Jeannine Kallal reported the registration of 8 Officers; 2 Honorary Presidents General. Delegate representatives were from 12 State Societies plus 13 Delegates making a voting body of 25 Delegates. A quorum was declared.

PROGRAM AND STANDING RULES

President General Lorenz made corrections to the program by adding the deleted name of Christine Crossan to the slate as 2nd Vice President General; striking the title of Old Business, and moving the Election of Officers as the first item under New Business.

Honorary President General Nadine Hardin Miller moved the adoption of the adjusted Program and Standing Rules. It was seconded and passed after discussion.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

President General Lorenz reported traveling to Oxford, MA to meet with descendants of an early Huguenot settler. No State Huguenot Society exists at this time in MA.

Chaplain General the Rev. Joel Strauch reported the loss of 49 members in death since last year's report. A Memorial Service will be held after lunch. Report attached.

Corresponding Secretary Noella Oberlin filed a report which is attached.

Treasurer General presented the Financial Report and Budget. Honorary President General Barbara MacManus moved the budget be adopted. After 2nd and discussion, the budget was adopted. The Financial Report and Budget are attached.

Finance Chairman Roger Smith presented an Internal Review and recommended it be accepted. After second and discussion, it was accepted and is attached.

Assistant Treasurer/Membership Chairman Barbara MacManus distributed her report showing a spreadsheet of contacts with all Disbanded Societies and Members at Large in an attempt to bring them into paid Membership At Large. All previously were being carried on our rolls and mailed the "Cross" at the expense of the National Society. Many dues were paid up and further contacts will be made before dropping from the rolls on January 1. She further recommended a future Member At Large Chairman to keep track of this membership. The full report is filed with the Minutes. President General Lorenz applauded the Assistant Treasurer for her extensive work.

Registrar General Nancy Brennan reported approving 49 new applications and 10 supplements since last year. Fifteen states have added new members with Alabama having the most followed by Texas, Virginia and North Carolina. Nineteen Ancestor Books were sold. She provided copies of the 2015 Update to Register of Qualified Huguenots to State Presidents. Report attached.

Genealogist General Jeannine Kallal reported on approved updates to the Huguenot Ancestry Register. Report attached.

STATE REPORTS

Reports were given and filed by: Illinois President Nancy Schulz; Georgia president Janet Walker; Mississippi President Mary Margaret Buck and Kentucky President Patricia Hutt. Pennsylvania President Lydia Freeman emailed a report and Florida President David Bahn gave an oral report. Rev. Peter Irvine volunteered to do a National Huguenot Society Facebook page. Chapter and/or State Facebook Pages may send their links to Webmaster Steven Gerth. North Carolina sent a report they are reviewing their Bylaws and starting a website. Nancy Brennan filed a report from Texas and noted time spent in France with Friends of the French Huguenots. Virginia President Stuart Whitehead was detained by a military obligation but will send a report. VA member Joel Strauch reported 105 members in VA.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President General Lorenz requested support as she continues in the process to work with a publisher for the award winning footnoted Master's Thesis about Huguenots. Joe Strauch moved she finish publication process. After second and discussion, the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Chairman Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller reported for her committee made up of Honorary President General Barbara MacManus, Chaplain General Joel Strauch and Judith Rembert with the following slate:

President General Fay Charpentier-Ford, KY;	Recording Secretary General Mary Margaret Buck, MS;
First Vice President General Sandra Staley, TX;	Corresponding Secretary General Noella Mae Oberlin, TN;
Second Vice President General Christine Crossan, DE;	Organizing Secretary General: none
Third Vice President General Alice Sweeney, VA;	Genealogist General Nancy Brennan, TX;
Treasurer General Rex Gradeless, IN;	Historian General Edward Wilkinson, AR;
Registrar General Ann Oppenheimer, TX;	Counselor General Mary Nelson Morgan, FL.
Chaplain General The Rev. Joel Strauch, VA;	

When President General Lorenz opened the floor for further nominations, Carol Wandschneider, IL nominated Jeannine Kallal as President General. The motion was seconded and passed. Jeanine Kallal consented to run. A written ballot was declared. Fay Charpentier-Ford withdrew her nomination allowing a voice vote for this office.

With no further nominations from the floor for First Vice President General, Rev. Peter Irvine moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Second Vice President General, Barbara MacManus moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Third Vice President General, Joel Strauch moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Treasurer General, Nadine Hardin-Miller moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Registrar General, Linda Mizell moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Chaplain General, Lori Hardin moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Recording Secretary General, Linda Smith moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Corresponding Secretary General, Sandra Staley moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

The floor was opened for nomination for Organizing Secretary General. Barbara MacManus moved the name of Janet Walker. Janet Walker consented to serve if elected. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Genealogist General, Sandra Staley moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Historian General, Sandra Staley moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

With no further nominations from the floor for Counselor General, Lori Hardin moved this nomination be closed. It was seconded and passed.

President General Lorenz declared the slate complete and called for a voice vote. The slate was accepted unanimously.

RECESS

Recess of the business meeting was declared at 11:50 a.m. for lunch.

NECROLOGY SERVICE

After lunch, Chaplain General Rev. Joel Strauch conducted the Necrology Service.

PROGRAM

Protestant Episcopal Priest Rev. Peter Irvine presented a musical program on the Huguenot or Geneva Psalter.

BUSINESS MEETING RESUMED

Congress was called back into order at 2:10 p.m. Sandra Staley moved the 2016 Fall Congress be held in Charleston, SC with date to be arranged by the Conference Chairman. It was seconded and passed.

Assistant Treasurer/Membership Chairman Barbara MacManus moved the Resolution to dissolve the NY Society. It was seconded and passed.

RESOLUTION

Resolution providing for the disbanding and withdrawal of the Charter of the New York Society.

Whereas, Article III, Section B. of the National Huguenot Society Bylaws provides that “member societies of which chapters are component parts shall be responsible for all reports, fees, dues and other obligations of societies involving chapters under their jurisdiction, and,

Whereas, the New York Society has repeatedly failed to fulfill those obligations and,

Whereas, Article X, Section VI, Paragraph 1 of the National Huguenot Bylaws provides that under the powers reserved to the Annual Congress is the “granting or withdrawing of charters of member societies, then, therefore be it Resolved that the New York Society be hereby disbanded and their Charter withdrawn as of this date, and,

Be it further Resolved that all known members of such Society be notified by postal mail of this action and encouraged to review their Bylaws in regard to the distribution of existing assets.

Approved this 10th Day of October 2015.

President General Lorenz discussed the Harris Publishers request to compile a National directory. Nancy Brennan moved pending review of the contract by the Board, Harris Publishers be allowed to publish the directory. It was seconded and passed.

Chaplain General Rev. Joel Strauch moved honoring two of our leaders, Barbara Chenault MacManus and Nadine Hardin-Miller, for their exemplary, dedicated service to our society with Distinguished Service Awards for their outstanding leadership. It was seconded and passed.

Tokens of appreciation were presented by outgoing President General Lorenz to her Officers.

Newly approved slate of General Officers were installed by Honorary President General Barbara MacManus.

Barbara MacManus moved Janice Lorenz be made an Honorary President General. It was seconded and passed. Nadine Hardin-Miller then presented new Honorary President General Lorenz with the emblem of her office.

The Benediction was given by Chaplain General Rev. Joel Strauch.

The meeting was adjourned by President General Jeannine Kallal at 3:00 p.m.

Linda L. Smith
Recording Secretary General

Our friends at the World Huguenot Centre held their 2015 Reunion in the Bordeaux area of France, in September, 2015. The numerous attendees included two of our Texas Society members, Nancy Watson, who was kind enough to send us photographs, and Genealogist General Nancy Brennan (who, at that time, was our outgoing Registrar General). We were delighted to hear from Martha Nakajima, one of our Members at Large who resides in Poitou, France, who was planning to attend and offered assistance to our members traveling there. During the World Huguenot Reunion gathering, the leading members of each Huguenot group attending were asked to present remarks. Nancy Brennan, who was then our Registrar General, was the ranking member of NHS who attended, and therefore informed the audience about our mission and goals. Thank you, Nancy Watson and Nancy Brennan, for sending the Editor these pictures and others, to share with our members, and thank you, Martha Nakajima, for contacting us. We're so glad you're a member.



Group who attended the International Huguenot Reunion 2015

NECROLOGY

California

Elizabeth Norine Rothrock

Illinois

Jacqueline Brown Gerth

New York

Barbara Manley
Consuelo Pinkus

Ohio

John William Latham

Pennsylvania [some of these were from prior years, and some may have been listed back then]

Audrey Bickley Beyer
Anne Elizabeth Neff
Mary Rachel Greiner Wheeler (Mrs. Robert M.)
Ruth Irene Dunkleberger Cornman (Mrs. Lee E.)
Mark Cleveland Bitting, II
Clyde Dale Learn
Elizabeth Berfield Potter (Mrs. Robert M.)
Burnetta L. Graham (Mrs. Galen E.)
Dorothea H. Sauffley (Mrs. Clyde Mr.)
Charles Hay Hemminger
Mary Loraine Shimp
Elizabeth R. Suppes
Anne Glock Etienne
Barbara Morgan Adams
David Gordon Ashton, Jr.
Russell Lawrence Campman, III
Barb Beahm
Frank Braden, Jr.
Virginia Weissert
Daniel N. Black, III
Jacqueline Groff Callaway

Rhode Island

Chester Arthur Files

Texas

Dorothy Lee Mather Ingram
Rosemary Sanders

Members at Large

Eloise Klinetob Marshall (Idaho)
Ruth H. Parker (West Virginia)
Margaret Winkle (New Jersey)

STATE SOCIETY REPORTS

Alabama

The Huguenot Society of Alabama held its fall meeting of 2015 at the Country Club of Birmingham. Our program was the video from National headquarters "Huguenot France," a story by Frances DuBois. Following the program, new officers were installed for a two-year term.

President Emily Hornak
Vice President Betty Weir
Secretary Ann Cheney
Treasurer Gerald Thompson
Registrar Kathryn Porter
Chaplain Steven Saxon
Historian Bonnie Shanks
Parliamentarian Laura Ramsay
Publicity Hope McCarrell

The meeting continued with lunch at tables decorated with fall flowers and candlelight. The Alabama chapter of the Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia joined us for the meeting and lunch.

Our membership is now at 66. Our Registrar of long standing, Laura Ramsay, has just stepped down from that post. She has worked diligently and done a remarkable job in recruiting and processing many new members.

A heartfelt thanks to all the officers who helped me these past four years. The best is yet to come!

Steven Saxon, Past President

Arizona

The Huguenot Society of Arizona elected new officers:

President: Patricia "Dusti" Ide, Mesa, AZ
Vice President: Lee T. Nelson
Chaplain: Dr. William Hearter
Secretary: Linda Cooper
Registrar: John Thorne
Treasurer: Kathy Machmer
Historian/Librarian: Linda Cooper

The Huguenot Society of Arizona held its spring meeting of 2015 in March at the Blue Water Grill in Phoenix. This was a joint meeting with the local chapter of the Magna Charta Dames and Barons. The speaker, Jack Nelson, the husband of our former president, Lee Nelson, played the video *Knights and Armor*. The attendees then participated in a discussion of the material presented. Lee's ancestor, William Marshall, was one of the video's subjects.



Above is a picture of the Huguenot Society attendees at the October meeting. The gentleman with the striking hat is our speaker and Chaplain, Dr. Hearter.

Our fall meeting was held on October 24th, again at the Blue Water Grill and our speaker was our own Dr. Bill Hearter, immediate past president, who discussed the history and architecture of covered bridges in the southeastern Pennsylvania area. Those who know the area are very familiar with these beautiful structures and the talk was informative as well as a nostalgic return home for many members.

Our March meeting will include the local chapter of the Jamestowne Society. Many of our Huguenot members are also members of the Magna Charta Dames and Barons and Jamestowne societies but many are not. It is hoped that these joint meetings will increase the interest of attendees in these groups as well as membership particularly that of our Huguenot Society.

Dusti Ide, President

Arkansas

Honorary President General Nadine Hardin-Miller of Fort Smith is the president of the Arkansas Society.

California

Ward Clemence White of Simi Valley, California is the president of the California Society.

Connecticut

We received a letter from Fannie Rockefeller Gabriel in July 2015 seeking help in reestablishing the Connecticut Society. It has a strong financial status, but needs a President to organize a luncheon, and officers to serve as Registrar, and as Treasurer. Fannie has graciously offered to serve as acting president in the meantime. So please contact Fannie or contact Janet B. Walker, NHS Organizing Secretary General, if you are willing to step up and help Connecticut get going again.

Delaware

The Delaware Huguenot Society's fall meeting was held at the historic Hale Byrnes House near Stanton, Delaware. We were proud to announce that Christine Crossan is now on the National [Huguenot Society's] Board. Twenty-six people

attended our public program, "John Jay, An American Huguenot", a talk by Jude M. Pfister on Sat. Oct 24, 2015 from 3:00-5:00 PM. We especially liked the fact that Mr. Pfister's former college history professor and advisor was in the crowd, and was obviously proud of Jude's excellent and careful scholarship. We feel that by opening our programs to the general public we are beginning to attract potential members to our group and also building good will in the community.

We are also very thrilled and happy the National Fish and Wildlife is funding the restoration of the 18th century Allee House at Bombay Hook. Our next meeting date has not yet been determined, although it will be in late April or early May. We hope to visit the Naudain House, another 18th century Huguenot house on Route 9, not too far from Bombay Hook.

Kim Burdick, President

District of Columbia

Neoma O. O'Brien of Fort Washington, Maryland, serves as the current contact person for the DC Society, in the absence of any other officers. The DC Society will need to find both a Treasurer and a President if it is to continue beyond 2016. If you are interested in serving, please contact Neoma at noob13@verizon.net.

Georgia

The Huguenot Society of Georgia continues to grow! We are working hard to attract and retain members who will be active and involved participants in our Society. Our theme for the next two years is: Membership, Friendship and Partnership. The goals of this theme are to increase membership by talking about our Society at other lineage meetings and in our communities and inviting friends to attend our meetings; to foster stronger friendships by encouraging attendance at our events and meetings and getting to know our fellow members; and to commit to a partnership by getting involved, such as volunteering for a special project or helping an officer or committee chair with a job so that more than just a few are doing the work of the Society.

Over the past year we have donated Huguenot-related books, including our Ancestor Registers, to several state libraries. We have awarded a scholarship to a deserving college student that is a member of our Society. We gave money to the Elk Run Anglican Church in Virginia for a period-appropriate wooden cross. We had silent auction tables at meetings to raise money for our projects and donations. We participated in wreath-laying Memorial Day services in Macon and Atlanta.

At our August meeting we invited Dr. John Phillip Colletta to present two genealogy workshops which were very well attended. We recognized our two newest members and they were given New Member Welcome Packets, which included

a yearbook, a copy of *The Cross* magazine, a welcome letter from the president, and an insignia order form. This is an important way to make our newest members feel educated about our Society and immediately included. We are encouraging our members to order and wear their Huguenot Society insignia to our meetings and events. This promotes pride and camaraderie in our Society.

We are always happy to have National officers Noella Oberlin and Sheila Richards attend our meetings. Sheila was presented the highly prized Mereau Award by outgoing President Geoff Oosterhoudt last March and Geoff was made an Honorary President.

Our state is large and it is a challenge to accommodate our members with a convenient meeting location. Currently we alternate one meeting in Atlanta and one elsewhere, usually in the middle Georgia/Macon area.

Janet B. Walker, President

Illinois



L to R: Nancy R. Schultz, President; Darcy Juraska, Vice President; Steve Gerth, Director; Maureen Hoepfner, Chaplain; Jane Hamlin, Ex-President, Carol Wandschneider, Treasurer (not pictured) Historian Kim Nagy)

The Illinois Society had a remarkable year in 2015. Past President Daisy Jane Hamlin passed the the gauntlet to President Nancy Schultz to host the Eightieth National Congress in the Illinois state capital of Springfield in October. Thanks go out to Director James Barr for his enthusiastic input. We all wished he could have joined this momentous occasion. With excellent attendance and speakers, James M. Cornelius, Ph.D., Curator of the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum Collection on Friday and our very own Rev. Peter Irvine on Saturday, the Congress was deemed a tremendous success.

The Illinois Society also began celebrating its Sixtieth Anniversary on November 29th. The society looks forward to special remembrances for the members throughout the year. Also 2016 will mark the first time that the Huguenot

Society of Illinois participates in Heritage Weekend in Illinois to increase visibility within the lineage society community to garner new prospective members.

Sadly, we will miss Jackie Gerth, past treasurer, who passed to her Lord and Savior on December 10th. Jackie was the mother of Director Stephen Gerth.

Congratulations to Jeannine Kallal for serving for the next two years as President General from Illinois. What a surprise!! We know you will be great!

Congratulations to our treasurer, Carol Wandschneider, for being recognized for her long-term volunteerism with the Downers Grove Historical Society as Historian of the Year 2015.

Nancy Schultz, President

Indiana

Carolyn Whitcomb Jeffries of Terre Haute is the new president of the Indiana Society.

Kansas

The Huguenot Society of Kansas currently has no officers. Member Kim Kincaid was the last treasurer, and continues to collect and pay dues on behalf of the Kansas Society. However, this situation needs to be remedied by the members finding a President, a Registrar, and a Treasurer, who are willing to carry on the business of the Society. Kansas members who are interested in serving please contact President General Jeannine Kallal or the NHS Organizing Secretary General, Janet Butler Walker.

Kentucky

Patricia Ann Hutt of Corydon, Indiana, is the president of the Kentucky Society.

Maine

Edwin A. Garrett, IV, of Bar Harbor is the president of the Maine Society.

Mississippi

Mary Margaret Buck, who is the newly-elected NHS Recording Secretary General, serves as the president of the Mississippi Society. She has successfully led it for several years and her members are located all over the state.

Missouri

Blair Pickard of Columbia is the president of the Missouri Society. He comes from an active Huguenot family.

Nebraska

Sharon Fitts of Lincoln is the president of the Nebraska Society.

Nevada

Sara "Kit" Bowser of Fernley is the president of the Nevada Society.

New Hampshire

Marsha Stewart, who is also active in the DAR, is the president of the New Hampshire Society and lives in Whitefield.

New Mexico

We are not sure who the current leadership is in New Mexico. Please contact NHS President Jeannine Kallal with that information.

New York

As can be seen from the Minutes of our Congress meeting, the New York Society has been disbanded, despite having a strong number of members there. They are all to be transferred either to Member at Large status or to another active state society of their choosing. If you are interested in serving to reestablish the New York Society, please contact Janet B. Walker, the NHS Organizing Secretary General.

North Carolina



Since the installation of the new officers of the Huguenot Society of North Carolina on April 11, 2015, the Board has been extremely busy.

The first project was to develop a state society website. The National Webmaster, Stephen Gerth, worked diligently to get this up and running very quickly. Many, many thanks to Steve for making NC's website look good! There is a member login tab so that items of interest for members only can be posted there. Please check out the North Carolina website: <http://huguenot.netnation.com/states/nc/about.htm>

An officer's handbook was prepared and distributed so the new officers would know their duties and also the reports that should be submitted, to whom and the deadline.

A Scholarship Committee was formed to write guidelines which the Board and membership approved. The North Carolina Scholarship will be offered annually to a North Carolina member based on funds available in the budget and college students applying.

The NC History book is available for purchase and the information can be found on the NC website.

Congratulations to member Sarah Long, a student at Georgetown University, for winning the 2015 National Scholarship Award.

So prospective members may work on their applications in a timely manner instead of waiting until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be voted in for membership, the Board and membership approved changing two bylaws so an email vote may be taken, if needed.

Our registrar, Cheryl Fetterman, is working with applicants and interested transferees in anticipation of increased membership. Two applications have been approved and two members transferred into the NC society. Six Youths were registered.

Sue Pierson, former state president (1993-1995) passed away in March. In June, Mincey Copeland, a 44-year member, passed away. A memorial service will be held at our April 2016 meeting.

The National Handbook has provided good information and guidelines for the NC society. One suggested project was to ask the members to fill out a Member Record form. So far, 68% of the members have participated in this project. Historian Suzanne Sauter is working on the National Book Project and participation by the membership is greatly appreciated. Another project keeping the Historian busy is identifying Huguenot families in North Carolina at the end of the colonial era.

The Board wrote and approved Standing Rules for the state society and these were approved by the members. These are in our yearbook and are posted on the members' login website.

The NC yearbook was updated and sent to the members after the National Officers were installed in October.

Since April, two members have been recognized for membership milestones and certificates were mailed to them: Elizabeth Griffin, 20 years and Sam Southern, 10 years. More membership certificates will be mailed over the coming months.

The annual meeting has been set for April 2, 2016 and member Sam Southern's brother Michael, a noted historian and writer, will be the guest speaker.

In Huguenot Faith,
Elaine Baldasare, President

Ohio

Virginia McVay is the acting president of the Ohio Society. She lives in Westerville. Ohio needs officers! Please contact Virginia and help.

Oklahoma

Donna Gantt, who so successfully hosted our first October Congress held outside of Washington, DC, is still the president of the Oklahoma Society.

Pennsylvania



Fellow Huguenots,

I heard that there was a great turn out for the 80th NHS Annual Congress. I'm sorry I am not able to attend our national meetings, but as a full time Special Education teacher, it is difficult to request time off. The Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania continues to encourage our senior members to pass on their family history and educate the younger generations on how important it is to document their genealogy.

The French Alliance Day ceremony in May 2015 at Valley Forge's Washington Memorial Chapel was very well attended. I'm happy to report that at our Reformation Sunday meeting on October 25, 2015, the membership unanimously agreed to fund the repair and restoration of the Lafayette stained glass window called "The Window of settlement," located at the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge. We also placed a cap on the amount that we were quoted, so that a contract could be established by Beyer Studio, a stained glass window design and restoration firm. A brass plaque will be installed listing our donation, and as well, any member wishing to make a major contribution will have their name engraved on the plaque.

This will be a great honor to pass on to future generations. We have had several members make sizable contributions that will help if the cost goes over the cap. Our state society is very blessed to have the funds to be able to make this contribution to honor our ancestors. If you ever have the opportunity to visit Washington Memorial Chapel in Valley Forge, PA, take time to stop and see these beautiful stained glass windows.

I also am very happy to announce that we now have a registrar; Melanie A. Schaeffer, who accepted the position at our Reformation Sunday meeting. She has been working hard at updating our records, and processing new

applications. Our membership committee has received one new member and interest from six people, on becoming prospective members. We have had three members become life members.

I pray that everyone has a prosperous year.

Blessings in Huguenot Faith
Lydia R. Freeman, President

South Carolina

Did you know that we have never had a South Carolina Society, despite the fact that one of America's only remaining Huguenot churches is located in Charleston, and despite the fact that we have about 15 or so members residing in the state? Most National Huguenot Society members who reside in or near South Carolina are either Members at Large or members of North Carolina or Georgia. Keep in mind that if 15 people could be mustered to start up a South Carolina Society, we could start one! Please see NHS Organizing Secretary General Janet B. Walker if you're interested. Remember, a state society ideally needs a president, a registrar, and a treasurer in order to be minimally functional.

Tennessee

John Hood is the current president of the Tennessee Society. He lives in McDonald.

Texas

The next Texas Society state meeting will be held in Dallas on February 6, 2016. The speaker will be Dr. Kate Engel, Associate Professor of History specializing in early American and Atlantic religion, and the author of the award-winning book, "Religion and Profit: Moravians in Early America."

Nancy Wright Brennan, President

Virginia

The Fall Meeting of the Huguenot Society of Virginia was held on 24 October March at Le Yaca French Restaurant, Williamsburg, VA. The weather cooperated and we were able to enjoy some fellowship on the lovely veranda and take photos before starting the meeting.

The agenda included reports from each of the officers. Highlights were the minutes, read by April Pitman. Joel Strauch reported the Society's solvency and the completion of transfer of fiduciary responsibilities. Judy Scovronski has done a superb job in converting our many paper files and cards to an electronic catalog of our membership registration. Likewise, Linda Montgomery-Blair updated our membership and distribution lists, no small feat given changing email addresses! New Membership books were also distributed to those in attendance. Courtenay Stanley reported Susan Webber's donation of A Guide to Huguenot Williamsburg, by the Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia. This was a very timely contribution given our guest speaker. Once again Duane

MEMORIES OF OUR 80TH CONGRESS 2015 IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Friday Evening Banquet



Illinois President Nancy Schultz beautifully took charge of our event arrangements



Florida Society President David Bahn and NHS Webmaster Stephen Gerth (IL)



L-R Outgoing Recording Secretary General Linda Smith (FL), Parliamentarian and Finance Committee Chairman Roger Smith (FL), and our new President General, Jeannine S. Kallal (IL)



Our Banquet Speaker, James M. Cornelius, Ph. D. of the Lincoln Library, with Illinois President Nancy Schultz, and outgoing Organizing Secretary General-incoming Recording Secretary General Mary Margaret Buck standing behind them



Carol Wandschneider (IL) and Bonnie Gerth (star soprano guest)



Bonnie Gerth, our guest who so gloriously sang La Cevenole, the National Huguenot Society's official song, before each of our meals, and Honorary President General, Assistant Treasurer and Membership Committee Chairman, Barbara C. MacManus (TX)



Glen Bower, J.D. (IL), Lori Miller (AR), and David Bahn (FL) behind them in the distance

MEMORIES OF OUR 80TH CONGRESS

Huge thanks to Steve Gerth (IL) for sending us many of these

Saturday Evening Banquet



Linda Smith (FL), Linda Mizell (IL), Georgetanne Marty (IL), Leslie Reynolds (IL), and her guest, Gary Fowler



Programs & Arrangements Committee leader Nancy Schultz, President of the Huguenot Society of Illinois, luncheon speaker and IL member, Rev. Peter Irvine, and his wife, Janet Irvine (guest)



The illustrious Bob Miller and his wife, Honorary President, Hardin-Miller, incoming Recording Secretary Jeannine S. Kallal (IL), and Recording Secretary Wandschneider



Chaplain General Joel E. Strauch and Lori Hardin (AR)



President General Janice Lorenz, her husband, Dr. Patrick Lorenz, who is obviously saying something witty to Corresponding Secretary General Noella Oberlin (TN)



David Bahn (FL President), Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian Extraordinary, Recording Secretary Committee Chairman, his wife, Recording Secretary General Linda A. Mizell (IL)



2nd Vice President General Christine Crossan (DE) and her husband, guest Robin Crossan



Corresponding Secretary General Noella Mae Oberlin, with Georgia President Janet Butler Walker, and guest Sally Gradeless from Indiana



Outgoing Organizing Secretary, Recording Secretary General, Recording Secretary Society President Mary M. Bower, her husband, guest Jay Buck, and Recording Secretary Bower, J.D. (IL)

CONFERENCE 2015 IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

These photos, and to Dr. Patrick Lorenz, for taking all the rest!



Chaplain General (guest from Arkansas), President General Nadine, Recording Secretary General, and Illinois member Carol



Treasurer General Rex Gradeless (IN), outgoing Registrar General-incoming Genealogist General Nancy W. Brennan, and Texas member Nancy Watson



Our Necrology Service was led by Chaplain General Rev. Joel E. Strauch



President General, Roger Smith (FL), Recording Secretary General and Finance Committee Chairwoman, and outgoing Recording Secretary General Linda A. Smith (FL), and Linda



Incoming President General Jeannine Kallal, Carol Wandschneider, soprano Bonnie Gerth (guest), and Webmaster Stephen Gerth (IL)



The Texas delegation stands during the Necrology Service as our dear departed Texas members' names are called by the Chaplain General, and Nancy Brennan says a few words in their honor



Recording Secretary General-Incoming Recording Secretary General, and Mississippi member Margaret Buck, with her husband, and the honorable Glen



Incoming First Vice President General Sandra Staley (TX), Honorary President General Barbara MacManus, outgoing President General Janice Lorenz



Our Luncheon speaker and Illinois member, Rev. Peter Irvine playing his piano, and later his flageolet, for us during his program on The Huguenot Psalter

MEMORIES OF OUR 80TH CONGRESS 2015 IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



*Nancy Schultz, Springfield 80th Congress 2015
Programs & Arrangements*



*Outgoing Organizing Secretary General-Incoming
Recording Secretary General Mary Margaret Buck
(MS President)*



*Rex Gradeless, CPA, who has served as our Treasurer
General since about 2007*



*Chaplain General Joel Strauch (VA), who was also
on the Finance Committee*



*Linda A. Smith (FL), outgoing Recording Secretary
General*



*Corresponding Secretary General Noella Mae Oberlin
(TN)*

Janice Thanks Her Board Members and Committee Chairs Who Came to Springfield



Parliamentarian and Finance Committee Chairman Roger Smith (FL)



Silver NHS Distinguished Service Award Winners Honorary Presidents General Nadine Hardin-Miller (AR) and Barbara MacManus (TX), with outgoing President General Janice Lorenz.



Outgoing Genealogist General Jeannine Kallal (IL), who is now our new President General



After Congress has ended, Janice visited Lincoln's Tomb and touched the bronze of Lincoln's nose for good luck on behalf of The National Huguenot Society, Inc

Wills did his magic by photographing it all for us to enjoy on our Society's website: <http://www.huguenots-virginia.org/>.

President Stuart Whitehead called the meeting to order and Chaplain Jan Welch gave the invocation. Brenda Rose led us in the Sacred Oath, while also helping us to further improve our French. Introductions of guests were made and new members in attendance Faye Elizabeth Walton Sobel and Louis Tuttle March were warmly greeted by all.

Beyond the agenda, an enjoyable part of the meeting was the food! We began with uniquely prepared French onion soup or fresh salad. Among the menu choices were poached salmon, quiche and a very popular French crepe stuffed with lump crab. Dessert choices included a rich chocolate truffle cake or lemon mouse with almond cake. It was a great reminder of our culinary heritage!

After the superb meal, Mrs. Susan Agee Riggs, Special Collection Librarian from the Swem Library of the College of William and Mary spoke to us about Huguenot history

and settlement in Virginia, the founding of the College of William and Mary and the wealth of Huguenot information found in its library, over 115 titles since the inception of a Huguenot Fund established in 1987. She brought maps and several books of interest, including *A Guide to Huguenot Williamsburg* which she highlighted in the presentation. Mrs. Riggs also made us aware of titles the College is seeking to add to their collection. It was an excellent presentation enjoyed by all.

Stuart Whitehead, President

Washington

The Huguenot Society of Washington is led by Marissa Goldenman, who lives in Bremerton. We'd love to hear how the Washington Society is doing!

Wisconsin

Carol Chew is leading the Wisconsin Society as it searches for a new slate of officers. Please contact her at cchew@wi.rr.com if you are willing to step up and help get the Wisconsin Society back in the game!

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S REPORT

So far this year, this officer has approved forty nine (49) new members by application and ten (10) supplemental applications. Fifteen states added new members by application. Four (4) members were added to Members at Large. The state with the most new members by application was Alabama with ten (10). Texas was second with seven (7). Virginia and North Carolina had four (4) each.

Youth registration added nine (9) children. There were two (2) reinstatements. Eighteen transfers to MAL were processed as a result of the effort to move non active state members to MAL. Address corrections, deceased, and dropped/resigned member information have been made to the Master List.

Eighteen 2012 Register books have been purchased this year. Those purchased from NHS included the 2013 and 2014 Updates. Three "Edict of Nantes" books were sold.

In six and one half years as Registrar General, this officer has approved 373 applications and reviewed others that were not approved. In addition thirty two (32) supplemental applications have been approved. Sixty four (64) transfers have been processed along with twenty three (23) resignations and fifty four (54) youth registrations. The most used qualifying ancestors have been Rapalje and Root. Louis Dubois is second and Lanier and Mahieu are third. After that are Duval and Brashear.

In my opinion, the website is the most valuable tool in recruiting members. Each year about 100 queries are sent to through the website to the office or to this officer. They are responded to and, in most cases, referred to states for follow-up by the State Registrars.

The office management was a task that this officer assumed in addition to the Registrar General's duties.

It has been an honor to serve Presidents General Barbara MacManus and Janice Lorenz.

Nancy Wright Brennan
Registrar General 2009-October 10, 2015

NATIONAL BOARD OF ELECTED OFFICERS 2015-2017

President General: Jeannine Kallal, Wheaton, IL, jsk1296@aol.com
1st Vice President General: Sandra Hendrick Staley, Midland, TX, staleysandra@hotmail.com
2nd Vice President General: Christine B. Crossan, Bear, DE, Steen50@verizon.net
3rd Vice President General: Alice J. Sweeney, Galax, VA, asweeney@va.net
Chaplain General: Rev. Joel E. Strauch, CFA, Charlottesville, VA, jestrauch@msn.com
Treasurer General: Rex L. Gradeless, CPA, P.O. Box 112, Auburn, IN 46706-0112, INTreasurer@gmail.com
Registrar General: Ann Carlton Oppenheimer, San Antonio, TX, nhsregistrar@gmail.com
Recording Secretary General: Mary Margaret Buck, Memphis, TN, jaymarbuck@hotmail.com
Corresponding Secretary General: Noella Mae Jarvis Oberlin, Cleveland, TN, noellaoberlin@hotmail.com
Organizing Secretary General: Janet Butler Walker, Macon, GA, bjw8174@gmail.com
Historian General: Edward Wilkinson, Greenwood, AR, ewilkinson@gofarmersbank.com
Counselor General: Mary Nelson Morgan, Fernandina, FL, mmorgan4322@gmail.com
Genealogist General: Nancy Wright Brennan, San Antonio, TX, nwbrennan@sbcglobal.net

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT GENERAL THUS FAR

Scholarly Works Awards Committee: Kim Rogers Burdick of Newark, Delaware, KimRBurdick@aol.com, is leading this committee, and Honorary President General Dr. Travis DuPriest (WI) and Illinois member Carol Wandschneider also serve on the committee. We are all grateful to Mrs. Lee Thomasson Nelson of Arizona for her many fruitful years of past leadership on this committee.

Finance: Joel Strauch, CFA, is leading the Finance Committee.

Genealogy: Nancy Wright Brennan, as the elected Genealogist General, leads this committee.

Membership: Barbara MacManus, Honorary President General, has agreed to continue leading this important committee.

Publications: Janice M. Lorenz, janicemlorenz@gmail.com, will continue serving as Editor of the *Cross* and head of this committee.

Scholarship: Honorary President General Neoma O. O'Brien has agreed to continue her leadership of this, the most important committee of the National Huguenot Society, which grants a \$5000 scholarship to a worthy student, who must be a member of NHS in order to qualify for this valuable assistance.

Audit: Roger Smith

DAR Library "The Huguenot Collection" Books & Archives Review: Honorary President General Neoma O. O'Brien, along with Bernard W. Hugus (IL), and Eleanor Smallwood Niebell (DC).

Publicity/Website/Internet: Stephen B. Gerth (IL)

Youth: Jo Bandy Hill (TN)

NEW MEMBERS AND SUPPLEMENTALS

Alabama

Frances Shealy Huguley Lynn

Ancestor: Louis Reynauld/Reno

Arkansas

Trace Donald Burk

Ancestor: Stephen (Etienne) Mallet

California

Sondra Renee Tinsley-Evans

Ancestor: Peter Rucker

Trisha Anne Henson

Ancestor: Jonas Fortineux

Jill Ray Ellsworth Swan Scott

Ancestor: Jacques Caudebec (Supplemental)

David Lawrence Grinnell

Ancestor: William Gaylord (Supplemental)

Florida

Carol Jean Trunck Ryan Acosta

Ancestor: Laurent Flournoy/Flourney

Laura Caroline Jennings Fafeita

Ancestor: Bourgon Broucard/Brokaw (Supplemental)

Georgia

Edward Darrell Conner
 Sharron Marne Noelke Tamm
 Kyndall Cramer McKemie
 Jennifer Walton Streich

Ancestor: Michael de Loach
 Ancestor: Isaac Guille
 Ancestor: Nicolas Effard
 Ancestor: Isaac LeFevre

Members at Large

Frederick Holmes Cron
 William Thomas Nottingham
 Colin Andrew Price

Ancestor: Henrich Frey
 Ancestor: Moses Cantine
 Ancestor: Louis DuBois

Mississippi

Victoria Augusta Guion Pekich
 Clarissa Louise Behr Davis, D.M.
 Evana Christie Davis Bock
 Eleana Michele Davis

Ancestor: Louis Guion II
 Ancestor : Nicolas Lanier (Supplemental)
 Ancestor : Nicolas Lanier (Supplemental)
 Ancestor : Nicolas Lanier (Supplemental)

Missouri

Janet Evoy Green Ariciu
 Sandra Mae Noyce Walker
 Mary Bannister Frisch

Ancestor: Guillaume Tonnelier/Tunell
 Ancestor: Jacques Pineau/Pineo
 Ancestor: Barbara de Barrette

North Carolina

Susan Mewborn Boykin
 Sarah Emily Faye Hepler Martin

Ancestor: Philippe du Trieux
 Ancestor: Nicolas Martiau

Ohio

Jeffrey Allen Myers

Ancestor: Bourgeon Broucard/Brokaw

Pennsylvania

John Edward Lauman
 Susan Lynn Gillette Meer
 John Edward Lauman

Ancestor: Andre Souplié/Souplis
 Ancestor: Rev. William Gillet(t)/Gyllet
 Ancestor: Henrich Frey (Supplemental)

Texas

Jacqueline Lynne Jones Coalson
 Mary Ann Rushton Hoppe
 Sharon Ann Freeborn Skrobarcek
 Nancy Dee Bentley Watson
 Nancy Dee Bentley Watson

Ancestor: Michael de Loach
 Ancestor : Pierre Robert
 Ancestor: Joost Duryee/Duryea
 Ancestor: Pierre Michel LeRoy (Supplemental)
 Ancestor: Pierre Roquemoire (Supplemental)

Virginia

Louis Tuttle March
 Jennifer Leigh Smith
 Claudette Berkley Watson Hark

Ancestor: Leonard d'Auge/Dauge/Dozier
 Ancestor: Rev. William Gillet(t)/Gyllet
 Ancestor: Theodore Agrippa d'Aubigné/Aubigney/Dabney

Youth Registrations

North Carolina: Raymon Calvin Hepler, IV, Grandson of Mary Ann Hepler
 North Carolina: Julia Ellen Hepler, Granddaughter of Mary Ann Hepler
 North Carolina: Oliver Groome Hepler, Grandson of Mary Ann Hepler
 North Carolina: Alexander Lee Martin, Grandson of Mary Ann Hepler
 North Carolina: Jackson Charles Martin, Grandson of Mary Ann Hepler
 North Carolina: Caden Miles Martin, Grandson of Mary Ann Hepler

OUTGOING PRESIDENT GENERAL'S REPORT

By Janice Murphy Lorenz, now Honorary President General

Profound thanks to all of you who contributed to the success of my two administrations (plus a bonus six months). If I may be permitted to say so, this Congress generated the best turnout in recent memory! Therefore, we wanted to devote a bit more space in the *Cross* than usual to our photographs of those who attended. We are hoping that we preserved at least a glimpse of each of you in these photographs, but if we missed a few, well, please come back next year, and I promise we'll include your photograph next time. We had excellent programs, thanks to Nancy Schultz, Jim Barr, Jeannine Kallal, and Rev. Peter Irvine, all members of our Illinois Society, and it's looking as if the notion of holding our Congresses in a different location each October is working well.



President General Janice Lorenz with Jean O'Reilly, President, Oxford Historical Commission and the Huguenot Memorial Society of Oxford, Massachusetts

Before showing you the pictures of those who attended Congress, I wanted to mention a remarkable trip to Oxford, Massachusetts, the site of the old Huguenot Fort of 1686, which Patrick and I took after moving back to the Washington, DC, area last summer. The Town of Oxford, the Huguenot Memorial Society of Oxford, Inc., and the Oxford Historical Commission sponsored an annual picnic at the Huguenot Fort, and invited yours truly to speak at it in September 2015.

Our dearly departed Fred Herbert of CT made our connection with the town, which we recognize as one of our earliest Huguenot settlements in America. It didn't survive as a Huguenot settlement—the Indians made life too difficult, but what an honor it was, as my last public appearance as your President General, to visit that old Huguenot colony's original site and see the ruins of the stone walls, outlines of what must have been a few primitive buildings, and most of all, to enjoy the wonderful town History Pageant, "Life in the Settlement of New Oxford," written by Jean O'Reilly and presented by the Town of Oxford's citizens. We learned many things, including that families with well-known Huguenot surnames such as DuPont, Sigourney, Jansen, Cazeneuve, Martin, Grignon and Papineaux settled there in 1686 after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. One of the most special aspects of the day was to have the opportunity to meet Zachariah Allen, the Huguenot settler Gabriel Bernon's direct descendant, who lives in Rhode Island. He brought photographs of the Providence, Rhode Island Cathedral of St. John, one of the three churches founded by ancestor Gabriel Bernon, and encouraged me to visit. That particular church needs help in preserving its structure and use as a church; but more about that in our next *Cross*.



With Zachariah was Joyce Clements, Ph.D., a Professor and archaeologist originally from Ireland, who is extremely knowledgeable about the Oxford, Massachusetts Huguenot Fort. She is sitting to the far left in this photograph. Next to Zachariah Allen is his sister-in-law, and behind them across the table, am I, all of us raptly watching the Town's history Pageant. Another special moment for me, personally, was being presented with a Citation from the Town Manager, Brian Palaia, on behalf of the Town and its Board of Selectmen, in gratitude for honoring the Huguenot Fort and its settlers, and bringing attention to them and to the Huguenot Memorial Society of Oxford, Inc. and the Town of Oxford—which is charming, by the way—in our internationally-distributed *Cross of Languedoc* magazine. We are hoping to stay in touch with all of our new friends as we learn more about early Huguenot days in America.

Please let the Congress photographs speak for themselves, as you see everyone enjoying their Saturday luncheon and program, followed by everyone who served NHS being presented with a small Huguenot Christmas ornament as a tiny token of my gratitude.

CHAPLAIN GENERAL'S REPORT

This has been an active year for our ministry on behalf of the members of the National Huguenot Society. We responded to notifications of the deaths of our members by sending personal notes of condolence to the next of kin. Since our last annual Congress we have compiled our necrology of 49 members, 22 since our last meetings in Washington, DC, this past April. Our correspondence elicited responses from several next of kin, as they expressed their appreciation of our honoring their relatives and asking for copies of the bulletins of the memorial services.

We conducted memorial services at our last Congress in Central Valley, NY, and at our DC meetings in April, remembering and celebrating the lives of our faithful departed Huguenots.

At the last Congress in upstate New York we led a worship service at the historic Huguenot chapel in New Paltz, following a Protestant liturgy, for the attendees of the Annual Congress.

Importantly, the National Huguenot Society supported my re-instatement to the ordained ministry by calling me through my election as Chaplain General to minister to our members. This call was formally recognized by the Church and Ministry Commission of the Shenandoah Association of the United Church of Christ, so I am empowered to do ministry under the auspices of the United Church of Christ.

We have responded to several state societies, relating to the activities of their chaplains, as well as various questions that are raised from time to time concerning National Huguenot Society issues.

My interest in our Huguenot religious and historical origins has led me to continue to read historical and theological writings of John Calvin and his biographers, so that I am better able to articulate our Protestant faith.

Finally, I have enjoyed serving with you. Thank you for including me in the discussions of many of the issues that we faced over the past year.

Faithfully yours,
Rev. Joel Strauch

FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTIFICATION, COPIES OF THE CROSS AND OTHER BUSINESS

You may contact our national office for general information, for change of address notification, and to obtain extra copies of the Cross.

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**THE SIXTH STAINED GLASS WINDOW IN
THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
AT VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA
“THE WINDOW OF SETTLEMENT”--“THE LAFAYETTE WINDOW”**

By Lydia Freeman, President, Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania

During my first term in office as President of the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania, our state society received an invitation to French Alliance day at Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge, that occurs the first weekend in May. The service was well attended by many other societies as well as the Huguenots. Its purpose is to honor the French patriots for their aid in the War of the Revolution. Following the service the historian of the chapel gathered our Huguenot group in the chapel to tell us about the “Lafayette” stained-glass window called the “Window of Settlement”.

Quoting from an old explanatory document, “When France was striving to hold back the Hun and save civilization to the world, Mr. Daniel Baugh gave the Lafayette Window in appreciation of General Lafayette’s services to the American people and of France’s aid in the War of the Revolution. The window tells the story of the Settlement of America, and recognizes both the racial and religious forces involved”. “The Window of Settlement chronicles in twelve panes, or “medallions,” portraying the history of the colonial settlement. Our group learned mainly about the first pane, “The Foundation of St. Augustine,” which is represented by Menendez leaving the city which he had established,” and the sixth pane “Granting the Franchise by Governor Joseph Blake to the French Huguenot settlers in South Carolina in 1697”.

“The first pane portrays the founding in 1565 of St. Augustine, Florida by Pedro Menendez, an event driven by the attempt in 1564 by French Huguenots to establish a refuge, Fort Caroline, on St. John’s Bluff near present day Jacksonville. Seeing this settlement as a threat to the Spanish trade routes through the Caribbean, the Spanish sent Menendez to establish a colony and drive out the French. He did so ruthlessly, capturing Fort Caroline and hanging nearly all his prisoners, “Not as Frenchmen, but as Lutherans”.

“The second medallion portrays an event far more positive both in outcome and symbolism, the granting of the franchise to the Huguenots in South Carolina. Huguenots had been encouraged to settle in South Carolina after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685 and had pressed for equal rights with the English settlers. Finally, in 1697 in recognition of their “Fidelity to the true and absolute Lords and proprietors of this province ...their obedience to their Laws ...and their Industry, Diligence and Trade [that] have very much enriched and advanced this Colony...” the South Carolina Assembly granted the Huguenots full rights of citizenship. The history of Washington Memorial Chapel started back in 1902, when Dr. Herbert Burk took his boys choir to the site of the Continental Army’s winter encampment at Valley Forge, hoping to give them a living history lesson on the seminal events of the winter that changed the courses of American and world history. To his dismay he instead found only fields, woodlands, and briars in the recently acquired 200-acre park. On Washington’s Birthday in 1903, Dr. Herbert Burk announced to his congregation the vision to build a chapel that would be a memorial to George Washington and the valiant troops who suffered and sacrificed so that our country could be free. Through donations he was able to purchase a section of land that a temporary small wooden chapel was built, where President Theodore Roosevelt [*Editor’s Note: Theodore Roosevelt was of Huguenot descent.*] came and gave a speech that encouraged people that this was a worthy cause and to make donations. The Washington Memorial Chapel was built from thousands of donations. The Chapel is the oldest memorial to George Washington at Valley Forge, predating the Valley Forge National Park, as it exists today. In fact, although Washington Memorial Chapel is surrounded by the park, it is *not* part of the park and receives no government funding for its maintenance and support.

“The “crown jewels” of this beautiful, neo-Gothic structure are its thirteen stained glass windows which tell the story of the discovery, settlement and founding of the nation. Nicola D’Ascenzo, a renowned artist from Italy who immigrated to Philadelphia in the late 19th century, crafted the stained glass windows. These priceless windows, among the most beautiful in the world, tell the story of the founding and development of the American nation--from Discovery through Settlement and Westward Expansion. There are 13 windows, one for each the 13 original colonies, and each is dedicated to an American patriot. Each window has a dominant color scheme, either red or blue. The colors alternate around the Chapel walls, forming, with the off-white color of the limestone in between, the national colors- red, white and blue”.

At the 2015 French Alliance Day service I received a letter from the Washington Memorial Heritage Foundation about the major campaign to restore and preserve this unique memorial to George Washington, the patriots and founders of our country. The letter informed us that an architect who specializes in the preservation of historic buildings was engaged to identify the work that needs to be done. The thirteen stained glass windows need extensive work to be cleaned and repaired. It has been at least 40 years since any preservation has been done. Faced with a serious water intrusion problem that has damaged both the exterior and interior walls and threatens the stained glass windows, the Washington Memorial Chapel is in urgent need of repairs to its exterior envelope. Cleaning, replacement of lost pieces, resealing and the replacement of protective glazing are necessary for all windows. Restoration of the Window of Settlement by American descendants of the Huguenots would be especially appropriate and a point of pride and together with the current restoration of the "Window of the Revolution" by the Color Guard of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution would help set in train a national effort to restore all these priceless works of art to their former glory.

In 2015, the Huguenot Society of Pennsylvania council discussed paying for the restoration of "The Window of Settlement", the council agreed that a vote needed to be presented to the membership at our Reformation Sunday service. It was a unanimous vote to pay for the repair and restoration and that a cap amount would be given, but if more money was needed it would need to be discussed with the council and membership. Our state society wants to honor and preserve the Huguenot ancestors that gave their lives for our country. We also want to honor the ancestors that originally founded our state society in 1918. The Washington Memorial Chapel is located in now Valley Forge National Park, the site of the Continental Army's winter encampment at Valley Forge, also outside the City of Historic Philadelphia, that are all part of the historic State of Pennsylvania.

**DOWNERS GROVE ILLINOIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
RECOGNIZES HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF ILLINOIS MEMBER
CAROL WANDSCHNEIDER AS 2015 HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR**

We are delighted to report that, in a November, 2015 press release, the Downers Grove Historical Society announced that our very own Carol Wandschneider was selected as their Downers Grove 2015 Historian of the Year. Carol, a lifelong resident of Downers Grove, is the daughter of Pauline Wandschneider, who started the Historical Society in 1968. Carol's achievements include: indexing the students, faculty, and staff of Downers Grove North High School from 1879 to the present, and Downers Grove South High School from 1965 to the present; indexing death records published in the Downers Grove Reporter from 1892 to present day (about 30,000 names); indexing dates of some 5,700 weddings in the Reporter; assisting in the development of a walking tour of the 1600 graves at the Oak Hill/Oak Crest Cemeteries; and coordinating the ongoing effort to identify the 25,000 pictures given to the Downers Grove Museum by the Downers Grove Reporter. In addition, she served as a board member of the Downers Grove Chapter-Daughters of the American Revolution, The Huguenot Society of Illinois, and The Oak Hill/Oak Crest Cemeteries Foundation. Over the years, Carol has spent countless hours volunteering at the Downers Grove Historical Museum and in 2006 helped write *Voices That Are Gone; A Guide to Historic Main Street Cemetery* in honor of the cemetery's 150th anniversary.

Carol was recognized with other area historians and historical organizations on November 21, 2015 at an awards presentation at the DuPage County Historical Museum in Wheaton, Illinois. The National Huguenot Society is proud of you, Carol!

**THE GENEVAN PSALTER:
HYMN BOOK OF THE HUGUENOTS
AS PRESENTED TO THE NATIONAL HUGUENOT SOCIETY
OCTOBER 10, 2015**

By The Rev. Peter B. Irvine

It is quite an honor to be here today with you, members of a society created to commemorate that great migration of Calvinist Christians to various parts of the world to escape persecution in their native France. When I first applied to join this society, I had a strong conviction that my mother's ancestors were Huguenots and could cite several secondary sources to substantiate it, although I had not yet established a firm connection with a specific Huguenot ancestor. But just last year, I happily discovered that my father's family was descended from Nicolas Lanier, "musician of the flutes" in the royal courts of France and England, and that was my ticket to join the society. Since I am a musician myself, as well as a priest in the Protestant Episcopal Church, this was sans *doute* my most exciting genealogical discovery to date. I greatly admire the integrity of those who survived the fires of intolerance and came to various European countries, as well as the new world, to practice their hard-won faith.

In studying the Genevan Psalter, published some 450 years ago, one may gain considerable insight into some of the principles that the first Huguenots held important enough to leave their homeland and found new colonies across the ocean. First of all, they believed that if one sings in church at all, we must sing not in our own words, but in the words spoken by the Holy Spirit and transcribed into Holy Scripture. That is, the original Calvinists had no hymns as we know them: they sang only Psalms from the Hebrew Scriptures and Canticles from the New Testament.

Second, it was a belief of the reformers not only in France and Switzerland, but also in Germany, England and elsewhere, that people should be able to read the Bible in their native tongue, and not be at the mercy of a priest trained in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin to explain it to them second hand, as it were. The corollary to reading the Bible in French, English, German, or what have you, was that worship should be in one's native language, rather than Latin understood only by clerics. So you see, it was distrust of the clergy, at least in part, which led the reformers to insist on translating the Bible and worshipping in the vernacular.

Finally, because the development of Western music had led to regular meters, such as four beats to the measure or six beats to the measure, the translation or paraphrase of scriptural texts should be in regular meter, so that it would fit the music and be singable by people of ordinary musical skill. This was an important innovation, because the original Hebrew of the Psalms did not rhyme or have regular meter. It relied on parallel structure, acrostics, and a variety of other poetic devices to hold the verses together. This is not so difficult to grasp when you read modern translations of the Bible, which do not attempt to impose regular rhyme or meter.

Before I get too far into the Huguenot Psalter, however, I would like to give a little background on the Book of Psalms. Traditionally attributed to King David, the Psalms actually reached their final form sometime during the period of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. In fact, they are called by many scholars "The Hymn Book of the Second Temple." This is not to say that David did not compose the Psalms, only that there are certain ones, Psalm 137, for example, which were clearly written during the exile in Babylon, rather than in David's time. Psalm 137 begins:

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept,
When we remembered you, O Zion.
As for our harps, we hung them up
On the trees in the midst of that land.
For those who led us away captive asked us for a song,
And our oppressors called for mirth:
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.'
How shall we sing the Lord's song
Upon an alien soil?

It is clear that David could not have written these words, since he died centuries before the exile in Babylon. The Huguenots, of course, also sang the Lord's song upon an alien soil, but they were there by choice, rather than as prisoners of war. There are other Psalms that contain evidence they were written later than the Davidic monarchy, as well.

In any case, the Psalter was used as a hymnbook in the Second Temple, built when the Jews returned to Jerusalem after the long exile in Babylon. We do not know what sort of musical settings they had or what instruments were used, but we do know that the Psalms were used in worship in the Temple. It is fitting, therefore, that they be used in worship by Christians in later centuries and today, set to music.

The Old French Psalter, often called the Genevan Psalter (because it was published in Geneva), was the first attempt to create a metrical paraphrase of the Psalter set to music. It was conceived by the court poet Clément Marot, who began work on it in 1532. He was a member of the royal court of Francis I in Paris at that time. To illustrate what I mean by a metrical paraphrase, let me read the following rendering of Psalm 137, which we heard a few moments ago in a non-metrical, more or less literal translation from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer:

By the Babylonian rivers
 We sat down in grief and wept;
 Hung our harps upon the willow,
 Mourned for Zion when we slept.
 There our captors in derision
 Did require of us a song;
 So we sat with staring vision,
 And the days were hard and long.
 How shall we sing the Lord's song
 In a strange and bitter land;
 Can our voices veil the sorrow?
 Lord God, help Your holy band.

This paraphrase is by Ewald Bash and was published in 1964 by the Augsburg Fortress, an arm of the American Lutheran Church, and reprinted in the 1990 Presbyterian Hymnal. You can see how the poet has transformed the Psalm with rhymes and rhythms that can be readily set to music: this is the challenge of the metrical paraphrase.

Here is the same passage in Marot's paraphrase in the French language of the 16th century:

Estans assis aux rives aquatiques
 De Babylon, plorions melancoliques
 Nous souvenans du pais de Sion:
 Et au milieu de l'habitation,
 Ou de regrets tant de pleurs épanâmes,
 Aux faules verds nos harpes nous pendismes.
 Lors ce qui la captifs nous emmenerent,
 De les sonner fort nous importunerent,
 Et de Sion les chansons réciter.
 Las! Disme nous, qui pourroit inciter
 Nos tristes coeurs a chanter a louange
 De nostre Dieu en une terre estrange?

You can hear, even without understanding the meaning of the words, that the verses are paired in rhymed couplets.

Clément Marot was trained to serve in the royal court as a man of letters. He early on showed a gift for poetry, and King Francis I put him in the service of Francis's sister, Marguerite of Alençon, who became Marot's lifelong friend. He wrote skits and occasional pieces, veiled allegories, and satires, as well as longer works. He wrote satirical pieces on the Church of that time and earned the hostility of church authorities. Finally, the Sorbonne held him a heretic, and he was forced to flee for his life to Geneva, where he met and began working with John Calvin.

Marot had begun work in 1532 on metrical paraphrases of the Psalms, which he translated and transformed from the original Hebrew. Calvin liked his work and encouraged him to pursue it further. In 1542, he published his first thirty psalms, which were endorsed by Francis I, but held heretical by the authorities at the Sorbonne. He was actually put under a sentence of death, and so he left Paris and went to Geneva. With Calvin's approval, he completed nineteen more psalms and published the entire series, which was to be the basis of a complete Psalter of all 150 psalms.

Before Marot could work any further on this project, he went to Italy, where at the age of less than fifty years, he died, having been poisoned, according to some. One can only speculate as to the reason he was murdered, as history has not uncovered that chapter.

When Marot died, Calvin had to find a new translator, and he chose Théodore de Bèze, a trained poet and theologian. Bèze was not as great a poet as Marot, but he worked very hard to complete the Psalter by composing the hundred psalms not yet translated by Marot. The complete Psalter was finally published in 1551, and eventually translated into Old French, Swiss and Italian, Danish, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Bohemian, Hungarian, Persian, Malay, Latin and Hebrew. In 1562, the completed work went through twenty-five editions in different cities. There were later 250 more editions. When one considers the hundreds of thousands of Huguenots who fled France after 1685, you realize the magnitude of the influence of the Huguenot Psalter.

As to the music of the Psalter, the tunes were collected, compiled, and composed by Louis Bourgeois, who wrote some of the most enduring hymn tunes in use even today. When I was growing up, we sang the Doxology, “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” to the tune Old Hundredth by Louis Bourgeois. The name of the tune refers to the number of the psalm to which it was originally attached.

Louis Bourgeois came from Paris to Geneva on the invitation of the City Council to serve as a singing-master. Bourgeois remained in Geneva until 1557, working closely with Calvin. Although it is not certain, Bourgeois is thought to have been the designer of the music for the Genevan Psalter as a whole, adapting tunes from folk song and dance, and composing some of his own. The musical style of the Psalter reflects its author’s interest in unaccompanied song.

You can see on the handout I have given you that the tunes are monophonic, that is, Bourgeois did not harmonize them in this edition from Rotterdam in 1660. Later, they were harmonized by Claude Goudimel, a French composer, music publisher, and editor. In 1565 Geneva, he published “Les pseumes en rime françoise, par Clément Marot et Théodore de Bèze, mis en musique.” Seven years later, Goudimel became a victim of the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre and lost his life.

Because of the nature of metrical paraphrase, it does not make sense to try to create another paraphrase in a different language from the original in French. Therefore, the examples I have given you of Marot’s texts of Psalms 1 and 67 are reproduced along with my own metrical paraphrases of the same psalms, just to give you a couple of examples of this form in English. I would now like to play you four of the most well-known hymn tunes, to give you an idea of how many familiar and enduring melodies were created by Louis Bourgeois for the Genevan Psalter. I will play them on the flageolet, a wind instrument invented in about 1581 by Sieur de Juvigny of Paris. The instrument was popularized in England from the 1660s, and is now known as the penny whistle, used primarily in Irish and Scottish folk music. My ancestor, Nicolas Lanier, probably played one of these, as he served as “musician of the flutes” in the court of Queen Elizabeth I.

[Play examples.]

Old Hundredth
Old 124th
Psalm 42
Nunc Dimittis

Now that you have heard some of the tunes from the original Huguenot Psalter, I would like to ask you to join me in singing the metrical paraphrases on the last three pages of your handout, which are Psalms 1 and 67, set to the tunes Toulon and Psalm 42. I will play the tunes all the way through on the piano by way of introduction.

[Lead singing.]

So you see that the privilege of singing psalms in one’s native tongue, along with reading the Bible in French, English or what have you, and worshipping in the vernacular, is a principle that many Huguenots and other Reformers held worthy of leaving one’s homeland, or even dying for. Today, we perhaps take these privileges for granted, but they would not be ours but for the courageous reforms of our Huguenot ancestors.

Thank you very much for inviting me here today.

HUGUENOT HERITAGE

What can one say about the Huguenots and their descendants, both known and unknown, as was the ancestor of one of the largest families spread throughout North America that bearing the name variations Peron, Perron, Péron, i.e. that of *François Peron*.

Born November 10, 1615, and baptized on the 15th in the Grand Temple de La Rochelle*, son of Jean and grandson of Jehan, both Huguenots and contemporaries of Champlain, adamant in his religious convictions, he lived and died as a Calvinist on September 18, 1665. As a matter of fact, notwithstanding his fatherly feelings, he decided to revoke his son Daniel who was his representative in Nouvelle-France in that *he did abjure his faith*.*.

Nevertheless it is quite interesting to realize that François Peron, perhaps unknowingly, was one of the first people to complement Champlain's dream. Establishing a colony and not only a trading post was this dream as it comprised the planting of families which would settle and take root. His three ships *L'Aigle blanc*, *Le Taureau*, *Le Petit-François* came on several occasions and brought in 1655 twenty indentured colonists, in 1656 thirty one, in 1657 fifteen, in 1658 sixteen, in 1661 seventy passengers*. How many of those were Huguenots in fact, were sympathisers or had been (forcibly converted to Roman Catholicism or...) remains hypothetical.

Thus, even though conventional history says nary a word of this, if one casts a close eye on it, François Peron was somewhat responsible in establishing a firm settlement in Nouvelle-France.. Based on what we do know we can ask ourselves if there was not a hidden agenda in the choice of the indentured colonists who dared cross the ocean, facing an unknown future; might not the need, the desire to find a more tolerant corner of the world, a new one in all sense of the word, been the base for so many people to trust their destiny/fate to the hands of unknown folk whose faith nevertheless guaranteed they would no longer be subject to the vicissitudes in the present or the suspected imminent future?

Said François Peron was in no way altruistic as far as one can read or suppose. Nevertheless, in his innate thinking could he have made a choice in accordance with his own religious convictions when such was possible to him? That, we may never know. However we do know the cause of his deception with regards to his son Daniel, born 25 of November, 1638, baptized as a Calvinist on 26 December, 1638, in the "*Château*" de *Dompierre et Borgneuf*. It was only upon deciding to settle in Nouvelle-France, to marry a *Fille du Roy*, namely *Louise Gargotin*, that Daniel decided to sign an abjuration from his Calvinist faith; we can nevertheless opine that that it might have been "force oblige" (under forceful persuasion) in that it would seem that that was the only and unique document** signed by him as signifying his connection to the Roman Catholic religion.

Though François Peron only had the above named son, Daniel, the latter begat six children whose very numerous descendants spread throughout all corners of North America. Most of these, if not all, were Roman Catholic for some two centuries leaning into the definition *French is Catholic, English is Protestant*. And all that while the family name, be it in Daniel's hands, or that of the Roman Catholic clergy, or of the civic authorities, gradually changed from Peron to *Perron*. Nevertheless, it was in the latter part of the XIXth century that two branches of the Perron families reconverted to Protestantism having been subject to the influence of French or Swiss missionaries. It was also in the course of the same century that one of the genealogical branches saw the name revert to *Péron*.

In that the politico-religious environment in Québec had softened but little towards these new Protestants many of them joined English speaking Protestants who were somewhat more sympathetic towards them. Nevertheless, they remained firm in their religious convictions whilst supporting their new French language church congregations and missions such as *Saint Jean and L'Oratoire* in Montréal, to name only two of them. Even though life's circumstances may have forced some to distance themselves they remain attached to their religious and language roots. Others, having found themselves required to settle in other areas of this continent endeavoured to do likewise; they were even the source of pastors, teachers, scientists, business men, etc.

* Notes taken from the books *Une existence à l'ombre du père and François Péron (1615-1665), Marchend-engagiste, bourgeois et avitailleur de La Rochelle* by Guy Perron of Sainte-Julie, Québec.

** Comments by Guy Perron to René Péron.

René Péron, September 2015.

ANNUAL YOUTH CONTEST GUIDELINES

The NHS youth contest is designed to invigorate our state societies, raise Huguenot awareness among our youth, and strengthen family ties between members and their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews by sponsoring a contest for students. We aim to encourage our eligible young relatives and friends to register as youth or to join as an NHS member. We look forward to a strong showing in 2016.

Program Timeline:

January 1: Opening date for current year Youth Contest Candidate Submissions; **January 15:** Winners for *prior* year's Youth Contest announced by email by the President General to State Presidents after the Youth Committee Chairman has notified the winners and the other candidates. **November 20:** Closing date for current year Youth Contest Candidate Submissions

Program Requirements:

Candidates must be students in elementary or high school and must be eligible for and either registered with National as a Youth or have applied for membership. Candidates must pay the applicable fee and have a relative submit an Application for Youth Registration for the Candidate, or enroll the Candidate as a Junior Member of the National Huguenot Society. Youth Registration costs \$10.00 per youth. Forms available on the NHS webpage: http://huguenot.netnation.com/forms/NHS_Youth_Registration_Form.pdf.

Email submissions in PDF format (or JPG format for the Level 1 submissions) to natlhugsoc@att.net between January 1st and November 20th.

Contest Topics and Prizes:

Entries will be judged on originality, creativity, and thoughtful handling of the topic.

Level 1 – Grades 2-4: Each student will submit an art piece to illustrate contributions of Huguenots or Huguenot descendants to America. Each submission should have an accompanying title or short statement to explain the relationship of the artwork to the theme. Artwork should be scanned into a computer or digitally photographed so that it can be emailed. Please submit in PDF or JPEG format. Prizes: 1st Place=\$100; 2d Place=\$50; 3d Place=\$25.

Level 2 – Grades 5-8: Each student will either: (1) submit an essay on “What it means to me to be a descendant of a Huguenot.” Information about their specific ancestor may be cited. Visual images may also be included; (2) Or, students will read and submit a review one of the books listed below. Essays should be at least 300 words in length. Please submit in PDF format. Prizes: 1st Place=\$200; 2d Place=\$100; 3d Place=\$50.

Level 3 – Grades 9-12: Each student will submit an essay on “What I’ve learned about the migration of Huguenots to other lands.” Visual images may be included. These might include maps or other types of illustrations. Essay should be at least 500 words in length. Please submit in PDF format. Prizes: 1st Place=\$500; 2d Place=\$250; 3d Place=\$100.

Some Books about Huguenots for Young Readers:

1. The Escape: Adventures of Three Huguenot Children Fleeing Persecution. A. Van Der Jagt.
 2. Huguenot Garden, Douglas Jones.
 3. Escape Across the Wide Sea, Katherine Kirkpatrick.
 4. The Refugees: Tale of Two Continents, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.
 5. Francis Marion & The Legend of the Swamp Fox, Kate Salley Palmer.
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